



Australian Plants Society Ballarat District

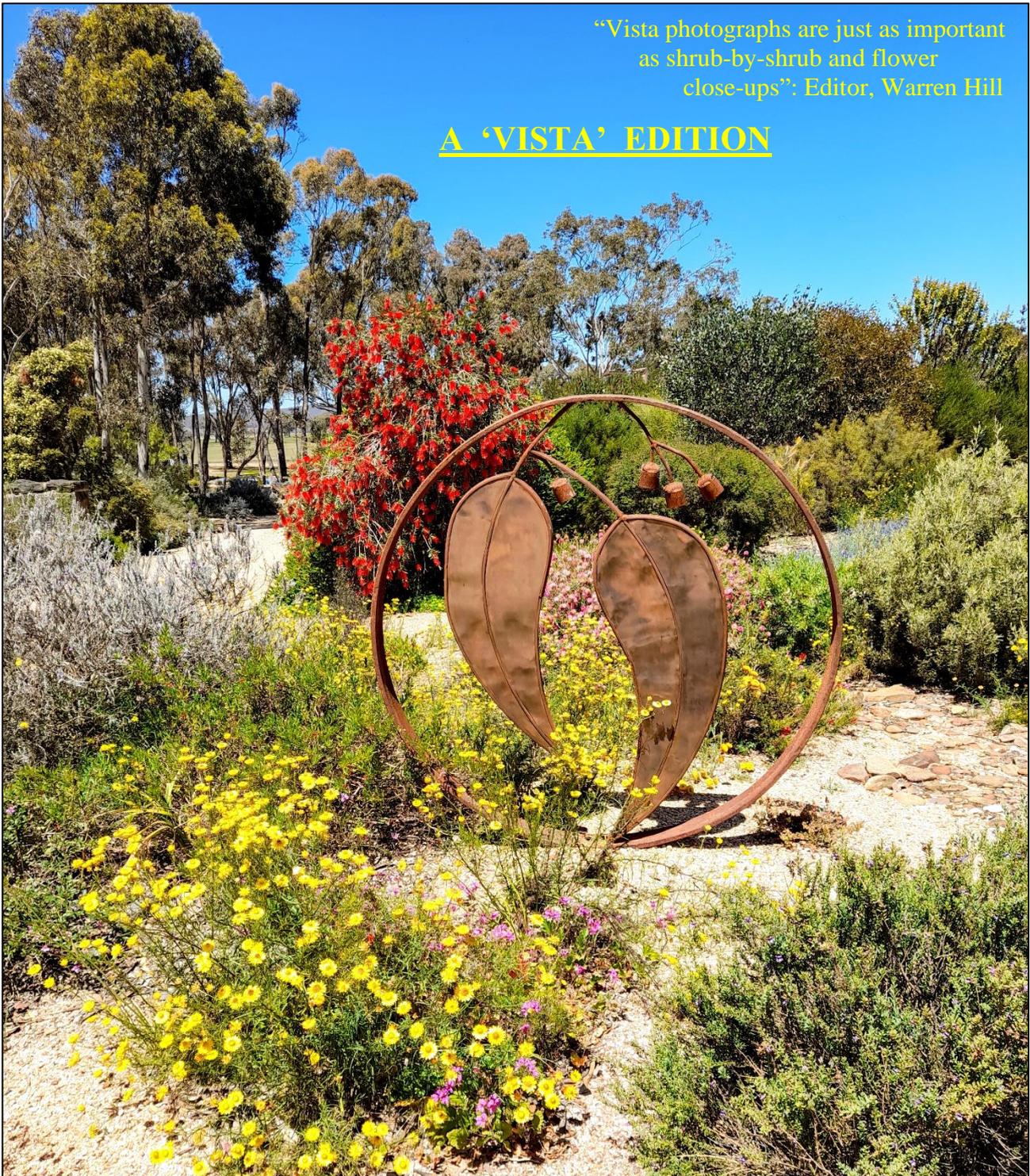
Newsletter – December 2021

**MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY
at ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE
GILLIES STREET ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4**

FURTHER DETAILS SEE INFORMATION BOX

“Vista photographs are just as important
as shrub-by-shrub and flower
close-ups”: Editor, Warren Hill

A ‘VISTA’ EDITION



The much-photographed entrance to the garden of Helen & Neville Collier. But worth repeating from the perspective of a different photographer.

