

Welcome to

MOSSVALE PARK

South Gippsland's historic arboretum

Traditional custodians

The land Mossvale Park is situated on are the traditional lands of the Brataualung people of the Gunai nation. For tens of thousands of years Aboriginal people have taken care of country.

Our plant catalogue can be sorted by 'Plants of Significance' to the Gunai people and lists Australian indigenous flora that was used for food, utility and medicine.

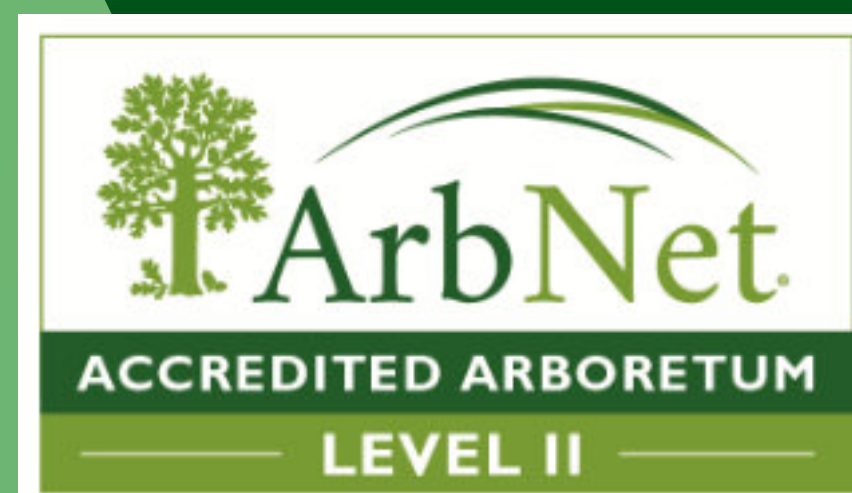
(Reference: Plants of Significance to the Gunai Community by Rob de Souza-Daw, Ken Harris and Doris Paton, November 2000, ISBN 0 646 400126)



