



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
BOTANIC GARDENS

LIBRARY CONNECT

Supporting the ANBG's vision to inspire, inform and connect people to the Australian flora.



Take the time.

19 Sept 2019

Australian
Reading Hour
READINGHOUR.ORG.AU

Australian Reading Hour is on 19 September 2019.

Australian Reading Hour

The annual Australian Reading Hour event is on again this year on Thursday 19 September.

You are invited to join thousands of people from around Australia as they pick up a book and read for an hour anytime on the day.

The event seeks to highlight the many benefits derived

from reading in both adults and children.

According to the event's [website](#), in adults "reading has been shown to reduce stress by 68% more than listening to music, going for a walk, or having a cup of tea."

With a plethora of books on a vast range of botanical and related fields, the ANBG Library is the perfect place to pick up your next book.

What book will you be reading this Australian Reading Hour?

Flora of Australia featured in *Hort Journal*

An informative article entitled "*Flora of Australia* now online - taxonomy, but so much more" written by Phillip Kodela (ABRS), Sue Fyfe (BSS, Parks Australia) and Barbara Briggs (Botanic Gardens Trust, Sydney) has been published in the August edition of *Hort Journal*.

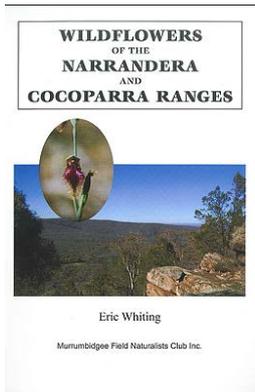
The article highlights the online interactive connections created by the *Flora*, linking items such as occurrence maps, photographs and identification keys. An example of one of the more unusual plants described in the *Flora*, *Alexgeorgea*, is also included in the article and is well worth a look!

The August *Hort Journal* is on display in the Library alongside the current September issue.

ABRS update in *Australasian Systematic Botany Society Newsletter*

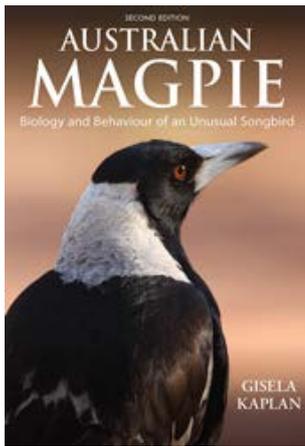
The activities of the ABRS have been reported upon in the *Australasian Systematic Botany Society Newsletter*. In particular, the successful June Bush Blitz in Western Australia and the seven new research grants awarded were covered.

A SELECTION OF NEW BOOKS



Wildflowers of the Narrandera and Cocoparra Ranges/ Eric Whiting
Albury, NSW: Specialty Press. 2009. ISBN: 9780646531724
582.13099448 WHI

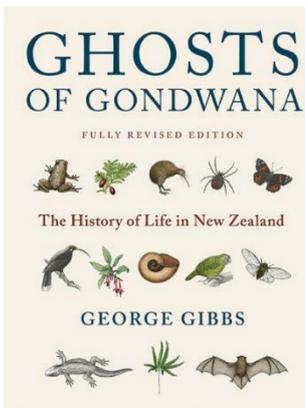
This field guide by Eric Whiting covers most of the native wildflowers commonly seen in the Narrandera and Cocoparra Ranges, and which also occur in the other ranges and hills from Narrandera to the Lachlan River. The book includes descriptions of 225 species accompanied by 136 colour photographs. A simplified key aids the identification of the plants is also included as are maps of the Narrandera and Cocoparra Ranges. [Source](#)



Botany of Rotorua/ Bruce Clarkson, Mark Smale & Chris Ecroyd
Rotorua.: Forest Research Institute. 1991.
ISBN: 0477021558
581.99316 BOT *Kindly donated by Heino Lepp*

This classic 132 page book published in 1991 with many beautiful colour photos, covers all aspects of the flora of the Rotorua District.

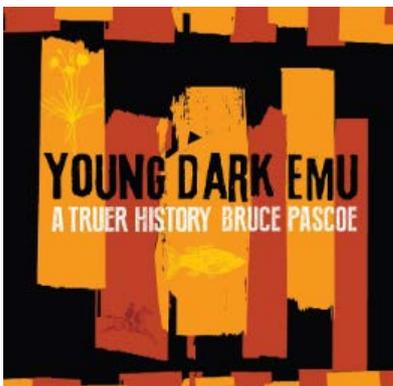
Sections are written by a range of well-known authors covering the history of the vegetation, native forest, exotic forest, pasture, naturalised vegetation, aquatic vegetation, lake shore vegetation, mires, thermal areas, micro-algae, Mt Tarawera, threatened plants, coastal plants, mosses and liverworts, fungi, and traditional uses. [Source](#)



Ghosts of Gondwana: the history of life in New Zealand/ George Gibbs
Nelson, NZ: Pottan & Burton. 2016
ISBN: 9780947503086
508.93 GIB *Kindly donated by Heino Lepp*

New Zealand is an extraordinary place, unique on earth, and the remarkable story of how and why life evolved here is the subject of *Ghosts of Gondwana*.

