

**An invitation from
Friends of the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens**

To the

2014 AFBG National Conference

August 8 - 10 at the Mercure Gold Coast Resort



**A conference where
Growing matters ...
growing Friends &
growing Gardens.**

**Visit Friends or AFBG websites for
conference details & registrations**

www.friendsgcrbg.org.au

www.friendsbotanicgardens.org

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Membership

Annual Membership from 1 April 2014:

up to 100 financial members \$30;

101-250 members \$50; 251-500

members \$100; 501-1000 members \$200,

over 1000 members \$300

Pay by direct transfer to BSB 633-000

A/c No: 1045-71476 and use group name as reference.

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Editor Anne Rawson

email: campsis@friendsanbg.org.au

We welcome your articles and photographs

and important calendar events for inclusion

Closing dates are 31 March and 30 September approximately six weeks prior to publication.

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In this issue:

You will find information about the AFBG biennial conference to be held at the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens in August on page 3. The Conference Program and registration form are attached at the back. Keep up with regular updates on the AFBG website.

Following reports from Geraldine Davis, President; Annie McGeachy, Secretary; and Ro Noone, Admin Officer, you will be able to catch up with news from Friends of:

- Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden
- Australian National Botanic Gardens
- Botanic Gardens Sydney
- Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens
- Geelong Botanic Gardens
- Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens
- Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens
- Melton Botanic Gardens
- National Arboretum Canberra
- North Coast Regional Botanic Garden
- Peacehaven Botanic Park
- Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne



Mercure Gold Coast Resort



Left hand row: Palm Meadow; Club Terrace; Chelos Restaurant; Ultima Suite. Right Row: Oasis pool; Augusta room; Garden Spa Room.

Growing matters...growing Friends & growing Gardens

Friends of Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens Gold Coast, Queensland

The National AFBG Conference from 8–10 August is drawing closer. With our theme: *Growing matters ... growing Friends, growing Gardens*, the conference will provide delegates with ideas and processes to take back to their botanic gardens to implement. We would all like to operate better with improved outcomes for the time we volunteer!

We have been fortunate enough to secure Professor Tim Entwisle as a keynote speaker. The program will also include the Chair of BGANZ, Dale Arvidsson, who will speak about the Memorandum of Understanding that now exists between AFBG and BGANZ. Other speakers will address topics that include incorporating technology into plant identification and garden interpretation, engaging education experiences as well as reaching out into the community and engaging volunteers. Full program is at the end of *Campsis*. We will also be showcasing the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens, which has just celebrated its tenth anniversary last year—a young botanic garden but a garden that has flourished with the partnership between the Friends and the Gold Coast City Council.

The Mercure Gold Coast Resort offers wonderful venue facilities away from the hustle and bustle, but with easy access to our popular tourist attractions. The Welcome Cocktail Drinks on Friday evening and the Conference Dinner on Saturday evening will give you the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones!

BOOK NOW: Encourage your members to support the AFBG Conference by registering as soon as possible. Early Bird Registration is open until 9 May. You can save \$40.00 per delegate and have the chance of winning one night accommodation at the Mercure Gold Coast Resort where the Conference is being held. If you wish to fly to the Gold Coast, registering early gives you the opportunity to take advantage of some cheaper advertised flights through the airlines. All good reasons to register early!

Be sure to book the pre- and post-conference full-day tours to the stunning Gold Coast region and hinterland visiting:

- Tamborine Mountain, famous for its beautiful botanic gardens, lush private gardens and national parks
- Springbrook National Park, Mt Cougal Section, with sub-tropical Currumbin Creek and the award winning sustainable Eco Village
- Pre- and post-accommodation packages at Binna Burra Mountain Lodge and O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat in the World Heritage-listed Lamington National Park with extensive views and walks

For Registration and more information visit the AFBG website at: www.friendsbotanicgardens.org or the Friends of Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens: www.friendsgcrbg.org.au/event/afbg-conference-2014.

Rana Baguley, AFBG Conference Coordinator



Friends Centre amidst Honeyeater Garden



Grevillea 'Orange Marmalade' overlooking Central Lake

From the President

Geraldine Davis



The AFBG Committee has been working on the development of guidelines for the roles of the Executive. It is envisaged these will particularly assist the incoming President to the position every two years following the AFBG conferences. As well, the executive has developed a proforma to assist Friends of Botanic Gardens groups to consider hosting a future AFBG conference.

It is a great pleasure to welcome Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust as new members. Camperdown is situated in the Western District of Victoria, approximately 200 kms west of Melbourne and I look forward to reading about their Gardens and Arboretum in *Campsis*. I encourage all AFBG members to consider placing an article in *Campsis* about your garden or an event you wish to promote. Deadlines are 31 March and 30 September each year.

Currently the AFBG is seeking a patron and there has been a range of impressive suggestions made so far. There will be further discussions at future committee meetings before a decision is made. The committee welcomes your considered suggestions on this matter.

It is with considerable sadness I acknowledge the resignation of Annie McGeachy as the Secretary of the AFBG from the AGM in August. Annie has been a member of the Committee for ten years and Secretary for two periods totalling eight years. Annie has been a most supportive secretary to me as a 'new chum' to the organisation. Her considered opinions and advice have been most valuable, and her long history of involvement in the Association has been of great benefit to all. My thanks also go to Annie for her recent evaluation of responses to a brief questionnaire from our AFBG members on the topic of 'Does your Garden have a MoU with your local Council?' It was an impressive response to the question, which Annie will report on in the Secretary's report (see below).

I wish to acknowledge the immense effort committee members, Annie McGeachy, Patrice O'Shea and Elizabeth Gilfillan have put into seeking ways that AFBG as an organisation could possibly become recognised by the Australian Tax Office to be recorded as eligible to offer a tax deduction for monetary gifts. This research is still ongoing as eligibility as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) is complex.

It is with great pleasure that the Committee accepted the application from Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens to host the 2016 Conference. I congratulate Geelong for offering to host this event. To all Friends groups I would strongly encourage you to look to the future and think about the possibility of hosting a conference. It is a wonderful way to promote your garden as well as your region, not to mention the networking with like-minded Botanic Gardens Friends throughout Australia. The conferences are well publicised via the Association's extensive network. I trust that you will all consider attending the AFBG Conference to be held on the Gold Coast from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 August 2014 at the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens. Details are available on our website: www.friendsbotanicgardens.org.

Victorian Members please note:

The AFBG is Incorporated in Victoria, therefore the Rules and Consumer Affairs (Vic) require the Secretary position be held by a representative from a Victorian Friends group. Secretary position details will be available soon. Annie is pleased to chat with any inquirers- or potentially interested members.

Secretary's Report

Annie McGeachy



Glorious autumn, season of mists and fresh mornings, sunny days, long shadows, sunsets, calm seas and time for some gardening (with apologies to Keats.) Just need the rain!