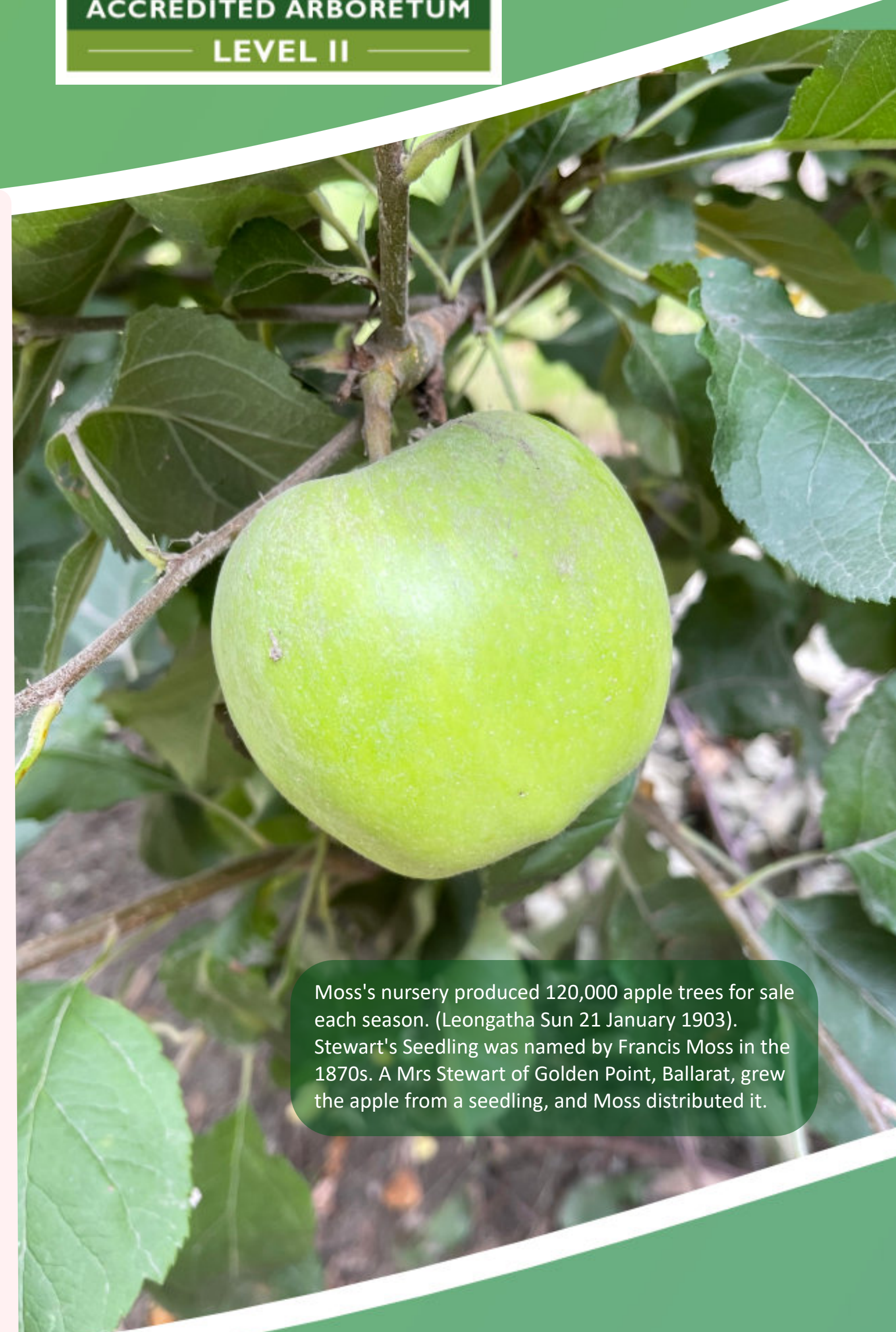
Its all about the trees

There are over 400 mapped plants in the park, representing over 260 different species and named varieties. (The list is updated regularly as we plant - and remove or replace dead specimens). We do not, in general, water or fertilise our specimens. We mulch new plantings where we can, and plant in late autumn or early spring depending on the weather. As the park is a flood plain of the Tarwin River, we must take this into consideration when choosing a site for new specimens. Our tree lists and maps can be found using the QR code

