



Campsis becomes *Eucalypt*!

New name, new logo—welcome to the first issue of *Eucalypt*! Edition 45 of our newsletter initiates a new stage in the development of the Association, reflecting its national and growing international membership.

The newsletter's previous title of *Campsis* was chosen in 1993 by the late Lawrence Cohn (from the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne), the Association's inaugural Secretary and great supporter over many years. At that time we were the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (Victoria), before expanding beyond Victoria in 1999 and becoming a national association in 2001. Now we have international involvements, with Friends' groups in New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa and Fiji being Affiliate Members. Our total membership is growing steadily – currently 63 – as are our activities in support of botanic gardens and Friends' groups.

Lawrence selected *Campsis* because of its common name of Trumpet Vine – and understandably he thought this was an appropriate reference to the newsletter 'trumpeting the word' about Friends and gardens. *Campsis* is native to eastern Asia and the eastern United States, but is grown in gardens in many parts of Australia, where it sometimes becomes a weed. The non-native origins of *Campsis* and its weedy tendency now make it less appropriate to be the title of our regular publication. With our widespread Australian and growing international memberships, the AAFBG Committee has been seeking a new title to reflect these wider horizons. And with a new title we also needed a new logo.

After considerable investigation, the Committee has settled on *Eucalypt* as the new newsletter title and an attractive stylised eucalypt flower as the Association's new logo. Both are having their public 'unveiling' with this newsletter. The logo has been skilfully designed by Andrew Thomas from Ballarat and will quickly become widely recognised amongst Friends' groups. On all our members' behalf, I thank our Committee for their thoughtful development of the Association's new branding.

The choice of the general term 'Eucalypt' is intentional. It offers an immediate 'sense of place' for AAFBG, being inclusive of the genera *Eucalyptus*, *Corymbia* and *Angophora* – and there is no part of Australia which does not have local species of at least one of these genera. Beyond our region eucalypts are of course widely grown ornamentally and in plantations in many countries, and eucalypt fossils have been recovered in New Zealand and South America (indeed, the oldest known *Eucalyptus* fossils date back about 52 million years in Argentina).

So the Association now has a strong visual identity linking with our Australian origins, but one which also relates to overseas gardens and members. (We acknowledge that in some parts of the world eucalypts have become weedy, and the 'globalisation' of plants leading to weediness is a growing and challenging problem for gardeners, botanic gardens and environmental agencies to tackle.)

In choosing *Eucalypt*, there is also an echo of Lawrence Cohn's thinking in 1993—the term comes from two Greek words, *Eu* meaning 'well', and *kalyptos* meaning 'covered', in reference to the operculum on the calyx which initially covers the flower. Our Association now has a newsletter which will continue ensuring that news and views about Friends' groups and botanic gardens will be 'well covered'!

Philip Moors, AAFBG Patron

Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens

Incorporation: AOO26805Z

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President: Kate Heffernan, Gold Coast RBG
Vice-President: Warwick Wright, ANBG ACT
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Membership

Annual Membership from 1 April: \$30 for up to 100 financial members, \$50 from 101-250 members, \$100 from 251-500 members, \$200 from 501-1000 members, \$300 over 1000 members.

Pay by direct transfer to BSB 633-000
A/c No: 1045-71476 and use group name as reference.

Cheque or Money Order payable to:
Aust. Assoc. of Friends of Botanic Gardens Inc
Post to: The Treasurer, PO Box 983, Geelong, Vic. 3220

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We welcome your articles for inclusion and photographs and important calendar events. Closing dates are 30 March and 30 September approximately six weeks prior to publication.

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In this issue

As you have already seen, there has been a big change, from *Campsis* to *Eucalypt*, but the name is the only thing that has changed. The content is still stories from Botanic Gardens round Australia, about what they have done, what they plan, their successes and their problems. Plus plans for the biennial conference in Geelong in 2016, so that members can plan their visit, and book. In this issue the focus is on *Eucalyptus* with articles by our patron and Dean Nicolle, plus contributions from the Friends in Canberra, Eurobodalla, Geelong, Mackay, Malmsbury, Maroochy, Melton, Noosa, Orange, Shepparton, Sydney and Tamworth. Enjoy!

Invitation to apply for a grant

The AAFBG wants to help members with projects which benefit their Gardens. \$2,000 has been allocated for 2016.

1. If you are a member group, and you wish to apply for a grant, you should send to the Secretary by January 15, 2016:
 - A concise description of the project
 - An estimate of the cost
 - A list of other contributions to the project, including financial or voluntary labour input
 - Details of any other projects completed in the last three years
 - An explanation of the importance of the project to your group and your Garden
 - Your most recent annual income and expenditure statement
 - The estimated completion date (which must be within twelve months of the date of the grant)
 - Mobile and email details of the contact person for the project in your group
 - If the project involves capital works on land not under your control, the consent of the authority managing the land.
2. At the completion of the project you will be expected to:
 - provide evidence of the expenditure of the grant
 - a brief article on the project for publication in the AAFBG newsletter.
3. The successful applicant will be notified in mid-February, 2016.



Dean Nicolle

Corymbia aparrerinja (Ghost Gum) at Ormiston Gorge, central Australia.

Look out the window now; if you can see some trees or shrubs, whether they are remnant or planted, it is likely that at least some of them, and perhaps most of them, are eucalypts. And not only if you're reading this in Australia, but in many places around the world too, as eucalypts have been commercially exported to more countries than any other Australian native plant. No windows? You are probably surrounded by the valuable remnants of eucalypts anyway; the Australian oak furniture and the pages of this newsletter, once alive as the wood fibres of eucalypt trees. Maybe you are lucky enough to be reading this outdoors, where even with your eyes shut you can sense the eucalypts that so often dominate Australian landscapes, by the scent of their essential oils or the sound of lorikeets screeching as they feed on the plentiful nectar of eucalypt flowers.

Eucalypts are a characteristic part of most Australian environments, not just in the 'bush', but also in most agricultural and urban landscapes. Eucalypts are so dominant in Australia, that one must wonder why, of all but a dozen or so of the over 800 species, they are naturally restricted to Australia (a handful of species extend to New Guinea and the Indonesian Islands, with one species, *Eucalyptus deglupta*, extending just over the equator into the southern Philippines). With over 800 species, there is a huge diversity of form and function in the eucalypts. They vary from tall forest giants, such as *E. regnans* (Mountain Ash), felled examples of which were taller than any tree standing in the world today, to low-growing shrubs that one can walk over without even realising they are eucalypts. Indeed, over half of all the eucalypt species are of the multi-stemmed mallee type. The diversity of their bark, leaves, flowers and fruits (the ubiquitous gum nut) are similarly vast.



Eucalyptus erythrocoris (Red-capped Gum), displaying its red calyptra (bud caps); *E. angustissima* (Broom-bush Mallee), which from a distance is often mistaken for a Hakea or Melaleuca species; *E. preissiana* subsp. *lobata* (Lobe-fruited Mallee). All photos by the author.



E. camaldulensis (River Red Gum) at Wilmington, South Australia—probably the most characteristic tree species in the Australian landscape; the bark of *E. deglupta* (Rainbow Gum)—one of only a few eucalypt species that do not grow naturally in Australia; *E. globulus* (Tasmanian Blue Gum) in California, USA—the species is native only to Tasmania and southern Victoria, but is widely grown worldwide. All photos by the author.

Although the eucalypts as a group are ever-present in the landscape, most individual species have a relatively restricted natural distribution, with climate, rainfall and soils determining their range. A few species are widespread, such as the iconic *E. camaldulensis* (River Red Gum), which grows along many drainage systems on the Australian mainland, and *E. coolabah*, which grows over much of the black clay plains and channel country of the Lake Eyre Basin. A number of species are cultivated around the world, where they are valued for their wood, essential oils, for floriculture, the honey they produce, for shade, shelter and fodder, and of course, as ornamentals. Even species that are naturally rare and endangered in Australia, such as *E. argophloia* (Queensland White Gum) and *E. benthamii* (Camden White Gum), are widely and successfully grown as timber trees outside of Australia.