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding Survey

Thank you to all those members who responded, and very quickly, to the two-minute survey about MOUs. Over 50 per cent of members responded, thank you, and the results were very mixed. Having heard a few member comments prior, it seemed worthwhile to understand if this was an emerging issue or common to all or something members may be concerned about. Below are issues that emerged from your responses.

- Having an MOU did not seem to be related to the size of the garden, the varying garden management structures, or the longevity of the Friends group.
- Some expressed an excellent relationship with management and quite reasonably felt an MOU was definitely not required and had never been considered.
- While the majority responding to the questions do not currently have an MOU, it is clear that there is a gentle trend towards putting one in place, but there was also uncertainty about what an MOU should contain.
- It was surprising to me to hear that for quite a few members there had been recent suggestions or discussions along these lines with either gardens management, Council or among themselves.
- Some considered an MOU might be a good idea essentially to resolve some issues or possibly to look after their interests into the future.
- Two very supportive Councils even suggested this to protect their Friends identity from the constantly changing Council structure or garden management arrangements.
- That is probably the real point or potential benefit of an MOU, which of course can be reviewed and is not a legally binding document.

In all I think it was a worthwhile exercise, raising this to the conscious level among members, perhaps inviting them to be clear about their identity, their particular role, their relationships and direction, and with an eye to the future of their organisation.

AFBG Tax Deductible Gift Recipient

I think we may have mustered a 'second wind,' to pursue the task of establishing a Tax Deductible registration for the Association. Being essentially a peak body rather than attached to a particular Botanic Garden or Arboretum has made the task more complex.

However, Patrice O'Shea (Wombat Hill BG) and I have re-examined the criteria and options and found that some recent changes in detail actually provide us with two potential approaches to pursue that may satisfy the Australian Tax Office and hopefully prove successful. We will keep you posted.

On a lighter note, in October I am heading to Eastern Canada with Botanica to visit 'Gardens in the Fall' so will hopefully have more entertaining news and colourful photographs for the next edition.

Administrative Officer's Report

Ro Noone

Dear Members

What is happening in your Botanic Garden/s this year? If there are special events you would like to promote, please don't forget to send me the details and I will assist you by emailing our 58 member groups and including the information on the AFBG website.

Your invoices for 2014-15 membership were sent in March. Thank you to those who have paid. Please note that subscriptions can now be paid online via our website: www.friendsbotanicgardens.org or electronic funds transfer through online banking.

With the biennial conference coming up, some of you may like to consider being a host in the future. 'Guidelines for Hosting a Conference' have been recently compiled together with 'Role of President'. These are now available on our website.

It is also time for your group to consider having representation on the AFBG Committee of Management. This is a great way to contribute directly to the future of the network and bring your special skills to the executive. Vacancies will be published prior to the next AGM on 10 August 2014 (held at the AFBG Conference). Your location is not an issue as committee meetings are held via teleconferencing. All you need is a phone!

A business card for the Association is now available. While this is primarily for the use of Committee members, please don't hesitate to ask if you would like some on hand to promote the AFBG to prospective members and increase our profile.

In January, I had the absolute pleasure of attending a 'Summer School for Gardeners' presented by Open Gardens Australia and the Melbourne School of Land & Environment, University of Melbourne, at Burnley Gardens. Over three days, 'botanical gurus' covered many topics. Some of these were: 'Why we love gardens' (Prof Tim Entwisle), 'Gardening for health and wellbeing' (Steven Wells, Hort Therapist and ABC Gardener of the Year), 'Urban Forest as a response to Climate Change' (Ian Shears, City of Melbourne), and 'Trends in design and plant use' (Phillip Johnson). Workshops included practical applications such as planting the right plant in the right place, composting, propagating, pruning, design in small spaces, and smart garden watering. Some excellent resources from the summer school:

- Tim Entwisle's blog: talkingplants.blogspot.com
- *Philosophy in the Garden* by Damon Young
- *A Philosophy of Gardens* by David E Cooper
- ClimateWatch and ClimateWatch App for online tracking of climate changes: www.climatewatch.org.au
- *Biophilia* by Edward O. Wilson
- Sustainable Gardening Australia website for article on 'Gardening for body, mind and spirit': www.sgaonline.org.au
- City of Melbourne's Urban Forest: <http://melbourneurbanforestvisual.com.au>
- To understand and water your garden effectively, calculate required water use at your site: www2.smartgardenwatering.org.au
- To see what Andrew Laidlaw, RBG Melbourne Landscape Architect, is creating in Gaza with Moira Kelly AO, go to: www.globalgardensofpeace.com



Ro Noone at Christchurch Botanic Gardens, April 2014

- Andrew Laidlaw's recent design 'Naturescape' for children at Kings Park, WA: www.bgpa.wa.gov.au
- Organic seeds, pest controls etc. www.greenharvest.com.au

With so much to read and our ever-calling gardens to tend, when is there time to sleep?



Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show 2013. Photo: R Noone

In early April, I had a brief but delightful visit to the Christchurch Botanic Gardens where I was “blown away” by the size and pristine quality of the Gardens, especially after the earthquake devastation in the city. I was left with a lasting images of beautiful (huge) conifers, eucalypts, autumn colour and the calmness of the shady New Zealand Garden. I also really enjoyed a stroll through the Queenstown Gardens, set on a peninsula overlooking the stunning Lake Wakatipu. While there was a lot of activity going on in these Gardens: lawn bowls, tennis, ‘frisbee golf’ and cycling, surprisingly an overriding level of peacefulness was retained.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in sunny Queensland at the 2014 Conference.

Helping the Adnyamathanha people

*Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG)
Port Augusta, South Australia*

The Friends have been having a busy bee every Wednesday removing weed growth, pruning and maintaining the Garden, with Garden staff helping out with tractors, trailers and providing morning tea. The extension of the Eremophila Garden is now complete and Friends and staff have done a wonderful job building paths and planting hundreds of Eremophilas making it one of the largest plantings of Eremophila in Australia.

Two Friends, Ruth Sheldon and Chris Nayda, went to Nepabunna (east of Copley in the Northern Flinders Ranges) to help the local Adnyamathanha people to propagate and grow seedlings of local vegetation. They were very warmly received and given a lovely lunch and many seedlings were potted up and cuttings put in pots. The girls helped with pruning plantings around the town as well and have been invited back next year. The plants propagated will then be planted at Nantawarrina Indigenous Protected Area in the Northern Flinders Ranges, approx one hour southwest of Arkaroola. Nantawarrina is being developed as a tourist venture. For more information: www.nepabunnatourism.com.au is well worth looking at. Ruth and Chris then conducted a field trip to Arkaroola collecting seeds and cuttings for the AALBG and were given some *Acacia araneosa* (Spider Wattle), unique to Arkaroola and grown from seed there, to plant at the AALBG.



Above: Ruth at Neppabunna. Right: Friends and staff working on paths made from coloured compacted road base which is wheel chair and pusher friendly. Mt Brown can be seen in the distance.

