

President's Message

I have contributed little over the last five months due to illness and family matters, so I would like to pay tribute to our great team members who have taken up my duties and generally ensured that the organisation is running smoothly. Thank you so much and thank you for keeping me in the loop.

It has been a particularly busy time for the Gardens, with preparation for the Sensory Garden, construction of a new shelter in the BBQ area and many groups of visitors who need to be made welcome. Marie and Denis Matthews have been involved in all this organisation including communication with Council staff. Denis even tried to empty the pond single handed.

Ros Little very kindly took over my job as work organiser and Sunday work leader. Ros is leading a great Wednesday work group and has negotiated for Peter Gould to do some herbicide spraying particularly on paths and in more public areas. She has also organised a handyman called Will Evans to help with general maintenance of furniture and other fixtures. As leader of the pond committee Ros has also been busy with the planning of this area of the Sensory Garden.

Despite her role as project manager of her home renovations, Rose Hand has, with her team, continued to produce beautiful plants and to have a plant sale.

Rosemary Blakeney is developing her role as Education Officer and has recruited an expert in early childhood education, Margaret Hildebrand, to assist her.

I know that all of our committee and garden workers have been



working extra hard and I thank them for that. We have to be aware that because many of our members are of mature age, there will be glitches from time to time and we are always looking for new members to keep the organisation viable.

We were delighted to accept a very generous donation from Andrew and Jeni Binns. This enabled us to install the main paths in the Sensory Garden. Thank you both so much.

As I am not sure when I can return to full time work at the Gardens, I will not be standing for the President's position at the forthcoming AGM. I am hoping there will be someone willing to take on this rewarding role.

Regards Pat Offord



Upcoming Work Mornings

Sunday 27 July - National Tree Day. First Planting in Sensory Garden

Sunday 31 August

Gate open from 8am till 8.30am, then after 9am

Wednesday Work Mornings

Every Wednesday starting at 8am in winter till 11am

Bring protective clothing, sunscreen, insect repellent & something for morning tea

Species profile... Peter Gould

Heritiera trifoliolatum White Booyong Family MALVACEAE



Winged seed of White Booyong are wind dispersed

Photo Wilkiei

Description: White Booyong is a large tree growing to 40m tall with a trunk diameter up to 2m. The canopy often appears whitish from below. The trunk is strongly buttressed, having distinctive plank buttresses at the base, and the bark is brown or grey, and somewhat fissured.

Leaves are compound with three leaflets, lanceolate to oblanceolate in shape, 8–14 cm long and 1–3 cm wide. The lower surface is distinctly silvery-scaly, the petiole being 0.5–8 cm long, and petiolules 2–10 mm long.

The cream flowers appear in spring and are borne in many-flowered, terminal panicles, often shorter than the leaves.

The fruit consists of 3 to 5 indehiscent samaras, reminiscent in form of the individual keys of a maple. The seed-bearing portion of

the samara is subglobose, 6–10 mm in diameter, the wing 30–60mm long and 10–20 mm wide. The seed is wind dispersed and Alex Floyd describes how he measured the falling seed from one tree falling up to 30m away.

This tree is common in lowland dry and subtropical rainforest on rich soils up to 600m altitude. It is found north from the Hastings River, on the North Coast of NSW, to the tropical rainforests of Queensland, New Guinea and Indonesia.

White Booyong has gone through a number of scientific reclassifications and name changes. It was known at one time as *Argyrodendron trifoliolata*.

References:

Floyd, A.G. 1990, *Australian Rainforests in New South Wales, Vol's 1 & 2*, Surrey Beatty & Sons, Sydney NSW.

Floyd, A.G. 2008, *Rainforest trees of mainland south-eastern Australia*, Terania



Plank buttressed trunk of mature tree

Photo Wilkiei

Rainforest Publishing, Lismore, NSW.

Harden, G.J. (ed) 1993, *Flora of New South Wales, Vol 2*, New South Wales University Press, Kensington, NSW.

Harden, G., McDonald, B. and Williams, J. 2006, *Rainforest trees and shrubs: a field guide to their identification*, Gwen Harden Publishing, Nambucca Heads, NSW.

