

Banksia Bytes

Native Plants Sunshine Coast

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Native Plants Queensland

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2015 Number 4

OFFICE BEARERS....

Anne Windsor	Chair	5491 5868	awindsor@bigpond.com
Marie Livingstone	Hon Secretary	5494 9187	sgapsuncoast@gmail.com
Joan Abercrombie	Hon Treasurer	5496 5013	jabercrombie@skymesh.com.au

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER	Sunday 15 – 20 TH	ANPSA Conference Canberra Website anpsa.org.au
NOVEMBER	Saturday 28 8.00AM – 1.00PM	Mapleton Community Library fair and plant sale. Sunshine Coast will have a Plant Sale at the Mapleton Fair.

Future meetings

September 13: Wildflower walk led by John Birbeck - a return visit to Racemosa Reserve.

Meet at 1.50pm in the car park at Pioneer Park
cnr Steve Irwin Way and Caloundra St, Landsborough.
We can car pool or convoy from there to Racemosa Reserve.

October 11: Excursion to the Fragile Web in Blackbutt and the Friends of Yarraman Creek rehabilitation site. This will be a full day excursion, organized by Anne Windsor.

November 8: Talk and demonstration by Anne Windsor on Water plants at the McMasters' home

December 13: Visit Fairhill nursery for a talk by Nick Hansa and afternoon tea in Elements cafe. \$8.50 per head

Information about outings contact....

Marie	0427 152 022
Chrissie	0408 792 227
Gretchen	0400 772 602



Yarraman



Hello all members,

You would already know that our October activity is an outing to Blackbutt and Yarraman. I'd like to give you a little bit of information about the site in Yarraman we are visiting, so if you are debating whether to come along or not, this might help you decide that the trip is very worthwhile.

Sue and Scott Reilly have been working on weed clearing and revegetating a small pocket of Yarraman Creek for several years. At first it was just the two of them doing the work, and then they formed the Friends of Yarraman Creek group (FOYTC), which increased the number of participants working in this difficult but rewarding site.

They have faced down a massive *Arundo donax* infestation, polluted soil, huge Camphor Laurels and worst of all, floods, especially in 2011. They persisted despite all the obstacles, and they have been rewarded with a wonderful green haven full of birds and small animals who have returned to this remarkable place.

It is now a beautiful area, and it shows how all our creeks must have looked long ago, thanks to Sue and Scott's magnificent efforts. I encourage anyone who is interested to have a look at their Facebook page - The Friends of Yarraman Creek.

Please let me know if you are interested in coming on this outing on Oct 11, and if you are willing to drive or not. The trip will take most of the day, with the drive to Yarraman taking approximately 1h 15m. Further information will be sent out closer to the date. Hope to see you all then, if not before.

My email address is awindsor@bigpond.com

Anne

REGIONAL NEWS

Saturday, 5th December:

Regional Christmas Gathering – at Brisbane Botanic Gardens. Mt. Coot-tha.

This Gathering will be staged near the Australian Plant Communities Displays in the Gardens.

Arrangements are being made for us to have special limited vehicle access time between 9.00 and 9.30am via the service road at the round-about near the Mt.Coot-tha quarry

BYO morning-tea at about 10.00am during which Dale Arvidsson, Curator of the Gardens, will give a short talk, followed by guided walks in the Gardens.

After a Bring-to-Share lunch at 12.00 noon the groups will go on another walk.

Hot water, tea, coffee, sugar, milk, a few tables and a few small marquees will be supplied.

See September issue of *Native Plants Queensland*

For further details.



Sunday 13th March 2016

Regional Gathering hosted by Native Plants Sunshine Coast

at the Arts & Ecology Centre,

Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens

If you would like to join the Planning group let Marie know

sgapsuncoast@gmail.com

REGIONAL NEWS Cont....

Regional Gathering at the Helidon Hills, hosted by Kingaroy & Districts Branch Saturday 19th September

Meet at 9.00 am for morning tea at James Norman Hodges Park, Warrego Highway. The Park is situated on the right of the Highway just after Helidon for those travelling from Brisbane.