Friends have also assisted with selling plants produced at the AALBG Nursery at a regional Field Day in the Riverland, and elsewhere, and staff and volunteers participated in a grafting workshop so that they may commence growing various forms of Desert Lime, *Citrus glauca*, on specific Citrus grafting stock in the Nursery to be utilised in the Garden.

Friends can also report that we are becoming sustainable. Treated effluent from the Visitor Reception Building is used to irrigate the extended Eremophila Garden and plans are in hand to convert the whole Garden's irrigation system to use treated effluent from Port Augusta, reducing use of potable water, piped hundreds of kilometres from the River Murray. We have also assisted the City Council, which operates the AALBG, with the cost of a large solar power installation to substantially reduce the costs of running the Visitor Reception Centre. This will be repaid to Friends over a few years.

Our Friends Group and the AALBG's management have developed an excellent and complementary working relationship. The AALBG operates on a low budget funded through the Port Augusta City Council rates, hence the Friends play an important role in assisting paid staff with propagating in the nursery and with garden maintenance; with providing guided tours and educational sessions for students; and helping in many other ways; filling the gaps with the tasks for which the small team of paid employees do not have time.

The Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden offer an open invitation to anyone visiting Port Augusta, or passing through, to pause and visit our Garden which has features of interest in all seasons. As plantings mature, visitors have a very good introduction to the flora of the southern arid zone of Australia, the region our Garden represents.

Chris Nayda

Seeing *Banks' Florilegium*

*Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens
Canberra, ACT*

In mid-2013 the Friends agreed to take up a new role at the Gardens. This was to provide volunteers for the Visitor Centre to meet people as they arrive and assist them to get the most out of their experience at the Gardens. Up to this time this role had been carried out by the Gardens' rangers and other staff, assisted occasionally by a small number of paid outside people. While the Friends were cautious about this change it has developed into a most rewarding opportunity for a number of volunteers and is freeing up staff resources for other essential functions in the Gardens. As part of the new arrangements it was agreed that a review of this new role would be conducted after about six months and that is currently being finalised. This will lead to some improvements in the way this role works, for the Gardens, the volunteers and, most of all, the visitors.



Photo by Jill More

Our Twilight dinner with a floral theme was a great success, as usual. It was held in the Floresco café at the Gardens, and the food, as usual, was excellent. Our guest speaker, Catriona Anderson from the Pictures and Manuscripts Branch at the National Library, spoke about accessing the wonderful botanical resources at the Library. She described the long and painstaking process that led to the publication of *Banks' Florilegium* more than 200 years after Banks' return to England in 1771. In March three tours went to see the *Florilegium*.

We did circuits around four tables holding four Folios from each of which two plates were extracted at a time. It was extraordinary to see Sydney Parkinson's beautiful drawings turned into these exquisite plates.

A Friends' Plant Science Group was established in June 2013 to act as an umbrella group for Friends' volunteer activities of a more technical, scientific and research nature. Its formation underlines the importance that the Friends attach to raising awareness of research based on the collections and scientific expertise of the Gardens. The main ongoing activity is a monthly technical talk plus special visits to relevant places such as the Seed Bank and the ANBG nursery.



The Shenanigans performing at *Art in the Garden with Friends*.
Photo by Alan Munns

One of our regular events is the Botanic Art Exhibition, *Art in the Gardens with Friends*; the seventh exhibition opened in March. The guest speaker was botanical artist, Sharon Field, who gave an entertaining talk urging botanical artists to push the boundaries of their discipline, and guest entertainers were local singing group, the Shenanigans. The Friends purchased two paintings by artist Margaret Steele to join the permanent collection of botanic art displayed in the Dickson room at the Gardens.

The relatively new Friends Photographic Group (reported in *Campsis* November 2011) held its first exhibition, *ANBG – Through the Lens*, in February and March. This was a collection of photographs taken in the Gardens and inspired by the animals, birds, plants, insects, light and landscapes found there. The exhibition was very well received and should be the forerunner of further such exhibitions, with the second one being targeted for mid-2015.

David Coutts, President

We hit the ground running!

*Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens
Sydney, New South Wales*



Summer 2013 edition of *The Gardens*



Botanica 2014 – Autumn Hydrangea by Angela Lober



Volunteers staffed the taste testing at the inaugural Tomato Festival Sydney. Photo by Maria Stefyn

Foundation & Friends welcomed in the New Year with a bang at our annual members' only picnic in the Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney. While the Garden closed to the general public, members and their guests enjoyed the dazzling fireworks display from the Mare and Foal Lawn, overlooking Sydney Harbour and the Opera House.

This year we hit the ground running with the inaugural Tomato Festival Sydney held in the Royal Botanic Garden in February. Partnering with the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, the Botanic Gardens Restaurant and the Diggers Club, *Foundation & Friends* hosted thousands of visitors over two days as they explored the many ways tomatoes play a role in our lives. From taste testings and master classes, to talks and walks, cocktail parties and luncheons, the Garden was transformed into a tomato paradise!

On the same weekend we took part in the first ever Friends around the Domain event. Collaborating with the Art Gallery of New South Wales Society, Sydney Living Museums and the Friends of the State Library and Australian Museum, we hosted a day of reciprocal benefits and special openings and tours. Members came together to celebrate the diversity of the cultural precinct that has developed in the area. It was wonderful to work with other like-minded organisations who all work to inspire a greater appreciation and understanding of their special collections.

March saw the arrival of the International Garden Photographer of the Year exhibition (IGPOTY). We hosted a stunning collection of over 60 images from competition six. Previously exhibited at Kew Gardens, IGPOTY showcases some of the world's best nature photography, attracting 20,000 entrants from over 30 countries. Visitors to the exhibition delighted in the diversity of images and were offered unique snapshots of the spectacular landscapes, quirky wildlife and dazzling gardens that make up our green planet.

We were also honoured to receive recognition from the Horticultural Media Association Australia (HMAA) with our quarterly members' magazine *The Gardens* being nominated as a finalist in the 'Paper Publication' category at the 2013-14 Laurel Awards. Over the years our magazine has grown from a small newsletter-styled publication into the wonderful magazine we have today. Each edition we strive to provide our members and subscribers with fascinating stories on the news, events and important work that is being undertaken in the Gardens we all love and support. Having just celebrated our 100th issue of *The Gardens* we would like to say a big thank you and congratulations to our editorial team for this great achievement!

The year shows no sign of slowing down with Botanica 2014 fast approaching. For the first time this year's exhibition, titled *Botanica – The Art of Seduction: Plants and their Pollinators*, will explore the vital link between plants and their pollinators. It will feature works by both botanical and natural science artists that capture the diversity, stunning beauty and intricacies of plants and pollinators. *Botanica 2014* will be held in the Lion Gate lodge at the Royal Botanic Garden from Saturday 24 May until Sunday 15 June.

Hannah Burnett

‘Management is a faith-based science’

Friends of the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens Batemans Bay, New South Wales

That is a quote attributed to Professor Nicholas Bloom, Professor of Economics, Stanford University, in a recent Radio National broadcast. The question of faith or science arises at Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden (ERBG) because we now face big changes in our management structure.