<http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Heritiera~trifoliolata>

<http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Flindersia~schottiana>

Hoop Pine Forest

In June Margaret Hildebrand and Geoff Walker hosted a couple of special visitors to the Hoop Pine Forest at the Gardens. Peter Stace, who worked with the Dept. of Agriculture around 1985, when the trees in this forest were planted, and David Cameron, Chairperson of the North Coast Forestry Growers. The trees were planted to demonstrate a method of controlling Camphor Laurels on farms. Both men were very impressed with the good condition of the forest. They suggested that thinning out some areas could allow some of the Hoop Pines to grow into larger trees and also encourage understory rainforest trees to emerge, but stressed that if nothing was done the forest would continue to thrive. A workshop is being planned - tentatively for the 19th September - to help us learn more about this wonderful stand of trees and anyone interested is welcome. Details will be advised.



Distinctive, silvery underside of the leaves helps in identification Photo P. Gould

Sensory Garden

Miracles have happened recently with our Sensory Garden site. Late last year we had a suggested plan prepared for the site. We then made numerous grant applications for essential groundworks, paths, installations and plantings. In the mean time we worked out what we could do with the limited funds we already had. We had hoped to clear out the reed pond, get the site cleared of weed plants and reasonably level and then maybe get at least the main paths graded and gravelled. Then we had our first miracle. The Binns made their very generous donation and suddenly we could think more broadly. Dreams could become reality. Next, our new Waste Facility liaison person, Greg Buckler, did a lot of ringing around and talking to people and, with the extra funds now available, was able to get ALL the main paths not only constructed and gravelled but also sealed, using Waste Facility staff and outside contractors. And it all happened very quickly. Within weeks an empty stretch of land turned into the very visible framework of a Sensory Garden. It is one thing to plan and dream about such progress but to have it happen so unexpectedly and so rapidly was wonderful, a real boost to morale. It has changed everything. Now we can refine our plans for the plantings and fine tune the design features of this area. Our first plants will go in on National Tree Day, 27 July.

Plant sale at Lismore Central in May



Rose, Jill, Pat, Tracey and Jean ready for customers

On 22 May 2014 Rose Hand and her propagation group held a plant sale at Lismore Central. These sales are always popular as people love the good quality plants available. There is a lot of organisation involved both in preparation and on the day for these events and the work done by this group is much appreciated. A raffle which had been running for several months was drawn on the day. The winners were Ian Beasley from Nimbin, who chose the Compost Bin, Marney Bonner from South Lismore who chose the Mangrove to Mountains book and Ian Harrison from Lismore who chose \$50 worth of our plants. All winners have collected their prizes. **This propagation group meets every Tuesday. For more information contact Rose on 6622 6558**

Wednesday Work Group

The Wednesday morning group has been working hard over the last six months. The gully through the Useful Plants Garden has been transformed. They have done most of the preparation work for the first Sensory Garden planting and of course the ongoing weeding, repairing, watering etc. Because they are there so regularly, they can deal with the week to week tasks that are so essential to maintaining our Gardens. They are its life blood. With an average of ten volunteers each week, they are an active, energetic group. We couldn't achieve what we do without them. And Ros Little leads them brilliantly!



Andrew Binns and family visiting the Gardens recently



Wednesday group, morning tea break Grandis Creek

What's in a Name? *The Importance of Botanical Nomenclature* Rosemary Blakeney

Since ancient Greece and probably before, people have been trying to describe and order the plant kingdom. Plants were used for food, medicine and magic and so the ability to identify them precisely has always been extremely important. Throughout history lists of known plants have been produced with extensive descriptions and often accompanied by the most beautiful drawings. These were basically field guides to herbs used in medicine. Plant names varied from place to place and country to country and so these lists

depended on what he could see with the naked eye. Rough crystals were being used around this time for very basic magnification. During the Middle Ages and the Renaissance a system had developed using descriptive phrases in Latin. However, the system became cumbersome as more and more new plants flooded into Europe from Asia and the New World. In the middle 18th century a Swedish botanist, Carolus Linnaeus, developed a binomial nomenclature which forms the basis of modern taxonomy. He used the floral parts

Grevillea while the species is in lower case e.g. *robusta*. The full species name for the tree commonly called the Silky Oak, would be *Grevillea robusta*. The binomial name for plants is usually written in italics or underlined.

Incidentally, the Silky Oak is not an oak, nor is it related to oak trees. Early settlers named it after a tree they thought it resembled from "back home" and it demonstrates the problems inherent in common names.

