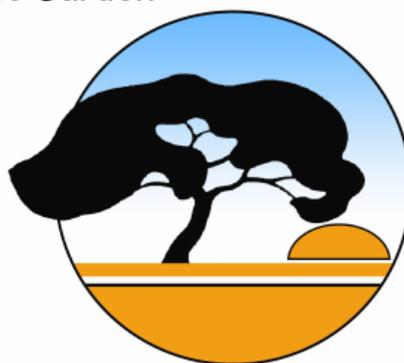


Are you going to the Conference?

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

All Gardens and Friends should now have received the programme and registration form for the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens conference titled 'Myalls Mangroves and More' on 18 and 19 of August 2012 at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta. We have some wonderful guest speakers, bus tours and an eco-boat cruise. There are more details on the next page of *Campsis*.



The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden is situated 1.5 km north of Port Augusta on the Stuart Highway and covers an area of more than 200 hectares. Port Augusta has a population of about 14,000 people and is bordered by the Flinders Ranges to the east and Arcoona Plateau to the west.

The Garden's Visitor Centre has information, café, gift shop, tours and conference facilities. There are guided tours every weekday morning at 10am (weather permitting) which take in the AridSmart demonstration gardens, some rare plants and bush tucker plants as well. Located on the shores of Upper Spencer Gulf with spectacular views to the ancient Flinders Ranges, the Garden showcases a diverse collection of arid zone habitats.

The Friends of AALBG and the garden staff are busy preparing the Garden for the conference and as we have had a lot of rain it is looking great. If you have time before or after the conference you could spend hours wandering through the many different sections of the AALBG. Try the Rare Plants, Great Victorian Desert (my favourite), Flinders Ranges area, Gawler Ranges area and the Eremophila Garden and be amazed at the beauty, diversity and resilience of Australia's arid plants. The Eremophila Garden, which was planted in 1996 by the Friends of the Garden, showcases nearly 200 species of this wonderful genus and you will also see many birds attracted to the Garden by these plants.

Be warned! The five day bus trip to Arkaroola after the Conference is proving very popular so please book early if you are interested in this to make sure you get a seat on the bus and our early bird conference price. Arkaroola has had huge rains over the last few months and is looking the best it has been for many years. During the drought the owners were considering closing it due to lack of water so to see it now is amazing.

We look forward to showing you all around our unique and very interesting arid gardens.

Christine Nayda, Secretary

Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens

Incorporation: AOO26805Z

Office bearers

President: Janet Thomson, RBG Melbourne
Past President: Alex Smart, RBG Cranbourne
Vice-President: Elizabeth Gilfillan, Ballarat Vic
Sec/Treasurer: Graeme Caple, RBG Melb

Committee

Geraldine Davis, AALBG, Port Augusta SA
Amanda King, Warrnambool Vic
Annie McGeachy, Geelong Vic
Warwick Wright, ANBG Canberra ACT
John Zwar, AALBG Port Augusta SA

Admin Officer

Ro Noone, Geelong Vic

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Membership

Annual Membership this year is from 1 January to 31 March 2013 and thereafter from 1 April to 31 March. Fees: \$30 for up to 500 members; \$100 over 500 members.

Forms available on the website.

Pay by direct transfer to BSB 633-000
A/c No: 1045-71476 and put your name in reference box

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

Campsis is published twice a year in May and November.

Editor Anne Rawson

email: campsis@friendsanbg.org.au

We welcome your articles and photographs and important calendar events for inclusion

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

ISSN 1320-8578

Myalls, Mangroves and More

We have chosen to focus on the theme of Myalls (the Western Myall is the emblem of the AALBG and occurs in the Garden); Mangroves (Grey Mangroves grow along the shore of Spencer Gulf our Garden's eastern boundary); and More, which will include discussion on Eucalypts, European Explorers, Birds of the Region, Goyder's Line, and Water Supply in South Australia (continuing the discussion of reduced water availability in southern Australia which was largely the focus of the Mildura Conference).

There will be time also for discussion on your role as Friends' volunteers in our various gardens and time will be set aside for brief presentations from other Friends' groups. During breaks and social functions there will be the opportunity to interact with other delegates and share experiences.

Program

Friday 17: Day tour Highlights of southern Flinders Ranges (\$105). Two hour Top End Eco cruises to top of Spencer Gulf (\$40). Later at Wadlata Outback Centre: Registration 4.30-6pm, then at 6.00pm Civic Reception

Saturday 18 at Port Augusta Golf Club

Morning session—Welcome; Keynote Speaker: Professor Chris Daniels 'Backyards: The most important room in the house'; Morning session—Geoff Reid: 'Mangroves: Where the sea meets the land'; Dr Carolyn Ireland: 'Western Myall'; Dr Nita Lester: 'Myalls, bragalows and butterflies'

Afternoon session—Valmai Hankel: 'European explorers of the region'; Dr Dean Nicolle: 'Eucalypts'; Professor Don Bursill: 'Water for SA, Australia's driest state'; Visiting Friends' brief presentations.

Conference Dinner After Dinner Speaker: Dr John Read 'MORE than just pretty plants' (\$50)

Sunday 19 at AALBG

7-9am Bird walk and breakfast (\$10); 9-10.30 Guided walks

Move to Pt Augusta Golf Club

Peter Langdon: 'Changes in dynamics of birds seen in and around AALBG'; Peter Hayman: 'Goyder's Line'

Afternoon session

AGM; Visiting Friends' brief presentations; 2014 Conference announcement and presentation; Conference close.

Post conference tours

Monday 20 Day tour Central Flinders Ranges (\$105) and Top End Eco cruises (\$40).

Five day Flinders Ranges tour (\$1495)

You have missed the opportunity to get early bird registration and it will now cost \$200. To register and pay, download form and information from:

www.australian-aridlands-botanic-garden.org

From the President

Janet Thomson



Conference

Do hope by now you've all made your bookings for the AFBG conference being hosted by the Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, Port Augusta on weekend 18-19 August. The conference presents myriad opportunities: a really exciting program addressing the theme 'Mangroves, Myalls and More'; an in-depth look at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden; pre- and post-conference tours enabling conference participants to see, enjoy and learn more about this very interesting region of South Australia; promoting your Gardens and networking with like minded people as well as making new friends or renewing old friendships.

Association conferences are noted for their warm and friendly atmosphere. Come to the Conference and join in the fun with friends. I'm looking forward to it with great anticipation and look forward to seeing you there.

For further information about the conference and to register see

www.australian-aridlands-botanic-garden.org

BGANZ Victorian Regional Network Meeting

On the 7 March Annie McGeachy, Alex Smart and I attended a BGANZ Victorian Regional Network Meeting hosted by the Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens in partnership with the Shire of Melton.

