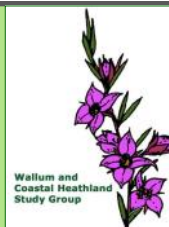




# WALLUM

AND COASTAL HEATHLAND STUDY GROUP



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All photos by Allan Carr unless otherwise indicated

## Wildflowers, Wild Fires and Wallum Banksias

It was a rather wild few days on the Sunshine Coast in the second week of September. In Brisbane we were enjoying our efforts participating in the Spring Wildflower Spectacle and Plants Market in the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Auditorium. This year the annual Flower Show was, as always a wonderful display of Australian native flowers from the gardens of Native Plants Queensland members. All the colours of the rainbow were there to showcase the theme of "Colour your Garden with Native Plants".

The entrance had marvellous walls of flowers – how do they arrange them all? NPQ Branches and other groups including a few Study Groups provided variety with information about birds and butterflies, while the Botanical Artists had some of their best work on show. You could buy fresh honey, but best of all there was the Plants Market. There you could spend ages (and some money) among plants not available elsewhere but grown mostly by members for the Spring Flower Show.

The Wallum and Coastal Heathland Study Group provided a static photographic display featuring an extensive collection of Wallum wildflower photographs, the work of Study Group Leader, Barbara and her very capable Bribie Island member, Allan, whose photographs are excellent.

We are unable to collect Wallum flowers in the field, but Allan had several potted plants he'd managed to grow. This enabled us to show our 'customers' a yellow pea bush, *Aotus lanigera*, a pink *Boronia keysii*, a yellow guinea bush, *Hibbertia vestita* and a white Queensland wax flower, *Philotheca queenslandica*.

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## Plant Swap 10 November

Don't, forget our plant swap at our excursion to Ben Bennett Park on Sunday 10 November. Now is the time start planning what to swap then.

We had our first plant swap at Beachmere in July, but since then members have forgotten to bring a plant to swap.

Please remember 10 November.



*Philotheca queenslandica*



*Gompholobium pinnatum*

### *Banksia robur* seed follicles



### *Banksia robur* flowers



Potted plants displayed at Mt Coot-tha

## Wildflowers, Wild Fires and Wallum Banksias continued from page 1

Conversations were held with many visitors who were interested in the Wallum wildflowers, so it was a very pleasant and satisfying two days. As always when we packed up on Sunday afternoon it was with some relief but also satisfaction with a job well done.

In all a successful and pleasant two days which was to lead on to a week of terror and destruction at Peregrine Beach when an allegedly deliberately lit fire was fanned by a viciously wild south westerly wind for three days. Allegedly lit by two teenagers, the fire raged from Peregrine Springs just north of Coolum Beach threatening Coolum State High School before moving across Emu Swamp and eventually controlled by firefighters. Their efforts saved southern Peregrine Beach though one house was lost and much vegetation scorched. The television news on Wednesday night showed very graphic images of burning red embers flying horizontally on a wild wind.

Thanks to our Rural Fires residential and business premises in South Peregrine were saved. Will the burnt Wallum recover to flower another day? Yes, it probably will, but it will take years to return to its former diversity and some rain would be useful. Fires have burnt these parts of the Sunshine Coast before and the Banksias and other wildflowers have come back. The section of Emu Swamp which was burned was where I spent many hours in the 80s and 90s discovering Wallum and learning what I later taught to others. Now, at my age I may not get to visit Emu Swamp and Peregrine Beach as much as previously. I hope others will go there, learn and enjoy especially the gorgeous blue-green *Banksia robur* with its enormous leaves and all the other wildflowers of Emu Swamp.

