

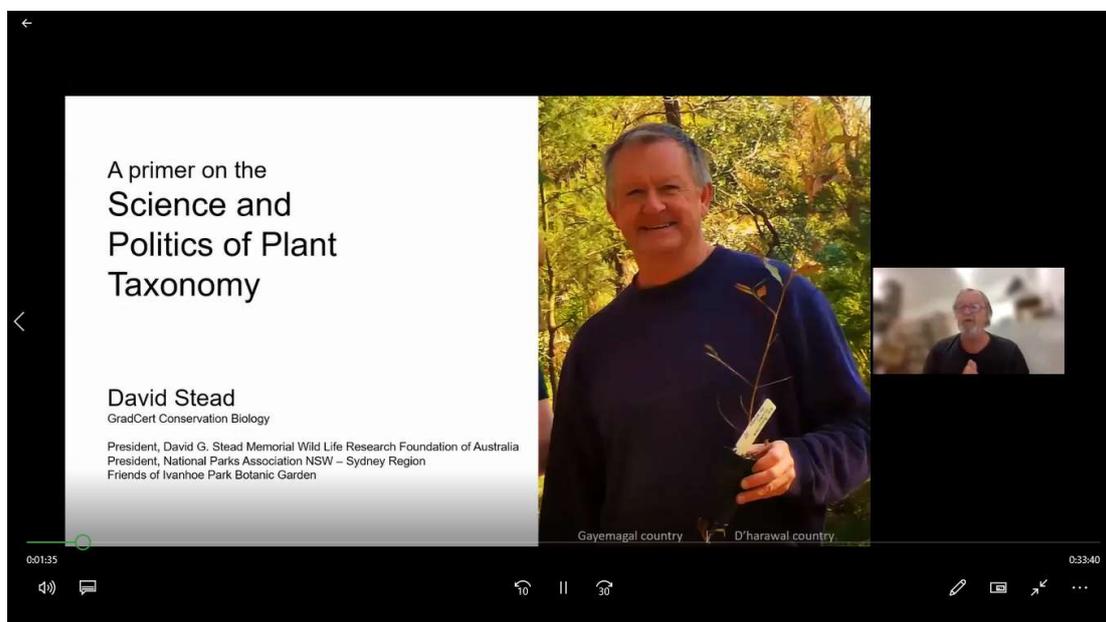


- **The November Get-together – a presentation on the politics of plant naming**
  - **Our Council gardeners hard at work**
- **We've taken care of your Christmas gifts with our Plant Sale**
  - **A report on our Working Bees**
  - **Members' Only Garden Tour Report**
- **The Tree of the Month Project – a familiar native**
- **Celebrate in person at our December Get-together**
- **Dates for upcoming Get-togethers and Working Bees**

### Discover the Science and Politics of Plant Taxonomy

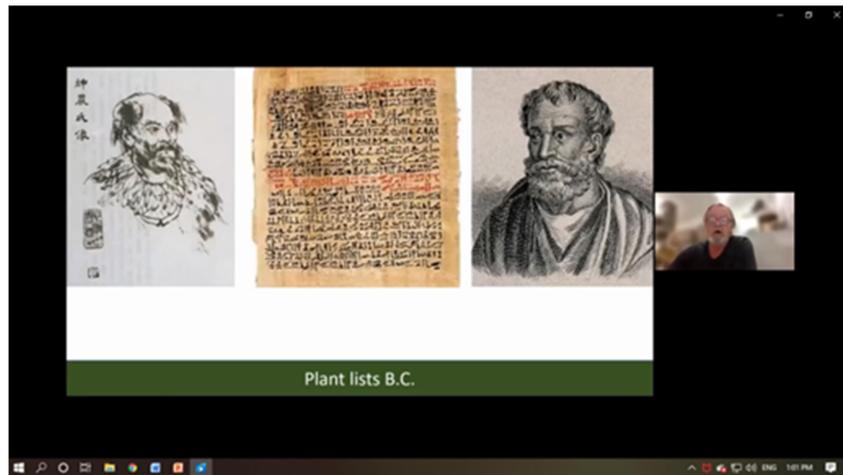
At our November Get-together, we were introduced to a topic not often covered by garden groups like ours but one that David Stead admits has intrigued him since childhood.

