

## In this issue

The conference at Port Augusta features very strongly in this issue, with a lengthy report by John Zwar, President of Friends of AALBG and myself (Anne Rawson). Some delegates have also covered the conference in their Gardens' reports; the consensus is that it was very good and very successful. There is also a report of the AGM of AFBG held at the end of the conference. You can also read about the Guides conference coming up next year in Christchurch which is making strides to recover from the earthquake. And then read about an art exhibition in Ballarat, the arboretum at Wellington, 25 years at Eurobodalla, going to the beach in Mackay, and Queen's Honours to two plants people. Happy reading!

## From the new President

### *Geraldine Davis*

Hello to all Friends of gardens throughout Australia and New Zealand.

To just introduce myself, I thought I would share a brief summary of how I have reached this role!

For the last 31 years, my husband and I, and our three children, have lived on a small hobby farm on the outskirts of Quorn SA, whilst Graham and I worked in Port Augusta until our retirements in the last six to eight years. In my formative years I lived with my family on a mixed wheat and sheep farm at Buckleboo (near Kimba) on upper Eyre Peninsula (above Goyders Line).

Prior to my own family settling in Quorn, we lived for some years in the far north of the state where my husband was principal of schools, first for three years at Nepabunna, an Aboriginal settlement in the northern Flinders Ranges near Arkaroola, and then we moved to Marree, a small township near Lake Eyre at the commencement of the Birdsville Track, for four years, where we raised our young family.

My interest in the history, exploration and development of the north of South Australia encompasses a passion for the careful and vigilant care of the environmental assets of this region, which has led me to be the current Chairperson of the Upper North Group of the Northern & Yorke Natural Resource Management Board. I am also the Chair of a small volunteer group which, under the guidance of the late Mr Brian Powell OAM, has successfully developed a botanic garden, known as Powell Gardens in Quorn. This garden has a collection of the local native plants from within a 30 km radius of Quorn.

In addition to the committees above, for the last eight years I have also been the treasurer of the Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) in Port Augusta. This Garden is unique, and hosts a vast range of the native plants from the southern arid zone of Australia. As you will note in this issue of *Campsis*, John Zwar and Anne Rawson have given a great summary of a most exciting and enjoyable AFBG conference hosted by the AALBG Friends with the theme 'Mangroves, Myalls and More'. This event was a wonderful opportunity to network with like-minded people from all over Australia, to share ideas and to promote our gardens in so many ways. I look forward to attending the **next biennial conference** which will be hosted by the **Friends of Gold Coast Botanic Garden on 9 and 10 August 2014**. I encourage you to keep these dates free!



## *Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens*

**Incorporation:** A0026805Z

### **Office bearers**

President: Geraldine Davis, AALBG Pt. Augusta

Past President: Janet Thomson, RBG Melb.

Vice-President: Warwick Wright, ANBG ACT

Sec/Public Officer: Annie McGeachy, Geelong

Treasurer: Karlene Taylor, RBG Melb

### **Committee**

Elizabeth Gilfillan, Ballarat Vic

Amanda King, Warrnambool Vic

Neil Morley, Gold Coast Qld

Alex Smart, RBG Cranbourne Vic

John Zwar, AALBG Port Augusta SA

### **Admin Officer**

Ro Noone, Geelong Vic

### **Address**

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[www.friendsbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org)

Web Managers: Wordsworth Communicating

Email: [info@WordsWorthcommunicating.com](mailto:info@WordsWorthcommunicating.com)

### **Membership**

Annual Membership current year is from 1 January to 31 March 2013 and thereafter from 1 April to 31 March. Fees: \$30 for up to 250 members; \$50 from 251 to 500 members; \$150 over 500 members.

Forms available on the website.

Pay by direct transfer to BSB 633-000

A/c No: 1045-71476 and put your Group's 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](mailto:campsis@friendsanbg.org.au)

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

Closing dates are 30 March and 30 September

ISSN 1320-8578

## From the President (cont)

As the newly elected President of the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens of Australia (AFBG) I wish to thank the Committee of AFBG for their continued assistance offered so freely to me in accepting this role. Keeping in touch with other committee members has been greatly assisted by the role of Ro Noone, AFBG Administration Officer, as well as the support of several long-standing AFBG members for which I am most grateful. Their ongoing assistance and guidance is greatly appreciated.

I welcome the opportunity to become the President of the AFBG and through the committee I will endeavour to work towards extending our membership throughout Australia and New Zealand, to encompass a true representation of Friends groups throughout our two countries.

In May 2012 the immediate Past President, Janet Thomson (Friends of RBG Melbourne), and Committee member, Warwick Wright, (Friends of the ANBG Canberra), met with Anne Duncan and Eamonn Flanagan, President and Executive Officer of Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ), the chief body representing the interests of botanic gardens in Australia and New Zealand. They discussed ways in which our two organisations might work more closely together and a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was subsequently prepared and forwarded to the Committee for consideration and review. Since then, as the incoming President, I have been able to meet with John Sandham, Adelaide Botanic Gardens and South Australia's BGANZ Council member, to begin to discuss how both organisations could bring together the interests of our respective associations to achieve a long term future for both. In the near future I hope to be able to bring you more progress towards the finalising of the MoU between our two associations. (*BGANZ article is on page 16.*)

## *Gardens in Focus* photography competition

Presented by Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens (Sydney)

**entries close on 10 December 2012  
SO HURRY!**

\$10,000 in prize money up for grabs  
and a place in the International Garden Photographer  
of the Year exhibition in the UK

Photos will be judged in six categories:

1. Plant portraiture
2. Garden views
3. Garden creatures
4. People in Botanic Gardens
5. International Botanic Gardens
6. Creative visions

Categories 1-4 are for photographs taken in a botanic garden in Australia or New Zealand, with separate divisions for Professionals and amateurs.

Categories 5-6 are open to all photographers in any botanic garden.

Full details on how to enter (including uploading your photographs and full Terms and Conditions) can be found at: [www.gardensinfocus.com.au](http://www.gardensinfocus.com.au)

# From the Secretary

Annie McGeachy

We welcome a new member and our first guide group, the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Volunteer Guides. This is particularly pleasing given Brisbane does not have Friends. The guides were established in 1988 and now have 85 active members, clearly very active given the excellent national conference they hosted in 2011. We hope to hear more from them in our next issue.

With Ro Noone our able Administration Officer in place, my return to the position of Secretary/Public Officer after 12 months off, is now much simpler, although I will miss my communications over eight years, with retired member and friend Janet Thomson. Janet's commitment to the Association over 12 years and her belief in the value and importance of Friends groups should be noted.

The AFBG being incorporated in Victoria (1993) requires the position of Secretary to be held by a Victorian representative. However, given we are a national association it is very pleasing to see that we again have an interstate President. Unfortunately Alan Donaldson (Gold Coast) has advised that due to unforeseen circumstances he is unable to take up his position on the Committee.

At the October meeting and review of AFBG costs, income and ongoing management, the Committee determined that unfortunately an increase in membership fees was necessary. Conscious of the effect on smaller Friends groups, annual fees are as follows: 1-250 members \$30, 251- 500 \$50, and over 500 members \$150.

However in an effort to limit future fee increases and to sustain, expand and improve services to members AFBG committee has forwarded a submission for ongoing funding support. We await a reply.

Our national network of Botanic Garden Friends groups may well be a unique association. Warwick Wright (Vice-President) and his wife, Pat, joined the Adelaide Friends recent tour and visit to Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens in South Africa initiating a welcome inquiry about linking with the AFBG.

## Pilch: helping the helpers

Pilch (the Public Interest Law Clearing House (VIC) Inc.) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation which is committed to furthering the public interest, improving access to justice and protecting human rights. Pilch also facilitates *pro bono* legal services to Victorian individuals and organisations in need, and by undertaking law reform, policy work and legal education.

While Pilch operates in all states they don't all provide the same level of services.

On line are very readable explanations in a Guide for Public Officers and Secretaries of Victorian incorporated associations. The Guide outlines the key legal responsibilities or duties to assist community groups, such as Friends Committees, to keep up-to-date with the recent *Associations Incorporation Act* and its Model Rules, *National Volunteer Act*, and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

PilchConnect also holds related training sessions in Melbourne and regional areas in Victoria.

Pilch will respond to your email questions. You can 'opt in' to receive PilchConnect's e-bulletin with the latest tips and their training calendar. The Pilch website is: [www.pilch.org.au](http://www.pilch.org.au).

NB. The updated *Associations Incorporation Act* (Vic) will commence 1 December 2012. The changes to the Model Rules are still to be drafted.

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## AFBG WEBSITE MEMBERS GALLERY IS FOR YOUR USE

Send us your photos and your logo. AFBG aims to promote the considerable beauty of our amazing botanic gardens. Please take a look at the website: [www.friendsbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org).  
To date we have received few gallery photos - please make it a deluge!