It's BYO food (morning tea and lunch) and drinks for the day.

We recommend the following as well – folding chairs, raincoat, hat, good walking/hiking shoes, camera, some additional warm gear in case it gets cold and windy, and generally prepare for some short bushwalks. 4WDs are not necessary but are always better on the dirt/unpaved roads of the area. Car-pooling can be done though on the day if needed.

The intention is to drive along Air Force Rd, Seventeen Mile Rd, and Gold Mine Rd, stopping occasionally and getting out for short walks to see some of the plants. None of the walks are lengthy, but there are no formed tracks. We are also visiting a private property in the area.

While the final program for the day is still to be finalized, we intend to return to a Helidon council park on Turner Street for lunch where there is a toilet block and a general store nearby.

Interesting plants we hope to see include *Grevillea quadricauda*, *Grevillea singuliflora*, *Xylomelum bentharii* (Woody Pear), *Actinotus helianthi* (Flannel Flower), *Leionema obtusifolium*, *Hibbertia* sp. aff. *monticola* and other species, *Gompholobium foliolosum*, *Lysicarpus angustifolius*, *Tetratheca thymifolius*, *Scaevola ramosissima*, *Caustis blakei* subsp. *macrantha*, and many others including peas and wattles.

It'll not only be a botanically interesting day, but a great social day with a chance to catch up with friends and meet others.

Chrissie will need to know:

*are you willing to take your vehicle, if so how many passengers can you carry
are you wanting to attend but do not want to drive*

Can you let Chrissie know by.....**Friday 12th Sept**

Chrissie's contact details are.....5494 1149 christine.a.mcmaster@gmail.com

Remember to take your cameras so we have photos for the Newsletter!

Beautiful Ferns

Adiantum atroviride: Common Maidenhair.

Family: *Adiantaceae*

Genus: *Adiantum* from the Greek *adianos* (dry or non-wettable), referring to the water-shedding nature of the lamina.

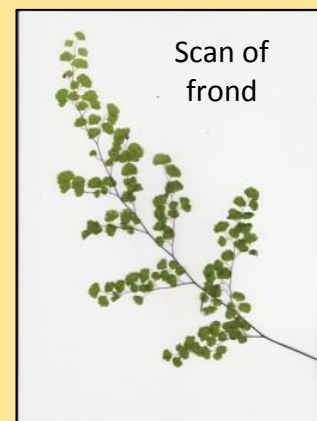
Species: *atroviride* from Latin *ater*, 'black' and *viridis*, 'green' in reference to the blackish stem and green pinnules.

Fronds are erect to arching, to 75 cm long, and usually loosely clustered. Laminae divide 2 to 4 times. Young fronds are a delicate light green, becoming darker on ageing. It was previously known as *Adiantum aethiopicum* northern form. This fern prefers an alkaline soil.

Although maidenhair ferns appear delicate, most are very hardy and require plenty of light or filtered sunlight. These are ferns of tropical and temperate regions of both hemispheres. They are mostly found in damp situations in rainforests or eucalypt forests.



Adiantum atroviride



Scan of
frond

This has been written by Wendy Johnston with references to *Flora of Australia* Volume 48 Ferns, Gymnosperms and allied Groups, *Australian Ferns Growing them Successfully* by Calder Chaffey, and *A Field Guide to Australian Ferns Volume 1* by Calder Chaffey.



Tips for growing ferns

1. Remember to ensure your ferns stay watered on these lovely sunny days with low humidity.
2. Ferns make great groundcover under your shrubs.
3. Place your elks and stags so they are protected from wind.
4. Crow's nest ferns are really epiphytes growing quite high in the canopy. However they can be grown on the ground as long as their roots do not get too wet, and there they can make a stunning statement in your garden.
5. A common volunteer fern, *Hypolepis muelleri*, (sometimes considered weedy) which colonises densely and has strong runners, deter scrub turkeys from scraping in our garden.
6. Give your ferns a light dose of fertiliser once spring is here.