David suggested that he was a little glad to be on Zoom because it was a wet and windy night. We were a little disappointed that we weren't meeting in person because David's presentation contained some fun interaction, not so easy on Zoom.

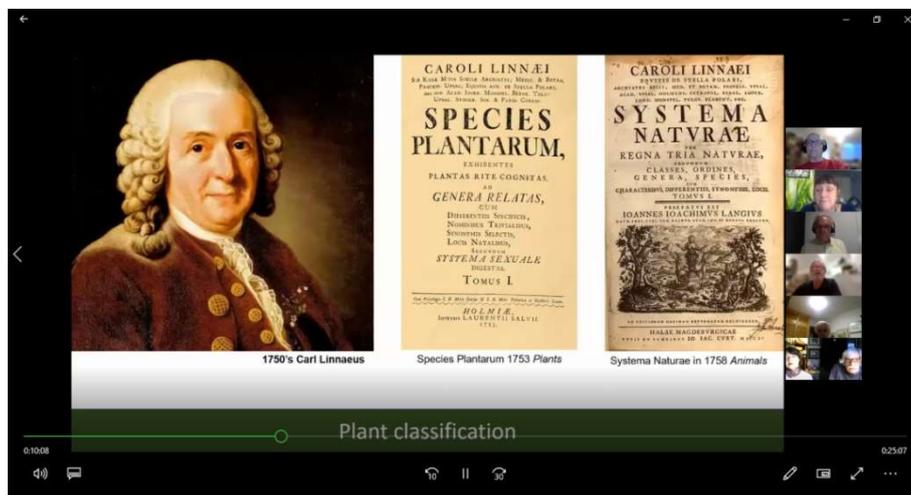


His presentation looked at the history and conventions of plant taxonomy, explored how scientific names are formed and their use around the world and how a plant's name is more than just useful to choose it in a line up in the nursery – its name also plays a role in conservation and in some cases leads to global conflict affecting national identity, pride and politics.

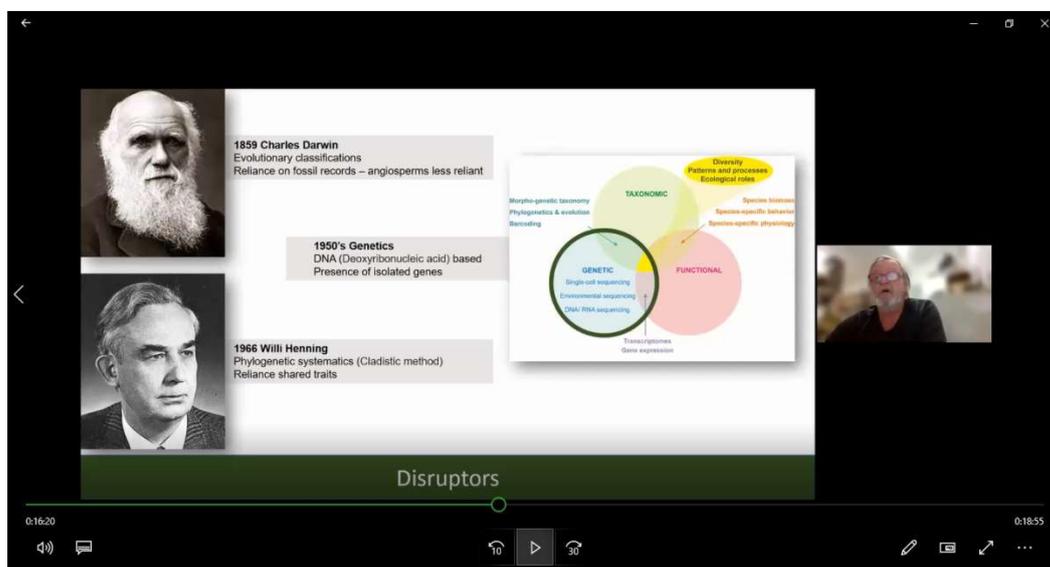
**Plant naming:** The privilege of giving a species its scientific name often goes to the person who first described it as a new a distinct species. Its scientific name is unique however it may have many common names around the world. And surprisingly the naming of plants goes back thousands of years.