Themed 'Developing New Gardens' the event attracted 75 participants representing 18 Botanic Gardens, 11 Friends of Botanic Gardens groups and three organisations managing public gardens. Many of the participants spoke including John Bentley from the Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens who gave an overview of the development of their Garden since 2003, and Councillor Jenny Houlihan of Greater Shepparton City Council who presented the plans for the emerging Botanic Garden in Shepparton. It's always inspirational to hear of the commitment and dedication of those who give so much of their time and skills to their gardens and I know that Melton and Shepparton are not alone in doing this.

AFBG Committee and the Future

Your Committee has now mastered the art of teleconferencing and held a very productive meeting early in March. Teleconferences mean that committee members do not have to travel from distant parts of Australia to participate in meetings; they can sit in the comfort of their own homes and dial a number! As mentioned in my letter last August, the AFBG will not survive if it is not supported by its members. We have a wonderful and very efficient Administrative Officer, Ro Noone, who attends to all the day-to-day running of our organisation so being a committee member is not an onerous task. I urge you to join the Committee at the AGM which will be held in Port Augusta in August. We need you.

Administrative Officer's Report

Ro Noone

Dear Members

I hope this finds you well and enjoying some beautiful autumn weather in your botanic gardens. Here are a number of items for your interest:

1. Following the retirement of Brigitta Wimmer, BGANZ has a new Executive Officer, Eamonn Flanagan, and a new email address: secretariat@bganz.org.au
2. We have recently had a number of enquiries from botanic gardens overseas and have been happy to refer them to the Information Kit on our website and appropriate links such as Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI).
3. Thank you for your 2012 subscriptions. AFBG members will receive a bonus three months' subscription this year with a change of financial year to 1 April to 31 March. This means you are currently paid up to 31 March 2013.
4. We have recently approached 11 Friends groups in Queensland and NSW to encourage membership.
5. Management of the website is under review. I will shortly be undertaking some training in website management so I can update news and AFBG details as they arise. I am always pleased to receive members' photos and news to share with other Friends groups via info@friendsbotanicgardens.org.au
6. Lastly, I am looking forward to meeting/catching up with many of you at our biennial conference at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden in Port Augusta in August. Download the Program and Registration Form from our website or www.australian-aridlands-botanic-garden.org and Book Now!

If you are unable to attend but would like to distribute information/brochures from your gardens at the conference, please send them to Christine Nayda, Secretary, Friends of AALBG, P O Box 2040, Port Augusta, SA 5700, and I will see that they are made available to delegates.

Something completely different



Photo by Ro Noone

The Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show at the Carlton Gardens in March was well worth a visit. One of my favourite 'gardens', because of its educational and aesthetic values, was the 'Equilibrium' display by Melbourne Water which showed how a raingardens can be used to harvest stormwater runoff in your backyard.

All go at Albury

Friends of Albury Botanic Gardens Albury, New South Wales

G'day everyone! Hope you all had a peaceful time over Christmas and New Year. Lots happening down here at the Albury Botanic Gardens, including a bucketful (or seven) of rain!

The last year has seen our members achieve a great deal, with some challenging and enjoyable, very hard work. Conducting two plant sales in the gardens and also attending the twilight markets and Rotary markets, as well as catering for the 'Picnic in the Gardens' festival, New Zealand Basketball Team, Cinema Under The Stars, and the Australia Day celebrations, all with very favourable financial outcomes.

The Children's Garden projects are nearing completion of Stage 1. The large Dinosaur entry feature awaits a colour scheme and ceramic eyes and the Fairy Temple is soon to be finished. The wetlands will be constructed and the Giant Troll Cave will be completed with the installation of the 'Bat Roof'. Along with the children's seats carved by the artist for storytelling and fun, we are all excited as the opening nears.

Our Florilegium and written history of the Albury Botanic Gardens will be launched at the end of the year and it certainly is an exciting project. The artworks have been undertaken with great passion by the Beechworth Institute of Botanical Artists, led by Christine Cansfield-Smith, and the history compiled by our volunteer, Lydia Mansell and written by David Lawrence, historian at the ANU.

The botanical artworks feature the 50 most prominent specimens of our Gardens' collections, including the J.E.R. Fellowes plantings from 1901 to 1936, which transformed the Gardens from the Union Jack layout of the 1877 era, into the Guilfoyle gardenesque style he mooted to our Council when he visited in October, 1886.



Photos: Dinosaur!; Flying Fruit Fly circus troupe in action at Picnic in the Park.
Photos from Albury Botanic Gardens Collection.

Alderman Ten Brink stated that during a recent visit to Albury by Mr. Guilfoyle, the curator of the Melbourne Botanical Gardens, he visited the gardens here, and had expressed his willingness to afford the Council every assistance in making improvements in the design of the gardens. Mr. Guilfoyle gave it as his opinion that straight paths were not desirable, and if the Council prepared a plan he would be happy to mark out the ground for winding paths. He would move that a request be sent to the Minister for Lands that Mr. Guilfoyle be allowed to render the promised assistance.

The Mayor pointed out that this was the first intimation or thought of altering the gardens, the necessity for which was debateable.

Alderman Scanlan seconded the motion, which was carried.

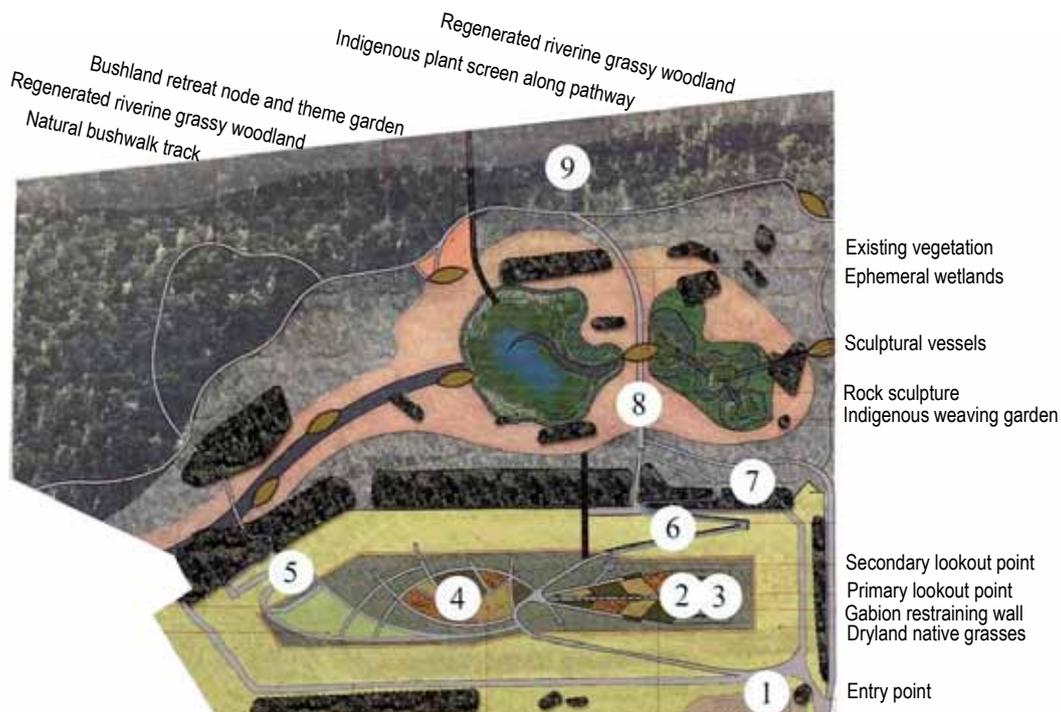
Report of the Albury Borough Council meeting reported in Albury Border Post 2 October 1886

