

Blooming fine day looms

By Nick Eggert

ON Tuesday, September 1 – National Wattle Day – Australians are being asked to take time to appreciate the national floral emblem.

With more than 30 species in bloom, the Sir Joseph Banks Native Plant Reserve at Kareela will be celebrating in style.

The wattle has had special significance throughout the nation's history, from its study by Sir Joseph Banks in 1770 to it being named the national flower in 1988.

Sutherland Shire Mayor Lorraine Kelly said: "Wattle is something that represents us all.

"Like our people, wattle has great diversity and is very resilient."

The Sir Joseph Banks reserve, founded in



Wattle it be? The sunshine wattle, *Acacia terminalis* to be exact.

1969, is one of Sydney's few specialist gardens dedicated entirely to native plants.

Information: 9528 6083.