Above the Genus level is a grouping of several genera, called a family. All genera in a family have characteristics in common. *Grevillea* belong in the family Proteaceae along with *Banksia* and many other genera. Families generally end in the suffix "ceae" and start with a capital letter.

Below species level are subspecies and varieties usually abbreviated to subsp. or ssp. and var.

The binomial name is normally in Latin as Latin was the language of scholarship until quite recently. This binomial name is used all around the world regardless of country or language.

How are Plants given Names?

The first person to publish a written description of a plant in a recognised scientific journal has naming rights. They are called the "author" and their name appears after the genus and species if the name is cited in full. These "authors" can go back to 1753 when Linnaeus published his original work. As information and opinions about plants change over time these "author" citations can become very complicated. The original description of a plant is called a "protologue" and until recently had to be written in Latin.

Each new plant must also have a nominated "type" specimen lodged with a recognised herbarium. The rules for naming plants are governed by ***the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature***. The



Grevillea robusta Wikipedia image

were an attempt to overcome the problem. However, these lists did not make any attempt to order the plants or work out relationships. They were compendiums and herbals.

The first person to try and order the plant kingdom was Theophrastus, an ancient Greek working over 2,000 years ago. He is often called "the father of botany" and his two surviving works "Enquiry into Plants" and "On causes of Plants" greatly influenced thinkers in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. He organised plants in groups according to characteristics such as growth habit. He was the first person to talk about herbs, shrubs and trees, leaf characteristics, bark, fruit and where the plants grew. He had only very primitive magnification, if any, so he

of a plant as the basis of his system and interestingly because of this botany was not considered a suitable subject of study for young ladies - all that discussion of male stamens and female pistils being considered quite unsuitable!

Scientific Names

All known plants, in fact all known organisms, have a name made up of two parts, the genus and the species.

The genus or generic name indicates a group of plants with similar characters. The species allows for discrimination between organisms within the genus. Ideally, all members of a genus should have a common ancestor.

The genus is always given first followed by the species. The genus starts with a capital letter e.g.

first code was formulated in 1905 and is revised about every six years.

Meanings of Botanical Names

Looking at the meaning of plant names can be a fascinating experience. It can tell you a great deal about the plant's characteristics and even the history of its discovery. An example is *Genus Macadamia* F.Muell. This name tells us that Ferdinand Von Mueller (1825-1896), a German Botanist working in Victoria in the 19th century first described the Genus. He was the first Victorian Government Botanist and was appointed by the lieutenant-governor, Charles Joseph La Trobe. He was a director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens and collected extensively. He was one of a group of botanists bringing the Australian Flora to the world. His initials appear after quite a few plant names. The Macadamia was named by him in honour of John Macadam, 1827-1865, a chemist, physician and secretary of the Philosophic Society of Victoria and his friend and contemporary.

In the Genera is the species *Macadamia tetraphylla* L.A.S. Johnson. This name tells us this species was first described by Lawrie Johnson (1925-1997), a taxonomic

botanist and Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. He described four new families, thirty three new genera and eighty six new species. He also reclassified 395 species. He had an illustrious career over many decades. He called this plant tetraphylla from two Greek words *tetra* meaning four and *phyllus* meaning leaved, an accurate description of the leaves of this species.

The naming of plants can cause some heated debates in the scientific literature and recently DNA technology has led to whole genera being moved to new families, or families being reorganised as the actual links between plants are more accurately determined. These name changes are not just some whim of botanists trying to make our lives harder. Names should show the true relationships between plants and DNA technology has at last given taxonomic botanists the tools to do this.

Recommended Books

Meaning of Botanical Names of Plants at Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens. Calder Chaffey. The Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Gardens
The Naming of Names - In Search for Order in the World of Plants Anna Pavord. Bloomsbury.2005

Allan Cunningham explorer and botanist

Allan Cunningham, explorer and botanist, arrived in Sydney on 20 December 1816. He was involved in explorer John Oxley's expedition beyond the Blue Mountains and later led his own expedition to the upper Hunter River as far as the Liverpool Plains. In September 1824 Cunningham again accompanied John Oxley on a expedition to Moreton Bay and the Brisbane River, exploring as far south as the McPherson Range and Mount Warning. On his journeys he collected and named hundreds of native plants.

Cunningham was a hard worker as a botanist, and barely had time between his journeys to give evidence of his scientific prowess, though a few of his papers will be found in journals of the period. Most of his immense collections of specimens went to Kew Gardens and eventually to the British Museum.

