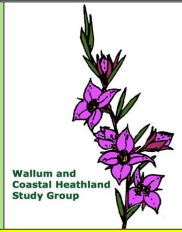


WALLUM

AND COASTAL HEATHLAND STUDY GROUP



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Membership payments (\$5.00)

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Use your surname as Reference.

or: **Cheque** made out to:

ANPSA Wallum Study Group

All photos by Allan Carr unless otherwise indicated

Phaius australis (swamp orchid) on North Stradbroke Island. On Bribie Island, a single plant, the only one I've seen here, has vanished - on a site due for development! (See photo page 4) *Allan C.*

Membership fees are now due for July 2022 to June 2023

From the Leader

Dear Members

Some of you responded to the suggestion that we compile a list of wallum plants. As a result we now have a preliminary list which we will need to discuss and revise over time.

We also need a list of remaining wallum and heathland locations in south-east Queensland, so please send me your list of wallum and heathland sites near you. Our "Wallum Hotspots" from our last 10 newsletters will be our preliminary list.

During July and August I'll be conducting fortnightly guided walks on the Bicentennial Bushwalks through a couple of wallum ecosystems near the Community Arts Centre on Bribie Island. For the walk participants pay a small fee that goes to the Arts Centre.

Allan C.

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Our Excursion this month - July

NB These details have changed since the May News Sheet.

This month Robert and Joan will guide us on a walk in the wallum wonderland of Arthur Harrold Nature Refuge. Details below:—

9.00 am Sunday, 17 July

- Meet at the home of Robert and Linda Price, 47 Tait Street, TEWANTIN. (UBD Sunshine Coast Map 8:D8)
- Then a walk at Arthur Harrold Nature Refuge from the end of Maximillian Road, NOOSA NORTH SHORE. (UBD Sunshine Coast Map 2:L18)
- Our BYO lunch will be back at Robert and Linda's. *Allan C.*



Epacris obtusifolia Arthur Harrold NR

NPQ Gold Coast Branch Native Plants Market

At the recent NPQ Gold Coast Branch Native Plants Market at the Nerang Country Parklands on 19 June, we had a Study Group display. It included a board of photographs and a floral arrangement of wallum plants.

Bonni Yee and other Gold Coast members made it happen and it was appreciated by visitors on the day.

Bonni met a man who, when 9 years old, was part of the citizen's group that made the request to Gold Coast City Council to save Pine Ridge as an Environmental Park to preserve the wallum there. That was probably about 40 years ago and he was so thrilled to see our wallum display.

Bonni Y. and Allan C.



Wallum and Coastal Heathland Study Group Display
Gold Coast Branch Native Plants Market [from Branch Newsletter]

Emu Mountain (Mt Peregian) Walk

On Sunday 26 June, five of our members came together on a walk at the Emu Mountain Section of Noosa National Park. It was the monthly walk of the Noosa Parks Association Botany Group. Emu Mountain is a volcanic laccolith of hard rock that resists erosion and as a result the soil on the mountain is shallow and low in nutrients.



Many interesting heathland plants were observed in flower, including the Emu Mountain she-oak, *Allocasuarina emuina* and at the summit in the crevices between the rocks, Emu Mountain mint bush, *Coleus acariformis*, pictured below (was *Plectranthus acariformis*). Quite a few ground orchids were seen, though there were only two species in flower. Joan Heavey is adept at spotting just the single leaf of these orchids.

Acacia hubbardiana and *A. leiocalyx* were flowering, as were *Lomandra laxa*, *L. multiflora* and *Philotheca queenslandica*.

Robert Price alerted us to *Eucalyptus exserta* and *E. latisinensis* and an Angophora species, possibly *A. woodsiana* all a little undersize but apparently surviving well enough.

We shared the trails with many weekend walkers and mountain bikers. Surely mountain biking is not a desirable activity for that location!

Allan C.



