

NEWS FROM PEACEHAVEN

July 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Winter Solstice has passed, and we can now look forward to the gradual increase in daylight hours, and perhaps more time in our gardens. It is also membership renewal time, and the Membership Wizard system will make things much easier not only for our membership team but also for you. We have trialled the system thoroughly, but as with any new system there may be some hiccups, in which case please bear with us. You will see that we have increased the annual membership fee to \$15 to cover our operating costs. This increase, the first for many years, was passed unanimously at the last general meeting.

I am happy to report some recent achievements, made possible by funds raised in the nursery. Have you noticed the new Corten steel casings to the lights on the entrance pillars? They look even better when lit up at night. And a 'kwik boil' water heater has been installed above the sink in the shed to provide that well-deserved cuppa for our volunteers.

Wendy Geue, President

FEATURE PLANT

It's wattle time, with the Queensland silver wattle (*Acacia podalyriifolia*) in full bloom. There are over 1200 species of wattle growing throughout Australia as well as some overseas. Australia's floral emblem is *Acacia pycnantha*.

Habitats range from high-rainfall areas to the arid inland and from coastal to sub-alpine. Flowering times also vary greatly, covering almost the entire year.

Wattles are a good pollen source for bees, and the seeds provide food for birds. The seeds have also been a human food source since time immemorial, and now feature in modern cuisine.

There's a wattle for every garden. Come and choose one in the nursery, where we have a good selection in stock.



Acacia podalyriifolia

AROUND THE PARK



Take a closer look at the newly adorned entrance pillars.

BOTANIC GROUP

The recently re-formed Botanic Group has been working hard and will meet again this month.

Date: Monday 29 July

Time: 9 am

Place: Nursery Shed

TAVERN TALK: date claimer

Speaker: Paul Carmody

Topic: Bush foods

Date: Thursday 8 August

Time: 6 pm for 7 pm presentation

Place: Highfields Tavern

Cost: Nil (but purchase your own dinner and drinks)

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting will be held in August.

Date: Wednesday 14 August

Time: 10 am

Place: Nursery Shed

All are welcome.