Some of the plants of this area were named after him or his brother Richard, also a botanist.. They include *Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine), *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* (Bangalow Palm), *Banksia spinulosa* var. *cunninghamii* (Hairpin Banksia), *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (River She Oak), *Medicosma cunninghamii* (Bonewood, *Pennantia cunninghamii* (Brown Beech), and *Polyosma cunninghamii* (Featherwood).

Adapted from Wikipedia article

Children's walks

Rosemary Blakeney and Margaret Hildebrand, in their role as education officers for younger children, have been busy. As well as devising guided walks, and brochures, they are working on some additional education programmes. They have had several events at the Gardens working with local children. On World Environment Day Wednesday, 4 June, ten local school visited the site with between 10 and 20 children in each group. The groups rotated around ten different activities. The one which the Gardens organised was a walk through the Eucalypt and Hoop Pine Forest.



To quote Margaret: "It was a very busy day!! But Rosemary and I were trialling the guided walks we have been developing and were really pleased with the children's interest and responses. I found the conversations at a "sit and ponder place" in the Hoop Pine Forest, most fascinating – listening to the children's thoughts and understandings about 'how does a tree grow?' They also noticed interesting things in the forest such as obviously different trees, fungi, red and white safety tape, bark on trees etc. - which all led to further conversations.

The day was a good test run confirming that we are pitching our brochures for guided walks at the right level. Our brochures are ready to print but we need install a few guiding signs first. I also found it useful to have some extra resources available for such occasions. One in particular is a cross cut round of tree trunk to show the growth rings. We have found some interesting books for children such as "Is a Tree Alive?" and "Leaf Litter"

The teachers accompanying the children also really appreciated a selection of plants that Rose and Rosemary had organised as a gift for each school - six plants each suitable for school gardens. We are expecting visits from two other school late in July".

The strange breeding habits of Davidson's plums... Peter Bundock

Yes, Davidson has more than one 'Plum' named after him. In fact a recent revision of the genus *Davidsonia* describes three species. They are not closely related to the traditional 'plums' (Family: Rosaceae). Our local plums are in the family Cunoniaceae, which is almost entirely restricted to the Southern hemisphere (Gondwanan Antarctic flora). Frances Elliott, a PhD candidate at Southern Cross University, has been working on the genetics and breeding systems of the three species of this small but interesting genus (*Davidsonia*). Two of the species are local to rainforests of the Far North Coast of NSW (FNC NSW) and are well known as the source of fruits for jam making (and other comestibles). The local *Davidsonia johnsonii* (Smooth Leaf Davidson's Plum), is classed as endangered, and for reasons which we will come to shortly, this is perhaps not surprising. This species has a much more branching habit and is quite different in appearance to the other two species. The second species local to the FNC NSW, *Davidsonia jerseyana* (Davidson's Plum), is also considered to be endangered, with only a small number of populations surviving in the wild. The more widespread and abundant far north Queensland *Davidsonia pruriens* (Ooray or Nth. Qld. Davidson's Plum), is also grown locally for native food production. These two last mentioned species tend to be single stemmed or forking, but not branching, small understory trees in contrast to Smooth Leaf Davidson's Plum (*D. johnsonii*). So, two species are endangered, with the third species (Nth. Qld. Davidsons Plum) reasonably secure and not considered threatened. The endangered status, is one of the reasons Frances decided to study Davidson's Plums, and is certainly the reason for applying DNA technology (molecular genetics) in her studies. This is because a key element in conserving endangered

plant species – for example to assist re-colonisation, is to understand the genetics and reproductive behaviours of these species. DNA markers can provide information which can help answer questions such as: which individuals/populations should be included in any recovery program, how do we maintain genetic diversity, and how do we go about breeding more? At a more fundamental level, breeding systems may also be connected with a species rarity, range, and intrinsic colonising ability.

