

Combined ACT TCC/TCCV visit to COOTAMUNDRA NSW 2590 12 – 16 October 2017



Cootamundra

Town in New South Wales, Australia

Cootamundra is a town in the South West Slopes region of New South Wales, Australia and within the Riverina. It is within the Gundagai Council. At the 2011 census, Cootamundra had a population of 5,579. Wikipedia

Elevation: 318 m

Founded: 1861

Cootamundra is centrally located in the Riverina region on the fertile south-west slopes of New South Wales, about four hours drive from Sydney and less than two hours from Canberra. Wattle Time in August sees the golden hues of wattle, wheat and canola and is the ideal time to visit this pleasant country town. Cricketing legend Sir Donald Bradman was born in Cootamundra, and visitors can see the Birthplace Museum on Adams St. Visit the birth place of Sir Donald Bradman and take the Captain's Walk to view the 42 bronze sculptures of Australian Test cricket captains, including Unaarrimim, the leading aboriginal player in the first Australian cricket team to tour England in 1868.

Cootamundra is a town in the South West Slopes region of New South Wales, Australia and within the Riverina. It is within the Gundagai Council. At the 2011 census, Cootamundra had a population of 5,579.[1] It is located on the Olympic Highway at the point where it crosses the Muttama Creek, between Junee and Cowra. Although it is bypassed by the Hume Highway, its railway station is on the Main Southern line, part of the Melbourne-to-Sydney line.

Cootamundra is the birthplace of Sir Donald Bradman AC, an Australian cricketer universally regarded as the greatest batsman of all time. The town features the Sir Donald Bradman Birthplace Museum, a fully restored visitors' site, the home where "The Don" was born, featuring cricketing memorabilia and artifacts.[2]

Cootamundra is the home of the [Cootamundra wattle](#). Every year there is a large 'Wattle Time' Festival held at the time the wattle starts to bloom, with an art show and festivities.

History



Birthplace of Sir Donald Bradman

The earliest people to live in the area where present day Cootamundra exists are considered to be the tribe of Wiradjuri, with the name probably deriving from their word guudhamang for "turtle".[3]



Parker St, the main street of Cootamundra

Cootamundra was incorporated as a township on 9 August 1861, and the first settlers bought their lots in early 1862. Like many other towns in the Riverina, it was originally populated by those attracted by the gold rush of the 1860s, but became a quiet yet prosperous agricultural community after the local deposits were exhausted.[citation needed]

The town's rugby league team competed in the Maher Cup.

Timeline

- 1847 - Cootamundra Run, a large stock run, is the first colonist settlement in the area.
- 1861 - The site of Cootamundra is published in the NSW Government Gazette
- 1862 - Gold mining commences at the nearby Muttama Reef mine.
- 1864 - The first church (Anglican) and post office are established.
- 1875 - The first school in the district opens
- 1877 - Cootamundra's railway connection opens on 1 November.
- 1884 - Cootamundra is first gazetted as a municipality
- 1896 - Cootamundra Cycling Club. It is probably the oldest continual club in NSW, although as was the case with most clubs it went into recess during the war years.
- 1908 - Donald Bradman (later Sir Donald Bradman) is born in Cootamundra.
- 1911 to 1968 - Cootamundra Domestic Training Home for Aboriginal Girls forcibly taken from their families
- 1942 - On 3 December, the corvette HMAS Cootamundra, named for the town, is launched.
- 1952 - Name of Cootamundra officially changed to Cootamundra[4]
- 1955 - The first Cootamundra Annual Classic cycling handicap race, one of the oldest open races in NSW.

- 1956 - Cootamundra's rugby league football club's Bill Marsh is first selected to play for the Australian national team.
- 1960 - Cootamundra's Australian Football club is established.[5]
- 1982 - In November 1982, the aviation company Masling Industries was formed. This was restructured in June 1993 after the unfortunate death of the owner.
- 1986 - Popular Australian singer/songwriter/bush poet John R. Williamson released his song 'Cootamundra Wattle'.
- 2015 - Australian youth radio station Triple JJJ featured the 'Cootamundra bonus weather rap'
- 2000 - The first annual beach volleyball competition begins. Truckloads of sand are trucked into the main street for Coota Beach (play on words for Kuta Beach in Bali, Indonesia).
- Australian rugby league Kangaroos player Lee Ryde grew up representing the Group 9 Cootamundra Bulldogs local team.