We are also missing many logos- NSW 7, Queensland 3, Tasmania 1, Victoria 20. Members without useful internet exposure can have a static page on the site  
Send photos and logos to Ro Noone, Email: [info@friendsbotanicgardens.org](mailto:info@friendsbotanicgardens.org)

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# Administrative Officer's report

Ro Noone

Dear Members

Thank you to a number of people who have been my host at their wonderful Gardens over the past few months.

## First Garden

On 13 June, I visited the Bendigo Botanic Gardens (White Hills) where I met Secretary of the Friends, Jan Orr, and long-standing Friend, Jane Cleary. Jane generously came straight from home upon my arrival and gave a fascinating tour of these historic Gardens. It was very exciting to see their comprehensive Master Plan and to learn that the appointment of a new curator is imminent. This will be a replacement for the previous curator, Samuel Gadd, who retired in 1903! You can see why the Friends are so excited. Jane pointed out a magnificent row of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* which are likely to pre-date white settlement. Sadly, one had split during a recent storm and was being removed the day of my visit. I was also impressed by the amount of winter colour in the new garden beds through which a 'river of gold' flora reflects the heritage of the site. With abundant birdlife, feature trees such as Kai Apples and ancient Pines, a lagoon and fabulous shelter for picnics and activities, the Gardens offer the visitor much pleasure. For more details of these Gardens-on-the-move, please refer to *Campsis* No. 38, page 9.



Ro Noone and Jane Cleary

## Second Garden

On 5 July, Friends of Warrnambool Botanic Gardens (WBG) President Pat Varley and Secretary Mandy King (also AFBG Committee member) gave me a very informative and enjoyable tour of the WBG. Despite the grey skies and winter drizzle, the Gardens looked lush and inviting. Pat outlined the major influences on the Gardens. Charles Scoborio, the second but most influential curator, instigated the move from the Hopkins River site in East Warrnambool to the current more sheltered site of 20 acres in 1866. Ferdinand von Mueller provided many plants and seedlings. In 1877 council commissioned William Guilfoyle to design the layout.



Mandy King and Pat Varley

It is one of the few botanic gardens today retaining its original size and form. Scoborio was from Cornwall (with Italian ancestry). He grew up at the 'Lost Gardens of Heligan' where his father and grandfather had worked as gardeners. The current Curator, John Sheely, was appointed in 2007. He has developed a successful, forward-looking plan for the Gardens and engages in a strong partnership with the Friends.

Special features of WBG include a significant pinetum, recently planted with new stock to eventually replace senescence of original pines. On the Register of Significant Trees are a Soledad Pine, *Pinus torreyana*, and 'The Lone Pine' Calabrian Pine, *Pinus brutia*. This was grown from seed collected at Gallipoli. It was recently featured in the news because the Lone Pine at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne, which has succumbed to fungal disease, was from the same source. Natives pre-dating the Gardens include Manna Gums and a Bursaria. Free guided walks are every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 2.30 pm. See *Campsis* No. 37, page 26 for more details.

### Third Garden

I am still 'on a high' following the AFBG Conference at Port Augusta in August. The Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) organised an outstanding array of speakers, tours, catering and entertainment. Please see the conference report on the following pages. A list of delegates/Gardens represented is available from me at: [glgadavis@bigpond.com](mailto:glgadavis@bigpond.com)

Start planning for AFBG's next conference to be hosted by Friends of Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens on 9 and 10 August 2014!

A reminder that your subscription has a bonus three months this year and is not due again until 31 March 2013.



New President, Geraldine Davis, addresses the conference

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## Professor Stephen Hopper, FLS, AC.

The Queen's Birthday honours, this year have given AFBG members reason to celebrate. Stephen Hopper was awarded Australia's highest honour, Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) for 'eminent service as a global science leader in the field of plant conservation biology, particularly in the delivery of world class research programs contributing to the conservation of endangered species and ecosystems'.

Stephen has had an enduring interest in Australian plants and his many publications include *Western Australia's Threatened Flora* and *Orchids of Western Australia*, 2008. He became well known to many AFBG members when he was CEO, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, WA which embraces Kings Park and Botanic Garden and the indigenous annexe Bold Park.

In 2006 he became the first non-British person appointed Director, CEO and Chief Scientist, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. In October this year he will return to a research position in WA. In July 2011 he addressed a combined meeting of FRBG Melbourne and FRBG Cranbourne. His illustrated address was *Old landscapes Reveal New Perspectives* which derived from his research into the world's Oldest Climatically Buffered Infertile Landscapes, now known as the OCBIL theory.

An endearing attribute of this extraordinary scientist is his willingness and ability to engage with anyone interested in plants or natural history. In 2003 Warren Worboys, Senior Curator Horticulture at RBG Cranbourne, wrote 'To spend time with Stephen in the bush is not only a botanical experience of the highest degree but you are likely to garner plenty of information on all aspects of natural history. Steve does not have a narrow focus in biological science. His field journals are not only crammed with information but they are a work of art in themselves with many beautiful sketches of plants and other aspects of his studies'.

It is extremely heartening to see that at long last botany and ecology are now on the same platform as medicine and other sciences when Companion of the Order of Australia honours are awarded.

Congratulations Stephen!



Photo courtesy Kew Gardens

*Alex Smart*

# Mangroves, Myalls and More!

*Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference  
18-19 August, Australian Arid Land Botanic Garden  
Port Augusta, South Australia*

The AFBG biennial conference at Port Augusta was an outstanding success: there were 150 happy delegates; the speakers were exceptional; John Zwar was a cheery MC; the Arid Garden was blooming beautifully; and the view from the golf club, the venue for most meals and presentations, was stunning. The food, prepared by the women workers from the Golf Club, was delicious and plentiful. The audio-visual presentations accompanying each speaker were exceptional, thanks to Geoff Rossiter from Roxy's Electrical in Victor Harbour.

## Civic Reception

Friday evening delegates were welcomed, mingled and talked, registered for the conference and some looked over the Wadlata Centre; others returned later to see the impressive displays and depictions of the natural history and life of Outback South Australia.

Some of the conference speakers and committee were interviewed live on the local ABC Radio Friday afternoon program just before the Civic Reception, which was hosted by the City Council.

## Saturday program

After much milling around and chatting and looking at various Gardens' displays, the conference proper got under way.



Displays by Gold Coast, Cranbourne and Geelong Botanic Gardens; John Zwar at the lectern; the view over the Pt Augusta golf course to the Flinders Ranges.

The keynote speaker, **Professor Chris Daniels**, Professor of Urban Ecology at The University of South Australia, spoke on *Backyards: the most important room in the house*. He began by telling us that Adelaide is an environmental hot spot and urban greening gives its citizens health benefits, a feeling of connectedness, a sense of place, a sustainable community. Its citizens are protected from Nature Deficit Disorder!



**Jeff Read**, Coordinator of Conservation of our Threatened Species (COOTS), introduced us to *Mangroves, where the sea meets the land*. Mangroves are fish nurseries, shelter and refuge for birds, particularly migratory species, they recycle nutrients, protect against storm surges and provide a visual screen. They are so valuable you'd think we would love them but they are a dumping ground and 4WDs do great damage on the adjacent samphire flats. But COOT is reintroducing mangroves and dealing with the challenges of ribbon seaweed uprooting young plants and crabs eating the seeds.



**Dr Carolyn Ireland**, Director Australian Rangeland Society, then told us of her love affair with *Western Myall*, a long-lived, beautiful, rangeland Acacia, *Acacia paprocarpa* Benth. The Myall grows up, falls over and grows up again, over and over, meaning one tree can cover a lot of land and live for a long time. This is called its procumbent habit and the oldest recorded tree is at least 500 years old. The biggest threats are ants which bury the seeds too deep for germination, and rabbits which eat the seedlings, though calici virus has made a positive difference.



**Dr. Peter Hayman**, Principal Scientist in climate applications, spoke on *Goyders Line: a brief history, current relevance and future shifts*. Goyder's Line was drawn in 1865 by South Australia's Surveyor General, George W Goyder, to mark the boundary of reliable rainfall. South Australia was then the granary for the eastern colonies and, following the common belief that 'rain would follow the plough', farmers moved further north and came to grief. Dr. Hayman outlined proposals to redraw the line which would mean considering the very variable topography, vegetation, soils, and limited rainfall records. So where should the line be drawn? Lunchtime! And very welcome it was too after an intellectually demanding morning.



Reinvigorated we went with **Dr Nita Lester** to *Myalls, Brigalows and Butterflies* in southern Queensland's brigalow country. Nita Lester, Senior lecturer Griffith University and Chair of the Myall Park Botanic Garden, described the elements of this ecological bioregion: dark, acidic soils; 500-600 mm rain; weeping myall, allocasuarinas, and wilga; glossy black cockatoos and painted honeyeaters; reptiles, amphibians and the butterfly that likes old growth brigalow. And we heard about buffel grass, *Cenchrus ciliaris*, for the first time as it invaded the old soldier settlements in Queensland brigalow country.



