



The Mackay Branch has been operating since 13th July 1978. Branch membership offers all entitlements from Queensland Region as well as a range of local activities and benefits. Regional entitlements include 4 issues per annum of the *Bulletin* (The Queensland Region magazine); access to an extensive State Library; seeds from the Seed Bank, access to membership of Branches and Study Groups and the opportunity to attend State and Federal Conferences. Mackay Branch activities and benefits include: -

Meetings - usually held on the first Thursday of the month, except January, at the Mackay Gem & Craft Society Hall, Leisure Court, Mackay. (AGM February)

7.30 p.m. Library, plant and publication sales

8.00 p.m. Business followed by regular features and a topic of interest. Meetings conclude with a raffle and supper. **Visitors/guests are always welcome!**

Branch Publications relevant to the Mackay area - available at meetings or by mail.

The Library contains a comprehensive collection of publications for use by members.

Plant Propagation Group: Workshops are usually held the last Thursday morning of the month. Plants are grown for sale to members at meetings, for annual public sales and for special projects. Excursions to collect propagating material happen from time to time.

Public Plant Sales and Displays promote the use of Australian native plants and provide information relevant to local conditions.

The Newsletter *The Graptophyllum* - published six times each year to inform members of forthcoming activities. It also contains reports and articles of interest.

Excursions and social activities are held from time to time and are advertised in the newsletter.

Community Projects: Over the years these have included a rainforest planting at the University, a re-vegetation plot on the Pioneer River, a Federal Government funded rehabilitation project at the Lagoons as well as the long-standing and ongoing commitment to support the development of the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens. Submissions, plant lists and information have also been provided for numerous proposal and projects within the district and the branch has been represented on many local, state and federal government advisory groups.

The Branch Emblem the Mount Blackwood Holly, *Graptophyllum ilicifolium*, is a vulnerable local species, first introduced into cultivation by the Mackay Branch in 1991. It is now readily available in the nursery trade as Holly Fuchsia

For further information contact the Secretary,
P.O. Box 6864, Mackay Mail Centre, 4741
Tel: 07 49551745
or attend a meeting, initially as our guest.

NEXT MEETING: 7.30pm Thursday 5 September 2013 at Gem & Craft Society Hall, Leisure Crt, Mackay. General Meeting followed by 'Spring Show and Tell - a spectacular display of local flowering plants from gardens around Mackay. Come along to look and learn!