Please call us on (02) 6043 5891 (please note NEW phone number) and leave a message, or call in to our office at our beautiful gardens any Tuesday or Thursday morning to have a cuppa, or maybe buy a plant or two. Have a great year!

*Gwen Klinberg
President of Friends of ABG*

A new Garden in Shepparton

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



In March 2007 a pictorial article in the Shepparton *News* presented the Greater Shepparton Botanic Garden Association's (GSBGA) vision and proposal to Council that the former Kialla Landfill site be developed for a botanic garden. The 24 hectare site, disused since the 1980s, had attracted state government funding to cap off the huge mound and for other works to stabilise the banks and provide appropriate drainage. In 2010 a concept garden plan with public space area was exhibited by Council for community consultation and submissions were invited. Three hundred people responded that they would like to see the plan go ahead and in March 2011 Council endorsed a recommendation to form a special committee to prepare and develop an overall management plan for the site. The committee set out at an amazing pace to bring the plan to fruition with visits to other similar gardens undertaken. A Kialla Landfill Site Development and Management Plan was agreed to by the Council in August. Volunteers of all ages cleared rubbish, fenced and planted 500 wattle trees. By November 2011, stage one of the plan was well underway and at a Council public meeting in February 2012, Councillors unanimously endorsed the name *Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton*. Congratulations to the Council for listening and consulting with the community—what a great achieved outcome for the residents and visitors to Greater Shepparton.

The Friends of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton now has a membership of 62 people. This is indeed heartening given the previous trials weathered by the previous members. With the new excitement and interest as well as support of the Council, it is easy to get swept up and be optimistic. However, do not rest on your laurels Friends! Membership is at the heart of growing and nurturing a new society.

Bill Brown, President

New management plan

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



Rainforest lighting. Photo by Helen McHugh



Collecting seed in a field of *Lotus australis* on Black Mountain. Photo by Margaret Clarke

Since the November issue of *Campsis*, the Friends of the ANBG have been busy spending money, firstly on mood lighting for the rainforest gully at night, and secondly on a people mover. The lighting is beautiful and a crowd pleaser but very hard to photograph, and the people mover will be used to take groups, families, disabled persons on guided tours round the Gardens.

Friends have also helped in the Gardens' seed collection projects in the Australian Alps and in the local area. The Alpine Research Project is a joint one with the ANBG, the ANU, the University of Queensland and the Friends with support from NSW Parks, to see what effect predicted climate change will have on our alpine flora. The ANBG is also working with the ACT Government to have seed from all local species safely stored in its seed bank ready for research and restoration projects. To complete the collection, 207 target species have been identified and 'Seedy Vols' helped collect 41 of these this summer.

Meanwhile the ANBG continues to experience strong pressures on staff resources, which is likely to be exacerbated over the coming year if the Federal Government adheres to its decision to impose a further 2.5 percent efficiency dividend on the Gardens. All national institutions were exempted from this impost, with the exception of the Gardens, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Capital Authority. Representations are being made to the Minister, Tony Burke, but so far to no avail.

The Friends are most concerned as this extra funding cut could put at risk very important initiatives flowing from the new ANBG Management Plan which are vital in relation to the role of native flora in key long term issues for Australia. After a long gestation period – longer than any of us would have liked to see – a draft of the new Management Plan for the years 2011-21 appeared late in 2011 for public comment. Some key points made by the Friends included:

- The Gardens should be an ever growing world class living collection of Australian plants and should play a central role in coordinating the efforts of botanic gardens and researchers in Australia and overseas.
- New infrastructure needed includes new Visitor Centre, upgraded glasshouses for orchids, an alpine garden, a children's garden, a world class seed bank, and an area dedicated to information and research on the potential for native plants for food, medicine and other uses.
- Establishment of an Advisory Council, a process to access additional funding, and re-establishment of the public art program.
- Increase the number of visitors to the Gardens, especially younger people, and ensure they are made aware of the importance of native plants.
- And recognise the role of the Friends in promoting the Gardens, educating visitors and assisting in some research projects.

BotaniKids at Begonia Festival

*Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens
Ballarat, Victoria*



At the Begonia Festival this year, the Educating Group of the Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens was invited to provide three children's activities. We were consulted, supported and encouraged to provide activities that met the overall aims of our group—to highlight the wonderful opportunities there are in the Gardens for quality outdoor play for children of young families.

The activities we provided were centred around gardening and outdoor play, in particular using natural materials for children. We were encouraged by Heidi Zukauskas, from the Events department of the Council, to promote this message to the families that attended which we did with our signage and many wonderful conversations throughout the three days. Heidi was exemplary in not only placing her trust in our group (all volunteers) but she also guided and supported us for many months through our planning process.

We invited three partner organisations to help us provide for the huge demands of the Festival: the Girl Guides, BRI industries who packed the 3000 mini scarecrow kits and Eureka Community Kindergarten Association (ECKA). The Girl Guides and ECKA rostered many volunteers on for the three days to run the mini scarecrows and the Nature Carpets, inspired by the Floral Carpet.

The Educating Group's usual role is to run activities for children, branded BotaniKids, in the gardens throughout the year; at the Festival we managed the Clay Play marquee and throughout the three days there was not ever a spare smock!!! Given we had 40 smocks, that gives you a fair idea how popular the activity was with the families and the children. Many families came back to play which was lovely.