Dr Dean Nicolle, Consultant Arborist, Botanist and Eucalyptologist, spoke on *Eucalyptus from the deserts and other harsh environments in Australia*. He took us on a tour of his amazing collection of eucalypts at his Currency Creek Arboretum, and to where these trees live in the wide diversity of Australian ecosystems: exposed mountain ridges in the arid interior, iron-rich ridges of the Pilbara, east-west sand dunes in the Great Victorian Desert, and the expanses of desert sand plains.



Professor Don Bursill AM, South Australia's Chief Scientist, drew on his life time of experience in water science to speak on *Our water supply and the importance of the river Murray*. He gave us heaps of statistics that supported South Australia's claims to a better deal in the Murray-Darling plan-making, including SA's 100 gL from its desal plant, 80 gL captured from storm water, and less than 1% take from the River. The lower reaches of the River and the Lower Lakes, in his view, deserve a better deal.



The conference dinner was held in the Golf Club with beautiful table settings and an excellent meal featuring Roast Rack of Saltbush Lamb and a Chicken dish with a Quandong Crumble desert as well as other delights. It was an opportunity for delegates to mix and socialise. The after dinner speaker, **Dr John Read**, ecologist, environmentalist and author, speaking on *MORE than just pretty plants* was most entertaining as he told us about the challenges of convincing the locals on a Pacific Island to save the leather-back turtle by not eating its eggs. But then he brought us face to face with the challenge to eradicate buffel grass, introduced to feed cattle, but which is now smothering many local native plants and burning very hot and thus killing Acacias. It is already invading the Port Augusta botanic garden—a warning!

The Port Augusta Council generously donated the specially printed place mats, on canvas, featuring photos of plants and views in the AALBG taken by Peter Hall. These were greatly appreciated by diners who could take them with them as a memento of the conference. An excellent meal and a wonderful evening!



Convivial delegates before dinner; table set with placemats and flowers; Dr John Read.

### Sunday program

Sunday morning featured a well attended bird walk in the Garden with birder authority and local bird artist Peter Langdon, and others. Peter had recently written a book on the birds of the AALBG which was given to each conference delegate. A bush breakfast at the Garden's 'Bluebush Café' was enjoyed before breaking into smaller groups for guided tours of the Garden. Some delegates also visited an exhibition in the Garden's Meeting Room, of artifacts and botanical prints by Ferdinand Bauer, generously loaned for display from the Port Augusta City Council. Ferdinand Bauer was the scientific artist on Matthew Flinders voyage of discovery of the southern coast of Australia in 1802.



Photographers/birdos waiting to go to the AALBG on Sunday morning; in one of the AALBG's model gardens; wandering in the AALBG with the Stuart Highway in the background.

Then it was back to the Golf Club to listen to **Peter Langdon** talking about *25 years of Birding in the AALBG* and the 140 bird species in the Gardens, some of which we had just seen, and illustrating his points with his collection of stuffed birds. You probably knew that wrens live in large groups, but did you know that they indulge in lots of extra-marital sex?

Then our last speaker, **Valmai Hankel, PSM**, South Australian treasure, historian, retired State Librarian, told us about *The Murdering Camel: a glance at some 19th century explorers 1839-1859*. She told us most entertaining stories about explorers who had travelled from or near Port Augusta. Babbage did the first drawings of mound springs in 1858 while AC Gregory looked in vain for Leichhardt and Horrocks was shot by his camel, Harry.

After yet another delicious lunch, Kate Heffernan, BGANZ representative and Gold Coast Botanic Garden staff member, gave us a summary of BGANZ activities and screened highlights of the Gold Coast Gardens, the location of the next AFBG conference in 2014. The Association AGM followed (report is on page 25) and then presentations from the Friends of Sale, Melton, Maroochydore and Geelong. Conference closed at 5pm. The new committee met after the conference while many were in the one location, while delegates visited the AALBG again or packed and left for home or holidays.



*Anne Rawson Campsis Editor, FANBG member*



## **Pre and post conference tours**

### **Southern Flinders ranges**

For some the proceedings began with a pre-conference day tour of the southern Flinders Ranges, firstly to the innovative Sun Drop Farm near the coast south of Port Augusta. Here desalinated seawater is used to produce energy and to irrigate greenhouse vegetable crops in a large trial project of this amazing technology. A much larger expansion of the project is proposed and it already provides vegetables to Adelaide, Melbourne and locally.

A chilly wind greeted our tour group at Hancock's Lookout high in the Ranges, commanding expansive views south towards Whyalla and Port Pirie, west over Spencer Gulf and northwards to Port Augusta and the vast rangelands beyond. These higher altitudes in the southern Flinders Ranges are the natural habitat of Sugar Gums, so widely planted on many Australian farms.

The tour proceeded on through Wilmington to Melrose, with its huge, impressive and ancient River Red Gums, for morning tea at the Blacksmiths Shop. A quick look at the fine local museum and old buildings in this small heritage town before continuing to Wirrabara and Wirrabarra Forest with its wonderful trial plantings of trees from all over the world, dating from the 1880s. This area is considered the birthplace of forestry in Australia. Although *Pinus radiata* now predominates the plantings there are large areas of native forest and interesting blocks of other species. After a short talk by a Forest Ranger and walk in the old nursery area we went to a nearby organic farm for a lunch of local produce which all enjoyed. Because of cold weather we crammed into the kitchen and sat at a long table—'just like being at Nanna's' someone remarked.

We experienced sun, rain and hail, then more sun in the one day. We drove about 20 km through the forest, crossing more than 20 fords, all running water because of rain, on a narrow sometimes slippery track, then drove down out of the Ranges through the impressive Germein Gorge with high red rock walls and interesting vegetation. Finally, we had a very brief look at the old sailing ship port of Port Germein with its very long jetty and historic buildings, and then back to Port Augusta for the Civic Reception in the evening.

Some of the conference speakers and committee were interviewed live on the local ABC Radio afternoon program just before the Civic Reception, which was hosted by the City Council. Delegates were welcomed, mingled and talked, registered for the conference and some looked over the Wadlata Centre; others returned later to see the impressive displays and depictions of the natural history and life of Outback South Australia.



The Flinders Ranges; Cazneau's tree; Happy passengers on the boat on the eco-tour of upper Spencer Gulf.

### **Spencer Gulf cruise**

On the Friday, Monday and Tuesday several groups enjoyed eco-cruises on the calm waters of Upper Spencer Gulf, where mangroves and the sea meet the desert. These cruises featured marine life, birds, the arid landscape merging into the sea, and the magnificent Flinders Ranges in the distance.

## Bus tours

One bus load embarked on a five-day tour of the Flinders Ranges—unfortunately we don't have a report of this tour. Another group took a day tour to Quorn, Hawker and Wilpena. After travelling through the Pichi Richi Pass to Quorn we visited the Powell Gardens, a small botanic garden of plants occurring within 30 km of Quorn. We were met by the volunteers, (including Fay Powell, wife of the late Brian Powell, founder of the Garden) who maintain the Garden, and were given a most ample morning tea, had a brief tour of this old railway and farming town and then saw a commercial Quandong plantation and heard how this native fruit is being commercialised.

We drove over the Willochra Plain, past ghost towns reflecting failed agricultural pursuits in this marginal country, to the impressively preserved Kanyacka Station ruins, a complex of buildings which had been the centre of a large pastoral property in the 1800s. Next in the small outback service town of Hawker we saw the stunning circular panorama of the Flinders Ranges and other huge paintings by local artist Jeff Morgan, and then lunch catered by local ladies. The afternoon saw us heading north on the Leigh Creek Road with the high rugged Elder and Wilpena Ranges to the east, then along the Moralana Drive between the two Ranges with every bend in the road providing calendar views! A couple of photo and plant stops put us behind schedule as keen people wanted to take it all in. Besides the scenery, dozens of kangaroos and beautiful Native Pine woodlands, other vegetation and landforms maintained everyone's interest. We stopped briefly at Wilpena, the National Park HQ, with excellent facilities and displays, and then headed to the well-known Cazneau Tree, a majestic River Red Gum made famous by the photographer Cazneau in the 1930s. The journey back to Port Augusta was much faster after a most enjoyable day of plants, grand scenery and natural history.

## Thanks from Friends AALBG

Our Conference Committee was thrilled (and certainly very relieved) that after more than two years of planning the entire conference ran smoothly and drew many favourable comments. We were particularly pleased that so many people from most states travelled long distances to be with us. We have taken on board comments made on feedback forms and look forward to assisting in any way possible the organisers of the next conference at the Gold Coast Botanic Garden. The Friends of AALBG Conference Committee thank everyone who participated in the Port Augusta Conference.

