



Themeda triandra
Kangaroo Grass
AUSTRALIAN PLANTS
SOCIETY
BALLARAT DISTRICT

Australian Plants Society Ballarat District Newsletter – September 2019

**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 11th September - Monthly Meeting at 2.00pm (Afternoon Meeting)**
Guest Speaker: Sam Strong – Working with Nature in our Gardens.

Sam Strong, Natural Environment Program Officer, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning will present a power point presentation and question and answer session.

NOTE: There will not be a Business Meeting prior to the monthly meeting.

WEDNESDAY 9th OCTOBER - Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker to be confirmed.

➔ **NOTE: * EVENING MEETING AT 7.30 pm ***

Australian Plants Society Ballarat District
SPRING 2019 NATIVE PLANT SHOW
Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October
Robert Clark Horticultural Centre Ballarat
Botanical Gardens
Saturday 10-00am to 5-00pm
Sunday 10-00am to 4-30pm
Members please note: Set Up from 11-00am on
Friday 26th
Please volunteer where you can on any of the
three days.



Banksia blechnifolia, a young flower cone approximately 8cm high, shown by Mike Healy at the August meeting. This banksia species is prostrate. Photo: Fon Ryan

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12th EXCURSION

Kevin Hoffman Walk at Lara. A native garden trail that stretches along the Hovells Creek. The Walk is a gentle walking track that showcases a unique collection of native plants, sculptures, birds and wildlife. Originally inspired by Kevin Hoffman and his family and supporters, they have shaped this significant indigenous path since 1970, with its lush ground covers, flowering native trees and shrubs. Time permitting another Native Garden or two. Further details soon.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16th EXCURSION

Jenny West's beautiful garden at Gordon
Further details soon.

Go to Page 2 for Booking Deadline: EXCURSION - to the Australian Garden at Cranbourne

ATTENTION - SEPTEMBER EXCURSION - to the Australian Garden at Cranbourne

At the moment we are looking at organising events for the rest of the year. Although you may not be able to attend meetings you are always very welcome to join in any excursion etc which may be organised. Looking at our Members list there are quite a few names I am sure I have never met so let us try to do something about this. Join in.

At our last meeting many members showed interest in an excursion to the Australian Garden at Cranbourne. To hire a bus and do a trip like this we need at the very least, 20 participants to make it possible, so I have quotes for the bus (a 48-seater which costs only \$100 more than a 24-seater so plenty of room for everyone plus extras). This will be a heavily subsidised trip, costing \$40 per person including morning/afternoon teas, b.y.o. lunch or eat at the restaurant. We could leave Ballarat Thursday 19th September at 8.30am and arrive home about 5.00pm.

Visitors and non-APS members very welcome, and indeed will help with numbers to make the trip viable. We may also be able to buy plants.

This is fairly short notice – Payment must be made at the September meeting or paid directly into APS account. The bank account details for the payment is the APS Ballarat account...BSB 313-140 Account 12090620...Reference your surname preceded by "Cran"..... e.g., Cran A Gardener Details of Time and point of departure, car security parking (at Bus depot) & etc. will be advised.

PLEASE CONTACT ME BEFORE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
Gladys Hastie - Events Co-ordinator..... Email: johnhastie37@bigpond.com Ph: 53415567

MEETING TIMES

Do we continue with the present system of daytime meetings in winter and evening meetings in daylight saving time; or do we change to all daytime meetings?

The major advantage of day meetings is we avoid driving at night during winter.

A major disadvantage is members still working full time cannot attend meetings.

The 'half and half' system allows these members to come to some meetings. It also gives uninterrupted spring days for working in the garden!

You may have an opinion as to which is the better system. Come to the September meeting to have your say.

If you cannot attend the meeting feel free to email me with your thoughts about this.

John Hastie - President..... Email: johnhastie37@bigpond.com Ph: 53415567

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11th

END OF YEAR AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS, 6.30pm

Quizzes, raffles, competitions and plenty to eat.

