

From: [Kylie Stocks](#)
Sent: 24 February 2019 02:54
Subject: Re: WikiFern - Fern Profiles

Hi Everyone

Sorry it's taken so long to update you. Dwayne has been working really hard on coding and updating changes to the aboutferns.org.

However, I have some exciting news today that I simply have to share!! We have uploaded and OCR'd all the newsletters to date from our own Australian Fern Study Group! This means you can search on their content, so you know what we have been doing in Oz for all these years! Dwayne has also spoken to Barry White, and we will be doing the same thing with all the newsletters from the Victorian Fern Society (now sadly defunct). Fully searchable! These are located under the 'Publications' tab.

Dwayne has also built in some functionality which allows for printing plant labels. Labels include a QR code which when selected by a smart phone will direct the operator to more information on the plant. Invaluable for botanic gardens specimens and nurseries alike!

Dwayne has also built into the site a 'bushwalks' section. This provides users the ability to choose bushwalks in their location that offer the chance to see some local ferns, without the need for a guide. Each bushwalk has a list of plants that you might expect to see on the walk, a GPS coordinate that signifies the start of the walk (including Google Maps reference), maps that show where the walk is, and finally in most cases, a checklist and field guide that provides extra information on the ferns that can be seen on the walk. Currently the walks cover Australia and Japan. We would love to add other walks around the globe that might be of interest to fern enthusiasts. The walks can be found under the 'bushwalking' menu item in the top menu of aboutferns.org.

As well as the ability to produce labels for plants, you can now produce checklists and field guides for a list of ferns. Any logged in user can do this. A checklist is a list of species names together with a list of associated images that relate to them. A field guide is also a list of species, however includes additional detail such as exposure, plant description, frond shape, and other aspects. Both these documents can be generated prior to going out into the bush, to aid in the identification of ferns while walking. Obviously the information provided is constrained by what has been entered for the plants that you have selected.

A Gallery view is about to be released as well, which will provide a taxonomy based browse of all the images currently loaded into aboutferns.org. There are currently about 4,000 photos, and additional photos (and attribution) would be much appreciated!!

As always, your suggestions, help and input are welcome! We would also love to hear your ideas of how to encourage busy fernies to participate. Skype sessions can demonstrate functionality as well as provide tips on how to get the best value from the site!!

Cheers, Kylie (and Dwayne)

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