There is no single character that defines the eucalypts. Rather, it is a large suite of characteristics that define the group. Many of these characteristics are common to most eucalypt species, such as dimorphic leaves (distinctive juvenile and adult leaves), the presence of oil glands in the leaves, and woody fruits with valves. But there are also exceptions to the rule, with a few species having only one form of leaf (eg *E. macrocarpa*), other species lacking visible oil glands in the leaves (numerous), and other species again having papery fruits (the Ghost Gums). The name ‘eucalypt’ itself comes from Greek, and means ‘well covered’, referring to the calyptra, or bud cap, which covers the flower in most (but not all) species. The calyptra is actually the petals, which have fused together and hardened. Rather than being the showy part of the flower, as petals are in many other plants, the calyptra protects the remainder of the eucalypt flower as it matures, and it is the stamens of the flower that are showy and attract pollinating insects, birds or small mammals.

The eucalypts include three genera of plants; *Eucalyptus*, with over 700 species and greatest diversity in southern Australia, *Corymbia*, with about 100 species, mainly occurring in northern Australia, and *Angophora*, with 12 species, all naturally restricted to eastern Australia. The sheer number of species makes the identification of individual species difficult, despite the wide diversity of form in the group. To some plant lovers and botanists, this can be daunting, but to me, this just makes them all the more interesting.

Eucalypt species don’t need to be labelled for you to enjoy them of course. But sometimes they don’t receive the recognition they deserve. They are often taken for granted or sometimes even unjustifiably cursed, but without them, the view out of your window, the sounds of the wind and the birds, and the aroma in the air, would all be wanting. One sometimes needs to spend some time overseas to really appreciate the eucalypts; there you will eventually come across and immediately recognise an exotic stand by the scent in the air, and surprisingly but very pleasantly be taken back to Australia, the land of the eucalypt.

Dean Nicolle

Dean Nicolle is a Eucalypt botanist, arborist, ecologist, author, and creator and manager of Currency Creek Arboretum.

From the President

Kate Heffernan



By the time *Eucalypt* is published and distributed it will only be a few months until Friends from around Australia get together at the Geelong Conference to share the successes and challenges of their core business—plants and people.

Recently AAFBG and Geelong Treasurer and Geelong Friends Conference organisers, Judy Fyfe with President Allison Maitland and Vice President Susanna Keith, gave AAFBG Committee members a tour of the Conference Venue. It's both functional and in a lovely setting almost inside the Geelong Botanic Gardens gates! It features a bright, modern décor with extensive glass panels and views outside to gardens and a pool deck. A great place to meet and discuss Friends business!

Attending and chairing the recent AAFBG meeting at Geelong Botanic Gardens provided a reason to break our journey from the Gold Coast with visits to botanic and public gardens as well as wildflower walks. Fortunately Alan is just as keen on these visits as we've now notched up around 50 Australian Botanic Gardens over the past few years. A book is in the making! Seeing the hard work and dedication of so many Friends groups, often through some difficult times, makes me mindful of the importance of the Association. As a dedicated Botanic Garden aficionado I enjoy and learn something from all of these visits.

Our driving tour featured Botanic Gardens at Albury, North Coast Coffs Harbour, Ballarat, Geelong, Wombat Hill, Orange, Wilson, Cranbourne, Melton, Tamworth and Dubbo as well as some beautiful public and private gardens in the Dandenong Mountains and Mt. Macedon, the Japanese Gardens at Cowra and a wildflower walk at the Gilgandra Flora Reserve. (Courtesy of exact directions from Pat Wright, Friends of ANBG). We didn't manage to set up meetings with many Friends groups along the way as the stops couldn't be planned, but I am really looking forward to meeting and speaking with Friends of these and other Botanic Gardens at the Conference.

Of the fifty or so Botanic Gardens we've visited, the role of Friends has very often been pivotal in the Gardens establishment and continues in ongoing operations. Friends often share the frustration of limited funding to Botanic Gardens, despite their major roles in education, conservation, horticulture, science, heritage and social inclusion. Friends' roles vary considerably and while that's usual and fine, I believe some are less valued than their longstanding commitment has earned. Friends' roles include being champion advocates, gardeners, landscapers and labourers, fund raisers and accountants, guides, educators, citizen scientists, propagators, sales persons, administrators and caterers. How do Friends get the mix right for their Botanic Garden and their volunteers?

At the AAFBG Committee meeting we discussed the number of Friends memberships in Gardens across Australia. The counting hasn't stopped, and the total is over twenty three thousand....yes, 23,000...and that's memberships, not individuals! I believe as an association we have a very strong voice and are a force to be admired, but more importantly, to be considered! We're now counting the hours of work Friends contribute each year and the total value of the last year's financial commitments by Friends to Botanic Gardens. We will be seeking input from Friends associations at the 2016 AAFBG Conference on the best way to use this information to inform and influence.

As well as inspecting the fabulous Conference venue we went through the program carefully. It's destined to be interesting and friendly, and most of all extremely useful. The pre- and post-conference tours are designed to be informative and enjoyable and are great value. Registrations are open, and accommodation is available in either the on-site conference centre accommodation or at nearby motels, caravan parks and apartments. Geelong waterfront is a great morning walk and features cafes and sculptures!

Enjoy your new look journal *Eucalypt*, and fabulous logo, both of which are a result of much deliberation and effort by the AAFBG Committee, in particular Elizabeth Gilfillan with our hard working administrator Ro Noone and patient graphics artist Andrew Thomas. Again thanks to the Geelong team for ongoing Conference preparation, Ballarat Friends Raoul, Beth and Elizabeth for a lovely welcome and tour, Wendy at Wombat Hill for a lively introduction to the history of the Gardens and a great AAFBG committee for their efforts and dedication.

Hope to see you in April.

A new Friends group

The newest Botanic Gardens Friends group has been launched! Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum celebrated their start up with an event on 14 October at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot tha. As the AAFBG President I was privileged to be a guest speaker and valued the opportunity to advocate for Friends groups everywhere. Three City of Brisbane councillors attended and Cr Matthew Bourke, Chair of Councils Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, enthusiastically welcomed the Friends and mooted their importance as advocates and volunteers. AAFBG congratulates the Friends of BBG and SA and looks forward to welcoming them as new members.

Kate Heffernan



Curator Dale Arvidsson and Cr Bourke plant the Friends of BBG and SA emblem, the Brisbane Lily *Proiphys cunninghamii* with Friends of BBG and SA champion Mary Jo Katter watching on in the background



Guide Coordinator for Friends of Gold Coast Shelly Kelly admires the Friends of BBG and SA welcome sign with Kate.

Secretary's Report

Elizabeth Gilfillan



A busy and exciting five months with the re-naming of the AAFBG newsletter *Eucalypt* and with the development of a new logo, thanks to the committee for valued input. The website and Info Kit have also been updated.

The AAFBG would sincerely like to thank Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens (FBBG) for the warm hospitality shown to the Association's Committee and members who gathered for the AGM on Friday 5 June, World Environment Day. The event was well supported by regional Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Buninyong, Camperdown, Geelong, St Kilda, Malmsbury and Melton, with apologies from Gold Coast, Hamilton, Williamstown, Daylesford, Dubbo and Port Augusta.

After a welcome by the President of FBBG, Raoul Dixon, the Ballarat Friends Patron, Prof. Tim Entwisle, welcomed representatives and spoke of the importance of Friends' networks and the community role of Friends in our Botanic Gardens.

Guest speaker, Paul Jenkins from the Avenues of Honour Ballarat Committee, gave a most informative historical overview of the Avenues and the trees planted, the condition and rejuvenation of many. It highlighted the significance of trees to society and in daily lives. FBBG Education Convenor Julie Bradbury presented the new Ballarat initiative 'The BBG Education Hub', an exciting program which encompasses six important aspects of the Lake Precinct as an educational experience. Children from Ballarat Grammar School were welcomed by the meeting and Prof. Tim Entwisle launched the program.

Thanks to John Bentley, AAFBG Committee member and President of Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens, who took the Chair for the AGM.

FBBG accompanied guests on an informal walk in the Gardens on a rather chilly but enjoyable day. The AGM was concluded with time to talk over lunch.

