

Join the *celebration* of
National Wattle Day
1 September



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Wattle Day
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We celebrate National Wattle Day because:

- ☀ Wattle is our national floral emblem. It is a symbol that comes directly from our land;
- ☀ Wattle is Australian and represents us all. Unlike other national days, National Wattle Day excludes no one;
- ☀ Like our people, wattle has great diversity (with more than 1,060 species) and resilience
- ☀ Wattle welcomes in the spring and is among the first plants to regenerate after fire, reminding us of the importance of renewal as it paints our national colours across our land;
- ☀ Wattle is a unifying symbol for all Australians. There is no other symbol that says so much about us and our land, Australia; and
- ☀ Wattle is a symbol of Australia and Australians.

What can you do:

WEAR a sprig of wattle or Australia's national colours of green and gold

GREET each other with 'Happy Wattle Day'

ORGANISE a picnic, morning/afternoon tea, BBQ, or dinner for your family & friends

Contact the Wattle Day Association:

E: President@wattleday.asn.au

W: www.wattleday.asn.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/WattleDay

Postal address

PO Box 1485 Dickson
Canberra ACT 2602
Australia

Photos: *SD Searle*

Queensland Silver Wattle
(*Acacia podalyriifolia*)



Weeping Boree
(*Acacia vestita*)



Blackwood
(*Acacia melanoxylon*)



Silver Wattle
(*Acacia dealbata*)



Blue Bush
(*Acacia covenyi*)



Snowy River Wattle
(*Acacia boormanii*)



*Celebrating Australia
and the Australian Spirit*

The Wattle Day Association is a not-for-profit, non-political, non-sectarian organisation incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory. We welcome all to join us in promoting the celebration of National Wattle Day for all Australians.

Our aims are to promote:

- ☀ the celebration of National Wattle Day on 1 September each year (including advocacy that it be a national holiday and the day that Australian honours are announced); and
- ☀ Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) as our national floral emblem and as a unifying symbol for all Australians.



Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*)



His Excellency, General the Honorable Sir Peter Cosgrove, watched on by Lady Cosgrove receives a basket of wattle on behalf of all of Australia's school children to celebrate National Wattle Day.

National Wattle Day

The first attempt to celebrate a 'national' Wattle Day was made on 1 September 1910 in NSW, Victoria and South Australia. From that time on, Wattle Day was observed all around the country, but the timing varied between August and September as people wanted to celebrate when the wattles were in full bloom in their area. For example, the date of Wattle Day in New South Wales was changed in 1916 to the first of August.

It was not until 1992 that 1 September was officially proclaimed National Wattle Day in every State and Territory by the Commonwealth Government of Australia.

2010 was the centenary of that first celebration of Wattle Day on 1 September in 1910.

Golden Wattle

Wattle has blossomed on the Australian continent for more than 30 million years. It has welcomed us all - indigenous, colonial and modern day arrivals. Wattles have long had special meanings for Australians.

- ☀ In 1988 the Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) was officially gazetted as Australia's national floral emblem.
- ☀ Australia's national colours of green and gold, officially gazetted in 1984, are those of the Golden Wattle in flower.
- ☀ Australia is the land of the wattle. There are more than 1,060 wattle (*Acacia*) species native to Australia.
- ☀ Wattle is a unique symbol of the land that has formed and sustains us.

