



**Hidden treasure:** Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve worker Gilbert Campbell (left) with Australian Plant Society members Aileen Phipps and Ralph Cartwright.

Picture: Chris Lane

# Smell the flowers

By **Megan Gorrey**

SHADED by fragrant eucalypts and filled with golden wattle blossoms, the Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve is an oasis among the streets of Kareela.

Garden lovers will have the chance to learn more about the reserve when the Sutherland branch of the Australian Plants Society has its Spring Walks Day there on Sunday, August 23.

Society member Ralph Cartwright said the walks were an opportunity to learn more about the reserve and about native plant species that thrive in southern Sydney.

He said there would be native plants and cut flowers for sale on the day, and advice on landscaping and plant selection.

"We want to bring Australian plants to the residents of Sutherland Shire," Mr Cartwright said.

Sutherland branch president Leonie Hogue hoped the walks would show people that the reserve was a wonderful place to have a picnic or simply take some time out.

Ms Hogue said plants that were indigenous to the shire, such as banksias, eucalypts, wattle, Gynea lilies and flannel flowers, were especially beautiful in the garden.

"The reserve is a lovely place," Ms Hogue said. "It's very tranquil."

**Spring Walks Day, 10am-4pm on Sunday, August 23, at Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve, Manooka Place, Kareela. Details: 9528 6083.**