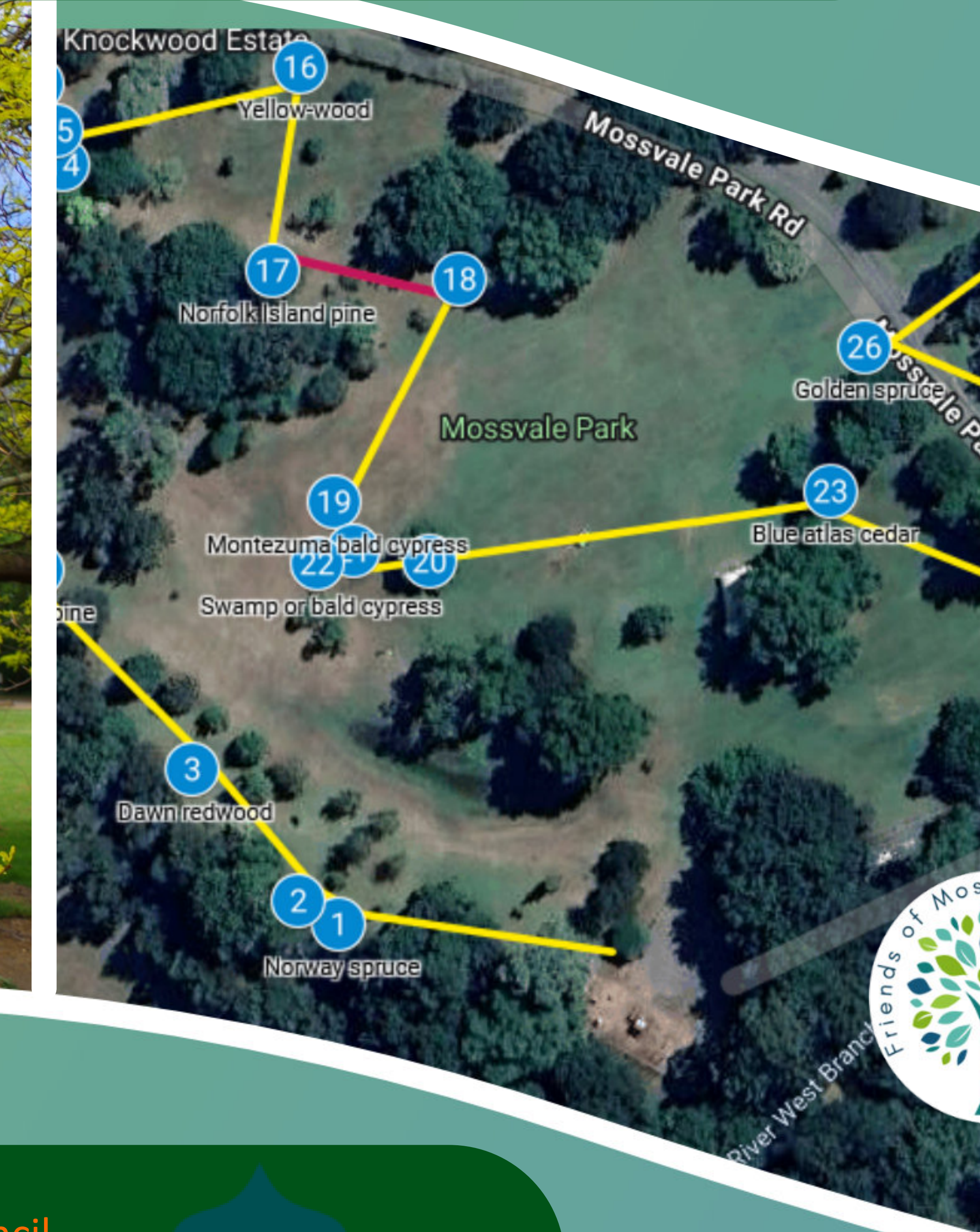
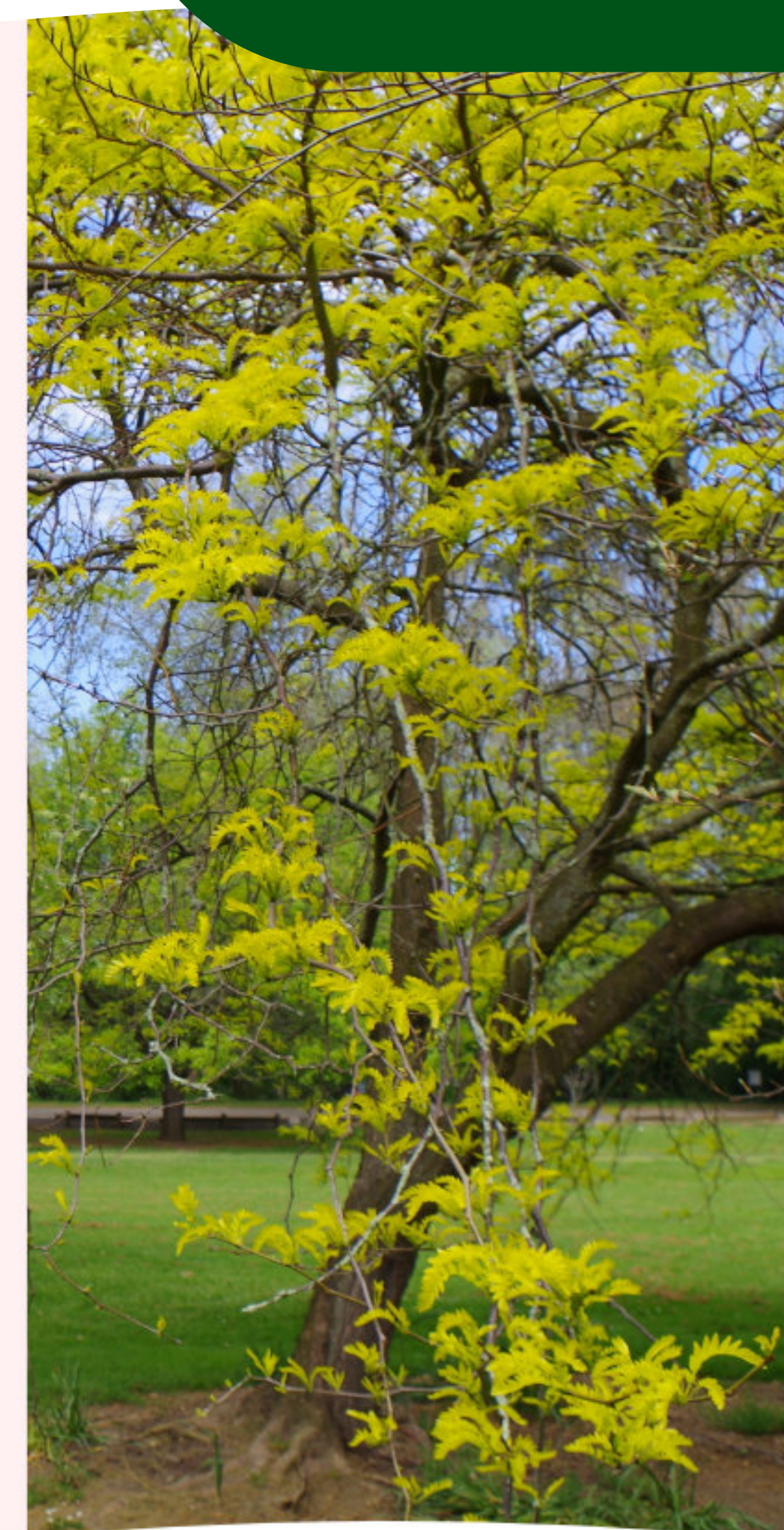
Our online plant catalogue can be found using this QR code. This is a searchable data base.