Coleus acariformis

This year these fascinating herbs have appeared in large numbers on damp sand at the edges of pooled water and on tracks in many places on Bribie Island.



Flower with two lobes and spur below



Buds and flower with water droplets



Habit on damp sand, flowers in racemes

Feature Plant

Utricularia lateriflora tiny bladderwort

Derivation: *Utricularia*, from the Latin, *utriculus* – a little bladder (referring to the insect trapping bladders on the stems); *lateriflora*, from the Latin, *lateris* – the side and *floris* – a flower (referring to the flower arising from the side).

Utricularia is an intriguing genus of small herbs, both terrestrial and aquatic that do not have true roots or leaves. Stems are modified to act as roots or leaves or traps to capture tiny animals. This is the largest genus of carnivorous plants, made up of about 214 annual and perennial species with around 57 of these in tropical and temperate Australia, mostly in WA.

Description: *U. lateriflora* is a perennial, terrestrial herb with a few fleshy stolons usually found in heathland growing on wet sandy or peaty soils. Most of the plant is in the 10 cm below the surface and the flowering stems can be up to 20 cm tall. The plants absorb nutrients from the bodies of tiny animals caught in their many ovoid bladder traps to about 7 mm long. These traps are mechanical structures smaller than a grain of wheat. They are able to expel water to reduce the pressure inside. When the appendage near the ‘door’ is touched, it opens and outside water pressure rushes the victim into the bladder. The tiny animal is slowly digested and water is then expelled again to await the next catch.

‘Leaves’ to 50 mm x 5 mm are narrowly spoon-shaped on stalks scattered on the stems.

Flowers to about 8 mm in elongated racemes of 1 to 5 are bisexual, two lobed with a spur below and mauve or violet with white or yellow markings on the base of the lower lip. Flowering can be sporadic through the year but is usually from May to July on Bribie Island.

Fruits are globular capsules to about 3 mm across.

Allan C.



U. lateriflora (terrestrial)



U. aurea golden bladderwort (aquatic) *U. dichotoma* fairy aprons (terrestrial)



Phaius australis



The 2022 Sunshine Coast Wildflower Festival in August is a chance to experience some superb guided walks. Check the website.

Wallum Hotspot

On the south side of Queen Street in Caloundra, next to the High School, is **Ben Bennett Bushland Park**. The original 5 ha were set aside in 1969 as an initiative of Landsborough Shire Council. In 2004, by then 21 ha, it was given its present name by the Rotary Club of Caloundra to honour the councillor largely responsible for its preservation, a charter member of their club.

There are three detailed brochures with useful information on the main self-guided walking trails - Eucalypt Trail, Rainforest Trail and Heath Trail. These are usually available in the containers on the information board at the entrance.

“The real heroes anyway are not the people doing things; the real heroes are the people noticing things, paying attention.”

John Green, Novelist



Acacia hubbardiana (wallum prickly Moses)
Ben Bennett Bushland Park



Platylobium formosum (flat pea)
Ben Bennett Bushland Park

At this time of the year the understorey species of the dry heath include the creamy flowers of *Acacia hubbardiana*, purple pea bush, *Hovea acutifolia* and the yellow flowers of *Pultenaea villosa* and *Hibbertia scandens*.

In the wet heath area some pobblebunks may be calling in amongst the *Philydrum lanuginosum* and *Lepironia articulata*. Further on there is *Leptospermum liversidgei* and *Pultenaea paleacea*.

Reminders

Check page 1 for details of our next excursion
9.00am Sunday, 17 Jul.



Following that, the next will be
9.00am Sunday, 18 Sep.

Springwood Conservation Park on the south side of Brisbane

Final details will be in a **September News Sheet**
BYO morning tea/ lunch.



Goodenia stelligera

Do any of you have interesting garden happenings or field trip experiences to tell us about?

Please send them for inclusion in our next newsletter.



Pultenaea villosa (hairy pea bush)
Ben Bennett Bushland Park