*John Zwar, President Friends AALBG*

# AALBG winners of award!

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



Photo by Ro Noone

The Friends of Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG) at Port Augusta were nominated earlier this year for the ADVANTAGE SA Far North Region Sustainability Award for 2012.

At a function held at Port Augusta on Friday 26 October they were announced winners and Geraldine Davis (Friends treasurer) accepted the award on behalf of the Friends thanking all Friends for their support, enthusiasm, commitment and time helping at AALBG over many years.

‘Since their inception in 1985 the Friends of AALBG at Port Augusta have been committed to raising public awareness about growing, conserving and using native plants in private and public gardens. The Friends have been growing and selling these plants at the Botanic Garden for about 20 years and also raising money for specific garden projects such as new gates, small vehicles and sheds.

The Friends also help the staff at AALBG with plant and bird identification, plant collection, general gardening and guided tours around the Garden.

They are also involved in giving talks to bus groups, school groups and local community groups about the importance of our native plants and the amazing way they have adapted to our harsh arid climate.’

We are very pleased about this award which will be good promotion for the AALBG and a great way to thank the Friends. The award was sponsored by the Intercontinental Hotel Adelaide and two members will attend the Advantage SA Regional Awards State Final in Adelaide on the 30 November 2012.

*Chris Nayda, Secretary*

# Wattles, birds and a palm

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

## *Celebration of Wattle*

The Friends of the ANBG celebrated National Wattle Day 2012 in considerable style with the launch by Peter Garrett MP of *A Celebration of Wattle: Australia's National Emblem*, a revised edition of Maria Hitchcock's book *Wattle* (AGPS 1991).

On a stunning, if chilly, Canberra spring day some 80 people crowded into the ANBG Theatre for the launch, which was co-hosted by the Friends and the Wattle Day Association. Representatives of the Embassy of Japan attended in recognition of the silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) being the first plant to bloom after the devastation of Hiroshima. Yellow ribbons provided by the Acacia Appreciation Club in Hiroshima were handed out.

National Wattle Day has been celebrated annually since 1992 through the efforts of Maria Hitchcock, popularly known as 'The Wattle Lady', which led to gazettal of the golden wattle, *Acacia pycnantha*, as Australia's National Floral Emblem and National Wattle Day on 1 September each year. As Maria notes on her website, Wattle Day was originally conceived as a day to demonstrate patriotism for the new nation of Australia by wearing a sprig of wattle. The day now has wider significance as a day to celebrate our natural environment, our flora, our rainforests and bushland, our coastal heath lands and desert dunes.

*David Couatts, Friends' President*

## **Breakfast with the birds**

The 'Birds of the Australian National Botanic Garden' brochure, a commission for the Friends of the ANBG and completed in 2010, is a valuable guide to the birds of the garden. Being predominately an all Australian native botanic gardens, it is a birding hot spot for many local, interstate and overseas visitors. For the last eight years, the Friends and Guides of the ANBG have run a program 'Breakfast with the Birds'. All leaders are experienced bird and plant guides. Participants take an early morning walk with a guide, and finish with a breakfast at the Gardens cafe. Conducted over the Floriade time (the annual flower festival, in Canberra) for four weekend mornings (eight programs) September to October. It is a very enjoyable and popular experience, for approx 160 people each year, with many returning. It is a great opportunity to showcase the diversity of both plants and birds, and the attraction of both to each other. Nesting is at its peak, with at times sightings of Gang Gang Cockatoo, Satin Bower Birds, White Winged Choughs, Tawny Frogmouth, and the ever present Red Wattle birds, along with many other local and summer bird migrants.

*Louise Muir, Volunteer Friend and organiser of Breakfast with the Birds*

## **Planting a palm**

The very first plant in the ANBG's Red Centre Garden, a Livistonia palm, was planted with the aid of a low loader and a crane, on 17 October. The Red Centre Garden, the biggest project in the ANBG since the development of the rainforest gully, is the ANBG's contribution to the celebration of Canberra's centenary in 2013. There will be more news of this garden when it is officially opened in October 2013.



Photo by Anne Rawson



Terry Fewtrell of the Wattle Day Association, David Couatts Friends' President, Maria Hitchcock and the Hon Peter Garrett MP.

# Capturing Flora

*Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens  
Ballarat, Victoria*

*'Capturing Flora: 300 years of Australian botanical art' is an exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ballarat, running from Tuesday 25 September to Sunday 2 December 2012. This is an edited version of a piece originally written for the Australian Garden History Society by Gordon Morrison.*

I have always had a great interest in botanical art and an enormous admiration for the artists who have chosen this demanding path. Recently I have found an opportunity to channel this admiration by curating the Art Gallery of Ballarat's exhibition 'Capturing Flora'.

In 2008 I found Helen Hewson's *Australia: three centuries of botanical art* in a second-hand book shop and, while reading this work, a couple of pennies dropped. Hewson's book could be used as a guide for acquiring images and furthermore, since the book had never been associated with an exhibition, there was clearly a wonderful opportunity to utilise it as the blueprint for a major show. In common with the original publication the show will be a journey in time and across space—in terms of chronology it could have the sub-title 'William Dampier to Jenny Phillips'. However we will also feature images of genera from all states and territories—not to mention a few ring-ins from some of our closest neighbours in Old Gondwana.

Just 50 years ago the cultivation of native plants was regarded as a little eccentric; perhaps even suggestive of 'left wing' tendencies on the part of the gardener. In preparing for this exhibition I have realised that for a sustained period of time in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the newly found Australian plants enjoyed a considerable vogue in Europe. They may have been confined to conservatories in northern parts but they were readily adopted by gardeners in Mediterranean climes.

A strength of the exhibition will be the wealth of images from horticultural magazines and catalogues of Botanical Gardens' collections in the United Kingdom, Belgium and Germany. Dating from 1800 to the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, these images are also interesting from the perspective of printing techniques. The older works are mostly hand-coloured etchings but the later images are splendid examples of early colour lithography. Many are spectacular.

Another aim of the exhibition is to celebrate the work of some great artists who have never been properly appreciated. While most people have heard of Ellis Rowan, Rosa Fiveash is hardly a household name. Almost no one has heard of the tragic Swiss-born artist Friedrich Schoenfeld who illustrated many of Ferdinand Mueller's works in the 1860s. Hewson has this to say of this now obscure artist: 'Even in the international context, Schoenfeld's work is superior to that of contemporaries, Fitch included.... Schoenfeld was a master.' Yet poverty and lack of recognition drove him to commit suicide in 1867—a great loss to Australian botanical art.

The exhibition features more than 400 works. It is huge because the scope is ambitious and comprehensive and it covers ground that has not been treated in depth in previous exhibitions. There will also be a lavishly illustrated catalogue with essays from a range of scholars on topics such as the horticultural use of the Australian flora in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, amateur and professional 'lady artists' and a review of the first Australian published floras, from the perspective of the printing technologies used in their illustration.



*Telopea speciosissima* by Miss Maund and Benjamin Maund, 1837-1842, Botanical print from Maund's *The Botanist*, engraving on paper, hand coloured

*Peter Freund, Art Gallery of Ballarat*

# From a conference delegate

## *Friends of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide Adelaide, South Australia*

Thought provoking, controversial, stimulating, entertaining, enjoyable, educational, energising, excellent! I really cannot think of any more superlatives to describe a great Biennial Friends' Conference held by the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens at Pt Augusta in August.

Saturday was jammed packed with a seemingly endless array of amazing speakers and equally amazing country hospitality. Chris Daniels exuberantly advocated for the biodiversity needed for sustainability in our cities and the way our gardens can assist; Jeff Reid stressed the importance of remarkable mangroves for the protection of our fragile coastlines; Dr Carolyn Ireland focused on the the Western Myall, *Acacia papyrocarp*; Dr Nita Lester stressed the importance of understanding the complexity of an ecosystem before any revegetation or protection can take place; Dr Peter Hayman gave an insight into the history, impact, controversy and relevance of the Goyder Line; then Eucalyptologist Dr Dean Nicolle took us on a virtual tour collecting Eucalypts; and to finish the day South Australia's Chief Scientist, Professor Don Bursill, set us all right on the issue of the River Murray. I am sure the interstate delegates were enlightened if not delighted by his facts. Talks continued the next day with Peter Langdon focusing on the avian visitors and residents to the AALBG and how they have changed over the years. Valmai Hankel introduced the many Victorian era explorers that began their journeys from Pt Augusta.

One of the highlights of the first day was the after dinner talk by ecologist Dr John Read. We were warned he enjoyed being provocative; he did not disappoint. He claimed we were all 'freaks' (in the nicest way) as we were passionate about plants and botanic gardens as a means of educating others of their importance. He drew a comparison between the work by the local people on the Solomon Islands protecting the Leather Back Turtles and the efforts needed to rid the arid lands of Australia of buffel grass. Both problems needed persistence and passion often against seemingly insurmountable odds to prevail. In fact John said they needed 'tub thumpers'. Isn't that what all Friends of all Botanic Gardens big or small need to be—tub thumpers. !