There were thousands of mini scarecrows made along with many beautiful nature carpets made with flowers, shells, pebbles and all sorts of natural bits and pieces. We had thousands of children attend our activities with their families and we all had a very positive experience even though we were very tired at the end of the weekend. Many, many parents commented on how wonderful it was that the Festival was so generous to families with children of all ages. One family said, 'you have given back the Begonia Festival to the kids!'

We appreciated the support we experienced in staging the three BotaniKIDS activities this year and we enjoyed being a part of the amazing Events team that somehow put it all together. We look forward to other partnerships when we stage our Great Big Gardens Play Day on 24 October as part of Children's Week and again, perhaps, for the Festival next year.

We also thought it was so apt that the City of Ballarat so willingly supported our message of outdoor play with natural materials for children in the light of a recent study: Milo The State of Play just released and reported in the Ballarat Courier on 13 March. See the link to the study here: <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/not-enough-kids-are-playing-study-20120312-1uts4.html>

Julie Bradby

Convenor BotaniKIDS: Ballarat Botanical Gardens Events for Children



A landmark year

*Friends of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens
Bendigo, Victoria*



Grapevine Arbour currently under construction. Photo by Jan Orr.

The year 2012 promises to be a landmark year in the history of Bendigo's Botanic Gardens. The City of Greater Bendigo has made the decision to create two positions dedicated to developing the Gardens as laid out in the Master Plan. The first is a four year position for a Gardens Development Officer. The successful applicant's job will be to oversee and co-ordinate the construction of the new extension to the Gardens in the adjacent land across Hamelin St. When completed the Botanic Gardens will be double in size.

The Bendigo Creek neatly bisects the new extension creating either a large flood problem or a great opportunity for a wetland showpiece. Hydrology engineering consultants are completing a report on plans to create a wetland and ornamental ponds that will regulate storm water entering the creek.

The second position is that of a Curator of Botanic Gardens. The successful applicant will take up the position at the start of the next financial year. We are looking forward to this appointment with much anticipation because Samuel Gadd, the previous curator, retired in 1903.

One of the last features that Gadd built in the Gardens was a grape vine arbour. It provided a shady pathway through the garden beds in the northern section of the Gardens. We have only a sketchy idea of its appearance. An early photograph showed it to be a rough timber construction, which no doubt contributed to its decay and subsequent removal. The Master Plan stated that its replacement be made of steel to make it more durable. Work has commenced and it is close to completion. It is sited as close as possible to its original position along the east-west pathway in the new heritage cottage gardens. The arbour is of considerable length and height and will have a strong visual impact on the Gardens. It will also provide shelter from hot northerly winds for plants that will grow along its southern side.

In addition to this, plans for the construction of pathways throughout the gardens have been approved by Heritage Victoria and we have funding to commence work this year. The orange webbing barriers will once more decorate the gardens.

The Friends of Bendigo Botanic Gardens have now been in existence for 12 years and in that time we have been part of the development of a Master Plan for not just the Botanic Gardens at White Hills but for the Rosalind Park Fernery, Lake Weeroona and the Canterbury Gardens at Eaglehawk. At times the progress has appeared to be slow but it is useful to remind ourselves that slow progress is the more lasting progress when it comes to Botanic Gardens.

Jan Orr, Secretary

Friends: the first 30 years

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



The Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust in Sydney strives 'to inspire the appreciation and conservation of plants'. For the last three decades the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, have worked tirelessly to support this mission and the people and ideas behind these magnificent gardens. This year, as we celebrate our 30th anniversary, we have taken the time to look back on all our efforts, events and members that have made the Friends what it is today.

Founded in 1982 the Friends was created as an independent organisation, which would support and campaign for the Gardens. The budding society was immediately bustling with new members, arranging events and fundraising efforts to fulfil their role of promoting the enjoyment and understanding of the Gardens. Only a year after its official launch in 1983, the Friends made its very first donation of \$30,000 to help with the development of the Rose Garden, completed in 1987. We have gone on to raise more than five million dollars to fund exhibitions, restoration and conservation efforts, research projects and scholarships.

We have also protected the invaluable resources of the Gardens against major incursions, such as the development of the Cahill Expressway and extensions to the Conservatorium of Music. Over the last thirty years we have tried to make more Sydneysiders realise that our Gardens are not only beautiful places to enjoy but are also living and unique scientific resources, which once destroyed cannot be replaced or rebuilt.

The range of walks, talks and trips we have put on over the years have also improved community awareness of and involvement with the Gardens. We have presented talks by plant hunters and taken our members to gardens all over the world, including trips to India, Madagascar and around Australia. Opening new ways of engaging with the natural world we have also celebrated and promoted various forms of botanical art, hosting a variety of art exhibitions since 1987. One of our most successful exhibitions, *Botanica*, is now in its thirteenth year. In more recent years we have also taken on new artistic projects. In 2011 we hosted the *International Garden Photographer of the Year Exhibition*, bringing this exhibition outside the UK for the first time. We also launched our own photography competition, *Gardens in Focus*, which is now in its second year and looks to become another popular annual event for our members and the wider community.

Looking back and celebrating all that we have achieved over the last three decades one thing becomes clear. Without the generosity and unwavering enthusiasm of our members and volunteers we would not be the organisation we are today. We are so thankful for the selflessness and interest of every individual who has donated their time, efforts and support to our society. We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed the last thirty years as much as we have.

Hannah Burnett



Sir Rupert Myers, Kate Fitzpatrick and Alan Searle at Friends' inaugural planting

Time and the hour

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



John Knight having been presented with a lathe at his farewell. His wife, Sue, is on the left.

It is with great regret that we farewell John Knight, Manager of Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens (ERBG) since 1992, but in acknowledging that not everyone can go on for ever in the same job – although in this case we may wish that he could – we pay tribute to the imagination and depth of John’s vision, and the management skills he brought to every task. Volunteers whose tour of duty began in the early nineties, some of whom are still volunteering at ERBG today, are well placed to paint the picture of the physical challenges of establishing our new Botanic Gardens. It is hard for relative newcomers to grasp the scale of the enterprise, to try to translate landscape plans to soil, slope and species, but John brought to the Eurobodalla Shire years of working in Victoria with native plants in public spaces. With a few staff and hundreds of volunteers he brought to fruition the Gardens we know and love today, battling fire, drought and windstorm along the way, making ends meet on a slim budget, and earning the respect of all who have come into contact with him. John’s will be hard shoes to fill. We give him and his wife Sue our very best wishes in their retirement. We will give his successor a warm welcome and strong support to maintain ERBG as the environmental jewel of the South Coast.