The DGR situation remains slow. Thanks to new committee member Robert Wright for his valued advice in this process. In the meantime we are pleased to begin the Grant process. An invitation to apply is included in this edition. AAFBG committee is keen to support your Gardens and Friends members in all ways possible.

The Committee had a most enjoyable visit to Geelong for the September Committee Meeting. The Geelong Friends are enjoying preparations for the Conference next year. I am sure it will be well attended and I highly recommend this wonderful opportunity to meet and share ideas and experiences in our Gardens. Meet you there!

My thanks to Ro once again for her diligent attention to AAFBG matters.

Administrative Officer's Report

Ro Noone

Dear Members

It has been exciting to be involved in the evolution of the Association's new look. The Committee have worked hard to achieve the stunning result. Secretary Elizabeth Gilfillan was instrumental in procuring the skills of Graphic Designer Andrew Thomas from Ballarat, who was both extremely talented and generous.

It has also been a joy to provide a vehicle for 'Friends to help Friends' in the past few months. Thank you to members who responded to requests from other groups for information, such as 'Living Structures' and 'Digital Gardens'. By sharing experiences, Friends are making great use of the network.

I had the pleasure of visiting a few more Botanic Gardens this year and wish to warmly thank Friends of the following Gardens for giving me (and often members of my family) wonderful tours: Botanic Gardens of Adelaide (Bodo Jensen); Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens (Malcolm Cox, Bob & Deb Ducrou); Darwin Botanic Gardens (Harvey Cooper-Preston and Fiona Douglas). All three Gardens were fabulous. I always enjoy meeting such committed and congenial people who share the love of plants! I also enjoyed a wintry stroll through the Horsham Botanic Gardens and have been re-acquainting with RBG Melbourne, where I have returned as a casual teacher.



Bodo Jensen and Ro Noone at Adelaide Botanic Gardens.



Deb Ducrou, Malcolm Cox and Bob Ducrou at Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden.

I hope you enjoy reading Members' newsletters, which I send via email. They are of a very high standard and well worth passing on to your membership. If you do not currently send your group's newsletter to AAFBG, please feel free to do so and I will forward it to all 63 AAFBG members in Australia and overseas.

Now is the time to 'lock-in' the AAFBG 2016 Conference in Geelong, Victoria from Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May, with day tours on 29 April, 2 May and 3 May. See preliminary program and registration form in this issue. Keep up-to-date with conference news on the website of AAFBG (www.friendsbotanicgardens.org) or Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens (www.friendsgbg.org.au). Full details of the program sessions should be available by the end of October. Non-members are very welcome, so if you know of anyone who may be interested in attending, do pass on the information.

Thanks and Bon Voyage to Ro

Kate Heffernan, President

The functions of the Association have been professionally administered by Ro Noone since 2011. Ro and husband Ron are heading to New York for a year or so, and we wish them a wonderful adventure in New York. For Ro there will be exciting and inspiring times volunteering at New York or Brooklyn Botanic Gardens! The Association will lose a very effective, professional and supportive Administrative Officer, and Ro will be missed as both friend and Friend! For those new to the Association, Ro's background includes 10 years as Administration Officer and Education Officer for the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens and she currently is a Casual Teacher with the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria.



Ro relaxing at home and overseas, at St Kilda Botanical Gardens and in Queenstown, New Zealand.

Looking for a new Admin Officer

With Ro's departure we are seeking Expressions of Interest for the role of Administrative Officer, commencing in December or early next year. The work entails around 15 hours per month from a home office. Please email the Committee, and we'll forward details of the role and contract details. info@friendsbotanicgardens.org

Geelong conference: location, program and tours

‘Geelong – Regional Relevance: Botanic Environments and Their Survival in a Time of Global Warming’. What does this mean? What can the Geelong Friends offer? The 2016 Association Conference is jam-packed with interesting speakers and activities with great diversity—something to interest everyone. The theme has been broadly interpreted which has allowed us to explore the Geelong region and focus on the theme throughout the Conference. We are determined to showcase the Geelong Region and to allow the delegates to discover why it is such a special place. We want everyone to discover the region, have the opportunity to learn; and enjoy their stay in Geelong.

The first activity on the schedule on Friday 29 April is the pre-conference tour to the Bellarine. This is a unique way to discover the magnificent botanic environment under the water, and its critical connection to land-based activities. A stunning private garden and sculpture collection are also included. The traditional Friday Night function ‘Welcome to Geelong’ will be held in the City Hall.

Several members of the Association Committee have already visited the Conference venue, Geelong Conference Centre. This is a very impressive venue in a magnificent setting, Eastern Park, where the Geelong Botanic Gardens are also located. There are many accommodation options (rooms, suites and an apartment). Secure your rooms by booking early on the Geelong Conference Centre website www.gcc.net.au.

- Click on ‘Stay’ then ‘Book Now’ and use the promotional code FBG.
- These GCC bookings can be made Online or by phone (03) 5226 2121.
- This code does not work with Wotif or other accommodation booking sites.



Alternatively, Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine has a Visitor Information website <http://www.tourismgeelongbellarine.com.au/> Click on GEELONG & THE BELLARINE and then Accommodation for many other accommodation options which are available in the area.

The Conference sessions are:

- Plants and People – Everyone has a Role
- Improving our Urban Landscape
- How to Win Friends and Influence People
- Explore the Geelong Arts and Culture Precinct
- Understanding our Fragile Communities



- Governance, Compliance and Existence
- The Association – Beyond 2016

Our School of Botanical Art is holding a special exhibition to coincide with the Conference - *[IN] visible / the Geelong Botanic Gardens Revealed*. A visit to this exhibition is included as the artists have focused totally on the Gardens and we know you will enjoy their exquisite work. Of course, there will be opportunities to visit the stunning Geelong Botanic Gardens and Eastern Park, our Friends' Nursery and to walk with our Volunteer Guides.

We believe that there are many opportunities for delegates to be involved in the Conference:

- Groups can apply for a display space
- Some sessions will be a Forum or Panel
 - o What topics would you like considered?
 - o Members can offer to be on a Panel - do any of your members have experience or expertise in a particular area?
- Five minute presentations 'Planning for the Future' by member groups – please contact us if you would like to be involved.

The Conference Dinner will be held on Saturday night at the Deakin Waterfront Kitchen – a great venue with sensational views. Our guest speaker is Jacqui Young from Mount Rothwell Biodiversity Centre, another example of the unique enterprises in our region. The two post-conference day tours will allow our visitors to discover the Great Ocean Road, the Otways, and the Western Plains.

The Registration Form and Conference Schedule are on our website and are also on the Association website – be quick as Early Bird closes 31 January 2016. The three tours have limited spaces. Priority will be given to people who have come from round Australia to Geelong for the conference; Friends and residents of Geelong will be put on a waiting list. So book your Registration and tours quickly. Keep checking the websites as we will be listing regular Conference updates.

We are very appreciative of our Partners and Sponsors. To date:

- City of Greater Geelong and Geelong Botanic Gardens
- Geelong Conference Centre
- Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine
- Cafe Go, 37 Bellerine St, Geelong
- Roraima Nursery, 20 Swan St, Lara

We look forward to welcoming you to Geelong in April 2016. Travel safely and do please try to extend your stay beyond the Conference – there is so much to see and do.

The program and Registration form are at the end of this newsletter.

The Geelong Committee.



A transformed rubbish tip!

*Friends of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton
Goulburn Valley, Victoria*

Challenge after challenge—but we are keeping our heads above water (not that there is currently much water around in our area).

Our 52 acre site was once a rubbish tip. People constantly say, ‘I came here with my rubbish. Just look what you are doing’. Most people who pass such a comment are not young as the tip closed in 1985 and after 20 years that section of the site was covered with a clay cap.

The complicated work of deciding the Guiding Principles was done and the Kialla Landfill site was identified for rehabilitation and redevelopment as a botanic garden in 2011. There is now enough progress to have ‘something’ to showcase when visitors are attracted to the Gardens—several walks (some through natural bushland), a lookout which provides probably the best views in town, and completed garden beds.

