

November Bus Trip Wednesday 8 November 2023

The full bus departed the Mountain a little late and without air conditioning! We had to change to a new bus at the bottom of the Mountain - much better!

Our first stop was The Overflow Estate 1895, a beautiful property and vineyard on the shores of Wyaralong Dam between Beaudesert and Boonah. We were treated to some delicious cakes from the inhouse French Chef along with great coffee. After our refreshments there was a short talk about the history of the property, around 4000 acres which include 500 head of cattle, a sandstone quarry, a sand mine as well as the boutique winery which only produces about 10,000 bottles annually.

From here we retraced our steps back towards Beaudesert to historic Bromelton House. What a delight, set in beautiful country, the house is shaded by a *Castanospermum australe* or Black Bean tree which is said to be around 300 years old. We enjoyed a short talk from current owner, Stuart Murray about the work they are doing with the Hays Converter cattle breed through an embryo transfer project to develop a more efficient breed of cattle for the future.

A delicious finger food lunch was provided by Teaspoons and Aprons catering and we then moved to the Pecan Nut shed where Stuart explained how the family got to learn all about the production of Pecan nuts, as the property had an existing large Pecan orchard.

After leaving this beautiful property we stopped at Ironbark Gardens Nursery in Gleneagle where, of course, plants were purchased by many of us. This is a very well-run operation, and the plants are in great condition and really well displayed. Finally, we returned to our beautiful mountain, and I think a great day was had by all.