Acacia dealbata, or silver wattle known as MART in traditional language, had various uses: its seeds were made into flour or eaten whole, gum was fermented in water, bark was used medicinally, and wood was used for making tool handles and string.



Moss's nursery produced 120,000 apple trees for sale each season. (Leongatha Sun 21 January 1903). Stewart's Seedling was named by Francis Moss in the 1870s. A Mrs Stewart of Golden Point, Ballarat, grew the apple from a seedling, and Moss distributed it.



Mossvale Park is managed by South Gippsland Shire Council.

For more information about the Park - South Gippsland Shire web page



South Gippsland
Shire Council

This historic arboretum

is named for Francis Moss, who in 1888 expanded his Ballarat nursery into 1000 acres of virgin forest on the banks of the Tarwin River at Berrys Creek. The beautiful exotic trees were nursery stock and were planted all over the property by the nursery manager William Gould and his son, George. When the 10 acres that are the current Mossvale Park were purchased by the Shires of Woorayl and Mirboo in 1946, these trees were 60 years old and created the beloved ambience of the picnic grounds.

Mossvale Park is significant

for its 19th-century landscaping, its development as a regional park post-war, and its association with Francis Moss and Moss Vale Nursery. It features mature exotic specimen trees and indigenous vegetation, creating a unique landscape within the Shire. The park is an important part of the Berry's Creek area's identity and is well-known and loved in South Gippsland.

Want to find out more about our history? Use the QR code to visit the history page of our website



Enjoy our self guided walking trails.

Wander around historic Mossvale Park arboretum on one these walks or just freely wander.

There are no marked routes but we have prepared some 'trails' with downloadable directions and highlighted trees of interest.



Arboretum simply means a collection of trees, and those in the park are from our local environment, Australia and around the world.



Friends of Mossvale Park

Volunteers support Mossvale Park through a diverse program

- Visitor engagement
- Promoting the Friends group and the Park
- Helping with our program of events
- Monthly working bees in the Park held on the first Thursday of the month at 10.00am in the park
- Bimonthly meetings are held in the park. We discuss projects and planting and other issues affecting the park.