Our first committee in 1987 was chaired by a Friend (Dr Murray Wallace) with one Councillor, a rep from State Forests, two Council staff and another Friend being the other members. Faith in the new venture certainly drove most members to attend all-day meetings once a month where Gardens affairs were managed down to the last detail. Perhaps Science held sway over the appointment of the first Gardens Supervisor (note the title), John Knight, in 1992. His professional qualifications and years of working in Victoria with native plants in public spaces enabled him to transmute landscape plans to the reality of soils, slope and species, achieving the fine results we enjoy today.

Back to management. Over the years our management committee has been chaired by Councillors and by members of Friends. By 2006 the committee comprised two Friends, two Councillors, up to six members from the community, appointed on a skills basis, and one member to be the Honorary Secretary. In fact, all community members were also Friends. However, while the committee had grown larger, while it was still called the Management Committee and met quarterly, and while its nominal base was broader, in reality its role had narrowed; its status was that of an advisory body to Council’s Works and Services Committee. The role of the Supervisor (still that official title) was indeed managerial while the Friends raised money for developmental projects, provided the social matrix for the volunteers, and the person-power for day-to-day work on site. The Management Committee last met in 2012. If we look at all three levels of government in this country, the pattern is somewhat similar, with rising responsibility vested in the executive wing matched by a decline in external advisory bodies.

So: to bring us up to 2014. In December 2013 Council adopted the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan for ERBG. It reviewed the management structure of the Gardens and decided to dissolve the Management Committee. Where necessary, project-based working groups will be set up, similar to that existing for the Seed Bank. On the one hand it could be argued that the Gardens has lost a direct channel of communication to the elected representatives of the Shire. On the other hand the Manager is expected to attend monthly Friends Committee meetings, an obligation our present Manager, Michael Anlezark, carries out willingly and for distinct mutual advantage. Because ERBG represents the largest single facility or endeavour in the Shire’s history, which is a real partnership between volunteers and the Council, continuing community involvement in all aspects of ERBG including management is important.

Friends look forward to an exciting year in which the brief for the architect to guide the design of an expanded and renovated Visitors Centre will be drawn up: an exercise which will require both Faith and Science.

Heather Haughton



Michael Anlezark

A totally unrelated picture of the new slides in the Children’s garden

Resurrection of the Perennial Border

Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens
Geelong, Victoria

Photos by Judith Trimble



The last issue of *Campsis* included an account of the City of Greater Geelong's installation of a Storm Water Catchment Dam in Eastern Park. The dam was designed to collect seepage from surrounding streets, to feed an irrigation system for Geelong Botanic Gardens (located in a cleft of Eastern Park), and to provide water for park and street trees.

When the irrigation pipes were fed into the Gardens, they necessarily disturbed lawns and garden beds, which then had to be reconstructed. Our Friends have long maintained the Perennial Border along a curved pathway in the heart of the Gardens. It is one of the sunniest spots, with some shade and shelter from surrounding *Agathis robusta*, *Brachyciton* sp and *Corymbia maculata*. The recent loss of one of the pair of giant yews that marked the original 'Bunce Entry' has offered an opportunity to re-plan a significant central section of the border. This work is being undertaken in partnership with staff at the GBG and is now underway. Planting will commence in the coming autumn and spring.

The Border is a carefully designed 'riot' of brilliant reds and yellows, blues and whites contrasted with deep maroons, cool silvers, and the dark green foliage of the background canopy. Species of ornamental ginger, cannas and dahlia are inter-planted with ornamental grasses that rise high above the visitors' head and dance in the sun.

During August, however, when irrigation pipes were brought through the Perennial Border, the lovely garden was all but destroyed with a 50 cm trench dug along its complete edge. Plants that could be transplanted to pots and tubs while awaiting re-establishment were saved; a few were lost. The trench was over 50 metres long, and with the welcome winter rain the Border became a mud heap. This was distressing for those who had been maintaining the area for almost 20 years, however it has had some rewards.

When the installation of irrigation was completed, our courageous women donned their thick gloves and solid boots, and with the assistance of a number of willing GBG staff, dug in quickly to replace the planting. With baited breath, salvaged species were planted and we all waited to see what survived.

The outcome has been delightful; the extra moisture offered by the storm water irrigation has helped to nurture the Border through one of the hottest summers on record. Geelong's flamboyant Mayor recently had his photo taken in our riotous border! It is currently presenting blooms in a profusion of colours that have delighted visitors.

The Perennial Border takes pride of place at the Geelong Botanic Gardens, a generous contribution of Friends' time and effort and willingness to fund a significant display. Recent photographs illustrate the Resurrection.

Helena Buxton and Judith Trimble

Cyclones, biodiversity, planting, etc.

Friends of Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Mackay, Queensland

Once again the Gardens have endured a cyclone passing nearby. Cyclone Dylan crossed the coast north-west of Mackay in late January, causing the loss of about a dozen trees as well as limb damage to many other trees and shrubs. The Gardens staff did a magnificent job of cleaning up and had all the paths open again within a couple of days. We live in the tropics and have learned to live with what nature throws at us. The Gardens will bounce back and continue growing.

Since late last year the Horticultural Reference Group, consisting of three Friends and the Curator, has developed a specific 'water-wise' species list for Mackay. This will assist Mackay Regional Council (MRC) to promote plants that can survive our extended dry winter/spring/early summer and the summer/autumn deluge that follows. Many 'water-wise' plants bred for southern conditions give up the ghost during our humid and wet summer, leading to half dead gardens and unhappy gardeners.

Gardens Friends have also been assisting the Gardens with a Biodiversity Monitoring study, a partnership between Mackay Regional Council and Griffith University which will monitor the potential ongoing effect of climate change. Under the guidance of renowned plant expert, Bill McDonald, Garden Friends Irene Champion and Meryl Ritchie have joined Gardens staff in helping to identify and record plants at rainforest sites from 200 m above sea level to the top of Queensland's fourth highest Peak, Mt Dalrymple, over 1200 m above sea level. Other Garden Friends have helped carry in equipment used to capture and record the unique wildlife at this project. The project began in October last year and continues to March and April this year.

The first planting bee for the year was held in early March, once again in Meadowlands. The area is starting to look much more like a Garden instead of a desert, as the plantings last year are all growing well, despite the best efforts of the moorhens who love pulling out the Lomandras! Every plant added to the Living Collection in this, the largest section of the Gardens, has to be native to the Central Queensland Coast Bioregion and of known provenance. Eventually there will be over 300,000 plants to go in the ground over the next 20 years in Meadowlands alone. Hence the need for the Friends, along with the Society for Growing Australian Plants, Mackay Branch, to be involved with sourcing seeds and cuttings, growing, planting, recording details, assisting with maintenance, right through to collecting and processing for the Queensland and Gardens Herbarium.

The MRBG Herbarium was the lucky recipient of thousands of Herbarium specimens donated from the local Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. The collection from over 15 years will now take many, many months of re-cataloguing and in many cases renaming as well, a task impossible without the Friends and SGAP Mackay.