*Helena Jenkinson*

## Barbara Wheaton OAM

Congratulations to Barb Wheaton on her award in the Queen's Birthday Honours on 11 June 2012

While there are many wonderful volunteers of the Friends, Barb fully deserves her award as she has worked in many aspects of the Friends since joining in 1983, while at the same time helping and inspiring others along the way. Shop committee and convenor 1984–1995, garden guide 1985–2012, guide leader 1995–1998, guide booking officer 2008–2010, guide publicity 2010–12, tours committee 1999–2001, main committee 1984–85, 1995–98, exhibition committee 1990–99, growing group 2007, strategic planning group 2006–09, and now she is back on the North Lodge roster and training to be a guide in the Santos MEB. Her advocacy for the Gardens saw her initiate the monthly trails at Mt Lofty Botanic Garden as well as starting a valuable partnership with U3A groups and the guides. Besides all this she has been a wonderful mentor to new members, always encouraging and sharing her wide knowledge and zest for learning. There would not be many activities and events for the Friends and the Gardens where Barb is not present and lending a hand. A true friend to the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide

# A new beginning

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

American psychologist and philosopher William James once said: 'The greatest use of life is to spend it on something that will outlast it.' Over the course of their history, the Friends of the Botanic Gardens and the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation have both endeavoured to promote and support the Gardens, helping to secure the future of Australia's oldest scientific institution. Now, with Friends' 30th anniversary, these organisations are facing the most significant change in their history, as they look forward to their future together as Foundation and Friends of the Botanic Gardens (*Foundation & Friends*).

When the International Peer Review (IPR) visited the Gardens in December 2011, they delivered well-deserved praise for the support the Gardens receive, acknowledging the unwavering enthusiasm and generosity of Friends' members and Foundation supporters. With this mutual respect and interaction, it's only natural that as the Gardens evolve, *Foundation & Friends* will grow alongside them. The merger of these two entities is a fundamental stage in this growth.

Combining the two into *Foundation & Friends* creates a solid base and allows an increase in community engagement with the Gardens. The CEO of *Foundation & Friends* will sit in on the Executive of the Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust and will, therefore, be at the heart of the business of the Trust. This is fundamental to ensuring that members and supporters understand, first hand, what is going on, what issues the Gardens are facing, and what exciting things are happening.

Since its inception, Friends has been run by and dedicated to its members. Everything it has become and achieved is due to the belief of the members and their generous support. Friends have increasingly felt the pressure of maintaining and expanding membership. The total membership has been declining, significantly over the past year, following the removal of entry fees at Mount Annan and Mount Tomah. There is a real need to address this decline so the new structure and a better synergy with the Trust will help *Foundation & Friends* overcome this challenge as it creates a larger community of supporters.

*Foundation & Friends* will also work to strengthen its capacity to advocate and fundraise for the Gardens. In the past, as separate entities, they have raised millions of dollars and ensured the survival of the Gardens in the face of incursions and cuts. Together, as a larger unified force, *Foundation & Friends* will invest even more in the Gardens, in our conservation initiatives and our education programs. In a time when more people are losing interest in conservation and the importance of the environment, the support that *Foundation & Friends* provides is even more vital to ensure that the Gardens continue their significant research and development. Looking at how far both the Foundation and the Friends have already come, and all they have achieved, it seems certain that the combined *Foundation & Friends* will continue to blossom as it evolves and moves forward. The faith and dedication that so many have shown for the changes that are being taken on and the overwhelming support for *Foundation & Friends*, is contagious. With this vision and hope for what the future holds, one can't help but think the *Foundation & Friends* members are part of a community that will continue to raise awareness and complement the Gardens for generations to come.



The new Board of Directors of the *Foundation & Friends* of the Botanic Gardens

Back row L to R: Julie Ormonde, John Egan, Richard England, Raoul de Ferranti, Hugh Springford, Tony Sherlock Nicky Jones.

Front row L to R: Debbie Mills, Prof. David Mabberley, Clive Austin, Tim Jackson.

Photo by Jaime Plaza, Royal Botanic Garden & Domain Trust.

# Professional Development: the focus in 2013

## *Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ)*

*Eamonn Flanagan, Executive Officer*

BGANZ is the peak body representing the interests of botanic gardens in Australia and New Zealand. We aim to promote the interests and activities of Australian and New Zealand botanic gardens and botanic gardens generally and enhance the state of botanic gardens for the benefit of the community. We have a wide variety of members. Most botanic gardens are members. We have a number of Associate members, including many Friends' groups, and many individual members. BGANZ has four Regional Groups and three Professional Groups, including our Professional Development (PD) group which has been at the centre of our focus this year.

Most PD workshops are run in conjunction with a regional BGANZ conference and this is aimed to assist members and non-members to attend at least one workshop in coming months. PD Workshops will be held at each of the regional BGANZ Conferences this spring and at the Congress in Dunedin in October 2013.

- BGANZ QLD – Sept 7 2012 – Annette Zealley and friends – 'Plant Collection Toolkit'
- BGANZ NSW – Oct 19, 20 & 21 2012 – Peter Symes – 'Invasives and Biosecurity'
- BGANZ VIC – Feb/March 2013 – Jerry Romanski – 'Mature Tree Management' at their Plant Forum (to be finalised)
- BGANZ NZ – Nov (TBC) 2012 Seminar – Low Impact Design for Botanic Gardens, Auckland Botanic Garden. Date and details to be finalised.
- BGANZ NZ at BGCI Congress Dunedin 2013 – Education & Interpretation Workshop (TBC)

You can find the complete list of PD and all other BGANZ events on our website at: [www.bganz.org.au](http://www.bganz.org.au).



BGANZ Council members Lesley Hammersley (BGPA) and Phill Parsons Tasmania Arboretum network at the recent BGANZQ Conference at Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden

BGANZQ (Queensland), one of our four regional groups, held their conference, 'Art and Ecology' at Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden in early September, a great time of year to be in Queensland, and we were all warmly welcomed and fed by the Maroochy Friends' group. The amount of work, variety and quality of food provided was truly outstanding.

Presentations ranged from Green Art to Stingless Bees and there were a number of Queensland regional botanic gardens presentations. A key PD session was the Collections Planning Workshop which explored collections management principles and practises for horticultural managers, curators, horticultural staff and volunteers. It was presented by Annette Zealley from Geelong Botanic Garden and John Arnott from RBG Cranbourne and groups worked and discussed their collections and there was a great sharing of ideas. The documents from the workshop are available on our website. The Conferences are always a wonderful way to network and share ideas and provide a great opportunity for the botanic community to renew their passion, develop ideas and learn from each other.

And finally *The Botanic Garden*, our newsletter, is published three times per year. We now have a reciprocal arrangement where by the AFBG also contributes an article to *The Botanic Garden*, furthering this valuable connection.

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### Did you know?

*Corymbia torelliana* is the only invasive Eucalypt! It is the only Eucalypt with animal seed dispersal courtesy the Stingless Bees.

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# Welcome to Burrendong

## *Friends of Burrendong Arboretum*

### *Wellington, central west New South Wales*

Burrendong Arboretum, situated on the foreshores of Lake Burrendong, is a relatively old and very important garden in that, in a period when people had little time for natives, the Arboretum was established for the sole purpose of growing, preserving and conserving native plant species.

It was George Althofer, orchardist, nurseryman, native seed collector (think *Nindethana*) who conceived the idea of an Arboretum—in fact a dozen arboreta—dotted along the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range, as repositories for the species he realised were becoming extinct through grazing and cropping pressures. As a seed collector he had an intimate knowledge of plants throughout New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria and made many trips to the west, South Australia and the arid centre.

In 1964, after decades of lobbying, George persuaded the Soil Conservation Service of NSW to set aside a parcel of land on the foreshores of the newly completed Burrendong Dam. Immediately volunteers swung into action: ripping contour lines, propagating plants, planting and watering. For the first seven years the Arboretum was run on the proverbial smell of an oily rag. Gradually the NSW state government helped the young Arboretum and by 1976 was paying the salary of a full-time worker and has now provided a caretaker's cottage, shed and nursery and the annual allocation covers some of the basic running costs.

So what does the Arboretum offer to visitors? From the moment you drive over the entrance ramp to the Arboretum you will experience a surge of pride in our 'oh-so-special' flora. A vista of inland river red gums, a stately line of weeping myalls, a swathe of mallees and a sweep of raised beds with very special plants welcome you.

