



Australian Plants Society Ballarat District Newsletter – July 2023

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

FURTHER DETAILS SEE INFORMATION BOX

COMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 12th July 2023. Monthly Meeting
At 2pm (Note: Afternoon Meeting)**

**Guest Speaker: Miriam Ford – Prostantheras
Miriam is the President of APS Vic**

Miriam was born and bred in Queensland and went to University in Brisbane in the 1970s, then onto London where she furthered her training as a research scientist. She returned to Melbourne in the mid-1980s and spent another 20 years in research before retiring to grow plants and a large Australian garden. She joined APS in 1996 and has served in committee and executive roles in her district group, APS Yarra Yarra, before joining the APS Vic executive in 2019. She is the current President of APS Vic. She loves propagating plants and has a particular interest in Australian Mint Bushes.

Wednesday 9th August 2023 – Annual General Meeting – 2pm (Note: Afternoon Meeting)

At the Robert Clark Horticultural Centre
Ballarat Botanical Gardens

All elected positions are declared vacant, but current holders are eligible to be re-elected.

Any Notices of Motion for the meeting must be sent to the secretary by the July meeting date.

Only members who are financial by the August meeting date may vote, propose motions or stand for election.



Acacia podalyriifolia flowering in mid-June in the garden of John and Gladys Hastie at Elaine. Photo: Nicky Zanen

***Important Notice* To all Members Australian Plants Society Ballarat District**

Our current office bearers are unable to continue in the positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer.

If these positions are not filled (at the AGM) the Group will be forced to go into recess or be dissolved!

Please attend this meeting or send expressions of interest to the group contacts.

APS Ballarat Winter Flower Show Report

Despite the low temperature, drizzle and rain at times this was one of our better shows. Numbers of visitors were lower than some shows in the past, but enthusiasm was high. Visitors were mainly in the older age groups but there were a few family groups.

We thank all the members who supplied the specimens. Special thanks to Neville and Helen Collier who brought in about fifty specimens (as they have done for many, many shows).

The range of edible plants shown enlightened quite a few people to the potential for varying the flavours used in food. People had heard of Lemon Myrtle and Native Mint but the other plants were often new to them.

The display of native ferns and orchids provided by Mike and Lyndall was enjoyed by many.

The Gardens for Wildlife presentation was a major attraction to many of the visitors. It complemented the flower display very well. Thank you to Sam and her assistants for their great effort.

The display was set up on Friday by a very small group of members, most of whom also spent Saturday and Sunday at the Show. The shows are our major source of revenue to pay the rent and other expenses of running the group, and to provide subsidies for excursion costs.

Newer members may not know that Ruth looks after the stands, containers, table covers and everything else used for the show. These she expertly packs into her car to bring to the Clark Centre. She also contributes many specimens for the show. We thank her for all the work she does for APS Ballarat. ▣

June Meeting Guest Speaker Report.

Guest Speaker: Nicky Zanen – Far North Queensland

Nicky Zanen presented parts of her trip to Far North Queensland with a group of The Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. The group visited several areas and had good guides.

The tour was originally designed to commemorate the time HMS Endeavor had to be repaired in Cooktown which enabled Botanists, Banks and Solander, to do some significant plant collecting over 250 years ago.

Seventeen Seventy was one of the many places visited from the Atherton Tablelands to the Daintree Rainforest. Sights included National Parks, Botanic Gardens, the UNESCO listed Quinkan caves and indigenous rock art, the Kuranda Skyrail and the View to Cape York.

Nicky also noted some wild and dangerous aspects; the flora, including ‘Wait a While’ and ‘Stinging Tree’, and the fauna, including Crocodiles. However, there were treats, including Mango wine and Nerada tea.

Nicky’s enthusiasm was passed on to the group and much appreciated. **Thanks Nicky.**

The Garden at Elaine in June

At first glance there does not appear to be much flowering at the moment but the opposite is the case.

A count of plants with at least one flower on the Shortest Day came to over sixty species, varieties and cultivars. About twenty-five plants had enough flowers to use as specimens for the Winter Plant Show.

June meeting specimens exhibited

The Hasties: *Acacia podalyriifolia* 'Mount Morgan Wattle', *Alyogyne huegelii* (pink), *Callistemon* 'Kings Park Special', *Eremophila oppositifolia*, *Grevillea x semperflorens*, *Indigofera australis* 'Australian Indigo', *Kunzea baxteri* (pink), *Westringia glabra*, *Westringia* 'Morning Light'

Ruth Marton: *Banksia baueri*, *Banksia integrifolia*, *Banksia spinulosa* (red styles), *Banksia spinulosa* (black styles), *Grevillea alpina* 'Warby Range Form', *Grevillea* 'Peaches and Cream', *Hakea nodosa*, *Hakea obtusa*, *Hakea laurina*, *Hakea scoparia*, *Hakea petiolaris*, *Hakea orthorrhyncha*, *Plectranthus argentatus*

Sue Rattray and Beryll Plummer also exhibited specimens.

Neutroq Orders

I have made the Neutroq orders to be a regular order twice yearly in Spring and Autumn. You are able to go on line and place your order any time once you have registered with Neutroq for access to their members area. The Autumn order is finished for this year. The Spring orders closing date is the 17th August for dispatch to my address approximately 8th September. Their prices are very competitive:

* Whoflungdung \$14	Bunnings \$19.50
* Bush Tucker 20kg \$30	Bunnings 4kg \$30.32
* Sudden Impact for Roses 20kg \$30	Bunnings 10kg \$55.28
* GOGO juice 1 litre \$10	Bunnings 1 litre \$17.36

If you need help with signing up to their members' area shop or do not have internet access and would like to order something please don't hesitate to contact me, email: martonruth@yahoo.com.au or phone 53346134. ▣

Westringia of some sort?

The Westringias in my yard are so handy. They provide barriers, greenery, and always plenty of flowers for the pollinators.

What species might this be?

Question and Photo: Betty Mc Guinness



Melaleuca huegelii,
photographed in
January 2023 in the
garden of Jennifer
Johnson in Ballarat.



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

Deadline for August Newsletter
26th July 2023

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY BALLARAT DISTRICT INC. Incorporation No. A0013127M

President: John Hastie P: 5341 5567
Secretary: Janine O'Malley PO Box 123W Ballarat West 3350
Treasurer: Ainslie Whyte PO Box 123W Ballarat West 3350
Newsletter Editor: Warren Hill: wazizhill@gmail.com M: 0400 644 913

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 _____ : aps_ballarat@yahoo.com.au PO Box 123W, Ballarat West, Vic 3350

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



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