Robin McWhinney, Secretary



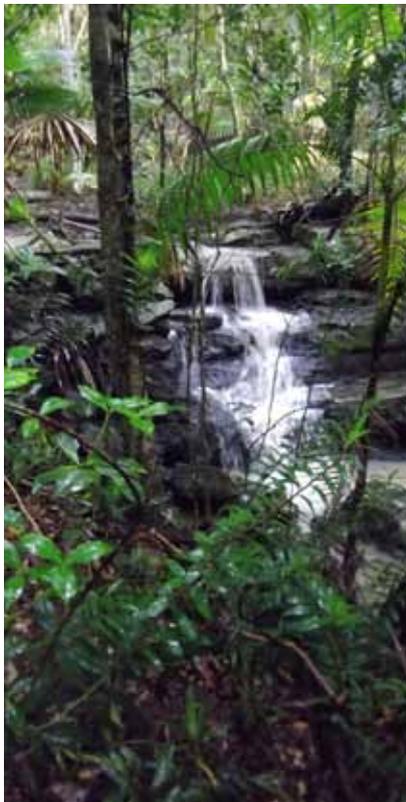
Planting bee in Meadowlands. Photo by Maya Harrison



Ashley Coyne, Bill McDonald and Irene Champion engaged in the Biodiversity Study. Photo by Dale Arvidsson

A walk in the Garden

*Friends of Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens
Tanawha, Queensland*



Both photos by Bob Ducrou

One of the delights of being a Bushland Botanic Gardens is—the bush! With only 10 of 82 hectares having been developed, there's an awful lot of bush waiting to be explored.

A continuing project of the Friends over the last few years has been the establishment of a walking track through some of the more remote parts of the Gardens. A natural terrain track was decided on, only 600 mm wide, with minimal surface treatment to reduce environmental impacts; even so, there are flora and fauna disturbances, soil erosion and root compaction (which can harm and kill even large trees) which had to be considered. After much to-ing and fro-ing (and up-ing and down-ing) a route was finally decided upon and construction commenced.

The 1.2 km Upland Bushwalk track has three creek crossings, near which are many varieties of ferns, cycads, and soft bracken, as well as Piccabeen and Cabbage Tree Palm groves. Deviating from the track can get the unwary caught up in thickets of Wait-a-while (or Lawyer) Vines whose climbing hooks can easily pierce the skin. One of the crossings features a rock pool and waterfall. Between crossings the track winds up into open forest with tallowwoods, blackbutts, bloodwoods and grey gums. There is one long, very steep and winding section that is a good test of wind and limb.

Construction of the track and the timber creek crossings has been very labour intensive for the Friends, with vehicular access restricted to wheelbarrows. There has been much debate whether it was harder being dragged down the steep section by a concrete and timber laden barrow or pushing the empty barrow back up. All that remains to be done is the erection of suitable signage before the official opening on 3 May.

As it happens, this track may have been a test run for even more bush walking tracks. On 6 February, the Sunshine Coast Council announced the purchase of a 60 hectare block of land on the western boundary of the Gardens, costing \$890,000 and funded by an Environmental Levy. This block, the Tall Gums Environmental Reserve, together with the existing Tall Gums Nature Reserve and the Botanic Gardens expands the collective reserve to 170 hectares. Cr. Jenny McKay, making the announcement with Mayor Mark Jamieson, said that those involved in the original Garden purchase back in the nineties always had a dream that they would be able to extend to neighbouring properties, and this purchase helps fulfil that dream.

The Council is currently working on a management plan; it is most likely that the new block would not be developed, but would be used for 'sustainable passive recreation', which would include... walking tracks! This creates the opportunity for the Friends to expand the walking track network over the entire 170 hectares. The Friends are about to set forth on their first reconnaissance mission into the new block to discover what visual delights await.

Bob Ducrou

10th Anniversary Year

*Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden
North-west of Melbourne, Victoria*



10th Anniversary Dinner with Lyn Nardella (a founding member) and John Bentley (President) blowing out the candles on the cake.

The tenth year of FMBG in 2013 saw many achievements and activities amongst the Friends and the development of the Melton Botanic Garden. To celebrate the year we held a number of special events in September: an Open Day, a dinner, an exhibition at the Melton Visitor Information Centre, and had Beth Gott as our special guest speaker. Some activities to note in 2013 were: hosting even more garden tours for groups; hosting visits by the Mayor Cr Kathy Majdlik in March and also Melton City Council (MCC) officers in October; Senior Citizens Week Garden Tour; bird watch walk with the Melton Environment Group; hearing FMBG on radio stations 3AW and Magic; involvement with Young PAG (an MCC Planned Activity Group with disabilities); the depot and nursery continued development; commencement of the Victorian Volcanic Plains Aboriginal Usage Garden with the Lions Club of Melton; hosting the AGM of the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens; propagating 833 cuttings at the October meeting; and huge weeding sessions in the indigenous grassland when we noticed the presence of nasty foreign grasses.

There have been many achievements apart from the range of events. The most significant achievement was receiving the Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award for 'Community Action and Leadership'. We received a number of grants including one for solar panels on the Depot Shed. Importantly this year the City of Melton allocated \$30,000 in the 2013-14 budget for development of the Melton Botanic Garden which will allow commencement of the Western Australian and South Australian beds. The development of the Koori Student Garden and gaining some funding from the Mayoral Charity Fund towards the Sensory Garden being designed by PAG. Our partnership with CVGT for the work experience activity teams has expanded to four days per week and to a 12 month contract. The Rotary Club of Melton committing \$10,000 towards a project in the MBG. We maintained a financial membership of 200 members and have all Executive Committee positions filled.

All this has been achieved because of the dedication and commitment of our loyal volunteers who work rain, hail, or shine. It has been another wonderful and fulfilling year for the Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden.

John Bentley

Celebrating birthdays

Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Canberra, ACT

Many Friends' volunteers helped the Arboretum celebrate Canberra's 101st birthday on 8 March with a program of festive events, including bus tours, kite-making and kite-flying, terrarium-making, and much more. There was also a ceremonial tree planting with some very tiny participants. Canberra's one-year-olds had been invited along to have their heights recorded, so that their growth could be recorded along with the Children's Tree, an *Araucaria cunninghamii* (hoop pine), donated by the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney. This was the first tree to be planted on the Events Terrace—an area due for further development and planting during 2014.

On 3 April 2014 the Friends will be celebrating another birthday. One of the Arboretum forests is of *Cedrus libani* ssp. *libani* (cedar of Lebanon) and we were looking for a mature tree to photograph for our forthcoming book about the Arboretum species. We found a tree at the entrance to Old Canberra House on the ANU Campus, complete with plaque saying that it was planted on 3 April 1914, at the direction of Charles Weston (then Officer-in-Charge of Afforestation, Canberra). So, in the belief that trees that reach 100 years are worth celebrating, we are having a party in the grounds at the ANU. Fortunately this is also a handsome photogenic tree that looks to have many more birthdays ahead.