Now, about our locals

OK, so the news you have been waiting for – why is it not surprising that Smooth Leaf Davidsonia (*D. johnsonii*) is endangered? This is because it produces fruit, but there are no records of seed being produced! The species reproduces as far as is known, only by suckering from its roots. As expected with such clonal reproduction, an analysis using DNA markers indicated that the majority of 'individuals' from a population of *D. johnsonii* are genetically identical! However, there are differences between populations, which may date back to a time when the species did reproduce by seed. Although as we shall see, seed production does not guarantee that there will be genetic differences between parent and offspring. But probably for some considerable

period of time (1,000s of years) there has been no reproduction in this species other than by root suckering. So Smooth Leaf Davidsonia has had to get by using this quirky (and likely dead end) method of reproduction. Unlike organisms where individuals usually belong to one of two separate sexes, many plant species have bisexual flowers (or unisexual flowers on the same plant) and are capable of self-pollination, i.e. they are self-fertile. This means they may be predominantly or partially 'inbreeding' as opposed to solely 'outcrossing' with other individuals. Using DNA markers, it is possible to 'get a handle' on the extent of selfing that has occurred in the production of progeny from an individual plant. In many species, progeny that result from self-pollination can have a tendency to have reduced fitness compared to progeny resulting from outcrossing (the observed reduced fitness is termed 'inbreeding depression'). From Frances' analysis the endangered local Davidson's Plum (*D. jerseyana*) appears to be a predominantly selfing species. Frances found however that the inbred seed had high viability (100% germination rate) and high seedling survival suggesting no strong evidence for low fitness in these individuals (although there was no outcrossed progeny for comparison,



Davidsonia jerseyana fruit
Photo Frances Elliott SCU

it would be hard to imagine that outcrossed seed would perform better). This observation suggests that inbreeding may have been the established norm in this species for some time. This doesn't mean of course that this species wouldn't indulge in a little, uhum, intimacy with a neighbour if it got the chance. However Frances has never observed any pollinators to visit the flowers and no progeny from those tested in her study could definitely be identified as resulting from outcrossing.

North Queensland – it is different!

Some plant species can produce seed that has not resulted from sexual reproduction – so no crossing is involved – not even selfing. This ability – known as apomixis, is a kind of clonal reproduction but with the convenience of seeds - with their dormancy and dispersal advantages. Some plant species produce seeds with more than one embryo (*Citrus* and mango are two examples) a characteristic known as polyembryony. In the widespread North Queensland Davidson's Plum (*D. pruriens*), Frances found that polyembryony was common and the patterns of DNA marker inheritance indicated that 89% of the progeny were genetically identical to the mother plant! This implies apomixis occurs in this species. Survival of polyembryonic seed from North Queensland Davidson's Plum was higher than single embryo seed; however seed viability and seedling survival were significantly lower compared to FNC Davidson's Plum (*D. jerseyana*).

So what's happening?

Of the three species, Smooth Leaf Davidson's Plum does not reproduce

sexually, but reproduces clonally (asexually) by root suckering; FNC NSW Davidson's Plum reproduces sexually but may be almost entirely selfing; and Nth Qld. Davidson's Plum is predominantly asexually reproducing via apomixis! This is certainly a mixed bag from just three species.

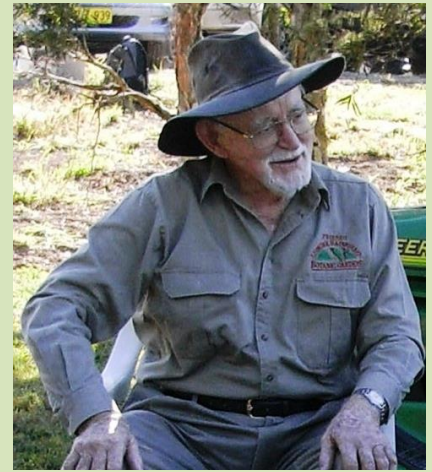
Can we explain why the Nth. Qld. species is more abundant than its southern cousins? The seed viability of the Nth. Qld. species was lower than FNC NSW Davidson's Plum, which might have suggested the reverse scenario is more likely. Could breeding system play a part? It may be that polyembryony and apomixis provide a reproductive advantage to *D. pruriens*. Alternatively seed dispersal may be achieved more readily in North Queensland for *D. pruriens* since the cassowary eats the fruit and disperses the seed, enabling what might otherwise be a rare plant species to be relatively widespread and common in this region. Whatever the reason for the greater abundance of *D. pruriens* versus *D. jerseyana* and *D. johnsonii*, Frances has found that even within a genus and one with just three species; it is possible to find startling differences between plant breeding systems. Frances has had part of her work published in Conservation Genetics Resources (Elliott et al. 2013, *Conservation Genetics Resources*, 5: 161-167) and has recently submitted a manuscript on the current topic for publication to the Australian Journal of Botany. But remember, you read it in the FLRBG newsletter first!

