

NEWS FROM PEACEHAVEN

August 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Winter is still with us, but spring is just over the horizon, and there is much to do in the Peacehaven Native Nursery in preparation for the Carnival of Flowers.

Nursery opening hours will be extended during the Carnival: 9 am to 3 pm Thursday to Sunday for the last two weeks of September. If you have been thinking of volunteering in the nursery, I encourage you to do so now. Come and pay us a visit and see how easy it is to get involved. Or contact us by email on peacehaven3@gmail.com.

We have had a great response to our new Member Wizard system. But don't hesitate to contact us with any problems, or look on the website (friendsofpeacehaven.org), where there is helpful information. Don't forget to renew your membership. Finally, a date claimer: December this year will mark 20 years since Stan Kuhl signed the agreement to donate the land for Peacehaven, and we will celebrate with a special event on **Sunday 15 December**. More details as plans unfold.

Wendy Geue, President

FEATURE PLANT

This month's feature plant is the versatile flax lily (*Dianella* spp.), a clumping plant with fleshy roots, strap-like leaves and delicate flowers that are usually blue or purple. It is generally free from pests and diseases, and is resistant to drought and frost. It is also a good choice for controlling erosion, due to its deep root system.

Dianella species may well be included in Paul Carmody's Tavern Talk, as the leaves were used traditionally for making cord and string and the tubers and fruits for bush tucker. But a word of warning: not every species of *Dianella* produces berries that are safe to eat.



Dianella 'Weeping Kate' in the nursery

BOOK NOW BACK IN STOCK



We sold our last few copies of *Peacehaven Botanic Park: Legacy of a Pioneering Family* to a Probus group who visited the park in late June. We're happy to report that the book has now been reprinted and is back in stock.

As the printing wasn't subsidised by Heritage Bank this time around, we're sorry but it isn't possible to sell the book at a discounted price. However, \$30 is still great value – and all proceeds will flow back to the Friends of Peacehaven for the benefit of the park we all love.

Spread the word to your friends!



Paul Carmody, speaker at this month's Tavern Talk

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

A general meeting will be held this month.

Date: Wednesday 14 August

Time: 10 am

Place: Nursery Shed

All are welcome.

TAVERN TALK

Speaker: Paul Carmody

Topic: Uses of local native plants

Date: Thursday 8 August

Time: 6 pm for 7 pm presentation
(purchase your own dinner and drinks)

Place: Highfields Tavern