We had hoped to publish the book in time for the Arboretum's first birthday on 1 February 2013, but we have been somewhat overwhelmed by the enormity of the task and the launch date is now set for 24 June 2014, about 12 months after the project began. The book covers all tree species planted or planned at the Arboretum in 104 forests, with some forests containing more than one species, so this has been no small task.

A Friends' Speakers Series has commenced on a Monday evening in alternate months at the Margaret Whitlam Pavilion at the Arboretum (the building on the left in the photo below). The first in the series—'New Science at the National Arboretum Canberra' attracted a sell-out crowd. For details see: www.arboretumcanberra.org.au.

The intense heat and dryness of January certainly stressed many Arboretum trees but when steady rain came, the arid landscape returned to green surprisingly quickly. The trees have produced a lot of new leaves since the rain, so hopefully this will translate to good autumn colour in a few weeks' time.

Linda Muldoon, Publications Editor



National Arboretum Canberra as at 19 March 2014. Photo by Linda Muldoon.

Japanese Friendship Garden

*Friends of North Coast Regional Botanic Garden
Coffs Harbour, NSW*



Last year the newest addition to the Botanic Garden in Coffs Harbour, the Japanese Friendship Garden, was completed and opened with much fanfare. The Japanese Garden has been a ‘work in progress’ for over five years and turned into a real community effort. Coffs City Council and the Friends paid for design, earth-works and landscaping. A federal government grant gave us a boost to build the main pavilion which juts out over the lake (not an easy or straightforward task as piles had to be sunk into a saturated area), a small viewing platform over the lake and the Zen Garden. Local TAFE carpentry students constructed an entrance gate with pagoda roof and The Men’s Shed built railings around the Pavilion and the zig-zag bridge at the western entrance. Local Rotary clubs donated money to build the contemplation room.

Dignitaries from our sister city of Sasebo came to plant Memorial plants and join the Mayor of Coffs Harbour to officially open the area. It is now a special place for couples to hold weddings, and many visitors come to sit and contemplate and admire the reflections on the lake.

The Friends have enjoyed an extraordinarily good relationship with the Coffs City Council almost from the beginning. Thanks to the dedication and sheer hard work of the original Friends, as well as enlightened and creative Garden Curators, especially our current Curator, we have worked together in harmony to build a Botanic Garden remarkable in its size and scope for a regional area. We hope that this will continue once the new rules and regulations pertaining to volunteers are met.

Talking of volunteers—where do the volunteers work? Guiding; the Cafe; catering; the Information Centre and shop; the Seed Bank; the Herbarium; pruning, mulching, and weeding; light maintenance on buildings and infrastructure; propagation and plant sales; in the glasshouses to take care of special plants; the organisation and running of events; in IT projects such as Plant files; cataloguing plants; and maintaining our website: www.ncrbg.com.au. Friends produce a quarterly newsletter and update information leaflets, which are also available for viewing on the website.

Over the past 10 years, education programs have expanded to bring more school children into the Garden to learn about biodiversity, ancient plants and animals, and to enjoy the sheer wonder of nature and the peaceful surroundings. We have staged events such as Multicultural Harmony Day to introduce different ethnic groups to our Garden, and we have had plays, jazz festivals, children’s days and the most important Sustainable Living Festival each year, all of which draw the Coffs Harbour community into the ‘greenest bend in the river’.

Yes, a lot of effort is required to put on these events, and as usual there is a dedicated band of people who are willing to put up their hands to help. Fortunately, the band of helpers continues to grow, our volunteer groups are expanding, and the Friends are proud to be a part of what we consider to be the jewel in the crown of the Coffs Coast.

Eve Colley

Friends takeover Nursery!

*Friends of Peacehaven Botanic Park
Highfield, Queensland*



Left: Friends of Peacehaven volunteer, John Herbert, prepares seed for planting at the Peacehaven Nursery. Right: Seed trays await the magic of germination in the 'nursery' section of the Peacehaven Nursery.

Toowoomba Regional Council has moved out; Friends of Peacehaven Botanic Park have moved in.

The Friends run a community native nursery at the park in premises which, until recently, they shared with the regional council. Neither party had enough room for its needs. Now Council has set up a new nursery at its depot on the New England Highway not far from Peacehaven. This has allowed the Friends to move into the vacated space.

Plans are also under way to establish a hothouse, which will accommodate a growing number and variety of seed trays, cuttings and seedlings, as plant propagation takes on a new importance.

Seeds are already collected within Peacehaven Botanic Park and from the wider community, from gardens, other parks, and street trees. Nursery co-ordinator, Joy Sheath, is constantly on the lookout for plants in seed, and will shortly begin propagating by cuttings as well. Eventually, this will reduce the number of plants needed from outside wholesale sources, bringing a saving in costs.

Having additional room will allow the nursery to carry a larger range of trees, shrubs and groundcovers, and for stock to be more attractively displayed. Rainforest trees for the first time will have their own space, with shade-loving plants alongside them.

Peacehaven Park is within easy reach of Ravensbourne National Park, known for its stands of rainforest trees. The area has a number of acreage properties on which rainforest species will grow well.

Interest in plants and gardening is heightened by a month-long regional council plant giveaway each year, and Peacehaven nursery is a focal point for the distribution. Residents taking advantage of their free plants voucher invariably cast a discerning eye over what is offering at the Peacehaven nursery, resulting in a sharp rise in nursery sales over four weeks.

However, all is not about plants at Peacehaven. Last December, the park was the setting for the annual carols night organised by the Highfields and district combined churches, and the volunteer Friends were kept hopping providing steaks and sausages for a hungry throng. The carols attract hundreds of families each year, and are a major fundraiser for the Friends. The singing is led by a choir and other musical groups, with Australian star Brendon Walmsley adding musical weight to the celebrations last year. Toowoomba Regional Council also plays a big role in the success of the venture.

Creativity at the Craft Cottage

*Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne
Melbourne, Victoria*

The Plant Craft Cottage, the location for very early public support for the Melbourne Gardens, was the foundation from which the Friends was established. Last year in a further step, the Cottage was welcomed into the Friends, free to continue its creative activities with helpful administrative support. Recent Cottage workshops have included Fibre for Teenagers and Basketry. To meet high demand, a third Shibori organic indigo dyeing course has been programmed.

Recent talks at Friends meetings have ranged wide: plant hunting across Patagonia; gardens in Northern California and the Cotswolds and the flora of Capri; edible flowers and herbs; setting up a pond; Australian garden designers; and garden photography.

Previously the Friends website has been under the RBGM banner. Now we have a new independent, comprehensive, illustrated and very informative site. www.rbgfriendsmelbourne.org.

Botanic News, published quarterly, is supplemented by a monthly *eNEWS Bulletin*, to keep our members abreast of news and activities.

The Friends have made a three-year financial commitment towards the much-needed redevelopment of the Fern Gully. Construction has started on the new boardwalk. Five new bridges will provide safe access for all visitors and the new design involves major replanting.