The challenge of explaining New Zealand's natural origins is picked up in this fully revised edition of the popular award-winning book. It presents the latest scientific research in highly readable form, highlighting studies that reveal the deep historical background of the landscapes, fauna and flora – from ancient frogs and moa to delicate insects and the magnificent southern beech forests. [Source](#)



Young Dark Emu: a truer history/ Bruce Pascoe
Broome, WA: Magabala Books . 2019.
ISBN: 9781925360844
305.89915 PAS

Bruce Pascoe has collected a swathe of literary awards for *Dark Emu* and now he has brought together the research and compelling first person accounts in a book for younger readers. Using the accounts of early European explorers, colonists and farmers, Bruce Pascoe compellingly argues for a reconsideration of the hunter-gatherer label for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians. He allows the reader to see Australia as it was before Europeans arrived – a land of cultivated farming areas, productive fisheries, permanent homes, and an understanding of the environment and its natural resources that supported thriving villages across the continent. [Source](#)

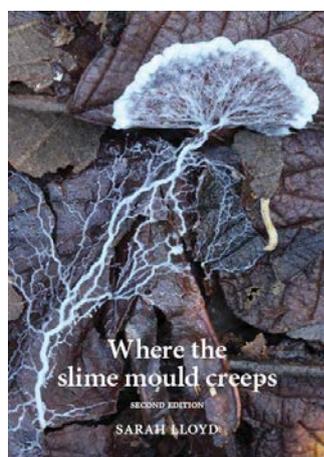
NEW BOOKS CONTINUED



Life of marsupials/ Hugh Tyndale-Biscoe
Collingwood, Vic.: CSIRO Publishing. 2005.
ISBN: 0643062572
599.2 TYN

Over the past half century research has revealed that marsupials – far from being ‘second class’ mammals – have adaptations for particular ways of life quite equal to their placental counterparts. Despite long separate evolution, there are extraordinary similarities in which marsupials have solved the challenges of living in such environments as deserts, alpine snowfields or tropical rainforests. Some can live on grass, some on pollen and others on leaves; some can glide, some can swim and others hop with extraordinary efficiency. In *Life of Marsupials*, one of the world’s leading experts explores the biology and evolution of this unusual group in Australia, New Guinea and South America.

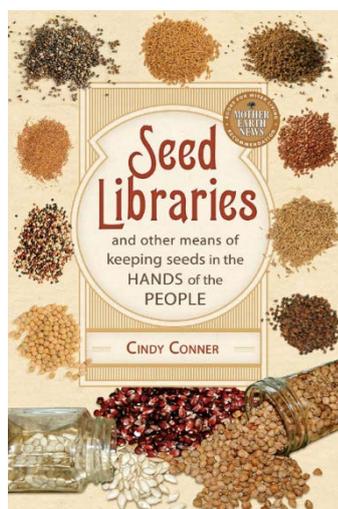
[Source](#)



Where the slime mould creeps/ Sarah Lloyd. 2nd edition
Birralee, Tasmania: Tympanocryptis Press. 2018.
ISBN: 9780646990347
579.509946 LLO

‘*Where the slime mould creeps*’ introduces the fascinating world of myxomycetes, the plasmodial or acellular slime moulds. It describes their life cycle, the different types of plasmodia and fruiting bodies, and includes numerous photographs that illustrate this important but little-known subject. This second edition includes updated information based on the latest research from around the world; additional personal accounts of slime mould ‘hotspots’; and the species list for Black Sugarloaf-and Australia-has been updated.

[Source](#)



Seed Libraries and other means of keeping seeds in the hands of the people/ Cindy Conner
Gasbriola Island, Canada: New Society Publishers. 2014.
ISBN: 9780865717824
631.521 CON

Cindy Conner’s *Seed Libraries and Other Means of Keeping Seeds in the Hands of the People* is a remarkable guide to a remarkable method of farming. Seed libraries, community collections of seeds made freely available to the public, have increased by the hundreds in the last decade. Conner expounds on the historical development and contemporary significance of these seed libraries, all while providing concrete, step-by-step instructions and useful considerations for starting a seed library. Due to this holistic approach, *Seed Libraries* is likely to prove a useful resource for anyone with an interest in seed issues, seed saving, and community seed initiatives.

[Source](#)

FEATURED E-JOURNAL : *BMC Plant Biology*

BMC Plant Biology is an open access, peer-reviewed journal with sections devoted to:

- biochemistry and physiology
- genomics and evolution
- plant-abiotic/ plant-biotic interactions
- development and cell biology
- genetics and crop biotechnology



BMC Plant Biology

Articles from volume 1 (2001) to the present day are available online, with one volume being released annually.

BMC Plant Biology can be accessed [here](#).

FROM THE ANBG ARCHIVE : *Card sorting key to the identification, properties and uses of the principal commercial Australian timbers*



Card sorting key.

Photo: Judy Hutchinson

Our treasure from the Archive for September, is a delightful card sorting key to the identification, properties and uses of the principal commercial Australian timbers.

This item produced by the CSIRO Forest Division was used to identify samples of Australian timbers based on answering a series of standard questions about observable and known features. Questions include features such as wood colour, locality of tree, presence of soft tissue, weight, pore size and arrangement.

As each question was answered, a thin, long needle was inserted into the corresponding hole in the cards. The cards were then shaken to remove cards that did not have those features. The process was repeated answering different questions until the remaining card identified the wood sample. Thank you to Mr Warwick Shean who kindly donated the card sorting key.