Acacia baileyana

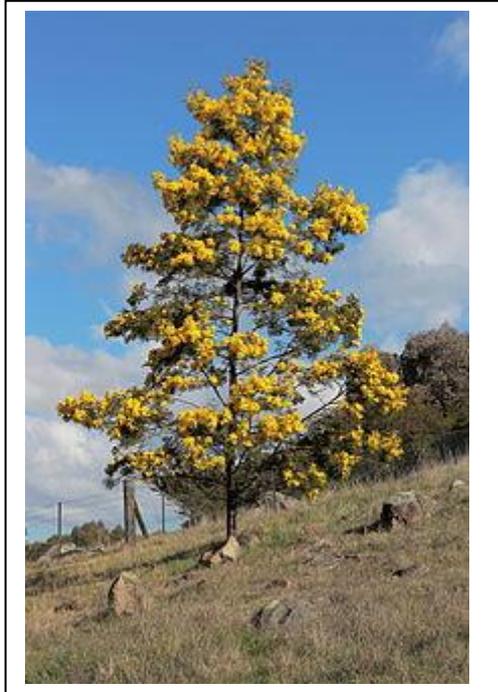
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Cootamundra wattle	
	 <p>Range of <i>Acacia baileyana</i></p>
<p><u>Scientific classification</u></p> <p>Kingdom: Plantae (unranked): Angiosperms (unranked): Eudicots (unranked): Rosids Order: Fabales Family: Fabaceae Genus: Acacia Species: <i>A. baileyana</i></p>	<p><u>Synonyms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Acacia baileyana</i>. var. aurea • <i>Acacia baileyana</i> var. purpurea • <i>Racosperma baileyanum</i> <p><u>Binomial name</u> <i>Acacia baileyana</i>^t</p>

Acacia baileyana or **Cootamundra wattle**, is a [shrub](#) or [tree](#) in the genus [Acacia](#). The scientific name of the species honours the [botanist Frederick Manson Bailey](#). It is [indigenous](#) to a small area of southern New South Wales in Australia, but it has been widely planted in other Australian states and territories. In many areas of Victoria, it has become [naturalised](#) and is regarded as a [weed](#), out-competing indigenous Victorian species.

Almost all wattles have cream to golden flowers. The small flowers are arranged in spherical to cylindrical [inflorescences](#), with only the [stamens](#) prominent. Wattles have been extensively [introduced](#) into [New Zealand](#).

Uses



Profile of a Cootamundra wattle in Canberra, ACT

A. baileyana is used in Europe in the cut flower industry. It is also used as food for bees in the production of honey.^[3] American urban landscape designer [Renée Gunter](#) uses this plant in her South Los Angeles lawn as a drought-resistant alternative to thirstier plants.^[4]

Less than 0.02% [alkaloids](#) were found in a chemical analysis of *Acacia baileyana*.^[5]

Cultivation

This plant is adaptable and easy to grow. It has gained the [Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit](#).^[6] Unfortunately it has an ability to naturalise (i.e. escape) into surrounding [bushland](#). Also, it [hybridises](#) with some other wattles, notably the rare and

endangered Sydney Basin species [Acacia pubescens](#).

A prostrate weeping form is in [cultivation](#). Its origin is unknown, but it itself is a popular garden plant, its cascading horizontal branches good for rockeries.^[7] The fine foliage of the original Cootamundra wattle is grey-green, but a blue-purple foliaged form, known as 'Purpurea' is very popular.^[8]

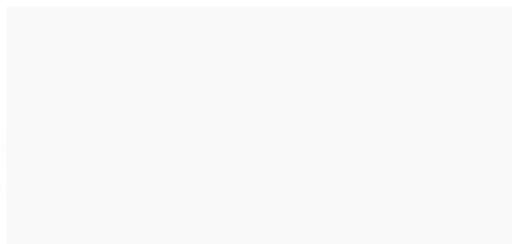
Use of colour

The colour Cootamundra Wattle is used currently by the [Australian Capital Territory Fire Brigade](#) as their colour scheme for firefighting appliances.

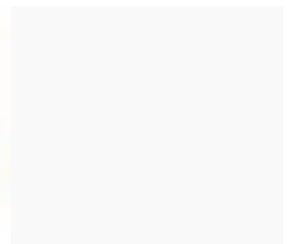
Gallery



Leaf and blossom



Fine detail of leaf





Leaf with fingers for scale



A. baileyana seeds