It is our aim to complete designed gardens on the top of Honeysuckle Rise (approximately seven acres) and leave parts of the gardens as natural bushland.

Volunteers are vital as we combat challenges such as no current source of power (but solar is under investigation) and no connection to town water supply. Fortunately there is a delightful social side to all working bees once tasks are completed with a chat, cuppa and lovely sandwiches supplied by one of the Friends who finds gardening a bit hard nowadays.

We are just beginning to approach propagating on site, having received a donation just for this purpose from a local garden club and we hope that Friends who find our hill too hard to climb will participate in this project and thus keep up to date with all the changes at the Gardens.

Due to the lack of rainfall and the prospect of a long hot dry summer we will not be doing a lot more planting in our Resident’s Garden but will work on infrastructure for our Refugees Garden plus weeding and pruning.

Like all gardeners we enjoy seeing the results of our labour and continue to make the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton a place used by the whole community whilst taking pleasure in the comments re how much progress is happening.

Next newsletter we will supply some photos and let you know what was recycled from the local transfer station in the Refugee Garden.

Celebrating birthdays!

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



Lady Cosgrove cutting the birthday cake, with Jan Finley, Vice-President of the Friends, looking on.



Warwick and Pat Wright, now Life Members of the Friends of ANBG

On 1 October the Friends of the ANBG turned 25, so we had a party. There were balloons, bubbly, and some speeches, of course. Then our patron, Lady Cosgrove, cut the delicious chocolate birthday cake. Before the party there had been tours to see some of the many gifts the Friends had made to the Gardens over those 25 years, and now, as the sun set, we walked up to the floodlit Red Centre Garden and back down the hill, through the rainforest gully, with lights and mist paid for by the Friends.

On 8 October we held our AGM and Pat and Warwick Wright, well known to AAFBG members, were made Life Members of the Friends of ANBG. This partnership has been Friends for twenty years and given their time and experience in many ways: running children's activities at summer concerts and being education rangers; organising conferences and exhibitions; giving 115 talks to over 4,000 people in Australia and overseas; finding speakers for weekly talks for Friends for ten years; organising Friends trips to Bundanoon, Grenfell, Cowra and Young. The list is exhausting! Thank you Pat and Warwick!

Our guest speaker at the AGM was Ms Sally Barnes, Director of National Parks, who outlined the new Master Plan for the Gardens. There will be a new core precinct bringing together, at last, the visitor centre, an auditorium, a café, a playground, a wedding venue, and nearby a Conservatory with Australia's tropical plants. This plan expects all the developments to take 20 years, but priority will be given to a significant research facility for the Gardens, a new Seed Bank. Initial funding is only \$5 million, so there is lots more money to be found, one way or another.

In October the Friends have also organised the annual Breakfast with the Birds, which was held over four weekends and which was booked out weeks in advance. Our other annual event was the Photographic Competition for high school and college students in the ACT and Queanbeyan. Photos must be taken in the Gardens and after prize giving all entries are displayed in the gallery in the Visitor Centre.

The Gardens have also celebrated a birthday, their 45th, with a day of activities mainly for children: potting up daisies to take home; scooping up creatures from the pond; finding spiders and other insects among the plants; looking at creatures down microscopes. There were also fossils and dinosaur information from the Dinosaur Museum, continuing a partnership that brought dinosaurs to lurk in ancient forests during Science Week. And the Gardens are now also housing a Friday afternoon farmers' market, which was opened recently by the bearded Costa.

Anne Rawson

Gold for the Gardens!

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

Next year marks the 30th birthday of Friends of the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens (ERBG) and what a lead up we are having!



South Coast Tourism Award night. ERBG Manager Michael Anlezark (left) with Chief Judge Gordon Beattie

We are absolutely delighted that ERBG was awarded gold in the 2015 South Coast Tourism Awards for Ecotourism. This award is described as recognising ecologically sustainable tourism with a primary focus on experiencing natural areas that foster environmental and cultural understanding, appreciation and conservation. The Friends, involved in many aspects of ERBG's maintenance, conservation and beautification—not to mention our meeting and greeting brigade—have played an integral role in this success. It all contributes to the strengthening of ERBG's sustainability strategies, the increasing visitor numbers and the resulting feedback appreciating the learning opportunities around sustainable conservation and the welcome-to-all atmosphere, infrastructure and attitude.

As if a gold tourism award wasn't accolade enough we have also been awarded a Certificate of Excellence through Trip Advisor—reputedly the world's largest online travel information and feedback site—for consistently earning great reviews from travellers. Many reviews praise the peaceful walks catering for all, the birdlife and the picnic and children's play areas. Our volunteers, almost all members of Friends, have been described as doing a remarkable job assisting visitors and manning the shop. We must be doing a few things right! Of course present success is fundamentally underpinned by past effort so in recognition of their dedication and generosity of spirit we are making a point of inviting Friends with 20 or more years' membership to a celebratory dinner.

We share the staff and management's excitement and pride in such achievements. Together we are enhancing the experience of all visitors to ERBG and, behind the scenes, it endorses our fundraising achievements which contribute so much to the Gardens' continuing development, improvement and renewal. We've contributed significant funds to the children's play space development, the relocation of the workshop and upgrading of volunteers' facilities. We've purchased useful items such as glass showcases for our expanding merchandising and a microscope for the herbarium. We've had great success with increased presence at local markets, fairs and shopping centres, our Giant Plant Sale and Easter Fair, film and trivia nights and sales of calendars created from our annual photographic competition winning entries.

We love to see progress and development continuing to thrive and to witness the value that our fundraising efforts have bought, from smaller endeavours like the purchase of a timber seat to the contribution we've made to major projects such as expanding the car park, barbecue and play areas. There always seems to be something new to aim for. The Visitors Centre Redevelopment Scheme recently reached another milestone with three architectural firms shortlisted, spurring on our fundraising efforts. Our upcoming Breakfast with the Birds promises to be fun, entertaining, educational and all the more satisfying with a delicious breakfast.

Trish Richardson

Four Friends honoured

Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Geelong, Victoria

At the AGM of the Geelong Friends, held on 31 August 2015, a number of presentations were made to longstanding members.

Jayne Salmon OAM: After 30 years service on the Geelong Committee of Management, Jayne decided not to stand for re-nomination. This year marks 30 years of the Friends of the Geelong Botanic Gardens and Jayne has been there for the life of the organisation. Jayne is our longest serving Past President and part of a small band of longest serving members. Jayne has always been passionate about the Geelong Botanic Garden and she has made it her business to make sure that people know about the Gardens and the Friends. The Friends cannot begin to account for the extraordinary number of volunteer hours given to us through Jayne's efforts. She will stay on as one of the volunteer Guides in the GBG as well as the FBG Victoria. She is also actively involved in the Committee organising the National Conference which is being held in Geelong next year. As a token of our appreciation, Jayne was presented with a certificate and a beautiful arrangement of flowers. We know that Jayne will always be available for advice on FGBG matters.



Meralyn Roberts, Jayne Salmon OAM and Liz Moss after the presentations at the AGM on 31 August 2015.

Honorary Life memberships were presented to:

Liz Moss: Liz joined the FGBG in 1994, and as a valued volunteer with the Growing Friends, she has contributed to the success and expansion of the Friends' Nursery with expertise in all areas of production. Liz plays a mentoring role to all newcomers to the Growing Friends Group and is an excellent role model for our volunteers. She assisted with the Friends Education program as well as Music-in-the-Gardens. Liz exemplifies the role of a true 'Friend' and is a worthy recipient of Honorary Life Membership.

Ann Nicol: Ann joined the Geelong Friends in 1993 and was Committee member from 1994-2000. She has given outstanding service to the Friends for over 20 years. Through her strong organisational skills, she has played a leading role in the evolution of the Growing Friends. Today Ann will be found at the Friends' computer, compiling the database for stock in the Friends' Nursery. The FGBG is indebted to Ann for her enduring enthusiasm and support and understanding of our organisation

Meralyn Roberts: has been a member of the Geelong Friends since 1999. She was initially engaged by the Committee of Management to oversee the cataloguing of the Botanic Gardens Reference Library Project. On completion of the cataloguing, Meralyn worked on a fortnightly basis to organise a selection of books for Friends to borrow. Meralyn has also overseen the indexing of our newsletter *Jubaea*, a very useful historical resource. She has kept meticulous scrapbooks of press clippings featuring stories relating to the GBG, the staff and Friends. Meralyn is one of our regular, reliable volunteers who is worthy of recognition with an Honorary Life Membership.