Dr Peter Bundock
Southern Cross Plant Science
Southern Cross University

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday 16 August starting at 9.15am at the Environment Education Centre on site**. Several of the executive positions will be coming vacant and we look forward to some new blood on the committee at this exciting time in our establishment. The president's and treasurer's roles will be available. We need someone for up front publicity and events managing. Vice-president's role may also be vacant. As we move from establishing the Gardens to actually running them, everything is changing.

Geoff's Koala Story



So there I was on this wintry morning – the first Sunday in May - opening the gate for our Sunday work group party long before the Council's computer instructed the gate to open automatically at 9 o'clock. I was chilling in my chair with no car in sight. Then, I looked down and, bold as brass, there was a mature koala crouching beside my boot. I spoke to it but, looking neither left nor right, it moved forward and sprang upwards into the nearby eucalypt. It had breakfast above me while the rising westerly buffeted the foliage. I don't think it ever saw me. It was so-o-o-o close. Just the length of my bent leg. I could have patted it and I was tempted - but we are advised not to touch the koalas and I also wondered if it had its claws at the ready. And you ask me where was my camera? Guess. I never take a camera when I am on gate duty... why would I? Ah... I am such a slow learner. *Geoff*



Skywalk at Kew Garden... Peter Gould



In August 2013 I revisited the iconic Kew Gardens in London after 39 years. It is undoubtedly one of the world's greatest botanic gardens. In some ways little has changed, as you would expect from such a venerable garden, but there have also been some remarkable, and exciting, new developments.

The Skywalk – an elevated, 200m long walkway set amongst the tree canopy, 18 metres above ground level is one of these new developments. The Kew Skywalk (which includes a wheelchair accessible lift) is a major engineering work and represents an investment of millions of pounds – well beyond our financial capacity here at the LRBG - but I believe there are still lessons to be drawn from how they designed this attraction, in particular the very clear, direct and expressive signage they have used to get their message across to visitors of all ages and levels of understanding. The Skywalk gives panoramic views of London, even planes taking off and landing at Heathrow.

One aspect of Kew I found less inviting was the admission price £15.00 (\$27.35) for a day ticket, plus transport. I had planned to spend a couple of days there but it was beyond my modest budget.

CYCADS are ancient seed plants dating back over 200 million years. In the Jurassic Period cycad-like plants dominated world vegetation. Cycad material has been found in the fossilised droppings of dinosaurs! *Macrozamia* cycads are found only in Australia, some are endemic to the NSW east coast. Until recently researchers have believed that these cycads had evolved directly from the plants of the Jurassic Age. However, recent studies indicate that living cycad groups have been around for only the 10-20 million years, much younger than previously thought. It is now believed that the catastrophe that killed off the dinosaurs also annihilated the original cycads.

Ref: <http://www.uq.edu.au/news/article/2012/08/cycads>

Moving mature tree

In May this year a sixty year old, 120 tonne Moreton Bay Fig was moved in Melbourne Zoo. Crews would normally excavate the root system and lift it with cranes, but with limited access for heavy machinery, crews came up with a novel solution. Air-filled, very long rubber sausages were placed underneath the root system of the tree which was then rolled to its new position. Moving a mature tree so it can continue to grow is nothing new. In about 1470BC Egyptian Pharaoh Hatshepsut sent a trading mission down the Red Sea to procure luxuries there. When her fleet of five ships returned after the two year voyage the most prized of all their cargo were thirty one live frankincense trees. The trees had been carefully excavated and their roots bound in balls of their indigenous soil for the duration of the long voyage. By using root protection and handling the trees by the root ball, using straps rather than the branches or the trunk, the trees would have suffered little damage.



Hatshepsut had the trees planted in the courts of her mortuary temple Deir el Bahari, in Luxor near the Valley of the Kings. This is the first known record of the transplanting and establishment of foreign trees. Hatshepsut had the expedition commemorated in relief on the temple walls.

Ref.: ABC News item 12 May 2014; awatrees.blogspot.com

The *Eupomatia bennettii*, Bolwarra, planted near the table in the Fern Gully picnic area, has five small buds. It usually flowers in August and we would like to try again to manually fertilise the flowers of this very ancient plant.