Note from Marie Re: Plant Sale Mt Coot-tha

Hello Everyone

A big thank you to all the Hockings workers. Your efforts over the many months have been rewarded.

We took 218 plants to Mt. Coot-tha and sold everyone of them. Before the plants even left David's nursery we had sold \$123 dollars worth.

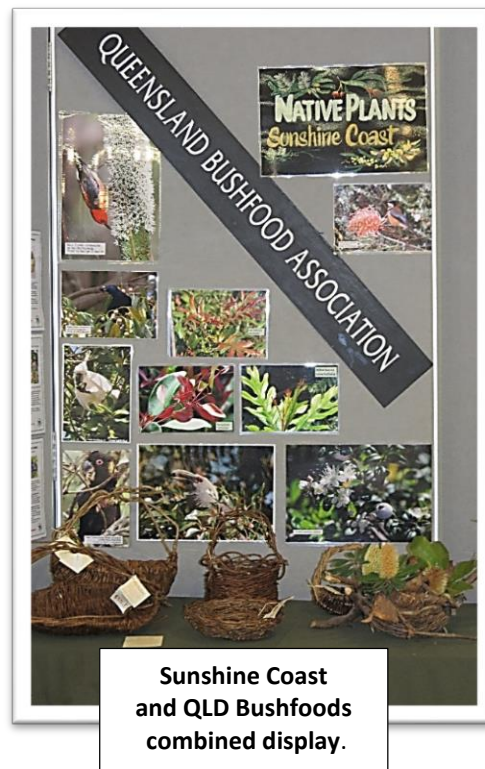
The sales team of Chrissie and Anne on Saturday and Joan Horgan and Marie on Sunday did well. I think we were the only group to sell all of our plants.

The biggest thank you of all to David for letting us sell his plants and for all the work he put into preparing and caring for them. He also supplied most of the colour photos which we used in our sales document and helped with the plant descriptors.

Spencer and Karen Shaw from Brush Turkey Enterprises transported the plants to Brisbane – many thanks to Spencer and Karen.

Behind the scenes, John Dillon did a fabulous job preparing our very colourful sales document – many thanks John. Joan Dillon ensured that every plant descriptor was spot on.

Another quiet achiever is George Burgher, who produced very professional looking adhesive labels displaying our grower number and the plant price. Many thanks to you George.



Sunshine Coast
and QLD Bushfoods
combined display.



Bushland Vibes

“The inaugural Bushland Vibes at the Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens was a roaring success, with something for everyone. Congratulations to the Friends of the Maroochy Gardens for showcasing the Sunshine Coast’s natural assets and talents.

Native Plants Sunshine Coast worked with the propagators from the Gardens to help promote local plants and the wonders of gardening with native plants.

Thanks Anne and Jim, Gretchen Evans, Peter and Linda Scharf for helping on our stand.”

An afternoon at Emu Mt.

A group of 18 gathered to meet Janet Whish-Wilson, our guide for the day. The weather was beautiful, and prior to our departure, Janet told us about her background and ongoing love of our local plants.

As we set off, we were treated to a spectacular display of acacias in flower across the mountainside. Several different species were in bloom, including the beautiful *Acacia myrtifolia*, with its pale yellow flowers, red stems and red-edged leaves. It occurs only towards the top of the mountain. On our walk, we saw a number of the endangered *Allocasuarina emuina* in flower, along with lots of peas, including *Bossiaea ensata*, the Leafless *Bossiaea*.

Part of the mountain had been recently burned, and all the *Hakeas* had taken advantage of the fire and thrown open their woody fruit to release the winged seed. About half way up we started to see terrestrial orchids, first a few, then becoming quite numerous towards the summit. There were at least five different species in flower, including the Yellow Donkey Orchid, *Diuris chrysantha*, a Wax-Lip, *Glossodia major*, and the Austral Leek Orchid, *Prasophyllum australe*.

Other sightings include *Acrotriche aggregata* in fruit, the flamboyant flower spikes of the male *Lomandra multiflora*, expanses of *Boronia rosmarinifolia*, the occasional flower of *Westringia tenuicaulis*, and we were lucky enough to see a white-flowered form of the usually deep-pink *Mirbelia rubiifolia*.