Susanna Keith, Vice-President

Exciting times!

Friends of Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Mackay, Queensland

Our new acting curator, Richard Brown, has very recently commenced work in our Garden. Richard was previously an environmental officer with Mackay Regional Council. We are looking forward to working with and getting to know Richard.

Last month Council signed the contract for the Design and Development of the rest of the undeveloped section of the Botanic Gardens. A Brisbane firm of consultants has already had much public consultation, gathering ideas from stakeholders about areas of the Masterplan which may need some tweaking. An Advisory Board on which Friends are represented is meeting regularly with the consultants to keep everyone up to date.

This year the Mackay Festival of Arts opened with an evening concert in the Meadowlands precinct of the Botanic Gardens. About two and a half thousand people enjoyed 'Symphony under the Stars' with members of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. The threatened showers even stayed away till everyone had gone home.



The Friends donated a golf buggy to the Gardens to recognise our twelfth birthday – all very exciting. Many of the Councillors came to enjoy the occasion and cut a celebratory birthday cake. As our Gardens are very spread out, the Visitors Services Officer is making good use of the buggy to transport signage and other equipment around.



The Wednesday group is also enjoying the use of the buggy as they let out plant labels in the garden beds. This is an ongoing issue as the environmentally friendly ink used in printers these days fades within a few months in our climate. We are investigating purchasing more permanent etched plastic labels, but until then the group will continue their sterling work.

Our Botanic Gardens entered into a partnership with Ergon Energy, which enabled about 50 cycads to be collected from a site on a private property which Ergon was clearing to erect more power lines.

There were some hectic days getting through the paperwork to ensure our licence was current. That eventually occurred with one day to spare! What an amazing addition these are to the 'living museum' collection of plants in the Gardens.

Friends have participated in some interesting and informative off-site excursions during the year including to Mt. Blackwood, the home of the Botanic Gardens logo *Graptophyllum ilicifolium*. We also looked at coastal vegetation at Finlayson Point, a beach just north of Mackay, and on another occasion heard the history associated with Rowallan Park, a natural environment park near Mackay. An excellent composting workshop was held at Mackay Community Gardens, resulting in the donation of a worm farm to the Botanic Gardens.

Robin McWhinney, Secretary

Grand tour of Macedon Ranges

*Friends of Malmsbury Botanic Gardens & Environs
Malmsbury, Victoria*



Famous railway viaduct built 1860 spanning the Coliban River with Botanic Gardens in foreground. Photo by Nea Gyorffy.



Botanic Gardens, playground and Malmsbury Town Hall (built 1868) in background. Photo by Nea Gyorffy

Malmsbury Friends are working with the Federation for Environment and Horticulture in the Macedon Ranges to conduct the first Grand Tour of Botanic Gardens in the Macedon Ranges. We are excited about this day (Sunday 22 November) as it will showcase the three Macedon Ranges Botanic Gardens at Gisborne, Kyneton and Malmsbury. To start off there will be morning tea and a tour of the Gardens in Gisborne, lunch and tour at the Kyneton Botanic Gardens and afternoon tea and tour of the Malmsbury Botanic Gardens to finish the day. Further details will be released soon.

Friends have been liaising with Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Gardens staff regarding the building of a shelter over the barbecue area. Many visitors use this area for their celebrations or to catch up with family and friends and the playground is popular. The plans and estimated costing of the project will be placed in the 2016-17 budget proposals. FOMGE will be contributing funds towards the project and are commencing a raffle and first prize is a donated, beautifully framed photo of the Botanic Gardens by Kyneton photographer Peter Ryan.

Malmsbury has had half its average rainfall over winter and spring and more dry weather is forecast. The grass is struggling to keep its lush green colours. Also the big trees that lost their crowns because of previous drought continue to struggle and some have lost their limbs in the huge wind storm/heat wave on 6 October. The lake is still quite full and the ducks, nine ducklings and four new geese are enjoying it.

We are very fortunate in Malmsbury to have many mature trees in the Botanic Gardens and also lining our streets and on private properties. They are mainly oaks and elms which seem to survive well through all extremes of weather. Visitors and locals alike appreciate the cool Botanic Gardens and roadsides and thank those who had the foresight to give us such protection 150 years on.

Nea Gyorffy, Secretary

The new WA-SA garden is under way

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



John Bentley

The West Australian-South Australian garden at the Melton Botanic Garden will occupy a hectare or so and is being built in three stages. The first stage is being built this year and includes a display bed featuring highlights such as a field of paper daisies, and beds representing the Geraldton Sandplains, Esperance Plains and Avon Wheatbelt biogeographic regions. These beds are raised and mulched with sand. Planting of this stage is well advanced and should be completed during September.

Next year beds representing Mallee, Nullarbor, Murchison and Coolgardie regions, plus inland South Australia, will be constructed and planted. Work on these beds will commence this spring with plant propagation. We have collected seed for sowing in September and will soon seek cutting material relevant to these beds.

The following year will see the planting of a bed representing the Eyre Yorke Block of South Australia, and two mixed beds in the centre of the garden. These mixed beds will have a few trees but be mainly low growing plants which allow a view of the rest of the garden. Seating will be included. This work will complete the initial planting, but an ongoing program will include the replacement of poorly performing plants and the introduction of signage.

The garden beds represent areas of WA and SA with annual rainfall mostly below 450 mm. It is important that the plants survive without watering once established and are suitable for gardens in Melton and the Western suburbs of Melbourne.

Australian Plant Society Maroondah's generous donation has enabled us to complete construction of the Avon Wheatbelt bed and to purchase plants, all of which have been bought in multiple numbers to ensure a good display. Plants purchased include:

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Adenanthos cuneatus</i> | <i>Gastrolobium minus</i> | <i>Petrophile longifolia</i> |
| <i>Adenanthos sericeus</i> Compact Form | (syn <i>Brachysema latifolium</i>) | <i>Philothea nodiflora</i> ssp <i>lasiocalyx</i> |
| <i>Anigozanthos rufus</i> | <i>Gastrolobium sericea</i> Black | <i>Pimelea ciliata</i> |
| <i>Banksia gardeneri</i> | <i>Gastrolobium sericea</i> Cream | <i>Pimelea ferruginea</i> Pink |
| <i>Boronia coerulescens</i> | <i>Grevillea nudiflora</i> | <i>Pimelea ferruginea</i> White |
| <i>Boronia crenulata</i> | <i>Grevillea synapheae</i> , | <i>Pimelea</i> Sunset Blush |
| <i>Chorizema dicksonii</i> | <i>Guichenotia macrantha</i> | <i>Pomaderris obcordata</i> |
| <i>Conospermum triplinervium</i> | <i>Hibbertia cuneiformis</i> | <i>Thomasia pygmaea</i> |
| <i>Conostylis aculeata</i> | <i>Kunzea pulchella</i> | <i>Thryptomene mingenew</i> |
| <i>Conostylis candicans</i> Silver Sunrise | <i>Macrozamia riedlei</i> | <i>Thysanotus multiflorus</i> |
| <i>Conostylis setigera</i> Lemon Lights | <i>Melaleuca pulchella</i> | <i>Verticordia chrysantha</i> |
| <i>Banksia (Dryandra) nobilis</i> | <i>Nematolepis phebaloides</i> | |
| <i>Eutaxia myrtifolia</i> (syn <i>E. obovata</i>) | <i>Petrophile ericifolia</i> | |

These plants have supplemented those propagated by the FMBG Nursery and the plants bought previously with our limited funds. They have made it possible to complete the first stage of the garden this year, thus allowing us to move on to new sections next year.

David Pye

Improve your health! Get down ‘n’ dirty!