Still on the passage of time – summer began with letting children in to the Play Space on Boxing Day, a little ahead of completion but in time for the holidays. Already this exciting facility is generating increased visitor numbers and comments on its quality in the Visitors Book. The official opening and an Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Monday, 9 April at 10.30.

If time and the hour run through the roughest day, then the Music Night in January would have to be recorded as a scratch. It rained. But the bands were terrific, and better luck next time. On the other hand, the rain and warmth produced an enviable growing season that the seedlings in the nursery exploited, in turn enabling a highly successful Plant Sale on 10 March. Of course the weather was only one factor: we have skilled dedicated propagators, and reliable nursery volunteers who put in a huge effort. Publicity attracted people from further afield and we hope will put the Gardens on the map as a source of local plants, mostly not offered elsewhere.

Coming events (at the time of writing) include the Mayoral Morning Tea on Wednesday 21 March when the Mayor will announce the Shire’s Senior Citizen award for 2012; John Knight’s farewell dinner on 28 March; the opening of the Children’s Play Space mentioned above; a Friends stall at Moruya Markets on Saturday 14 April; and a morning tea and guided walks for Eurobodalla tourism operators in early May. An all-pervasive theme for events and celebrations during the year is ERBG’s Silver Anniversary. Yes, we are 25 years old and loving it. Our time budget strains at the seams, which is a mixed metaphor but you get my drift.

Heather Haughton, President, Friends of ERBG

The end of an era

*Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens
Geelong, Victoria*



Tea house volunteers at the Thank you morning tea - along with representatives of the City of Greater Geelong. Photo by Jenny Possingham

On the 28 February this year, the Friends of the Geelong Botanic Gardens, together with the City of Greater Geelong, formally thanked the legion of volunteers who have helped staff the Friends Tea House in the Gardens for nearly 20 years.

The Teahouse started life as an initiative to attract more visitors to the GBG. Our Gardens were considered a hidden treasure: beautiful but not much visited. Both the Friends and the Council provided money to build the Teahouse and the Friends provided the volunteer support to provide tea, coffee and cake to visitors.

Over time, the demands of running a café seven days a week have substantially increased. In the very early days coffee was instant or plunger and the cakes and biscuits were home made, but with the tightening food regulations and increased demand, soon moved to sourcing commercial suppliers. The Friends and the Tea House team continued to adapt and innovate, expanding the menu and employing a manager. Even plunger coffee is no longer acceptable to visitors accustomed to Melbourne's espresso cafe scene and while there was still no espresso coffee, seasonal High Tea was offered using fine bone china

Throughout its life an army of volunteers have willingly offered time to fill 'their spot' on the Teahouse roster. However it became increasingly difficult to find volunteers for weekends, so more paid staff were engaged. Even with a significant volunteer workforce, it was becoming clear that the Teahouse was no longer a financially rewarding exercise.

Changes to legislation regarding volunteer management mean that volunteers need to be trained in the same manner as paid staff. In the case of the Teahouse all volunteers would need to complete a food-handling course. These changes were being implemented at a time when we have been struggling to attract enough volunteers

Eventually the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens had to face the hard question: is running the Teahouse sustainable?

An analysis of the finances and complexities associated with working with a largely volunteer workforce led to the sad conclusion that being in the business of running a café was not something that the Friends should commit to into the future. Discussions were held with the GBG Director, Annette Zealley, and the lease for the teahouse was put out to public tender, the Friends handed back the keys on the 4 January 2012. Just a few days later Brioche@GBG opened and continues to welcome visitors to the Gardens. They are offering espresso coffee that has the Gardens buzzing with a new summer crowd.

We express our thanks to all the volunteers who have helped to make the Teahouse at the Geelong Botanic Gardens such a success that it could be handed on as a commercial proposition. The Tea House Visitors Books are testimony to that success.

Jenny Possingham

Weathering drought, floods and grants

*Friends of Grampians Flora Botanic Garden
Halls Gap, Victoria*

Our tiny (approximately two hectares) garden situated in the 'Gap' in the Grampians, Gariwerd Range, is beginning to recover from the battering it has received over the past few years, actually almost its whole life. The garden is totally managed by the local community, including the Friends of Grampians-Gariwerd National Park, with occasional help from Parks Victoria and the Northern Grampians Shire Council.

Why have a flora garden so close to the National Park? I'll quote just three of the aims in our constitution:

- To make this area easily accessible to all, so that those with physical disabilities can see a good representation of native flora
- To provide a resource that is both educational and attractive to tourists, thereby enhancing the appeal of Halls Gap
- To provide an attractive entrance to the National Park by enhancing the natural beauty of the land and making it a suitable place for quiet contemplation.

The garden was created in 1998 through a grant to the Community Association of Halls Gap from the Forest Ecotourism Program. But no sooner had the initial plants settled in than the long drought began and then intensified. Despite all our efforts, we lost many plants to drought, and also hungry grazers, until we erected a deer and almost macropod-proof fence.

Winter 2010 brought beautiful rain and we rejoiced. But then the rain continued, culminating in a severe flash flood in January 2011 which wrecked our bridge, damaged all our paths, and spread a layer of gravel over our lawns and garden beds. Large trees fell, others were deemed unsafe and had to be felled. As the year progressed, more mature plants which had survived the drought died from wet feet.

Help flowed in from many sources: the National Park staff assisted in assessing the damage to the bridge and the trees; the Recreation Reserve (our landlords, also a non-profit community organisation) paid for the tree felling and initial path repairs; and we had further donations from local groups. The shire offered to fix the paths and the bridge. Wonderful! But that still left plenty for our small band to do: deal with another huge tree that fell later on; replant; attack the weeds that just loved the flood; repair the watering system; and so on.

So we have gone on a grants hunt. We've been successful in getting help for more drainage work, purchasing plants, weed control, and for a celebration party when most of the work is complete. The bridge is a long way off still. And grant hunting can become addictive. Who could we ask for help with the cost of redesigning our watering system? Who could we ask for some sculptures in the garden? But addictions are not good for your health and this one is exhausting. First you have to find the donors, then assemble the information required and support letters. All wasted if you are unsuccessful. But if you are successful, you then have to keep meticulous records and do evaluations. I think weeding might be easier.

Margo Sietsma



Fallen tree over our perimeter fence. Photo by Margo Sietsma



Trees coming down the creek bent the bridge, and it needs replacing rather than repairing. Photo by Margo Sietsma

World Wetlands Day

Friends of Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Mackay, Queensland

The final event for 2011 was the annual Christmas in the Gardens, much loved by Mackay families. A large number of volunteers in their bright yellow shirts was on hand to help, the children loved the evening and we almost got through to the end without rain!

