

# NEWS FROM PEACEHAVEN

August 2021

## 'SOIL IS NOT A DIRTY WORD'

At this month's Tavern Talk we'll see a familiar face behind the microphone. Gus Hamilton, past president of the Friends of Peacehaven, will talk to us about soil.

As a former cotton farmer, field crops agronomist, and consultant to natural resource management organisations, Gus is well qualified to speak on this topic.

The talk, which Gus is calling 'Soil is not a dirty word', will cover these key aspects:

- soil pH – what it means, and how to measure it
- water-holding capacity of soil
- fertilising, especially for native plant species
- improving soil health
- choosing the right plants.

Please be sure to email us at [peacehaven3@gmail.com](mailto:peacehaven3@gmail.com) to let us know you're coming and tell us how many will be in your party.

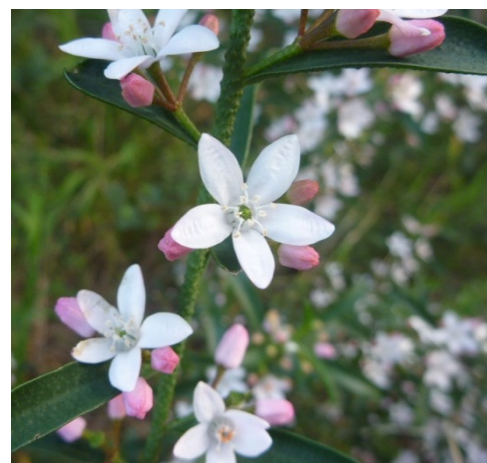


Gus Hamilton

## FEATURE PLANT: WAX FLOWER

There's a shrub in the park that prompts inquiries at the nursery whenever it's in bloom: *Philotheca myoporoides* or wax flower, blooming profusely right now. It has pink buds that open into pinkish-white waxy flowers all along the stems, and the foliage has a pleasant scent when brushed or crushed. Even when not in bloom, the neat growth habit and fragrant evergreen leaves make it an attractive garden plant. In stock now at the nursery.

*Philotheca myoporoides*



## TAVERN TALK

At the next Tavern Talk, Gus Hamilton will give a presentation about soil: understanding it, improving it, and choosing the best plants to grow in it. See above ('Soil is not a dirty word') for more details.

**Date:** Thursday 12 August

**Time:** 6 pm for a 7 pm presentation (dinner and drinks at your own expense)

**Place:** Highfields Tavern

**RSVP:** [peacehaven3@gmail.com](mailto:peacehaven3@gmail.com)

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The **AGM** will be held on **Friday 24 September**, followed by a social gathering to celebrate 15 years since the park officially opened. Please do consider putting your name forward for a position on the committee.

The next quarterly General Meeting will be postponed until October, after the election of a new committee at the AGM.

**Time of AGM:** 5 pm

**Place:** nursery shed