Here is probably the best collection of Western Australian plants outside WA. Mallees, grevilleas, hakeas and the shorter-lived verticordias turn the Arboretum into a nature-lover's paradise. The hakeas with their extraordinary fruit and their spectacular flowering in the winter months keep the Arboretum aglow even on the coldest days. And in the display beds you can enjoy *Kunzea pulchella* with its arching canes of vivid flowers, the rare and strongly horizontal *Grevillea maxwellii*, *Banksia baueri* with its huge cones, the reds, green and blacks of the sculptured kangaroo paws, and so many more.

And visit Fern Gully, a dry, rocky gully transformed by the fabrication of a huge brush covered canopy soaring above the creek bed, watered by a misting system. Underneath are ferns, palms and rainforest trees, a re-creation of Gondwanan Australia.

But, as with so many other gardens, all is not rosy in this Garden of Eden. There is a huge and as yet untapped potential: for the extension of the plant collection and its display; for opportunities to teach our children and visitors about our special and well adapted flora; and, most importantly, for conservation.

The Friends of Burrendong Arboretum has been in existence almost as long as the Arboretum. In the early days members drove tractors, manned bucket brigades, propagated and planted and fought off threats such as the siting of a rubbish tip in the Arboretum, and an airstrip!! They have held cake stalls, Open Days, sold plants, organised functions and presented at fairs and expos as well as working in the Arboretum.

In 1990 the Burrendong Arboretum Trust was set up and the Association changed its name to the Friends of Burrendong Arboretum. But the voluntary work continues unabated and in addition the Friends have managed to attract sponsors and bequests and hold a considerable share portfolio.

*Marion Jarratt, Vice Chairman*



*Eucalyptus rodantha*

Photo by Bev Graham.

# Guides' conference on track

*Friends of Christchurch Botanic Garden  
Christchurch, New Zealand*

The conference organising team in Christchurch is getting down to the nitty-gritty of the program details and excitement is building as the 'year-out' dates approach. The program will be based on the proven formula of previous conferences with emphasis on the conference theme 'Guiding for the Future'. The challenges and opportunities offered by rapidly evolving technology will be one of the areas addressed.

Christchurch is going through some dramatic changes since the earthquakes and there will be many interesting stories to show and tell. This is a unique opportunity to see a city in the process of reinventing itself, with a big emphasis on green spaces. And in case you're wondering, the earthquakes are a thing of the past!

The important dates are:

Monday 28 October 2013: Registrations from mid-day, opening early evening

Tuesday and Wednesday 29, 30 October: Speakers, walks and talks

Thursday 31 October: Day tours

Friday 1 November 2013 mid-day conference concludes.

**Please note:** these dates are a week later than those in the brochure distributed at last year's conference. These clashed with the BGCi Conference in Dunedin NZ—keen conference-goers could do both!

We are planning two post-conference tours, a three-day one and a five-day one, both taking in some of the scenic highlights of the South Island and some great gardens.

Registration will open in April.

Come to Christchurch and be part of our rebuild. A warm welcome is waiting.

*Alan Morgan, Conference Chair*  
a.morgan@xtra.co.nz

*Neil Fleming, Conference Secretary*  
neil.fleming@vark-learn.com

**P.S. Christchurch comes six out of ten!**

Lonely Planet ranked Christchurch number six in their world top 10 '2013 Best in Travel' destinations, one ahead of Hobart, the only two cities in Australasia to make the list!

# A packed silver anniversary year

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

Our 25<sup>th</sup> year has been an amazing one.

Significant documents like the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Friends and Eurobodalla Council and the Draft Strategic Plan for ERBG 2012–2017 are almost completed. We were exceptionally fortunate to have been working with Council staff who could put their minds to the best outcomes for the Gardens at a time when Council itself was undergoing significant shifts in its internal staffing structures. Among these Council staff changes is the appointment of a new Gardens' Manager, Michael Anlezark.

The MoU between Friends and Council marks a milestone in our 25-year history. It covers roles and responsibilities for a variety of day-to-day activities and sets out the way the Friends will work co-operatively with Council to get the best from our outstanding community facility.

The Draft Strategic Plan for ERBG 2012–2017 is an equally important document, detailing the ways in which the Gardens' mission statement—Conservation, Education, and Recreation—will be put into practice in the foreseeable future. In conjunction with the MoU it provides background and justification for developments like the provision of much-needed additional indoor space for the Herbarium, visitor services (information and sales), and meetings. We expect that it will be adopted by the incoming Council.

We received a notable birthday present, the \$370,000 grant from the Commonwealth Government's Biodiversity Fund, to establish a regional seed bank. The aim is to provide a diverse supply of local provenance seed stock to aid revegetation in places that have been eroded or eaten down, or where a local landowner or manager wants to establish a wildlife corridor. A project officer will be appointed. Assisted by Friends' funding, the present workshop will be relocated and the entire nursery/workshed area will be revamped to encompass both Seed Bank and ERBG functions.

As part of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we have arranged an exhibition of photographs depicting various aspects of the Gardens, which have been submitted by members of the Eurobodalla Photographic Club. It is on view at the Chef's Cap Café, with the support of the licensee, who is a member of the Friends.

Forty seven photos are on display. All visitors to the exhibition are being invited to submit a form with their five favourite photos. After the exhibition closes, the thirteen top-scoring will be printed in an A4 Calendar for 2013. The box of forms has to be cleared often, so popular is the voting.

Good publicity on the front page of the local free newspaper about this exhibition, which brings together members of two community groups, has encouraged people to come to the Gardens. Photographers have been given flyers about the 'Gardens in Focus' competition (*see page 2*) run by the Friends of Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Perhaps we will be one of the 10 botanic gardens that attract the highest number of entries, and receive recognition as 'a Gardens in Focus Most Treasured Botanic Garden in Australia'.



Isabel Carey and some of the photos in the exhibition. This photo by Sue Grahame.

*Heather Haughton, President and Sue Grahame, Newsletter Editor*

# Trips to the beach

*Friends of Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens  
Mackay, Queensland*



Hidden Valley on the Cape Hillsborough guided walk. Photo by Kevin Jackson.

This has been an exceptionally busy year for the Friends. Rain interfered with several planned gardening bees, but many others were able to go ahead, so a lot more beds are being filled.

We visited Carmila Beach, about an hour's drive south of Mackay, in late May, to look at plants growing in the dwindling beach scrubs of the region—which are also growing in our Gardens. They frequently look very different in the wild and Gardens Friend Meryl Ritchie and Curator Dale Arvidsson spoke on what species would be useful additions to the Friends' own gardens.

Our vice-president John Atkinson is a National Parks Ranger and he led a fascinating tour around Hidden Valley at Cape Hillsborough, a beach north of Mackay, in September. He showed the group a very different perspective, looking at the use of the area by the traditional owners, ecosystems with the rainforest creeping down to the sea, and the different plants in the buffer areas based on subtle differences in soil and distance from the ocean.

Dale Arvidsson led another walk called *Inspired by nature*, showing how Australian flora collected and reproduced by botanists and botanical artists in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries made such an impact on the rest of the world. From the initial 'discovery' of the east coast flora by Europeans with Cook and Banks aboard the *Endeavour*, later excursions by Flinders, on to renowned botanical artist Ellis Rowan and the flora she painted on her visit to Mackay in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century—some of the techniques of these artists in cramped conditions were revealed. At the same time, a group of weavers held workshops in the Tropical Shade Garden, hanging their unique creations on shrubs and trees there.

Myrtle Rust unfortunately made its way to our Gardens mid-year; consequently some activities were halted whilst the Gardens took steps to limit the spread of the disease and deal with the initial outbreak. The Herbarium Friends ceased collecting material, local gardening groups using the Gardens were redirected to other facilities and a Friends gardening bee was cancelled until a policy on the handling and treatment of potentially infected material was developed. The disease continues to spread and is now recorded on 14 species in the Gardens and at 22 locations around Mackay. With procedures developed to help limit the spread of infection, these groups and our usual activities will soon return, albeit with some limitations and a little extra care required.

After a cool winter, spring has sprung and the Gardens are looking a treat in the otherwise dry and dusty Mackay that is typical at this time of year in the tropics. The weather has been glorious and our native flora has turned on a show with the various acacias, grevilleas, banksias, orchids and daisies putting on a wonderful display and attracting flocks of nectar feeding birds and insects—as well as the public—during a busy school holidays.

*Robin McWhinney, Secretary*

# A tale of two conferences

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

### Conference 1

My report on the AFBG Conference for our August Newsletter.

Debra and I attended the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference in Port Augusta on 18-19 August. 141 delegates were treated to a superbly organised conference with a range of fascinating speakers. Topics covered related to the arid areas of Australia, and touched on the history of the area, climate and water issues. Volunteers from the Port Augusta Golf Club provided lunches, a dinner, morning and afternoon teas in grand style and as only country cooks can.

