



BOTANICAL SOCIETY
OF SOUTH AFRICA

KZN Coastal Branch

Chair's Report **August 2022 to July 2023**

Know, grow, protect and enjoy South Africa's indigenous plants'

Botanical Society Turns 110 years

Message from the Chairperson

The Botanical Society has had a remarkable 110-year journey and we have so much to be proud of. We have already left a lasting legacy – you need only look at our programmes and the incredible dedication of our volunteers and members to see this.

However, our work is not done! Given the many urgent threats to our plant world right now, we're refocusing our efforts as a conservation civil society organisation, to ensure we align our role to the critical needs across South Africa.

That means that we're entering a renewed phase, to continue our lasting legacy, both for nature, and for the people who value our botanical richness. To all our members, volunteers, partners and donors who have been involved in BotSoc, whether for a week or for 60 years, we thank you. You are BotSoc!

– Kyra Lunderstedt

Botanical Society KZN Coastal Branch Update



Branch membership: 97



Communication via WhatsApp

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA
KWAZULU-NATAL COASTAL BRANCH

April 2023

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1. INTRODUCTION BY BRANCH CHAIR - Suzanne Parfitt-Hughes

The Botanical Society is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. While we will be keen about the celebratory activities planned for National office for the year, we are delighted to learn that membership has been greatly increased, at the expense of less entry into the 2023-2024 financial year. We are hopeful that the new rates will open membership affordability to a greater number of the South African population who are passionate about protecting South Africa's indigenous flora.

ARE YOU A MEMBER?
NON-BOTANICAL

New BotSoc membership fees

Adults (18-59 years)	R200
Senior citizens (60+ years)	R100
Students (18-35 years with current student ID card)	R100
Scholars (16-17 years)	R50

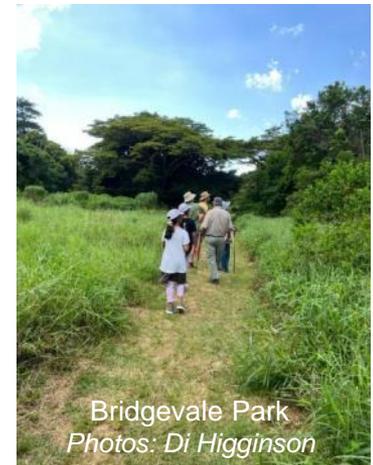


Indigenous Plant Fair at Beachwood Mangroves Nature Reserve



Photos: Di Higginson

Greening the 'Hood Project



JOINT BOTSOC INLAND + COASTAL BRANCHES CREW FIELDTRIP TO LAAGER FARM



Alison Young

Brachystelma modestum (NT)



Alison Young

Brachystelma gerrardii (EN)



**Helichrysum Workshop at Nkonka
Grassland with Kate Grieve on 15 April**

Eugene Moll educational and fundraising walks



2022 walks
Photos: WhatsApp



2023 North Park
Photos: Di Higginson



Indigenous Garden Tours



Renishaw Hills
Photos: Elizabeth Forsdick

Children's Winter Holiday Programme



The audio-visual clip was from our 'give back to the bush' activity at Burman Bush Nature Reserve where the youngsters gathered armfuls of the invasive sword fern and bagged them. As one child put it 'this is our pre- Mandela Day warm up!'



Michaela Barrett creatively fashioned a crown of sword ferns by way of celebrating her group's contribution to the removal of invasive alien plants



Our group that attended the day at the Durban Botanic Gardens (DBG) was amazed by one of the non-indigenous trees - the Kauri Pine (*Agathis australis*), from New Zealand



In the Garden of the Senses, strange looking plants, aromatic herbs, and the central brick, metal and water feature, drew a great deal of interest



Durban Botanic Gardens collaboration



BotSoc Awareness Activities



PlantLife Online Journal



Total pageviews to date for all digital editions is 60 850. In the last 12 months we recorded 13 300 pageviews, with 2 volumes totaling almost 250 pages.

Total readership from:

South Africa	25,6k
USA	16,3k
Europe	5,3k
Russia	1,29k
India	0,7k

The next edition to be published at the end of July 2023

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Thanks

- Our members for your ongoing support and participation
- Those hosts / presenters who generously donated their time and shared knowledge
- Those who have kindly contributed to our fundraising activities
- Those who shared images for this presentation and for our various publications.
- Martin Clement and his team as well as the Durban Botanic Gardens Trust for the use of the office, and for other privileges in the Gardens
- The current committee for your enthusiasm, dedication and commitment



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