Photo: Ainslie Whyte

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 8th DECEMBER, 2021 at 2pm – CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

InExterior Café, corner of Doveton & Mair Streets Ballarat

➡ Café is booked for 2pm start and closes at 3pm

There will be no cost for this function but you must let us know if you will be attending as catering will need numbers.

➡ RSVP – 5th December at the very latest

Please e-mail John Hastie: johnhastie37@bigpond.com
or phone 53415567 and leave a message.

PLEASE NOTE: Only double vaccinated members can attend!

**PLEASE NOTE –
NO MEETING in JANUARY**

WEDNESDAY 9th FEBRUARY – MONTHLY MEETING at 7-30pm

Guest Speaker: Fon Ryan: ‘A Celebration of Digital Photography’

Fon will show us the specimen photographs that appeared in the newsletter in 2021, and a range of other shots as well, to celebrate Digital Photography.

SUNDAY 13th FEBRUARY – EXCURSION

Annual Bird and Plant Walk with Roger Thomas

Excursion somewhere in the Ballarat area. 9:00am to 11:45am. **Full details and directions in the February newsletter.**

From the President

It seems we have finally reached the point where we can have normal meetings in the Robert Clark Centre, starting with the February meeting. Some of the Guest Speakers who could not come this year will be welcomed in the New Year.

The members who travelled out to Brian and Carol Hendrickson’s at Daisy Hill and Helen and Neville Collier’s at Bung Bong had a very pleasant time – two very interesting gardens and lots of talk and friendship. We thank our hosts very much.

Best Wishes for the holiday season. We all hope next year will be an improvement on the last one.

May all members have a pleasant Christmas & Holiday Period



**&
A Happy New Year**



Wednesday 10th November, 2021 – Garden Visit Report

Our monthly meeting was cancelled due to storm damage to the Ballarat Botanic Gardens, causing their closure. Also unfortunately losing some Heritage Listed Trees.

Gladys and John Hastie invited us to visit ‘The Garden at Elaine’.

They showed a dozen members around the garden, with informative observations and discussions of their practices and productivity with so many varied native plants, in a relatively small area.

Also particularly good is the labelling of plants.

All on a nice sunny afternoon with pleasant company, discussion and tea and scones.

Thank you, Gladys and John.

(Visit our Facebook page for pictures by Elspeth Swan)



Two vistas in the garden of Caroline and Brian Hendrickson at Daisy Hill near Maryborough
(See excursion report on the next page)
Photography: The Dalmans

Sunday 21st November 2021 – Gardens visit report – by Claire Dalman

(See two photographs on page 3 and one on page 5)

Weather forecasts looked gloomy for our excursion to two gardens on Sunday November 21st but thankfully the coats and umbrellas were not needed. About 20 members enjoyed a beautiful day of blue skies and brilliant sunshine and two gorgeous gardens. Following detailed instructions, we drove to Daisy Hill not far from Maryborough to the lovely garden of Caroline and Brian Hendrickson. Here we wandered around winding paths admiring plants, asking questions, taking photos, visiting the fairy shelter, being impressed by the vegetable garden and the sheltered “room” for orchids and indoor plants. Morning tea was welcome and we thank Janine for delicious fresh scones, a pot of homemade plum jam and cream to accompany our drinks.

I was fascinated by the wonderful collection of birds in a large aviary flitting about in colourful displays. Some I did not recognise but I loved watching the Gouldian finches which we have unsuccessfully sought in the wild in northern Australia.

After thanking our hosts, we followed Neville to Bung Bong along Box Flat Track to the stunning garden Helen and Neville Collier have created. We have been there previously and love our visits there. Helen and Neville led us around to discover some of the garden before a BBQ lunch. Thank you, Neville, for cooking our sausages and Gladys and John for making salads and a variety of cakes.

After such a restricted 18 months of very limited social exchange it was nice to catch up over a meal, but the garden soon beckoned and Neville cheerfully guided us around more paths and Lake Helen. No wonder they are bee keepers. Their vast range of grevilleas, callistemons, verticordias, ground covers, shrubs, daisies, small plants, large trees, fruit trees and vegetables provide a wide diet for their bees to make delicious honey.