As important as the formal program were the informal meetings with Friends from around the country, comparing how we operate and the problems we face. One thing that did emerge from our discussions was that we are one of the few Friends groups that undertake the range of activities that we do, and we should ensure that this range is not reduced. A frequent comment from those who had visited our Gardens was how peaceful and natural they are and please keep it that way!

As an AFBG 'debutant', I could not compare with previous conferences; however, in a previous life I attended many industry conferences, and this was the most professionally organised, managed and run in my experience. In the latest Friends of AALBG Newsletter, President John Zwar says 'we were most impressed with the help and assistance of Port Augusta Council who helped to present the Garden at its best, assisted with printing and in numerous other ways and hosted the Welcome Reception for Conference Delegates'. This leads me to suggest that the relationship between Friends and Gardens' owners (usually the local Council) might be explored at the Gold Coast conference, perhaps in a workshop format so that all delegates might be involved. Some areas that might be covered are funding, division of labour, training and learning to cope with and overcome OH&S issues.

### Conference 2

BGANZ-Q held their 2012 Conference at the Maroochy Arts and Ecology Centre on 6-8 September. More than 50 delegates attended from as far afield as WA and Tasmania. The Friends were selected by the host Sunshine Coast Council to provide lunches, a bbq dinner, morning and afternoon teas—all reports suggest top marks for their efforts. Our guides also led walks for the delegates, putting into practice the presentation by the volunteer guides from Brisbane Botanic Gardens.

It was interesting to see the degree of Friends' involvement, both from Gold Coast and Maroochy, in a BGANZ Conference—not surprising in some ways as we share a common 'workplace', but definitely to be encouraged.

*Bob Ducrou, Newsletter Editor*

Lunchtime and Ray Seddon's presentation on Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vines. at Conference 2. Photos by Malcolm Cox.



# AALBG in full bloom!

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

The Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens in Port Augusta has been on my list of places to visit for a long time, so when the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference came to AALBG, I had to be there although we wondered why such a conference would be held in August. We arrived two days before the conference so we were able to visit the Gardens before the crowds arrived and discovered that August sees the AALBG in full bloom, particularly their dazzling collection of *Eremophila* species. My highlights over the weekend were numerous. I was impressed that 105 of 145 delegates turned up at 7am on Sunday for the bird walk but Peter Langdon took it in his stride and handled the large crowd well. The chirruping wedgebills, white browed babblers and several types of honeyeaters put on a great show for us. The catering throughout the weekend by the Port Augusta Golf Club's volunteer ladies was outstanding, including the conference dinner where the centrepiece on each table was a magnificent cluster of wattle and Sturt's desert pea.



Photo by Murray Fletcher

The selection of speakers gave us a varied and interesting program, all relevant to arid zone Australia and particularly the region around Port Augusta. The speakers were all entertaining and informative and I particularly liked the entertaining presentation on Goyder's line given by Peter Hayman, principal scientist in climate applications at the Waite Institute. (His term 'recreational spread sheeting' was new to me.) George Goyder was Surveyor-General of South Australia in 1865 and drew a line on the map based on soil types, climate and vegetation data to delineate the upper limit of reliable rainfall for the grain belt in the state. Goyder was well ahead of his time in sound resource planning in drought prone climates and Peter detailed how his line is currently being re-assessed in light of predicted climate change.

Valmai Hankel PSM, an Australian historian who worked at the State Library of South Australia for over 43 years, looked at some 19<sup>th</sup> Century explorers of South Australia between 1839 and 1859, including John Ainsworth Horrocks who has the rare distinction of being the only person to have been shot by his own camel.

Above all else was the contact and interaction with Friends from around Australia who were all there to enjoy themselves, enjoy the AALBG and enjoy the company.

It was announced that the next AFBG conference will be hosted by the Friends of the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens in 2014. Although you probably think of the Gold Coast in terms of high rise development and schoolies week, inland from the developed zone there are some amazing natural areas on which the conference will focus. The friends group there has more than 400 members with 60–70 active volunteers so it should be another great meeting.

*Murray Fletcher*

# End of an era as Director retires

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

William Guilfoyle, the second director of the Melbourne Gardens, was well commemorated between June and August as talks, walks and published articles marked the centenary of his death. With vision and horticultural skills, he created the superb landscape that endures today.

We have celebrated the Friends' 30th anniversary with an afternoon tea party at Gardens House. Honoured guests included our neighbours, the Governor of Victoria (who is our Patron) and Mrs Chernov, former presidents and foundation members. A group of volunteers initiated the Friends in 1982 with a Save the Lake campaign, publicised by a tram bearing the slogan 'Give So the Lake Will Live'. The lake was being choked by a virulent water lily, and funds were needed to drain it and remove the silt containing the water lily roots. In conjunction with *The Sun* newspaper the appeal raised \$200,000.



Photo by James Brookes

Since then we have provided enthusiastic and effective support for the Gardens and its staff in many ways. Our highest-income-raising efforts are the twice-yearly Growing Friends sales and the biennial botanical art exhibitions. On a smaller scale, an active program of talks, walks and garden visits offers much of interest throughout the year. Most recently we've heard talks about Brugmansias, Hellebores and the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, as well as a day of practical workshops on garden preparation, planning, pruning and maintenance.

Many months of meticulous planning by our artist members will culminate in the 11th Art of Botanical Illustration exhibition from 10 to 25 November. Its reputation is growing. The 146 selected works by 78 artists have come from all over Australia; in addition a distinguished USA artist will exhibit and present a workshop.

With myrtle rust disease remaining a serious threat, our Growing Friends were relieved to retain their scheduled Spring Plant Sale in October by having all plants sprayed beforehand. A 10 per cent discount on plant purchases is a new benefit for members.

In late autumn, a distant view of the Gardens' Ornamental Lake took on the appearance of a green lawn. Close inspection revealed the water's surface to be densely covered by a native floating fern, *Azolla filiculoides*. In July contractors using a powered punt scooped more than 250 cubic metres of fern from the lake. In a green solution, it was recycled as composted garden mulch.

This report began with the commemoration of William Guilfoyle, the Gardens' second Director. It ends as Dr Philip Moors, the twelfth Director and CEO, approaches retirement on 4 November after 20 years at the RBG. A feature of the Friends' farewell lunch was a slide show illustrating developments that had taken place during those years (including many assisted by donations from the Friends). The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden in Melbourne and the Australian Garden at Cranbourne were ground-breaking achievements. The revitalisation of Guilfoyle's Volcano and the Working Wetlands project are among many other successful educational, scientific, environmental and horticultural advances that will long be associated with Philip's time at the helm. What a legacy!

*Heather Ironmonger*

**Latest news:** Professor Tim Entwisle, formerly of the Botanic Gardens of Melbourne, Sydney and Kew, has been appointed to succeed Dr Moors at RBG Melbourne.



# ‘Untidiness’ in the Gardens

*Friends of St Kilda Botanical Gardens  
Melbourne, Victoria*

The Friends of St Kilda Botanical Gardens, like others all over Australia, are gearing up for the spring growing season. The majority of plants we propagate for sale are still those with low-water needs; it’s hard to shake off drought syndrome and it’s probably a good idea to always keep water saving at the back of our minds.

The St Kilda Botanical Gardens can be a bit untidy at the moment, for a variety of reasons. The best reason is that new irrigation is being installed. The first beds to be done were those in the Alister Clark Rose Garden.

Another reason for untidiness? The huge winds early in September saw the top of one of the central phoenix palms go flying off. Sulphur-crested cockatoos had taken advantage of damage to the top and taken up residence, undoubtedly doing a little ‘house’ renovation of their own and this led to a weakening of the trunk.



The decapitated palm on the right. The one on the left still has its foliage.



The head of the decapitated palm

And the very worst reason for untidiness? Vandals caused over \$10,000 damage to the Conservatory —a drinking party turned into a ‘let’s smash all the glass’ party. They also attacked garden furniture and left behind overturned shopping trolleys, rubbish and debris both inside and outside the conservatory. This time the police arrested 12 people and not only do they now have charges against them, but they have to repay the cost of repairs. The two glasshouses used by the gardening group have also been attacked in the past, with windows smashed and plants stolen. The Port Phillip Council reportedly has plans to replace the garden fence.

Some better news is that a fifth gate has been installed; yet another fabulous design by David Wood of Bent Metal.

*Joy Durston*

**PS There will be a picnic...**

...to celebrate the 151st anniversary of the Gardens, on Friday 16 November. There will be roving entertainers, musicians, pony rides, coffee cart, croquet demos. The public are asked to bring a picnic and party on until dusk.



The fifth gate



# Honouring William Guilfoyle

*Friends of Warrnambool Botanic Gardens  
Warrnambool, Victoria*

William Guilfoyle, botanist and landscape gardener extraordinaire, died 100 years ago on 25th June 1912. We want to acknowledge the wonderful legacy we have today in the Warrnambool Botanic Gardens, the lay-out of which was designed by Guilfoyle in 1877. The Friends main purpose is the preservation and promotion of our Guilfoyle Garden. This is the criteria against which we wish to be judged. We believe we have had another successful year.