*Friends of Noosa Botanic Gardens
Noosa Heads, Queensland*

Christine Pritchard



Marina Schwartz

On Opening the inaugural Noosa Botanic Gardens Plant Fair on Father’s Day, Noosa Councillor Tony Wellington suggested, tongue-in-cheek, that the world might be a better place if every politician had to spend a day per week gardening. ‘Simply watching things grow, observing nature at work, examining the cycles of seasons and the tenacity of living organisms is surely one of the more humbling experiences available to us’, Tony explained.

In addition he said studies had shown that gardeners have a significantly lower risk of getting dementia because certain strains of a harmless bacteria living in the soil sharply stimulated the human immune system. Those same bacteria have been found to boost the production of serotonin, a mood-regulating brain chemical, associated with depression. Direct contact with soil in the garden may actually elevate our mood, he said.

‘All of this is a reminder that for 99.9% of our time on this planet, we hominids were closely associated with the stuff that we now try to remove from our homes and our bodies—dirt.’

Cr Wellington reminded attendees of the history of the Noosa Botanic Gardens. ‘The Noosa Botanic Gardens were the brainchild of resident Ida Duncan, and they are built on what was previously an unofficial rubbish dump. So we see a transformation from ugly eyesore to beautiful community asset.’

‘Many a stunning garden has been created to replace a weedy, unsightly mess. Gardeners must, by their very nature, be not only optimists but also visionaries’, Tony added. He concluded his official opening with the reflection that the philosopher Cicero reportedly said that if you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need. ‘Thankfully, Council provides both of these,’ he said.

Over 2000 people attended the Plant Fair on Father’s Day and enjoyed not only the diversity of plants for sale and the information sessions conducted by some of Noosa’s gardening experts but also the music, food and classic cars on display. Noosa Orchid Society President and Australian Orchid Judge, John Green, enthralled attendees with his exceptional knowledge, encouraging everyone to have a go at growing local orchids. Horticulturist and local radio gardening presenter, Paul Plant, gave interesting sessions on bees and butterflies and herbs and veggies; and Noosa Botanic Gardens Friends Chair, Dr Seonaid Melville, explained how to select the best plants for your garden ecology.

Noosa Botanic Gardens Friends Event Organiser, Jill Brownlee, in thanking the Noosa community for their support said, ‘This inaugural Plant Fair has been a huge success and will provide much needed funds for the Friends of Noosa Botanic Gardens to support our Gardens with plants and infrastructure’. Put this event in your diary for 2016. This exceptional volunteer-driven Plant Fair will certainly be back.

To become a member of Friends of Noosa Botanic Gardens, or to follow their activities, go to their website: www.noosabotanicgardens-friends.org.au or Facebook.

Christine Pritchard

Magpie Geese in Orange

*Friends of Orange Botanic Gardens
Orange, New South Wales*



P. Bannatyne

Regular activities of the Friends have featured a Bird Walk on the first Sunday of every month and these have been led for more than 15 years by Bernie and Colina Huxtable. With the range of habitats now available for birds in the Gardens, we regularly get around 30 species in an hour but, after all this time, we still get surprises. The photo above was taken in the Gardens by a member of FOBG from her kitchen window which overlooks the Gardens. This is the first time Magpie Geese have been recorded in Orange Botanic Gardens.

After many months of negotiations, we now have two MOUs with Orange City Council covering our activities in the Gardens. One for the Propagation Group was signed earlier in the year and a second one, signed in the last month, gives FOBG responsibility for the entrance gardens and a large contiguous area covering the Winter Garden, Birch Lawn, part of the Deciduous Woodland and the Homestead Garden. It isn't quite what we wanted but at least it gets our working group back into the garden to do what they do best.

Murray Fletcher

Artisans in the Gardens

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



Above: Jacek Wankowski 'Paua3'

Right: John Gardner 'Navigator' 5m x 1.5m x 1m.



Emerging, contemporary and traditional artisans showcased extraordinary works at the 15th annual Artisans in the Gardens exhibition. Set amidst the natural beauty of the Royal Botanic Gardens from 10 to 18 October.

The artistic inspiration for the works drew on the intrinsic beauty of nature as well as current environmental issues and sustainability. Curator, Julieanne Mills said, 'The exhibition shows off the amazing talent that exists in the Australian creative sector'. She explained the selection criteria, 'We were looking for artistic merit, for originality, and for relevance to the Gardens'.

The exhibition featured unique handmade pieces both functional and bespoke, including an eclectic mix of sculpture, jewellery, ceramics, glass, timber and textiles and all for sale.

Established names such as Jacek Wankowski and John Gardner were hand-picked to ensure a wonderfully diverse sculptural component, which complemented the grandest of gardens to the smallest of apartment patios.

The creativity and craftsmanship displayed in this year's collection of works revealed a quality which engaged both new and established audiences of this favourite Garden event. There was something for everybody with works ranging from tea-towels at \$20 to a \$25,000 sculpture!

Organised by *Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens*, proceeds from the sale of works will support the Botanic Gardens and the local artists.

Louisa Goodall, Marketing and Membership Manager

A small crew carries on

Friends of Tamworth Regional Botanic Garden Tamworth, New South Wales

Slow but steady progress continues in the new Asian Conifer Garden. The Green Army is assisting with filling the gully with soil to raise the ground level for further planting of native shade loving species. It will be a cool green peaceful spot and very pleasing to see the full potential of this site realised; it has been on our wish list for many years. The retaining wall below the oriental style gazebo has been finished, so we will be purchasing prostrate conifers to be planted at the top of this wall. The Green Army is also leveling and laying road base on the adjacent walkway which curves around by the gully and joins paths higher up. Shortly river stones will be collected and placed in the dry creek bed and that part of the design will also be complete. The camellias purchased and planted earlier in the year seem to be happy in their location and are thriving. Unfortunately the dam remains virtually empty but we hope this will soon be resolved and the water level then will be permanently maintained with bore water.



Camelia Walk in Asian Conifer Garden



Wollemi Pine gully works in progress

This year is the twentieth year of the Tamworth Group but our future is in doubt. Attendance at our Annual General Meeting in September was extremely disappointing. Only the existing committee members turned up even after the meeting was postponed to a later date after insufficient attendance the first time. The committee members agreed to continue in their positions for another twelve months, but if the membership does not increase, we will not be able to elect an executive next year. Publicity in the local media and at our open days does not seem to attract new members. Some other groups in the Victoria Park Precinct have similar issues – initial enthusiasm from volunteers wanes after a while, leaving a small core group of members to carry on. Hopefully promotion of the precinct as a whole, including all of the volunteer groups, will generate some interest. This was the aim of the Family Fun Day held for the third year during September, where all groups attend an open day/expo in the area, hopefully attracting a greater number of visitors, and some enquiries for all groups. However, the attendance at this day was down considerably and we had no enquiries and an unsuccessful plant sale as well.

We have our propagating unit functioning again, so we hope to do some more of that in the couple of working bees remaining this year. Unfortunately the summer heat and dryness in Tamworth is a challenge for the plants, especially when there are few staff or volunteers available to monitor them. Nevertheless, it is rewarding to see plants that we have purchased or propagated thriving in the Gardens, and labelled by the Friends group for the benefit of the increasing number of users and visitors to the Botanic Garden.

Christine Reeves

Members of Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Inc

Go to www.friendsbotanicgardens.org for email addresses and phone numbers

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.
Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden, Friends of. P O Box 81, Dubbo NSW 2830.
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. 810 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
Cairns Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 223, Edge Hill QLD 4870.
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, Queens Domain, 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 Gardens, Friends of. 71 Napoleon Cres. White Hills VIC 3550.
Buninyong Botanic Garden, Friends of. 102 Cornish St, 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.
Queen Mary Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 146, St Arnaud VIC 3478

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.
St Arnaud Queen Mary Gardens, Friends of. 5018 Ararat-St Arnaud Rd, Tottington 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
Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Friends. Membership Office, RBGE, 201 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR,
Scotland, UK.
Thurston Gardens, Cakobau Rd, Suva, Fiji.