Centuries later, in the 1750s, Carl Linnaeus published the *Species Plantarum* that became the way plants were recorded and observed for a very long time.



**History and evolution:** Plant classification – from Linnaeus, to Charles Darwin to Willi Henning – continued to evolve and how that changed once computers were introduced and knowledge could be shared around the world was discussed.



David went on to talk about taxonomic ranking.

**Taxonomic rank**  
Successive levels of the biological classification

**Basic Taxonomic Ranks**

- Life
- Domain
- Kingdom
- Phylum
- Class
- Order
- Family
- Genus
- Species

Plant name

**Cladistic Taxonomic Ranks**

Kingdom: Plantae  
Clade: Tracheophytes  
Clade: Angiosperms  
Clade: Eudicots  
Clade: Rosids  
Order: Fabales  
Family: Fabaceae  
Clade: Mimosoideae  
Tribe: Acacieae  
Genus: Acacia  
Species: *A. pycnantha*

Acacia pycnantha  
Golden Wattle

Taxonomic Ranks

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As well as the politics of how and why plant names and taxonomy change.

**Why names change:**

- Described more than once
- Species moved from one genus to another
- Published name moved to another taxonomic level

**Basic Rules:**

- Species can only have a single name
- First name published should be the accepted name

Red-flowering gum (*Corymbia ficifolia*, formerly *Eucalyptus ficifolia*)

Name Changes

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As an example, David gave us a well-documented case of the Acacia.

**Acacia - a Botanical controversy**

- Origin: 1754 Philip Miller
- Locations: Africa, Asia and the Americas, then discovered in Australia ... now 600 Australia, ~400 Africa, Asia and Americas
- Change proposed: 1980's Les Pedley (Australia) Acacia, Senegalia and Racosperma (Aus) Changes only applied in Queensland
- Genetics: 2000 DNA studies identify five genera
- New Proposal: 2003 Bruce Maslin and Tony Orchard Australia keeps Acacia, others change
- The Decision: International Association for Plant Taxonomy - supported 2005 International Botanical Congress – 45% FOR 2011 International Botanical Congress – nearly 70% FOR Australia hold the type species for Acacia *A. penninervis*

Taxonomic Change

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David's primer on the Politics of Plant Taxonomy encouraged us to do further research if we wished. And I think a lot of us will do just that.

View the complete presentation on our website by clicking [here](#)

## Our Council gardeners hard at work

We thought you'd like to see some of the work our hard-working Council gardeners do. This is just on one day recently.



Shrubs pruned back in the upper garden.

Our beautiful single specimen Leopard Tree was removed after the arborist advised us that it was past revival. It will be replaced.



The Garden beds around the Park Avenue entrance needed a lot of attention so it was cleaned up in preparation for planting – you can see that in action in our Working Bee report.



Morning glory was removed from the Clivia beds.



And another unfortunate task, a rubbish clean up after partying locals.

## We've taken care of your Christmas gifts with our Plant Sale



No need to search any further for Christmas gifts.  
They're eco-friendly.  
Suitable for windowsills, balconies or gardens.  
And you won't be able to beat the price.

You'll find our stall just outside the Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden's Red Gates  
from 5 p.m. until after the Christmas Carols.



We'll have a large selection of plants available – propagated by one of our members.

- Several varieties of Mistletoe cacti (*rhipsalis*).
- Tomato plants, a few natives and some exotic species.
- And potted Clivia plants – sourced from our beautiful Botanic Garden.