We took part in the National Trust Heritage Festival, presenting 'Tea and Talk in the Gardens'. This enabled us to display the results of some of the research we had undertaken on water, wells and windmills, which fitted the theme of innovators and inventors. The forty or more guests, who attended, were fascinated by the original hand written specifications for well and windmill on display, and by the short talks on inventors, presented by our members. They were able to view the well which we seek to restore.

Recently all our newsletters from 1992 to the present have been loaded onto our web site. Our quarterly newsletter covers a wide range of issues that publicise and promote our heritage garden.

A series of talks, workshops and discussions held in Scoborios Shed on the first Wednesday of each month has been most informative and has provided the opportunity to get to know others who share our interest and passion for gardens. We value the links we have with like-minded organisations. The Society for Growing Australian Plants, The Warrnambool and District Historical Society, Triton Woodworkers, Rotary and many others have had input to our activities.

More formally, Wannon Water worked jointly with us to maintain the water wise garden and TAFE, with its Children's Services courses and Horticultural programs, has worked in cooperation with the Gardens to our mutual advantage.

Cooperation can occur on many levels and the most critical is the willing cooperation of members of the committee. Last month we remembered past committee members—foundation secretary Isobel Jones and past treasurer Kathy Wicherson—and dedicated two trees to their memory. They made a huge contribution to the Gardens.

We could not function effectively without the cooperation of the great team that work with Curator John Sheely in the Gardens, nor without the support of Warrnambool City Council. Last year, in addition to Jazz in the Gardens and the Australia Day celebrations, there were more than eighty events in the Gardens.

We have achieved many of our goals, but there is still work in progress.

A member of our committee attended this year's conference and reported back that she and her husband had an amazing experience. She made many new friends and contacts and returned with inspiration and ideas. They also attended and enjoyed the post-conference tour where both learned a lot about the local environment. She will present a report at our next morning group.

*Mandy King*

# Twelve very exciting months

## *Friends of Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens Daylesford, Victoria*

The new Committee is less than 12 months old and still feels as if the training wheels are on, but we are delighted with the rapid progress that we have made as we approach the end of such an exciting year.

We have almost quadrupled our membership, we have enjoyed some delightful gatherings—in spite of what has seemed like such a severe winter—and we have raised in excess of \$100,000 for the restoration of the Rustic Cascade. The commitment of our big team of volunteers has been outstanding.

The Growing Friends worked towards their first Grand Plant Sale in September. They have enjoyed the benefit of shelter and storage provided by our own Shed and the support of enthusiastic members who have worked in single digit temperatures throughout winter to prepare for this. The Gardens' staff have encouraged and helped us on so many occasions and the relationships we have established on Wombat Hill are warm and productive. Big, blowsy begonias will be on sale in March, thanks to Jock and James, Gardener and Head of Parks and Gardens respectively.

The Rustic Cascade restoration is edging closer to a start—Growing Friends volunteers and ACV have cleared the old ponds and a heritage architect has been engaged to begin work—we have our fingers crossed for 2013, the sesquicentenary of the Gardens.

Perhaps we can say that like many Friends' groups, we look forward to the coming of summer, tired but very happy!

*Patrice O'Shea, Secretary*



Annie Pyers at a working bee; and with Paulina Olthorf. Photos by Patrice O'Shea.

Gael Shannon's summary of her Port Augusta experience.

Was it worthwhile going all that way? Very definitely!

To be in the company of others who love botanic gardens and trees.

To see how well Friends and volunteers are appreciated by their botanic gardens staff and management. This has been a long process.

To hear that the Friends national body is interacting well with BGANZ.

To catch up with other Friends' committee members.

To learn to enjoy the saltbush plain and to see 1000-year-old River Red Gums, a *Callitris* forest and to meet *P.gerardiana*.

# Report of Annual General Meeting

The 20th Annual General Meeting followed Sunday lunch at the Port Augusta Conference. Outgoing President Janet Thomson welcomed delegates and gave a summary of the Conference, acknowledging the tremendous work of Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden. The Financial Report to 31 December 2011 was approved. Available balance at August 2012 in Bendigo Bank Cash Account is \$3484 and Fixed Term Deposit \$7220.96.

Elections for the Executive and the Committee revealed some members had re-nominated and as the number of nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies the following were elected for 2012-13.

President , Geraldine Davis (Pt Augusta), Vice President, Warwick Wright (Canberra); Treasurer, Karlene Taylor (Melbourne); Secretary/Public Officer (for one year only), Annie McGeachy (Geelong). Committee members: Alan Donaldson (Gold Coast); Elizabeth Gilfillan (Ballarat); Amanda King (Warrnambool); Neil Morley (Gold Coast ); Alex Smart (Cranbourne); John Zwar (Pt Augusta).

Special business: Amendment to the Purposes and Rules; to pass the following resolutions:

Rule 2.1 The Definition "Financial year:" be amended to year ending March 31.

Rule 9.3 The annual general meeting shall be held ..... but no later than August 31st

Auditor: The treasurer to advise Committee when new auditor is confirmed.

Meeting closed at 2.30pm.

A presentation was then made to the outgoing the President thanking her for 12 years considerable commitment to the AFBG and the Committee and for taking on President's role in her final year.

## President's report

### *Janet Thomson*

In March, the Committee of Management (COM) resolved that the financial year of AFBG run from 1 April to 31 March each year and that the current financial year be extended to 15 months so it will end on 31 March 2013. One consequence is that current subscriptions will also extend to 31 March 2013.

It is pleasing to report that membership of the Association remains at 52 (ACT two members, NSW 10, NT one, Qld four, SA two, Tas. two, Vic. 29, WA one, NZ one) and we continue to seek new members. This year we were very pleased to welcome back the

Shepparton Friends whose new garden has been named the Australian Botanic Gardens. The COM has met on a regular basis with the last two meetings using the RBG Melbourne's conference telephone very successfully. This has meant that interstate committee members did not have to travel to the meeting thus saving a great deal of time and expense.

During 2011 the COM responded to the suggestions made by delegates at the Mildura Conference in May 2010 and put in place a more stable administration by employing an Administrative Officer, Ro Noone, on a contract basis. The Administrative Officer supports and simplifies the role of COM members and in particular what had been the very onerous role of the Secretary. Ro has been gradually getting to know people in the botanic gardens community and has had the opportunity to visit a number of gardens this year.

Professional help was secured to renew and manage the website. The new website with a new logo was developed by Wordsworth Communicating with the assistance of Mandy King, Friends of the Warrnambool



Botanic Gardens. The work of improving and adjusting the content of the website is ongoing. Members who do not have an independent website may take up the option of a static web page within the AFBG's, however only three members have chosen to do this so far. We would like to see all members add their garden photos to the 'Gallery'.

We are very grateful to Anne Rawson of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens for her offer to edit *Campsis* and to make improvements to it. Seventeen members, a record number, contributed to the last edition produced in May. It is always an inspiration to read these contributions and learn of all the innovative ways in which Friends' groups attract and interact with their communities, involving them in a range of different programs in their botanic gardens. The effectiveness of these programs and the dedication and commitment of the various Friends' groups is highly commendable and absolutely wonderful.

The Information Kit, which can be accessed on the AFBG's website, has been updated and continues to serve as a useful tool, particularly for smaller and newly established groups. It is anticipated that the presentation will be improved in due course.

Closer links continue to be forged between the AFBG and Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ). The BGANZ Council invited an AFBG representative to speak at the BGANZ Albury Congress in October 2011 and supported our delegate's registration. Annie McGeachy (Geelong BG) represented the AFBG and spoke on the structure, role and expanding size of the Friends' network. The AFBG was asked, and subsequently offered, a reciprocal opportunity for a BGANZ Councillor to participate in the AFBG conference at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens. Annie, Alex Smart (RBG Cranbourne) and I (RBG Melbourne) have also attended several BGANZ regional meetings in Victoria during the year.

In May this year Warwick Wright (Australian National Botanic Gardens) and I met with Anne Duncan, President of BGANZ, and Eamonn Flanagan, BGANZ Executive Officer, in Canberra, to discuss ways in which our two organisations might work more closely together. Areas of discussion included AFBG members participating in BGANZ regional meetings and congresses and our respective organisations contributing to each other's newsletters.

A great deal has been achieved over the last 18 months for the benefit of members, however the enthusiasm generated in Mildura and the quality of recent *Campsis* contributions plus the attractive new website, is yet to translate into committee representatives. Given the core of the COM has served for seven to ten years the AFBG urgently needs new blood.

What of the AFBG's future, do members feel it is relevant? There may be an opportunity for the AFBG to secure some recurrent funding to maintain the organisation. