



FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST

8.30am - 3:30pm

PRE CONFERENCE BUS TOUR

'Snapshot of the Sunshine Coast'

Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve, Noosa Botanic Garden,
starting from and returning to the MRBBG

2pm - 4pm

Other delegates:

Registration - Cafe and MRBBG Gardens are open.

Join others to have a walk around and to get to know the Gardens

Wild Flowers of the Gardens Photographic Exhibition Open - Arts and Ecology Building

4pm - 6pm

WELCOME DRINKS - A&E LAWNS

Welcome to the Mayor, AAFBG patron, AAFBG committee,
delegates and partners,
President, Friends of MRBBG

Welcome to the Sunshine Coast,
SCC Mayor, Cr. Rosanna Natoli

Presentation Handbury Awards,
Dr. Judy West AO, AAFBG Patron

SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST

8:30am - 8:45am

Last Minute Registration - Everyone Seated by 8:55am

8:55am - 9:00am

Introduction to the Conference by the conveners

Bob Ducrou, Lynn Vlismas and Malcolm Cox

MC: Kate Heffernan, Friends of Gold Coast Botanic Gardens

9:00am - 9:15am

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Briana Hanson, Kabi Kabi First Nations

9:15am - 9:30am

Welcome from the AAFBG Patron

Dr Judy West AO



9:30am - 10:30am

'THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE' : Keynote speaker
"The Changing Climate and Changing Expectations of Botanic Gardens"- Projects that address change

Dale Arvidsson, Curator,
Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum, Brisbane,
Queensland

10:30am - 11:00am

MORNING TEA

11:00am - 11:45pm

'Change in a Sub Tropical Botanic Garden'
"The Challenges Involved in Creating a Bushland Botanic Garden within a Biosphere"- Making a difference by maintaining Biodiversity

Bill Hadrill, Sunshine Coast Council Group Executive,
Liveability and Natural Assets, Sunshine Coast Council
and
Michael Gilles, SCC Environmental Visitor Centre
Officer; Mary Cairncross Rainforest Scenic Reserve,
Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden, Bli Bli Wetlands

11:45 - 12:30

MORNING WRAP-UP WITH THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS'
QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY THE AUDIENCE
Facilitated by Kate Heffernan

12:30pm - 1:30pm

LUNCH

1:30pm - 2:15pm

'Challenges always come with Opportunities?'
'The value of the promotion of native plants through Regional Botanic Gardens in Australia'

Lawrence Smith AM,
Landscape Architect,
Native Plants Queensland Garden Design Study Group Leader

SATURDAY 24th August PROGRAMME CONTINUED

2:15pm -3:15pm **'Friends Responses to the need for Change'**

- the importance of maintaining
strong *Relationships*

- Friends of MRBBG

- changing the appeal of *Volunteering*

- Volunteering SC

- responding to changes in *Climate*

- 'Let's Grow Wild'
Kings Park, Perth

- opportunities through *Technology*

- 'Plant Mapping'
Noosa Botanic
Gardens

3:20pm - 3:30pm DAY 1 WRAP UP

Dr Judy West AO

Former Executive Director,
ANBG Canberra, ACT

Garden closes at 5:00pm

Return to your accommodation

5.30pm - 9.30pm **Conference Dinner at Mooloolaba Surf Club**

Dinner Speaker - **Sheridan Stewart** (pending ABC approval)
ABC Sunshine Coast Saturday Breakfast and Gardening show
Presenter, and Author of *'I Am Enough'*

SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST

8:30am - 10:00am **Welcome to Day 2**
& Introduction to Linda Beveridge, President AAFBG
AAFBG Presentation and AGM
BGANZ Presentation
Cassandra Nichols, BGANZ CEO

10:00am - 10:30am MORNING TEA



10:30am - 11:00am

'Engaging the next Generation'

Environmental programs and experiences for children and young people

Ms Liz Capelin SCC Engagement Officer and
Ms Mandy Botterell, SCC Education Officer
from the Environmental Visitor Centres,
Natural Areas Team, Sunshine Coast Council

11:00am - 12:00pm

'Collaborating for Change'

Panel Discussion with MRBBG Community Partners

- **'Conserving our unique Heathlands: what DNA tells us'**

Dr Hilary Pearl

University of the Sunshine Coast

- **'Koalas, Drones and Dogs'
changing the fate of Koalas through Innovation'**

Dr Romane Cristescu,

University of the Sunshine Coast Detection Dogs for Conservation

- **'Bush Food Cultivation and Cooking from
an Indigenous Perspective'**

Tanika Orr, Nooks and Cooks

- **'Natives Naturally'**

**"How Community Nurseries can contribute to
Gardens for Wildlife"**

Joan Dillon,

Native Plants Sunshine Coast

12:00pm - 1:00pm

'THINGS WE FRIENDS WANT TO CHANGE'

Come prepared with your thoughts to contribute to one of 3 facilitated 30 minute workshop discussions followed by whole group presentation of ideas and Q&A

**The Role of Botanic Gardens in supporting community
behaviour and changes toward native gardening**

Presented by **Dr Laura Skates**, Botanist

with **Chris Olney**, President Kings Park Perth (TBC)

Point of Difference - The Rare and the Threatened

Kate Heffernan,

Landscape Architect, and former President AAFBG

**Changing visitor expectations:
The growing pressure to make Botanic Gardens a
multi-purpose social, educational and wellness venue
for the community**

Dr Nita C Lester

Former Qld Govt Botanist, academic, author and botanical artist

1:00pm - 2:00pm

LUNCH

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Rapid Fire - 'Our Story'

6 groups of Friends are invited to have a "brag session"

6 groups for 8 minutes with a final 10 min Q&A.

All digital material to be submitted prior to Conference,
first in first chance.

Subject can be on any topic, programme or achievement.

- **Friends of MRBBG talk about our Council/Friends collaborative effort in creating a SC Butterfly and Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Garden**
- **(Another 5 Friends groups to nominate their topic)**

3:00pm - 3:30pm

Next Conference announced, and Presentation

3:30pm - 4:00pm

WRAP UP OF CONFERENCE

AAFBBG President, Linda Beveridge

MRBBG President, Lynn Vlismas

MRBBG Manager - Michael Gilles

FAREWELL FROM CONFERENCE 2024



MONDAY 26TH AUGUST

Our Bush Magic tours

- 7:30am **Outer Gardens Tour**
- Bird Walk along the Creek Walk
 - Tall Gums Trail - with Bob Ducrou and John McCabe
- 10:00am **Morning Tea**
Tallowood Shelter overlooking the Lagoon
- 10:30am **Inner Gardens Tour**
- Nature Play Whipbird Children's Garden
 - Art in the Gardens including the Fern Glade
 - Birdwing and Butterfly Discovery Garden and Lagoon walk
 - Walking with Dinosaurs
- 12:30pm **BBQ Lunch in the Gardens**
- 1:30 pm **Farewell from the Friends**