*Barbara H.*

**The truth is that people don't see a wildflower unless there's an arrow on it saying 'wildflower'.**

Kathleen McArthur: *Courier-Mail* 18 December 1968



## Feature Plant

***Acacia baueri* subsp. *baueri***                      **tiny wattle**

**Pronunciation:** a-KAY-sha BOW-er-eye MIMOSACEAE

**Derivation:** *Acacia*, from the Greek, *akakia* from *akazo* – to sharpen, referring to the prickly nature of the first species discovered; *baueri*, after brothers, Ferdinand and Franz Bauer, Austrian botanical artists (Ferdinand was appointed botanical draughtsman with Matthew Flinders on his survey of the Australian coastline in 1801-03).

**Description:** *A. baueri* subsp. *baueri*, listed as vulnerable in Queensland, is a spindly, multi-stemmed shrub to 50 cm, but more likely 30 cm. Branchlets are cylindrical and hairy as in the photo on the right or without hairs. Much habitat of this species has been lost to development on coastal lowlands in south-east Qld.

**Phyllodes** to 16 mm x 2 mm are usually in whorls of 6 to 8, straight or slightly curved, and sparsely hairy as in the left photo above or smooth. Each phyllode has one longitudinal nerve on each side and a slightly recurved tip.



*Acacia baueri* subsp. *baueri*  
phyllode whorls, buds and flowers



*Acacia baueri* subsp. *baueri* habit  
phyllodes, flowers and seed pods

**Inflorescences** of 10 to 15 flowers in globular heads 8 mm across on stalks 2 to 16 mm long are produced in the phyllode axils usually from June to September. Each individual flower is bright yellow and 3 to 5 mm across.

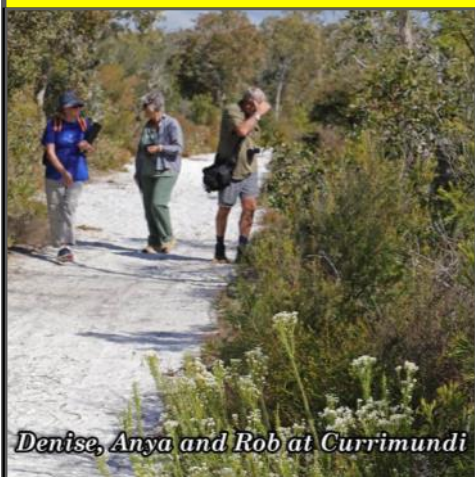
**Fruits** are brown, thinly, leathery pods to 25 mm x 4 mm with longitudinal dark brown seeds to 5.5 mm x 2.5 mm and more or less cylindrical.

There are two subspecies of this plant. *A. baueri* subsp. *baueri* is found on infertile and often seasonally waterlogged sands in coastal heathland from south-east Qld to south of Sydney in NSW. *A. baueri* subsp. *aspera* which has distinctly warty branches is confined to the Blue Mountains and is listed as vulnerable in NSW.

Have any members grown *Acacia baueri* successfully? If you have, let us know about your experience so we can include your story in a future newsletter.

*Allan C.*

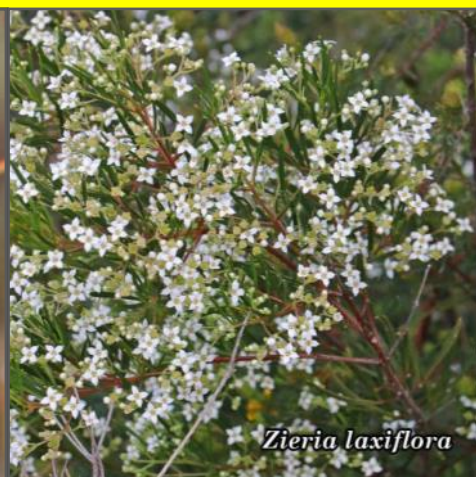
Photos from Currimund Lake Conservation Park (See page 4)



*Denise, Anya and Rob at Currimundi*



*Allocasuarina emuina* ♀ flowers



*Zieria laxiflora*



## Our July Excursion at Beachmere Conservation Park

In July we visited this conservation park which is one of twenty properties donated to the Queensland Government for conservation purposes by Harold Edward (Ted) Corbould, a wealthy pastoralist, philanthropist and artist. This park on the edge of Deception Bay at Beachmere also borders on Moreton Bay Marine Park.

We wandered along the Avicennia Walk and found many of the seventy species on the list provided by Native Plants Caboolture from their visits in the past. From the expertise of those in our group we were able to add another thirty-five to that list, including one of those with colourful berries on the right. *Allan C.*



*Stephania japonica* var. *discolor*



Members of the group gazing out over Deception Bay

Photo by Glenn Leiper



*Enchylaena tomentosa*

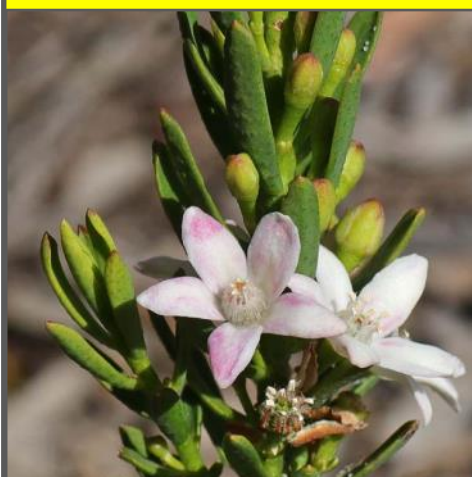
## At Currimundi Lake Conservation Park in August

Currimundi Lake (Kathleen McArthur) Conservation Park is a small remnant of wet Wallum heathland just north of Caloundra where we enjoyed a wander through some Wallum wildflowers.

We chose the Heathland Circuit track from the Bareki Street Walkway. There was much colour provided by yellow *Aotus lanigera* and *Phyllota phyllicoides*, gingery-brown spent flowers of *Pultenaea myrtoidea*, purple *Patersonia sericea*, *P. fragilis* and pink *Boronia falcifolia*. Many white flowers also added to the scene - *Burchardia umbellata*, *Conospermum taxifolium*, *Epacris obtusifolia*, *Leptospermum semibaccatum*, *Leucopogon parviflorus* and *L. virgatus*, *Olex retusa* and *Philotheca queenslandica*.

Not far along the wide sandy track we found the endangered Mt Emu she-oak, *Allocasuarina emuina* with its small red female flowers and later along the Mandara track we discovered the yellow pea flowers of *Gompholobium pinnatum*, the yellow-orange tubular flowers of *Dendrophthoe vitellina* on *Melaleuca quinquenervia* and a pink form of *Epacris pulchella*.

After completing our circuit via the Bareki Street Walkway we found a picnic table in Crummunda Park for lunch and a chat before departing after a long but rewarding wander in a patch of Sunshine Coast Wallum. (More photos on page 3) *Allan C.*



*Philotheca queenslandica*



*Acacia suaveolens* seed pods

## Our September Outing at Raaen Road, D'Aguilar

After a quick cuppa at the roadside rest area in D'Aguilar we travelled a short distance to the junction of Raaen Road and the now closed Chambers Road. There Barbara caught up to us after arriving a wee bit late. Our walk took us along a powerline corridor with many interesting shrubs and small trees.

There were two Banksias - *B. integrifolia* and *B. spinulosa* and two Leptospermums - *L. polygalifolium* and *L. trinervium* both found in Wallum country. On each side of the corridor was Eucalypt forest with *E. pilularis*, *E. racemosa*, *Corymbia intermedia* and *Syncarpia glomulifera*. The *Acacia complanata* were quite tall but had no flowers, *A. longissima* had a scattering of flowers and *A. myrtifolia* had seed pods and a curious black and blue diamond weevil feeding on it.



*Poranthera microphylla*



*Comesperma hispidulum*

There was much deliberation about three *Lomandra* species - *L. filiformis*, *L. laxa* and *L. multiflora* but we eventually felt we'd sorted them with help from those familiar with them and our trusty field guides. *Pultenaea villosa* had finished flowering and *Gompholobium latifolium* had a few flowers and many black seed pods. Unexpectedly there were two ferns on what seemed to be very dry open ground - *Doodia linearis* and *Sticherus lobatus*.

The yellow colours of *Hibbertia vestita* and *G. latifolium* complemented the mauve of *Comesperma hispidulum* and purple of *Tetratheca thymifolia*, but the white flowers of the Leptospermums were the most noticeable.

We all found the site a surprisingly interesting location to spend a Sunday morning. Before leaving for the journey home we had a discussion about future activities while eating our lunch in a shady spot beside what was a quiet country road.

*Allan C.*

## Here's a list of Wallum plants that Rob and Denise White are growing at their place

<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	<i>Hibbertia vestita</i>	<i>Velleia spathulata</i>
<i>Austromyrtus dulcis</i>	<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	<i>Wahlenbergia gracilis</i>
<i>Banksia oblongifolia</i>	<i>Leptospermum liversidgei</i>	<i>Xanthorrhoea fulva</i>
<i>Banksia robur</i>	<i>Leptospermum polygalifolium</i>	<b>And in large pots -</b>
<i>Dianella congesta</i>	<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	<i>Phebalium woombye</i>
<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	<i>Melaleuca pachyphylla</i>	<i>Ricinocarpos pinifolius</i>
<i>Goodenia rotundifolia</i>	<i>Melaleuca thymifolia</i>	<i>Sowerbaea juncea</i>
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	<i>Thysanotus tuberosus</i>	<i>Spiranthes sinensis</i>

## And a list of other coastal plain plants at their place

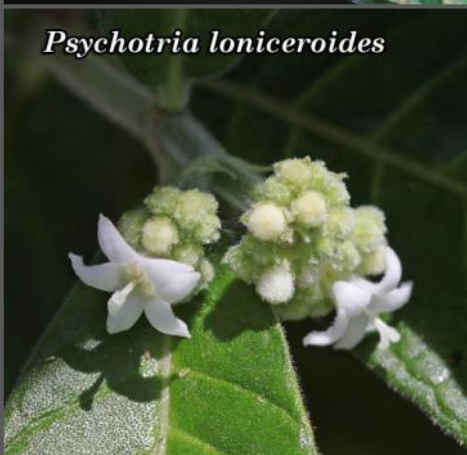
<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i>	<i>Patersonia glabrata</i>
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	<i>Geodorum densiflorum</i>	<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>
<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	<i>Melastoma malabathricum</i>	<i>Trema tomentosa</i>
<i>Cryptandra longistaminea</i>	<i>Murdannia graminea</i>	<i>Zieria smithii</i>



The photos below and to the right were taken in Ben Bennett Bushland Park, Queen Street, Caloundra.



*Pultenaea villosa*



*Psychotria loniceroides*



*Dipodium variegatum*



*Thysanotus tuberosus*



## Ben Bennett Bushland Park

Our excursion in November will be at Ben Bennett Bushland Park. We'll meet at Picnic Area near the car park - details below. **Note:** This has changed due to closure of The Gantry Day Use Area at Mt Mee.

This is an area of rainforest, Eucalypt forest and woodland, Melaleuca woodland and dry and wet heathland of 21 hectares in total. The park is named after a Landsborough Shire councillor who was instrumental in having the original 5ha reserve protected.

We will walk on the dry and wet heathland trails. At the start of the trail *Eucalyptus racemosa*, *Allocasuarina littoralis* and *Corymbia intermedia* are the dominant canopy trees.

Expect to see *Acacia hubbardiana*, *Dianella brevipedunculata*, *Epacris pulchella*, *Hakea actites*, *Hovea acutifolia*, *Persoonia virgata*, *Platysace linearifolia*, those in the photos at the left and many more.

*Allan C.*

## For Your Diary

**9.30am Sunday, 10 November** - Meet at Ben Bennett Bushland Park, Queen Street, Caloundra. (Best approached off George St.) (UBD Sunshine Coast Map 99:E12).

**+NB: THIS HAS CHANGED DUE TO CLOSURE AT MT MEE+**  
Then a walk in wet and dry heathland there.

Lunch after at same spot. **(Last excursion for this year)**

**9.30am Sunday, 15 March, 2020** - Meet at Mill Park, Beerwah. (UBD Sunshine Coast Map 106:C19).

Then a walk at Beerwah Scientific Area No. 1, on Mawson Road (UBD Sunshine Coast Map 116:N5).

Lunch after at Scientific Area or Mill Park, Beerwah.

- Each time you will need to bring morning tea, water, hat, walking shoes, lunch, (sunscreen and/ or insect repellent)



*Drosera spatulata* trapping insects



**‘Unless we learn to cherish our green inheritance, we will perish’  
– Sir David Attenborough**

## Wallum Hotspot

The Isabel Jordan Bushland Reserve in Caloundra Road, Caloundra was the location for one of the Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival Walks. It was advertised as a surprising patch of wallum heathland.

This bushland reserve was named in honour of the late Isabel Jordan, who made an enormous contribution to the local Caloundra community and to conservation. The naming of the reserve followed a suggestion from the local branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland. Isabel Jordan was a tireless worker for the Caloundra community and the environment over many years.



*Boronia falcifolia*  
Isabel Jordan Bushland Reserve

The reserve is located beside Caloundra Road near the airport. A concrete path used by local walkers and cyclists winds its way through many flowering wallum species at this time of the year.

Interestingly, crossing the path is a wide corridor successfully revegetated by Unity Water after a pipeline was laid there. Worth a visit.

*Allan C.*

## Reminders

**Check the details of our next excursions on page 6.**

Our last outing for 2019 is on 10 November and our first for 2020 will be on 15 March.



*Thelymitra pauciflora*

Jeanette Martin

Do any of you have interesting things happening in your gardens to tell us about?

**Have you compiled a list of your Wallum plants yet?**

Articles and photos are always welcome for others to read and learn about as we try to be the first to successfully grow *Boronia falcifolia* or a wallum species equally challenging.



*Pseudanthus orientalis*  
Isabel Jordan Bushland Reserve



*Leucopogon leptospermoides*  
Isabel Jordan Bushland Reserve



## Carol and Howard Heyworth's Wallum Garden

What I love most about growing Wallum plants, is that we have so many little birds foraging and enjoying the protection small shrubs give them.

We have had so much success rescuing *Banksia robur*(4), *Banksia oblongifolia*(20+), *Banksia integrifolia*(5), *Melaleuca thymifolia*(10), *Melaleuca pachyphylla*(8) and *Acacia hubbardiana*(6). I rescued three *Boronia polygalifolia* from the bottom of our road before bulldozers could destroy them, but unfortunately they only lived for three years, even though I planted them in similar soil type.

My favourite Wallum plant is *Banksia oblongifolia* because it brings in the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos to feed noisily on the seeds. I can watch them from my front and back windows.

Most of our rescued Wallum plants have been in our gardens for thirty years.

Some of our visitors to these gardens include Double-barred finch, Variegated Fairy-wren, Eastern Yellow Robin, Grey Fantail, Peaceful Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Red-browed Finch, Common Bronzewing, Pale-headed Rosella, Grey Shrike-thrush, Kingfisher, White-throated Gerygone, Brown Honeyeater, Rufous Whistler and Lewin's Honeyeater. A very good reason to grow Wallum plants.

We should never be afraid to rescue Wallum plants when we know an area is to be cleared. Each time Howard and I rescued, we made sure the plant was facing the same direction it was growing in, minimizing the plant's stress.

I feel that *Melaleuca thymifolia* is one of the toughest Wallum plants as it can cope with being flooded, dried out and even mowed over and still come back looking lush and beautiful. We have had great success growing *Austromyrtus dulcis* even though it doesn't belong in our area.

Photos below by Carol Heyworth

Carol H.



*Banksia oblongifolia*



*Banksia robur*



Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo



Eastern Yellow Robin