Total

58 Members, 4 Affiliate Members

Calendar of events 2015

Australian Native Plant Society Australia (ANPSA)
Biennial Conference, Canberra, 15-20 Nov. 2015

AAFBG Biennial Conference, Geelong, 29 April to
1 May 2016

BGCI's 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress,
Geneva, June 2017

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

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

Plants for the Planet:
www.plantsfortheplanet.com

Open Gardens Victoria
www.opengardensvictoria.org.au/

Open gardens SA Inc
www.opengardenssa.org.au/

Open Gardens Canberra
www.opengardenscanberra.org.au/

My open garden
www.myopengarden.org.au/

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



Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference
 hosted by
The Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens
April 29 – May 1, 2016
'Geelong – Regional Relevance:
Botanic Environments and Their Survival in a Time of Global Warming'



AAFBG Conference Program

The Conference Program may be subject to minor change

| Friday April 29 | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| 8.00 am | Geelong Botanic Gardens open | |
| 7.45 am | The Bellarine Tour departs | |
| 12.00 noon | Display area set up | |
| 3.00 - 5.15 pm | Registration | Geelong Conference Centre |
| 4.00 pm | The Bellarine Tour returns | |
| 5.30 – 7.30 pm | Welcome to Geelong | City Hall |
| Saturday April 30 | | |
| 8.00 am | Geelong Botanic Gardens open | |
| 8.00 am | Registration reopens | Geelong Conference Centre |
| 9.00 am | Conference Opens | |
| 9.30 am | Conference – Session One: Plants and People – Everyone has a Role | |
| 10.30 am | Morning Tea | |
| 11.00 am | Conference – Session Two: Improving Our Urban Landscape | |
| 12.10 pm | Lunch | |
| 1.00 pm | Conference – Session Three: How to Win Friends and Influence People | |
| 1.00 pm | *Forum/Panel/Workshops - | |
| 2.00 pm | Saturday Conference Sessions close | |
| 2.10 pm | Afternoon Tea | |
| 2.40 pm | Coaches depart - Explore the Geelong Arts and Culture Precinct | |
| 3.00 pm | Geelong Gallery | [IN] visible / Geelong Botanic Gardens Revealed Meet the artists and enjoy a Floor Talk at the Botanical Art Exhibition |
| 4.00 pm | # Geelong Library and Heritage Centre | |
| 4.45 pm | # Johnstone Park | |
| 5.30 pm | Coaches return to Geelong Conference Centre | |
| 7.00 – 10.00 pm | Conference Dinner Deakin Waterfront Kitchen | Jacqui Young: Mount Rothwell Biodiversity Centre Mount Rothwell Conservation Model – Reversing Species Loss (Quolls and Bandicoots v Foxes and Cats) |

* **Topics for the Forums may include** Social Media, Sponsorship, Membership, Open Gardens, Bus Tours...
Members are invited to submit suggested topics and also, to submit questions for possible consideration

Group may split for these two sessions



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**‘Geelong – Regional Relevance:
 Botanic Environments and Their Survival in a Time of Global
 Warming’**



AAFBG Conference Program

The Conference Program may be subject to minor change

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Sunday May 1 | |
| 8.00 am | <i>Geelong Botanic Gardens open</i> |
| 8.30 – 10.20 am | <i>Guided Walks - Geelong Botanic Gardens and Eastern Park Volunteer Guides, members of the Geelong Friends</i> |
| 10.25 am | <i>Morning Tea</i> |
| 10.55 am | Conference – Session Four: Understanding Our Fragile Communities |
| 12.15 pm | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 1.15 pm | Conference – Session Five: Governance, Compliance and Existence |
| 1.15 pm | <i>*Forum/Panel/Workshops</i> |
| 2.15 pm | Conference – Session Six: The Association – Beyond 2016 |
| 2.15 pm | <i>Presentations by AAFBG Members – five members, five minutes each, ‘Planning for the Future’</i> |
| 2.45 pm | <i>Annual General Meeting of Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens</i> |
| 3.30 pm | <i>Presentation by Host of 2018 AAFBG Conference</i> |
| 3.35 pm | <i>Conference closes</i> |
| 3.40 pm | <i>Afternoon Tea</i> |
| 4.15 pm | Conference Concludes Everyone is invited to meet the Geelong Friends at their nursery, in the library, in the meeting room, talk more with the Guides now is the time to come over to the Gardens for an informal catch-up |
| 4.30 – 5.30 pm | <i>Geelong Friends’ Plant Nursery open – tours and sales</i> |
| 4.30 – 5.30 pm | <i>Geelong Friends at Library, Meeting Room etc. Light refreshments available before Bat Watch.</i> |
| 6.00 pm | <i>Bat Watch in Eastern Park</i> |
| Monday May 2 | |
| 7.45 am | <i>The Great Ocean Road and Otways Tour departs</i> |
| 6.00 pm | <i>The Great Ocean Road and Otways Tour returns</i> |
| Tuesday May 3 | |
| 7.45 am | <i>The Western Plains Tour departs</i> |
| 6.00 pm | <i>The Western Plans Tour returns</i> |

* **Topics for the Forums may include** *Compliance – financial and legal, DGR, GST, Trust Funds, Insurance, Rules and Purposes, MOU’s, Policies, Code of Conduct.*

Members are invited to submit suggested topics and also, to submit questions for possible consideration



Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference

hosted by

The Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens

April 29 – May 1, 2016

‘Geelong – Regional Relevance: Botanic Environments and Their Survival in a Time of Global Warming’



REGISTRATION DETAILS:

| | | | |
|---|--------|-------------|-----------|
| Family Name: | | Given Name: | |
| Preferred name on tag: | | | |
| Postal Address: | | State: | Postcode: |
| Mobile: | Email: | | |
| Special Requirements: Gluten free / Diabetic / Vegetarian / Vegan / Other | | | |
| Permission for name to be published on the Conference list: | | | Yes/ No |
| Name of Friends Group or Organisation: | | | |
| Would you like to book a display area at the Conference venue? | | | Yes / No |

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Welcome to Geelong at City Hall, Friday 29 April, 5.30 – 7.30 pm This ticket is included with early bird and full registrations. Extra tickets are available (payment below) | Yes / No |
| Saturday conference sessions at the Geelong Conference Centre | Yes / No |
| Conference Dinner at The Waterfront Kitchen, Saturday 30 April, 7.00 – 10.00 pm. | Yes / No |
| Sunday conference sessions at the Geelong Conference Centre | Yes / No |

PAYMENT DETAILS:

| | | | | Cost | Total |
|---|--|--|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Registration | Early Bird | Members Only | Closes 31/1/2016 | \$230 | \$ |
| Registration | Full | Members Only | | \$260 | \$ |
| Registration | Full | Non Members | | \$270 | |
| Registration | One Day | Please specify Saturday / Sunday | | \$130 | \$ |
| | | | | Number | |
| Welcome to Geelong | Extra tickets for people not registering with a two day conference package | | | \$45 | \$ |
| Conference Dinner | NOT included with Registration fee | | | \$80 | \$ |
| Bellarine Tour | Friday 29 April | (FGBG member waiting list | Y/N) | \$50 | \$ |
| Great Ocean Road and Otways Tour | Monday 2 May | (FGBG member waiting list | Y/N) | \$90 | \$ |
| Western Plains Tour | Tuesday 3 May | (FGBG member waiting list | Y/N) | \$85 | \$ |
| | | | | Total | \$ |
| EFT payment details (see Conference Information Sheet for details) | | | | | |
| Date: | Transaction #: | | Reference: | \$ | |

Partners and Sponsors:



Geelong Conference
Centre

Tourism Greater Geelong
and the Bellarine

Roraima Nursery
20 Swan St, LARA

Cafe Go
37 Bellerine St, GEELONG



CONFERENCE INFORMATION SHEET

Please retain for reference



FRIENDS OF GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS

The Geelong Friends extend a warm welcome to everyone visiting Geelong during the Conference and look forward to hosting the 2016 AAFBG Conference at the **Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court, Eastern Park, GEELONG.**

Conference information is on our website www.friendsgbg.org.au/events and the Association website www.friendsbotanicgardens.org

Contact details for the 2016 Conference:

- email gardensconference@gmail.com
- mail to **2016 AAFBG Conference, PO Box 235, GEELONG VIC 3220**
- phone Geelong Friends' Office (03) 5222 6053. Open Monday to Friday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, staff are Tracey and Sally

We hope to incorporate some 'Forum/Panel' sessions at this conference to cover topics which are critical for all participating groups. Some topics being considered are: Social Media, Compliance, GST, DGR status, policies, etc – **if you have a topic or a question which you would like considered, please contact us by email or phone.**

If your group would like to be considered for the 'Presentations by Members' at the Conference, please contact us by email or phone.