Visitors Service Officer, Maya Harrison, also has a role delivering the Plant-ed program at the Gardens. She has been kept extremely busy with children's activity classes during the holidays, and with schools visiting the Gardens since then. Maya also takes her classes to the schools in the district, and even to TAFE students. She has a special interest in butterflies, moths and other tiny critters, collecting many specimens just before each class.

World Wetlands Day was celebrated over three days in February at the Gardens, with free community activities organised to suit a variety of participants from young children to adults including Seniors. There was a display of macro-invertebrates in the meeting room which lured visitors to examine these interesting creatures. An officer from Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) was also on hand to assist with information. The display was kept in place for the first guided walk of the year for Friends a couple of days later. They were equally fascinated by the critters on display.

A cruise ship docked in Mackay Harbour in mid-January, sending over 100 passengers off to visit the Gardens. This was a time when many of our guides were unavailable, but three stalwarts coped very well. The overseas visitors were particularly interested in the 'youngest garden they had seen and how much they loved seeing it in the making'.

The Horticultural Reference Group has been reviewing the species planted in the Ethnobotany Garden-Medicinal Plants bed in order to maximise species shown, especially for Maya's school tours. Dale and Maya were also involved with a small group of indigenous students from a local school assisting in the designing and creating of the Useful Plants gardens and sourcing which plants would be able to be grown in the school's sandy soil.

Mackay has experienced a very late start to the wet season, but has now had a very wet March, causing the commencement of work on the next stage of the Meadowlands Precinct to be delayed. The first Friends' planting bee for the year was cancelled last weekend as the garden beds were far too soggy. Hopefully the ground will be dry for the next one at the end of April.

Robin McWhinney, Secretary



Wetland Wonders display photo Maya Harrison

A hive of activity

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



Dr Sara Leonhardt (Photo by Bob Ducrou); Stingless native bee, *Tetragonula carbonaria*, on *Persoonia virgata* (photo by Sara Leonhardt); Benni Kaluza about to weigh a hive (Photo by Bob Ducrou)

The humble bee is estimated to produce yearly world-wide benefits of the order of A\$200 billion through the pollination of plants and crops. Any reduction in bee populations could have serious impacts on the way we live. The MRBBG is currently hosting an investigation, headed by Dr Sara Leonhardt of Leuphana University Germany, into the impact of resource availability (bio-diversity) on the health of stingless bee colonies.

There are approximately 1500 species of native bees in Australia. Most are solitary and not honey producers. There are 10 species of stingless social native bees (genera *Tetragonula* and *Austroplebeia*), which are honey producers, and valuable pollinators (proven or predicted) of mangoes, macadamias, watermelons, strawberries, citrus and avocados. At least two of these bee species are found in the Gardens.

The main resources required by stingless bees are pollen, nectar and resins. The pollen feeds the young, the nectar feeds the adults and the resins are used for nest building, and defence (sticky and smelly) against predators. Some plants produce resins to attract stingless bees. The bees extract compounds from the resins and attach these to their bodies by a process not yet fully understood. These compounds have antimicrobial action and may be used for communication by smell.

Does the availability and variety of resources of pollen, nectar and resin affect the health of the colony? To test this, Sara has established colonies in non-diverse habitats (monoculture macadamia plantations), and is comparing these with colonies in diverse habitats (our Gardens, domestic gardens and forests).

Five of the methods used to measure the health of the colony are: growth is measured by weighing; individual bees are caught to establish which resources they have harvested; reproductive rate is established from the brood comb; chemical analysis is done of the pollens nectars and resins; and nest material (resins) is analysed for stiffness and melting point.

The investigation is in its early stages, but it appears that the monoculture colonies are not doing as well as those in diverse habitats.

Sara has kept the Friends up to date on the progress of the study with a fascinating presentation on stingless bees in general and the methodology in particular. This was followed by Sara and Sunshine Coast University PhD student, Benni Kaluza, demonstrating how the colonies are 'measured', weighing the nest and catching bees to assess by sight and smell what they had foraged. This proved this research is definitely for the younger generation, as most Friends were hard pressed to see the bees, let alone determine what they carried and how they smelled – the bees are only 4 mm long!

The Friends will continue to follow this research with great interest and look forward to further discussions with Sara and Benni on the wonderful world of the stingless bee.

Ten, 20, and 30 year milestones

Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Melbourne, Victoria

We're counting decades: 30 years since the formation of the Friends; approaching 20 years since Dr Philip Moors, Director and Chief Executive, joined the RBG – from which he will retire on 4 November; and 20 years of volunteering by five Friends acknowledged at our annual meeting, as was the 10 years' service by our Secretary, Richard Smith, upon his retirement.

We move into centuries when it comes to the RBG's oldest trees. Many are now well over 100 years old, and a recent survey indicates that 135 will need to be replaced within a decade. New species will be introduced to 'climate proof' the Gardens for the next century, both Australian species and others from similar climate zones in Africa, the Americas and the Mediterranean.

The Growing Friends Spring Sale produced the most successful financial result for many years—\$25,700. With their Autumn Sale scheduled for 21 and 22 April, they were dismayed when the serious threat of myrtle rust disease prompted the RBG to introduce a strict 'no plants in or out' regime. Now a transition protocol allows some import and export under strict conditions; so our sale is saved by the spraying of all the plants beforehand. The same treatment applies to seedlings distributed for school visits. Botanical artists may no longer bring flowers from home into their classes; instead they are provided with specimens from the RBG.

Botanical art is blooming. Two impressive major exhibitions were held last year and our Botanical Illustrators gifted a CD with an image of each painting in the Eucalypts exhibition to the State Botanical Collection. Regular classes are conducted six days a week. Summer workshops were full and there's a waiting list for beginners.

Friends Scholarships will enable four RBG staff to undertake the following projects this year: an irrigation technician course; software training (Java SE7); a Sydney study tour of Asian taxa threatened by climate change; and a study of Californian flora, related to plans to improve the aesthetics and range of plants in the RBG's Californian collection.

The Friends new Secretary, Adnan Mansour, initiated a Future Planning Day in late March, attended by Council members, committee convenors, office staff and events co-ordinators. An independent facilitator led a wide-ranging discussion on the Friends current situation and our future. Topics included fund-raising, increasing membership, attracting talented volunteers and an assessment of the success (or otherwise) of our program of talks and activities. As we celebrate our 30th anniversary, we are proud to have more than 2400 members and to have given grants exceeding \$1.8 million to the Gardens.



Floating islands. Photo by Janet Thomson.