The Growing Friends and the Botanical Illustrators are the two most active groups within the Friends and generate substantial revenue. The Growing Friends spend Fridays working in their nursery propagating cuttings from the Gardens and raising plants from seed. Thousands of pots are then sold in the Spring and Autumn sales, with members of the public flocking in to buy unusual plants.

The Botanical Illustrators have regular classes throughout the year for artists of various levels of skill. In term holidays specialist workshops are held as well as classes to introduce beginners to botanical art. The group's next major exhibition, *The Art of Botanical Illustration*, will be held between 25 October and 9 November. More than 150 works by Australian and international artists will be on show.

In an inspired venture, the Director's Circle envisaged a runway amid flora at the RBG's volcano landscape for a twilight fashion parade, followed by a dinner at The Terrace. The event raised a very substantial sum for the Gardens Water Strategy Project.

The Working Wetlands water gathering system has met expectations, already saving the Gardens up to 40 per cent of potable water costs. Still on a water theme, punting on the Ornamental Lake (though not DIY) is a new attraction provided by a commercial operator. Passengers enjoy the different perspectives of the landscape as they glide along.

Following the RBG's gold medal-winning exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2011, the Gardens will participate in the Royal Horticultural Society's show at Hampton Court in July. Its contemporary design will feature sustainable materials and Australian flora. Tourism Victoria is among the sponsors.

The appearance of daffodils on Oak Lawn last year made such a golden impression that, thanks to further donors, another 6000 bulbs have been planted this autumn.



Plant Craft Cottage (Photo by Jennifer Marshall) and indigo dyeing samples (Photo by Glenys Clissold)



Heather Ironmonger

Members of Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Inc

ACT

Australian National Botanic Gardens, Friends of. GPO Box 1777, Canberra ACT 2601.
National Arboretum Canberra, Friends of. PO Box 48, Campbell ACT 2812.

New South Wales

Albury Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1056, Albury NSW 2640.
Botanic Gardens Sydney, Foundation & Friends of. Cottage 6, Mrs Macquaries Road, Sydney NSW 2000.
Burrendong Arboretum, PO Box 465, Wellington NSW 2820.
Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1068, Batemans Bay NSW 2536.
Lismore Rainforest Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 1327, Lismore NSW 2480.
Moama & Echuca Botanic Gardens. PO Box 545, Moama NSW 2731.
North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 648, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450.
Orange Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 17, Orange NSW 2800.
Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 707, Moss Vale NSW 2577.
Stony Range Regional Botanic Garden, Advisory Committee. 369 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why NSW 2099.
Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1393, Tamworth NSW 2340.
Woollongong Botanic Garden, Friends of. 61 Northfield Ave, Keiraville, NSW 2500.

Northern Territory Darwin Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 36435, Winnellie NT 0821.

Queensland

Brisbane Botanic Gardens Volunteer Guides, Mt Coo-tha Botanic Gardens, Mt Coo-tha Road, Toowong QLD 4066
Gold Coast Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 5653, Gold Coast Mail Centre, QLD 9726.
Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens. Friends Association. PO Box 6850, Mackay QLD 4741.
Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 445, Buderim, QLD 4556.
Noosa Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 454, Noosa Heads QLD 4567
Peacehaven Botanic Park, Friends of. 30 Sunray Drive, Highfields QLD 4352.
Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens, Friends of. Forsythia Drive, Eagle Heights QLD 4272.

South Australia

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 2040, Port Augusta SA 5700.
Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, Friends of. North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000.

Tasmania

Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, Friends of. C/o RTBG, Domain Road, Hobart TAS 7000.
Tasmanian Arboretum, PO Box 370, Devonport TAS 7310.

Victoria

Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton, Friends of. PO Box 6912, Shepparton VIC 3632.
Australian Inland Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 2809, Mildura VIC 3502.
Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 33W, Ballarat West VIC 3353
Benalla Botanical Gardens & Riverine Parkland, Friends of. PO Box 589, Benalla VIC 3672.
Bendigo Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 117, Strathdale VIC 3550.
Buninyong Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 28, Buninyong Vic 3357.
Burnley Gardens, Friends of. C/o Burnley College, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond VIC 3121.
Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust, Friends of. PO Box 270, Camperdown VIC 3260
Colac Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 403, Colac, VIC 3250.
Geelong Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 235, Geelong VIC 3220.
George Pentland Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 490, Frankston, VIC 3199.
George Tindale Memorial Garden, Friends of. 2/92 Main St, Upwey VIC 3158.
Gisborne Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 564, Gisborne VIC 3437.
Grampians Flora Botanic Gardens Group. C/o M. Sietsma, 146 Grampians Rd, Halls Gap VIC 3381.
Hamilton Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 43, Hamilton VIC 3300.
Karwarra Australian Plant Garden, Friends of. Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd, Kalorama VIC 3766.
Kyneton Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 47, Kyneton VIC 3444.
Malmsbury Botanic Gardens & Environs, Friends of. PO Box 116, Malmsbury VIC 3446.
Melton Botanic Gardens, Friends of. C/o PO Box 2381, Melton South VIC 3338.
Port Fairy Botanical Gardens, Friends of. 115 Regent St, Port Fairy VIC 3284.
Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne, Friends of. 1000 Bullarto Rd. Cranbourne VIC 3977.
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Friends of. Gate Lodge, 100 Birdwood Avenue, Melbourne VIC 3004.
Sale Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 506, Sale VIC 3850.

Victoria continued

St Arnaud Queen Mary Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 146, St Arnaud VIC 3478
St Kilda Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1089, Elwood VIC 3184.
Warrnambool Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1190, Warrnambool VIC 3280.
Williamstown Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 826, Williamstown VIC 3016.
Wilson Botanic Park, Friends of. PO Box 412, Berwick VIC 3806.
Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 267, Daylesford VIC 3460.

Western Australia

Kings Park, Friends of. KPBG, Fraser Ave. Kings Park, West Perth WA 6005

Affiliate Members

Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 2553, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand
Kirstenbosch Volunteer Garden Guides, Botanical Society of South Africa – Kirstenbosch Branch, PO Box 53445,
Kenilworth, 7745, Cape Town, South Africa

Total

56 Members, 2 Affiliate Members

Calendar of events

2014

Friday 8 to Sunday 10 August

AFBG conference: 'Growing Matters...Growing Gardens, Growing Friends', hosted by the Friends of the Gold Coast Botanic Gardens at the Mercure Gold Coast Resort. See page 15 for details

17-22 August

National Horticultural Congress, Brisbane
www.ihc2014.org/

2-4 October 2014

BGANZQ Biennial Conference, Cairns BG

17-19 October

Australian Garden History Society. 35th Annual Conference in Albany, WA
www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au

21-23 November

BGANZ NSW Regional Conference, Dubbo

Australian Native Plants Society
For events in your region, go to: <asgap.org.au>

For all regional BGANZ events go to:
www.bganz.org.au

Websites worth visiting

Visit our website:

www.friendsbotanicgardens.org>

Contact website editor to list your events or add garden photos to the members' gallery:
info@WordsWorthcommunicating.com

BGANZ on line Newsletter – *The Botanic Garden*
www.bganz.org.au/newsletter

Botanic Gardens Conservation International
<http://bgci.org/resources/news>

Garden Plant Conservation Association of Australia
www.gpcaa.com

Weeds Australia
www.weeds.org.au

Australian Native Plants Society
<http://asgap.org.au>

Significant Tree Registers – there are a number of State and local registers. Search: Significant Trees

Australian Open Garden Scheme:
www.opengarden.org.au

Fungimap:
www.rbg.vic.gov.au/fungimap/home

Plants for the Planet:
www.plantsfortheplanet.com

The Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens. The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Committee. Neither the Association Committee nor the Association members accepts responsibility for statement or opinions expressed, although every effort will be made to publish reliable information.