REGISTRATION and TRADE DISPLAY:

Registration is available at the Geelong Conference Centre on Friday April 29 from 3.00 to 5.15 pm and on Saturday April 30 from 8.00 am.

Displays can be set up at the Conference Centre on Friday April 29 from 12 noon. Please ensure that you indicate on the Registration Form that you wish to have a display and contact the Geelong Friends for more details about the display area available.

It is essential that all display bookings are confirmed by Tuesday March 1 2016, so that display space can be allocated. We will confirm the availability with you by Friday 18 March 2016.

Early Bird and Full Registration includes:

- Welcome to Geelong function, Friday April 29 at City Hall, 5.30 – 7.30 pm
- Two days at the conference at the Geelong Conference Centre and includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea

Day Registration is for Conference Registration for one day only (please specify Saturday or Sunday), and includes conference activities provided during that day, morning and afternoon tea and lunch on that day.

PAYMENT OPTIONS (GST is not applicable):

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cheque | Please send cheque (made out to AAFBG) and Registration Form to: 2016 AAFBG Conference, PO Box 235, GEELONG VIC 3220 | | |
| EFT | Account Name: AAFBG Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens | BSB: 633-000 Bendigo Bank | Account: 155152978 |
| | Reference: Name of person and group/organization, as shown on Registration Form Please complete EFT Payment Details at the bottom of the Registration Form and then post/email Registration Form | | |

ACCOMMODATION:

The Geelong Conference Centre has many accommodation options and these can be found on their website www.gcc.net.au.

- Click on 'Stay' then 'Book Now' and use the promotional code **FBG**.
- These GCC bookings can be made Online or by phone (03) 5226 2121.
- This code does not work with Wotif or other accommodation booking sites.

Alternatively, Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine has a Visitor Information website <http://www.tourismgeelongbellarine.com.au/> - click on GEELONG & THE BELLARINE and then Accommodation for many other accommodation options which are available in the area.

CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS:

Friday 29 April: Welcome to Geelong at City Hall, Cnr Gheringhap St and Little Malop St, GEELONG, 5.30 – 7.30 pm.

- Light refreshments will be served (finger food and two complimentary drinks).
- Entry is included with Early Bird and Full Registration. Please be sure to indicate your intention to attend the 'Welcome to Geelong' on the Registration Form - for catering purposes.
- Extra tickets are available at \$45 per head – please indicate on the Registration Form.
- Dress code: Smart Casual

Saturday 30 April: Conference Dinner at The Waterfront Kitchen, Deakin Campus, Western Beach Road, GEELONG, 7.00 – 10.00 pm.

- The guest speaker will be Jacqui Young, Reserve Officer, Mount Rothwell Biodiversity Centre.
- *Mt Rothwell Conservation Model* *Reversing Species Loss (Quolls and Bandicoots v Foxes and Cats)*
- This event includes a two course dinner with tea and coffee provided. \$80.00 per person
- The Waterfront Kitchen is fully licensed and provides an extensive wine list with many significant local wines. Guests may purchase their own drinks at bar prices.
- Dress code: Smart Casual



CONFERENCE TOUR DETAILS

Please retain for reference

Tours must be booked and paid for by Tuesday 31 March – places will then be offered to Geelong Friends

The tour itineraries may be subject to minor changes



Autumn weather in Geelong is a little unpredictable – so come prepared for everything. Temperature range in late April/May can be 10° – 25° during the day and less than 10° overnight. Bring binoculars, good walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, wind and waterproof jacket etc.

For all tours, priority is given to people who are not members of the Geelong Friends, or to those who are travelling to Geelong for the conference.

Priority tour bookings close on Sunday, 31 January 2015, with Early Bird registration.

Places will then be offered to local conference delegates who are members of the Geelong Friends, until March 31. Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to go on the waiting list; payment is due by Tuesday 31 March 2015.

Friday 29 April - The Bellarine Tour

This tour explores *Geelong Regional Relevance: botanic environments and their survival in a time of global warming* in a new context; the marine botanic environment where sustainability is so dependent on activities on land based botanic environments.

- Depart from Conference Centre at 7.45 am, then Holt Road carpark at 8.00 am
- Includes morning tea
- BYO lunch or purchase in Queenscliff
- Return to Conference Centre at 4.00 pm, then Holt Road carpark

Explore where Baron von Mueller spent much of his time, the Port Phillip Heads, searching for algae. We shall visit at low tide and explore with experienced Parks Vic staff. Then, as low tide reaches Swan Bay, a Ramsar Wetlands site, we will discover many of the Swan Bay secrets with guides from Parks Vic and Bellarine Catchment Network. Time over lunch to explore historic Queenscliff before an information session about the internationally acclaimed hatchery for Port Phillip mussels and oysters - recognized for its leading role in developing sustainability in the seafood industry. Visit an outstanding private garden widely acclaimed for its sculpture collection magnificently displayed amongst indigenous plantings, then back to the Conference Centre for registration and later, the Welcome to Geelong function at City Hall.

Essential: footwear with good grip; old sneakers are ideal. There will be 'walking on rough terrain and possibly in very shallow water'.

Monday 2 May - The Great Ocean Road and Otways Tour

- Depart from Conference Centre at 7.45 am, then Holt Road carpark at 8.00 am
- Includes lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea
- Return to Conference Centre at approximately 6.00 pm, then Holt Road carpark

Join this guided tour to part of the internationally acclaimed 'Great Ocean Road' including some of the majesty of the western section of the Otway Ranges. Towns we will visit include Lorne, Apollo Bay and Lavers Hill. There will be an opportunity to walk in the magnificent Melba Gully tree-fern forest and then explore on a private tour of Otway Ridge Arboretum - a significant garden and arboretum featuring rare and unusual conifers from around the world. We will enjoy lunch in the Aire River environs before heading inland through the Otways to the Colac Botanic Gardens. Afternoon tea then a tour with the Colac Friends will complement the day's activities, before returning to Geelong along the Princes Highway.

Tuesday 3 May - The Western Plains Tour

- Depart from Conference Centre at 7.45 am, then Holt Road carpark at 8.00 am
- Includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea
- There will be a drop off at Lara Station (train to Melbourne, taxi to Avalon Airport) if requested
- Return to Conference Centre at approximately 6.00 pm, then Holt Road carpark

Explore part of the Victorian Volcanic Plain – the third largest volcanic plain in the world. We will visit the young emerging 'dryland' Melton Botanic Gardens and enjoy morning tea with the Melton Friends. Then to the historic Werribee Park precinct and its many delights including the formal gardens, The Victoria State Rose Garden, the Heritage Orchard and the Werribee Park Sculpture Walk. This property is a significant part of the history of the Australian pastoral industry. Lunch will be enjoyed with the Karen volunteers at the historic 'Homestead' kitchen gardens which they have helped to rebuild through a community refugee project – sustainable gardening at its best. Then a visit to the extensive wetlands created by the Melbourne Water's Treatment Plant close to Port Phillip Bay; another Ramsar Wetlands site, this area is a bird-lover's paradise and we are privileged to gain access to this secure site. Then to Lara to enjoy the Kevin Hoffman Walk - a passive, scenic linear trail (800 m) with significant indigenous vegetation, lush ground covers, flowering native shrubs and trees that overlook part of the tranquil Hovells Creek.

Essential: flat, closed footwear, long pants and long sleeved shirt

Partners and Sponsors:



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Roraima Nursery
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Cafe Go
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