Not only will our plants be a thoughtful gift for family members, friends or party hosts  
but also know that you will be helping raise funds for the  
Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden to continue our work in beautifying Ivanhoe Park.

**And if you become a member, we'll give you a plant for free!**

## We have two Working Bees to report on

### *The October 27 Midweek Working Bee*

This was a really successful day with loads of weeding, pruning, mulching and potting of the remaining Clivia.



## The November 20 Working Bee

After signing in, the day's work was outlined and everyone decided on which task they would like to be involved in.



One team weeded, mulched and cleaned up plant debris in the native Garden.



In order to beautify the Park Avenue entrance, a second team set out to plant *Alcantarea* and *Liriope*. First preparing the beds with manure and removing some stubborn roots.



The plants were placed, planted and then watered in. A great result!



### Notes from our Exclusive Members' Only Garden Tour on November 13

Many of our members took advantage of a wonderful opportunity to be introduced in-depth to the history and significance of Manly, heritage-listed Ivanhoe Park and our Botanic Garden on a tour packaged by the Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden. Divided into small groups, led by our knowledgeable guides, our members moved through seven discovery "stations" where they were given a colourful oral and pictorial presentation of the sporting history, wild flower shows, the tramway that ran through the Garden, the war memorial, our rare and varied trees and more.



Couldn't make it this time? Don't worry, we will be running this Garden Tour in the coming months.

## The Tree of the Month Project – a familiar native



The River She-oak, such a familiar part of the Australian landscape, is our tree of the month. But have you ever wondered where it got its name? One such theory is that the name originated from an old Irish legend to describe the wailing sound the tree makes when the wind blows, like the wailing of the Banshee, a female spirit. But it was more likely named by the British Royal Navy who sailed around and wrote early narratives of Australia. Ships of sail are in need of wood, so they used familiar names to help describe the trees they found. She-oak was named after oak due to their similar timber texture.

### **River She-oak**

*Casuarina cunninghamiana*

*Casuarina* from the Latin *casuarius* (a cassowary), likening the pendulous branchlets to the drooping feathers of the cassowary; *cunninghamiana* after Alan Cunningham (1791-1839), an explorer and botanical collector

Also known as: River She-Oak, River Oak, Australian Beefwood



It is an important tree for stabilising riverbanks and for soil erosion prevention accepting wet and dry soils.

The fruits are an important food source for red and yellow tailed black cockatoo.

Go to our webpage to find out more about our wonderful trees. This link will take you there: [Our Trees](#).

## Celebrate in person at our December Get-together

Members, keep an eye out for your invitation to our December Get-together – the last one for 2021. We'll be back at the Manly Bowling Club, Raglan Street from 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8.

Many of us grab dinner at the Bistro before heading downstairs so leave enough time, then get ready to meet up, catch up and celebrate! Oh and members, the first drink is on us!

It's time to meet up in person, catch up after a difficult year,  
hear about what's to come in 2022 and, of course,  
celebrate you, our members.

Manly Bowling Club, Raglan Street,  
from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8.

Grab dinner at the Bistro beforehand if you like  
then join us downstairs for our last Get-together of 2021.

**And members – the first drink is on us as a thank you for hanging in there.**



## Dates for our upcoming Get-togethers and Garden Working Bees

### 2022 Monthly Get-togethers

Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

Month	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Time
January	No meeting	--
February	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-8.30pm
March	9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-8.30pm
April	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-8.30pm
May	11th	7.00-8.30pm

### 2022 Garden Working Bees

Held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

Month	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	Time
January	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am
February	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am
March	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am
April	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am
May	21st	9.00-11.00am

**And stay tuned for news on Midweek Working Bees during the Summer.**

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Keep up to date with happenings at Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden  
by visiting our website anytime  
[www.friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com](http://www.friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com)

Or email us at  
[info@friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com](mailto:info@friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com)

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