The first stage of RBG Melbourne's Working Wetlands project, towards which the Friends have committed \$210,000 over three years, has been completed. Stormwater harvested from surrounding streets is treated to remove nutrients and then circulated to Guilfoyle's Volcano and the Ornamental Lake, achieving a reliable volume and improved quality of water. Floating 'treatment islands', planted with wetland species, are part of the scheme – looking rather bare at present, but destined to be a mass of green. Stage two of Working Wetlands should be completed in mid-year.

Heather Ironmonger

Stage one completed at Moama

Friends of Moama Echuca Botanic Gardens
Moama, NSW



Mounds block planted to various grasses, eremophilas, miniature wattles, melaleucas and Nancye Smith (Committee member), Kron Nicholas (President) and Gwen McPoyle (Secretary) admiring grasses.

Our gardens have been in the development stage for about five years, the last two years actually bringing Stage 1, a formal entry, to completion.

Extensive use of white granite, cut from a quarry at Harcourt, has been a feature emphasising the zig zag design either side of wide multicoloured gravel pathways. These merge to a boardwalk forming the southern bank of a formed water reserve called Melaleuca Island after trees planted on either side of the island formation.

Both the west side and east boundaries of this entry stage is bounded by a dense stand of She Oaks to the west and !8 Myall wattles to the east, which will form boundaries and windbreaks. Extensive lawn areas break the pathways and low granite seating formations. Lemon scented and Iron bark gums form planting patterns for future shading on the lawn areas. Two earth mounds are planted to various native grasses, and compact rows of various types of Emu bush or Eremophila. A specialised signature tree is the Queensland Bottle Tree, *Brachychiton rупrestris*, at the entrances and along pathways.

Trees and plants have been sourced mainly from Rochester native nurseries, so acclimatisation seems to have been excellent, our current season having provided a great establishment period.

Our gardens have been designed by Chris Dance of Landdance architectural landscapers involved in the Geelong and Fitzroy Gardens in Melbourne among many others. Chris has worked closely with the Friends group under direct management of the Murray Shire to achieve the Stage 1 result. The aim of the Gardens is to demonstrate stands of water-wise local indigenous plantings together in a unique setting among older naturally established Box trees. Currently a second stage is under review and design.

As all these garden projects seem forever pushing suitable funding this one is no different. The Friends group initially raised public contributions and, with help of some government money and council funds, the gardens were able to get started and take shape with Friends, volunteers and contractors.

On-going Stage 2 funding has been raised in the same vein. A direction having been established and public support proven to a point, the Gardens will now be assisted in future development with allotted council funds added to what money can be raised by contributions and grants. The importance of these public park areas do take time to be properly valued as essential, worthy community attractions and amenities.

As Moama grows, so will the gardens, as an integral part of the town. They are close to town precincts, among developing sporting ovals, and close to a major school; a situation relatively unique for Gardens and their parent town.

Kron Nicholas
President of the Moama Echuca Bot.anic Gardens project

Canberra Discovery Garden officially open

*Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra
Canberra, ACT*



Laminated timber beams and beautiful rock walls combine to create a very special Visitors Centre. Photo by Linda Muldoon



Looking across to the city from the new Visitors Centre. Photo by Linda Muldoon

The Friends host an Open Day at the National Arboretum Canberra between 10.00am and 4.00pm on the second Sunday of each month. On 12 February 2012 our volunteers also facilitated a special event: the opening of the very modern Canberra Discovery Garden at the northern end of the Arboretum's Events Terrace.

This new garden is an initiative of ACTEW Corporation, our local electricity and water supplier, to help Canberra gardeners with conserving water, improving soil and selecting plants that are suited to the extremes of the Canberra climate. The garden is divided into three rooms. Room 1 has movable planting boxes and rotating garden beds which will accommodate short-term plantings. This area will be used for demonstrations and workshops and includes a stage. Room 2 displays plants requiring full sun and others needing part-shade. It also includes a raised succulent and cacti garden. Room 3 has permanent planter boxes, circles of lawn displaying various cold and warm season grasses, a shallow water feature and an area to demonstrate composting.

The garden was officially opened by Katy Gallagher MLA, Chief Minister of the ACT, and celebrity gardener Don Burke when they concurrently cut a tape with garden shears! Don gave two talks to full marqueees of visitors, while around 5000 people attended the Arboretum at some time during the day.

John Mackay, Chairman of the Arboretum board, later received a note from Don Burke which included the following: 'I do a lot of speaking and other functions around Australia each year. Sometimes they are poorly organised. Your people were on an entirely different level of performance . . . The overall Arboretum is quite magnificent. The basic design, planning etc. is the best that I have seen in Australia. Adam Burgess is a world class Arboretum Curator. Well done on assembling a dream team. I'll continue to watch as the Arboretum develops over the years ahead.'

Around 90% of the 100+ forests have now been planted and the frequent rain has mostly been beneficial, with some species putting on impressive growth. Many more gardens will be developed at the Arboretum over future years. We're not used to seeing Canberra's hills looking so green in summer but the views within and around the Arboretum look particularly beautiful this year.

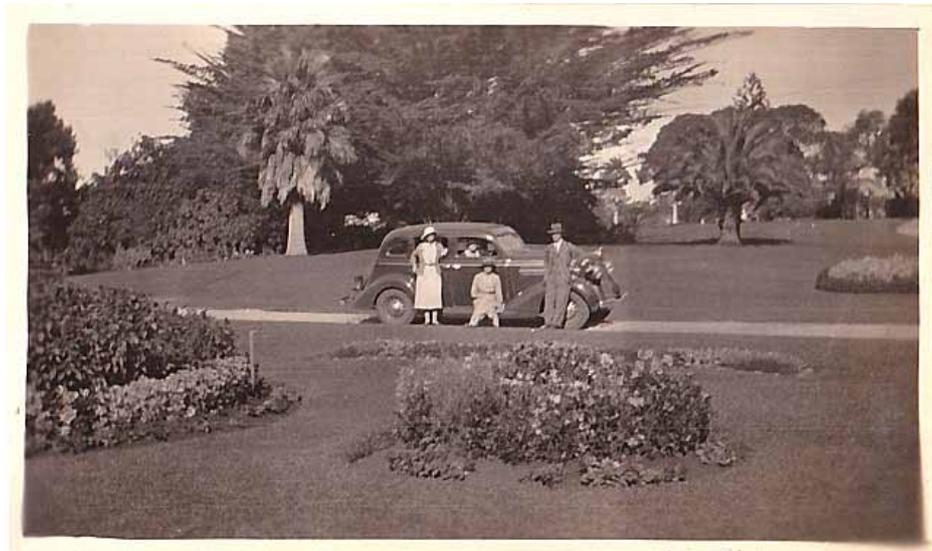
Work is well underway on the spectacular new Visitors Centre and adjoining Bonsai Pavilion. The Arboretum's opening ceremony will be held early in 2013, launching Canberra's centenary celebrations. While the Arboretum is still a construction site it is only open for the public to drive in on the Open Days as described above. The Canberra Discovery Garden will also be open on those days.