John Birbeck searched a rocky outcrop looking for the endangered *Plectranthus torrenticola* and was rewarded to find several plants sheltering in spots where they were safe from boots.

The last item for fascinating things spotted on Emu Mt was the flower spike of this *Xanthorrhoea fulva*, damaged in its formation, but still extraordinary!

Thanks to Janet for a lovely flower spotting afternoon.



Westringia tenuicaulis.



Diuris sulphurea.



Bossiaea ensata.



Allocasuarina emuina.



Mirbelia rubiifolia
white form.



Xanthorrhoea fulva and
Acacia myrtifolia.



Prasophyllum australe

Wonderful Wallum Regeneration and Welfare 2 From Day 10 to Day 92

So we begin Part 2 of our Wallum regeneration watch. It is only fitting and proper that we commence with seedling acacias sprouting on scorched ground, having been given a giant heat burst.



DAY 28

ACACIA



DAY 80



DAY 64

GAHNIA



DAY 58



DAY 80



DAY 65



DAY 67



DAY 76

BANKSIA



DAY 57



DAY 58



DAY 80

Regeneration 2 continues...



DAY 28



DAY 59

CLOSED SEDGELAND



DAY 80



DAY 92

Here are some other species showing regeneration.



DAY 66

Strangea linearis



DAY 73

Sowerbaea juncea & Banksia oblongifolia



DAY 73

Xanthorrhoea fulva



DAY 73

Melaleuca species.



DAY 73

X. fulva in flower already



DAY 85

Stylidium graminifolium

HAPPY PLANT FAMILY

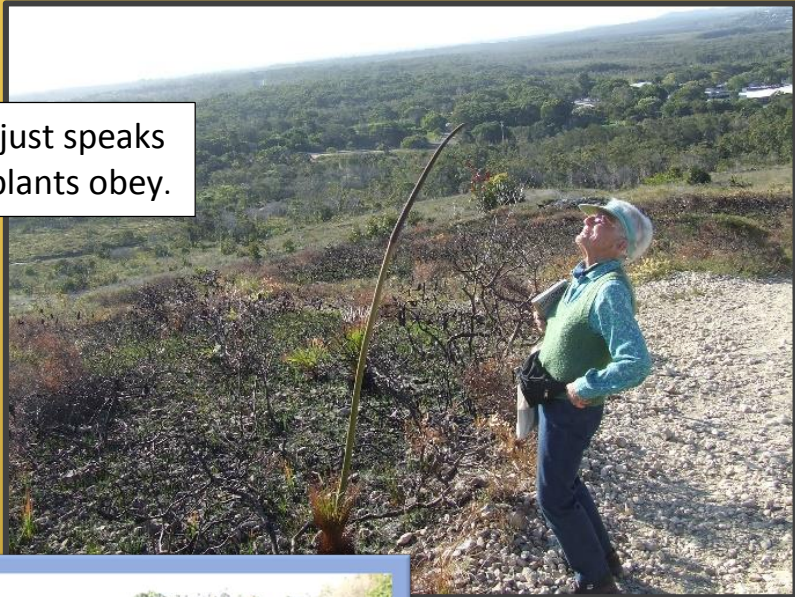


You may think that this photo is merely a delightful portrait of a group of wildflower fanatics out on a fantastic excursion to observe the objects of their deep affection. Here, however, is the story you were not told.....

Gretchen has just finished a rousing rendition of Al Jolson's "My Mammy" and has turned to take the plaudits of her amazed and adoring audience. The direction and force of the performance may be gauged by the astonishing searing effect her song has had on the vegetation to the group's left, rendering the plants as black carbon or an almost surreal brown colour, as if straight from the painter's palette.



The lady just speaks and the plants obey.



At the completion of a thoroughly engrossing guided tour of Emu Mountain's flowers, president, Anne Windsor presents our wonderful guide, Janet Whish - Wilson, with a memento of our gratitude for her dedicated chaperoning and instruction.