SPEAKERS and EXCURSIONS ... HAVE YOUR SAY!

All suggestions are welcomed and requested. Make suggestions to the Group, a meeting, and Gladys Hastie - Events Co-ordinator.... Email: johnhastie37@bigpond.com Ph: 53415567

NEUTROG Product Order from Ruth Marton

We have easily achieved our quota of one tonne of Neutrog product so I will be sending the order at the end of August as originally planned. Details of delivery and collection to come.

Note. Thanks to Ruth for organising this.

SPECIMENS Exhibited at August Meeting:

Mike Healy – *Banksia* 'Giant Candles', *Banksia ericifolia*, *Banksia blechnifolia*, *Adenanthos* sp. (WA Wind Bush), *Hypercalcemia alocasia*

Claire Dalman – *Tasmannia lanceolata* (Tasmanian mountain pepperberry), *Correa nummularifolia*, *Lechenaultia* (Blue, Rainbow, Pink varieties), *Epacris impressa*, *Arthropodium* sp. (Chocolate Lilly)

Sue Ring – *Casuarina* sp.

John Hastie – *Acacia aphylla* (WA Leafless Wattle), *Acacia baileyana* (Cootamundra Wattle), *Acacia willdenowiana* (Grass Wattle), *Acacia vestita* (Hairy Wattle), *Acacia glandulicarpa* (Hairy-pod Wattle), *Acacia montana* (Mallee Wattle), *Acacia verniciflua* (Varnish Wattle), *Templetonia retusa* (Cockies Tongue), *Clematis micropylla*, *Westringia longifolia*, *Hardenbergia violacea* 'Free n Easy'

NOTE: All specimens and exhibitors come with a story and discussion!

Take August for example: Mike noted his Giant Candles is not visited by birds; indeed, they seem to avoid it. (He is planning a field test with a pet cockatoo for further study); colours of the styles of *Banksia ericifolia*; varying cones of *Banksia blechnifolia*; the remarkable 11-month flowering period of his *Hypercalcemia*. Claire offered the taste and use of a native food plant along with the Victorian Floral Emblem. Sue's *Casuarina* was a discussion on 'suckering'. John exhibited only a fifth of the Hastie's Wattles, all with unique features.



Acacia willdenowiana, Grass Wattle, shown by John Hastie at the August meeting. A series of phyllodes (leaf-like structures) are continuously attached to opposite sides of the stems. A very apt name! Photo: Fon Ryan

Pomonal Native Flower Show is presented by the Australian Plants Society Grampians Group. The theme of the show is '**Native Gardens for Wildlife.**' There will be native plants as well as books for sale and refreshments available. **Special features will be talks on both days by: AB Bishop** author of 'Habitat': 'A practical guide to creating a wildlife-friendly Australian garden'. This was 2018's No.1 selling gardening book in Australia.

Denis Crawford author of 'Garden Pests, Diseases and Good Bugs' which is the ultimate illustrated guide for Australian gardeners. **Displays will include** an art display by the local art group as well as photos of fauna attracted to native flowers.

Saturday 5th October 9am to 5pm, Sunday 6th October, 9am to 4pm, Entry Adults: \$5

AUGUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Election of Office Bearers. Our appreciation and thanks to all outgoing and incoming members. Secretary & Assistant Secretary needed. Please nominate! All assistance given.

The full list of Office Bearers elected to positions will appear in the October newsletter.



Adenanthos sp., WA Wind Bush or Albany Wind Bush, shown by Mike Healy at the August meeting. The red flowers are very small. Photo: Fon Ryan

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

Deadline for October Newsletter: 25th September 2019



AFTERNOON TEA or SUPPER

Members please bring a plate of something to share

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY BALLARAT DISTRICT INC. Incorporation No. A0013127M

President: John Hastie P: 5341 5567
Secretary: Position vacant 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

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NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

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