

Australian Plants Society Ballarat District

Newsletter – June 2024

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

FURTHER DETAILS SEE INFORMATION BOX

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday 12th June 2024 – *2.00 pm*
➤Monthly Meeting – Note Time: 2.00 pm
Guest Speaker – Peter Debicki

'The Polish Beekeeper'
Peter will tell us about
the best Native Plants
for Honey Bees and the
honey from them.



(Peter is Guest Speaker this month because the May meeting was cancelled at short notice due to unavailability of the meeting room.)

Wednesday July 10th 2024 *at 2.00 pm* Monthly Meeting

In my Garden in Ballarat – May – From Bruce Cadoret

Still a few things to do in the garden including weeding, trimming, dead heading flowers, and also including planting a few small plants in the little gaps that remain. Sometimes just walking around the garden is enjoyable, especially when you see plants self-sowing, and of course beginning to flower. Plants flowering now include: Alyogyne huegelii, Brachyscombe dentata/mulifida, Banksia 'Birdsong', Banksia ericifolia, Banksia 'Giant Candles', Banksia praemorsa, Correa glabra, Grevillea sp., Pelargonium australe, Scaevola sp., Xerochrysum bracteatum, Xerochrysum viscosum, and the first flowering wattle Acacia beckleri (Barrier Range Wattle) in the garden for the year (photo: P. 3).



Banksia 'Birdsong' in Bruce Cadoret's garden flowering now



Sue Ring thinks this is *Correa* 'Coral Chimes'. She gave it a go just because she didn't have one, and it has flowered profusely and subtly as the colour changes from almost orange to deep pink.

Guest Speakers and Events

A program is pending. Suggestions are welcomed.

Follow and contribute to our Facebook page

Lots of interest, information, pics and posts https://www.facebook.com/APSBallarat

Membership Renewal for 2024/25 Ainslie Whyte, Treasurer

Our membership year runs from July 1-June 30, so membership renewals are due and can be paid any time from now.

All payments are made directly to APS Victoria, with the District Group fees being returned to Groups each month. Online renewals are accessed through apsvic.org.au/membership and there are options for credit card, bank transfer and cheque payments. To login to your own details, you will need your email and membership number (it's on the Growing Australian envelope or I can check it for you).

The fees listed on the Membership website are the same as 2023-24

APS Victoria (includes Growing Australian Magazine) Individual \$38.00 Household \$44.00 Australian Plants subscription (optional) \$20.00

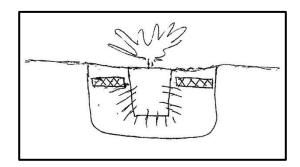
Ballarat Group fees are unchanged – Individual: \$10.00 Household: \$13.00

For members without internet access, either myself (phone 0419 830765), or the APS Vic Membership Officer (contact details in Growing Australian), will be able to help you.

Following the example of several other Groups our Secretary Gloria has prepared an instruction sheet for joining or renewing. It's in the final stages of checking and will go out to all members in the next few days.

The Don Weybury Method of Growing Boronia Janice Marty

Some time ago Marilyn Gray spoke to our group about boronias and their culture. After her talk (the late) Don Weybury mentioned his success using besser blocks. I asked Don to explain more fully.



Here is his method:

• Dig a wide hole, at least 15 inches (40cm) wide, and position the plant, well soaked, in the centre. Loosen roots if necessary and add some soil around the base. Then place slabs of old split concrete block, porous rock or the like, around the plant so their surfaces will lie about 2 inches (5cm) underground when soil is filled to the top of root-ball. The roots grow out under the slabs which stay cool and damp even in hot weather, thus achieving the 'cool root run' which is so often recommended.

Don said that Brown Boronia (*Boronia megastigma*) (which has a reputation for being short-lived), planted his way at Greendale, survived for eighteen years. ■

10 YEAR FLASHBACK

Crowea exalata
'Bundalong
Compact' shown
as a specimen
by John Hastie
at the May 2014
meeting. This
Crowea cultivar
has a beautiful
deep-pink
flower.

Picture: Fon Ryan





Acacia beckleri (Barrier Range Wattle), the first wattle to flower this year in Bruce Cadoret's garden.

Thanks to those who contributed reports or items for this issue

Deadline for July Newsletter 26th June 2024

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)

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WEBPAGE: https://apsvic.org.au/aps-ballarat-district/



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