CONFERENCE 2014

Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens

Growing Matters ... Growing Gardens, Growing Friends

FRIDAY 8 AUGUST	
Registration from 5:00pm Welcome & Cocktail Drinks 6:00 - 7:00	Mercure Gold Coast Resort Councillor Bob La Castra City of Gold Coast
SATURDAY 9 AUGUST	
Registration from 8:00am Official Opening of AFBG Conference	Mercure Gold Coast Resort Queensland Govt. Representative Geraldine Davis President Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens
<p>Growing Matters</p> <p>Australia's Changing Seasons Using Technology to Communicate Species Conservation and Learning Creating an Interactive Rainforest DVD Plants in Paradise, Managing Threatened Species on the Gold Coast Role of Botanic Gardens in Promoting and Conserving Australian Native Flora</p>	<p>Professor Tim Entwisle Director and CEO Royal Botanic Gardens of Melbourne Mark Ballantyne Griffith University Gwen Harden Honorary Research Associate Author & Publisher N Naomi Christian Natural Areas Management City of Gold Coast Lawrie Smith OAM Landscape Architect - Botanic Gardens</p>
<p>Growing Gardens</p> <p>Prospering Through Partnerships Collaborating with Council in a Child-friendly Challenge The Herbarium and Australian Botanic Gardens Managing Environmental Weeds Memorandum of Understanding between BGANZ and AFBG Community Action and Leadership. Growing Plants, Growing People 'Bungee Jumping Caterpillars' Engage Children in Botanic Gardens Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens - Living Collection and Landscape Guided Tours of Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens</p> <p>Conference Dinner 7:00pm</p>	<p>Dr Liz Caddick Curator Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens Bob Ducrou & Malcolm Cox Friends of Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens Neil Morley Friends Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens Dr Melinda Laidlaw Senior Ecologist Qld Herbarium Dale Arvidsson President BGANZ Curator Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens John Bentley Friends Melton Botanic Gardens Vic Maya Harrison Visitor Services & Education officer Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Kate Heffernan Friends Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens & Gardens Consultant Garden Guides Friends Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens</p> <p>Venue : Mercure Gold Coast Resort</p>

SUNDAY 10 AUGUST

Growing Friends

Who's the Smartest? Plants or Animals
Effectively Managing and Retaining Volunteers
Gardens NEED Advocates - Friends CAN Do It
Marketing Your Gardens
Using Media to Promote Your Gardens
Super Success Stories

Annual General Meeting
Introduction of Next Conference 2016
Closure of Conference and Lunch 12:30 - 2:00pm

Pre Conference Excursion Friday 8 August 9:00am - 4:00pm
Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens Glenloch Private Garden Tamborine National Park

Post Conference Excursion Monday 11 August 9:00 - 4:00pm
Springbrook National Park - Mt Coughal Section Currumbin Valley Eco Village & Private Garden T

Pat Wright Friends of Australian National Botanic Gardens
Richard Patterson Volunteering Gold Coast
Alex Smart The Australian Garden, Cranbourne Vic.
Danielle Dunsmore Marketing professional
Horticulture Media Association
Friends of Botanic Gardens from Around Australia



Accommodation Option

		<p>MERCURE RESORT GOLD COAST: Mercure Gold Coast Resort, the venue for the Conference and social activities, is surrounded by lush golf course greens, with views of fairways, lakes and hinterland. Spread over 9 wings, the modern, low-rise accommodation features stylish modern décor, in-room movies, a minibar and tea/coffee making facilities. The resort is 30 minutes' drive from Gold Coast Airport and an hour drive from Brisbane. Undercover parking is complimentary on site. WI-FI and broadband internet access is available.</p> <p>Rates: \$151.00 per night – Resort Room (<i>Room Only</i>) \$169.00 per night includes single breakfast \$187.00 per night includes two breakfasts</p>
		<p>BROADBEACH TRAVEL INN: Just 650 metres from the beach, Broadbeach Travel Inn features a swimming pool and barbecue area. A private balcony with city, garden or pool views is standard in all apartments. Free parking is available on site. The Gold Coast Airport is a 25-minute drive and 10 minutes to the Gold Coast Mercure Resort and Spa.</p> <p>Rates: \$140.00 per night – One Bedroom Coast Apartment \$200.00 per night – Two Bedroom Pacific Apartment</p>

Pre and Post Excursions - Depart the Mercure Gold Coast Resort at 9:00am and Return 4:00pm Includes: Coach travel, Morning Tea, Lunch and Refreshments

<p>An Escorted Full Day Excursion to the Scenic Rim behind the Gold Coast</p> <p>Friday 8 August</p> <p>\$80.00 per person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel by coach to Tamborine Mountain. Guided Tour of Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens <i>'where tropical meets temperate'</i> Walk and talk through one of the Tamborine Mountain National Parks Guided Tour of Glenloch, a private garden that has been part of the open gardens for <i>"Springtime on the Mountain"</i>
<p>An Escorted Full Day Excursion to Currumbin Valley</p> <p>Monday 11 August</p> <p>\$80.00 per person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel by coach to the Mt Cougal Section of the Springbrook National Park Walk and talk through the sub-tropical vegetation of Mt Cougal beside Currumbin Creek Guided Tour of the Currumbin Eco Village, an award winning sustainable residential development Guided Tour through an Australian native garden, part of the <i>'Open Gardens Australia'</i> Walk and talk along the boardwalk of the Currumbin Estuary



Helpful Travel Information

<p>TRAVEL INSURANCE: DCI Online Travel Insurance can cover Delegates for events that may occur during travel, such as trip cancellation/interruption, medical expenses for injury or illness, theft of valuables, baggage delay or damage and more. Discounted Travel Insurance is offered to all Delegates attending the Association of the Friends of Botanic Gardens National Conference 2014.</p> <p>Travel Insurance is recommended. Please contact DCI for bookings and quotes on (07) 5562 0164.</p>
<p>FLIGHT CENTRE: DCI is affiliated with Flight Centre and can negotiate competitive air fares.</p> <p>Please contact DCI for more information and receive the best quotes on (07) 5562 0164.</p>