You can find our January newsletter on our website: www.arboretumcanberra.org.au. This tells of more ceremonial tree plantings (including the Danish royals) and gives a pictorial account of our first 'Voices in the Forest' concert.

Linda Muldoon, Publications Editor

Community garden for 146 years

*Friends of Warrnambool Botanic Gardens
Warrnambool, Victoria*



Visiting Warrnambool Botanic Gardens in March 1939

The Warrnambool Botanic Gardens are central to the city, only a few blocks from the CBD. As they are so accessible they are used on a casual basis by walkers, school groups, picnickers and garden lovers generally. While we have no way of knowing how many visitors enjoy the Gardens, we can report that there were over eighty recorded functions in the last year. The two biggest events were the Australia Day celebrations, estimated attendance of 1,500, and 'Jazz in the Gardens' that attracted over 2,000. Each event was a family day where friends shared the food and the fun as they enjoyed the music and the setting.

There were many informal celebrations of weddings, birthday parties, reunions, and memorial services. The Guiding Friends took tours on the second and fourth Sunday of each month and in addition took pride in telling school groups and visiting clubs and organisations of their plants, their people, and their heritage. The Gardens have been on the present site for 146 years. They are enjoyed by young and old with many visitors recalling visits with their parents and grandparents and photos of even earlier times.

When we look back we marvel at the civic pride that established a Botanic Garden so long ago. Some of our oldest pines are thought to be donations from Ferdinand von Mueller while the structure and serenity of the landscape is the genius of William Guilfoyle. The Warrnambool Botanic Gardens has had only seven curators in its long history. The gardens have been faithfully maintained during each long curatorship in contrast to many other provincial gardens that have been degraded by the intrusion of camping grounds, sports fields and the like.

The present curator, John Sheely and his team, nurture the now aging early plantings, while planting for the years ahead. As in the past the Gardens continue to provide a venue for many community events and one hundred years after the death of their designer they are a living memorial to the talent and the brilliance of William Guilfoyle.

Pat Varley, President

Open heritage garden

Friends of Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens Daylesford, Victoria

We are a new committee at Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens and we are feeling our way in terms of umbrella organisations, but we would love to be in closer contact with other Friends' groups. We have been focused pretty narrowly on fundraising, but in the process we have very greatly expanded our membership and we are excited at the potential of the group as a support and advocate for the Gardens. In the last six months we have raised \$65,000 and we are hoping to get close to \$100,000 after our open day at Wombat Park Garden on 21 and 22 April. The money raised will go to the restoration of Taylor and Sangster's Rustic Cascade and Fern Gully at our Gardens in Daylesford.

Taylor and Sangster also designed the 'new garden' at Wombat Park at the turn of the 20th century. But the story of Wombat Park begins in 1854 when grazier William Stanbridge built a modest timber homestead and began planting a magnificent garden. His collection of exotic trees was to be described as 'superior to any that can be seen in any private or public garden in Victoria.' (*Daylesford Advocate* 26 May 1885) The extensive and marvellously varied garden, characterised by what are now breath-taking specimens, is one of the jewels in the crown of Victoria's garden heritage.

In the early 1900s Stanbridge's daughter and her husband built their splendid Arts and Crafts style house and created the 'new garden'. The long, romantic elm avenue dates from this time, as does the famous crenellated tapestry hedge, the largest and oldest in the country. These are both listed on the National Trust Register of Significant Trees, as are many other trees at Wombat Park.

The Mackenzie family took on a wild and beautiful place in 1996. Since then, Isabel Mackenzie, with gardener Stewart Henderson, has overseen and implemented the steady restoration of the structure of the whole garden, while lovingly preserving a unique past.

This family garden has only occasionally been open to the public. The chance to see and enjoy the magical product of more than 150 years of planning, planting and growing was one that we were excited to share. At that open day in April visitors enjoyed the pleasures of English style country life on the croquet lawn, under the shade of the 'deciduous forest' and wandering the meandering pathways that seamlessly link the garden and the farm. They also enjoyed delicious homemade cakes, tea, a gourmet BBQ, wine, coffee and a superb range of plants for sale from a local nursery.

Patrice O'Shea , Secretary



Taylor and Sangster 'Plan for Public Gardens Daylesford'. In the top right corner, on its side is 'Cross section showing elevation of Ferntree Gully. Scale eight feet to an inch'.

Calendar of events

2012

National Arboretum Canberra Open Days
Second Sunday of every month 10am-4pm

'Mangroves, Myalls & More' AFBG Conference
17-20 August, Port Augusta, South Australia at
Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gar-
dens. <www.australian-aridland-botanic-garden.org>

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects Na-
tional Conference on 22-24 August in Sydney.

BGANZQ 2012 Conference on 6-8 September at
Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens.

BGANZ NSW/ACT Conference 'Create magic with
nothing' on 19-21 October at North Coast Region-
al Botanic Garden, Coffs Harbour.

33rd Garden History National Conference on 9-12
November in Ballarat.

2013

Australian Plants Society National Conference in
late winter at Sunshine Coast, Queensland.

6th BGANZ Biennial Congress in conjunction with
the BGCI 5th Global Botanic Gardens Congress,
on Sunday 20 - Friday 25 October at Dunedin, NZ.

Australasian Voluntary Guides in Botanic Gardens
Conference on Monday 28 October to Friday 1
November at Christchurch, New Zealand.

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>

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden, for informa-
tion about the AFBG conference
<www.australian-aridlands-botanic-garden.org>

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

Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra
<www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/>

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>

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Botanic Gardens Sydney, 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.
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, Bowral 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.

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

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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.
Peacehaven Botanic Park, Friends of. 30 Sunray Drive, Highfields QLD 4352.

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

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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. 102 Cornish St, Buninyong Vic 3357.
Burnley Gardens, Friends of. C/o Burnley College, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond VIC 3121.
Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 391, Castlemaine VIC 3450.
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 Gardens, Friends of. 21 Alphington St. Alphington VIC 3078.
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 69, 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 Rd, Tottington 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 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. Cm Fraser Ave. and Kings Park Rd, Kings Park & Botanic Gardens, West Perth WA 6005.

New Zealand Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 2553, Christchurch 8140 New Zealand.