Helen kindly sent us home with small pots of yellow big “billy buttons” to grow in our own gardens, to round off a delightful day. ▣

Members also remarked on: The variety and abundance of pollinators including many types of bees, hover flies, wasps and more. The several attractive water features showcasing a variety of aquatic plants at the Hendrickson's. The entertaining sculptures and objects around every corner and impressive use of recycled bluestone in the gateway pillars and garden walls at the Colliers. Also, how good it was after months of anticipation and thwarted attempts due to COVID regulations to visit such great gardens and landscapes.

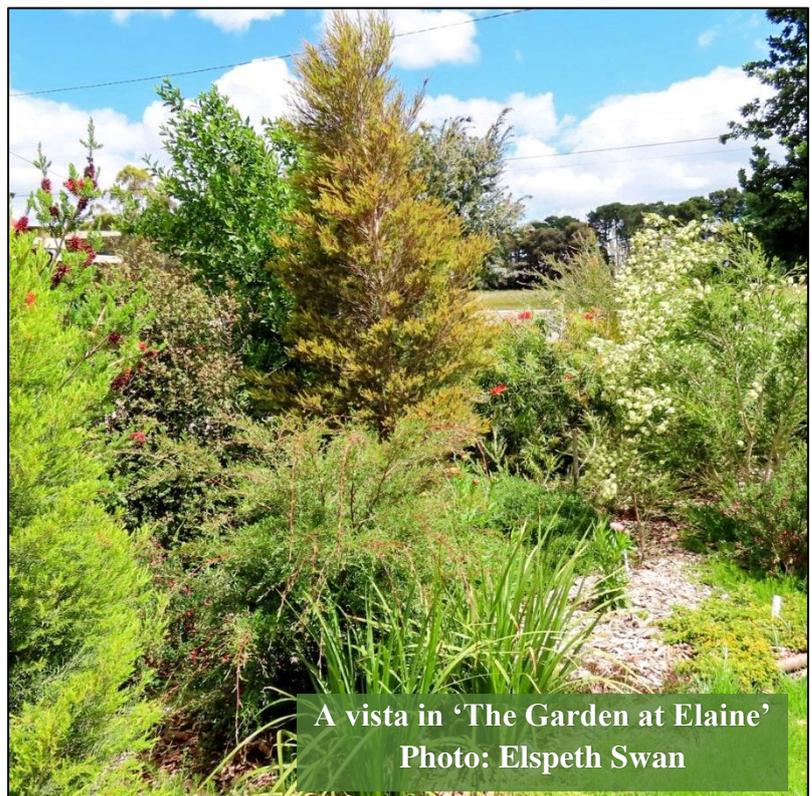
We thank the Hendricksons and Colliers and wish them all the best.



Another vista in the garden of Caroline and Brian Hendrickson at Daisy Hill near Maryborough
 (See excursion report on the previous page)
 Photography: The Dalmans

**The Garden at Elaine
 in November**

The most obvious flowers in the garden this month are the ‘Bottle Brushes’. These range widely in flower colour. The callistemon cultivar ‘Father Christmas’ and *Kunzia ambigua* are almost pure white. Many of the callistemons are shades of cream. *Melaleuca diosmifolia* is bright green and *M. fulgens* a clear red. *M. decussata*, Totem Poles, has small pale mauve flower heads. *Callistemon* ‘Western Glory’ has large flower heads of a deep red. The giant kangaroo paws, *Anigozanthus flavidus*, are living up to their common name by producing flower stems up to 2.20 metres in height.



A vista in ‘The Garden at Elaine’
 Photo: Elspeth Swan



A vista in the garden of Helen and Neville Collier at Bung Bong near Avoca. APS Ballarat District has visited their garden several times in recent years. On the most recent visit about 20 members again enjoyed their expansive garden.

Photo: Claire Dalman

Thanks to all those who contributed reports or items for this issue

Deadline for February Newsletter: 26th January 2022



AFTERNOON TEA or SUPPER

Members, please have a cuppa at home for arvo tea or supper

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY BALLARAT DISTRICT INC. Incorporation No. A0013127M

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in October, November, December, February, March, at 7-30pm
The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in April, May, June, July, August, September, at 2-00pm

MEETING VENUE

ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE, Ballarat Botanical Gardens

Access: GILLIES St. ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4 (or from Wendouree Parade, **(Afternoon Meetings only)**)

CORRESPONDENCE

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WEB: (APS Vic): www.apsvic.org.au ---- then go to APS Ballarat District page



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