

SEPT 2016

## Still Creek Landcare

### Lovely *Boronia ledifolia*- Sydney Boronia.

By Jutta Hamilton



With the weather warming up, most of our native sandstone flora is not wasting any time to spring into action. *Boronia ledifolia*, the Sydney Boronia is the first of the Boronias to flower in late winter. Numerous showy pink to lilac flowers are borne in profusion. It is a popular and well known species seen by bushwalkers in the Sydney region.

*Boronia ledifolia* grows as a small shrub up to 1.5 metres tall. Flowers appear from June and persist until around October. The leaves are dotted with oil glands containing strongly aromatic volatile oils that when crushed, give off a pungent smell.

There are other Boronias species growing in the local area. All are small aromatic shrubs with opposite leaves. The local species have rich purple, pink or white star shaped flowers with 4 petals.

The Pale-pink Boronia, *Boronia floribunda* and the *Boronia pinnata* also put on a spectacular display and can be found on bush tracks around Berowra Waters.

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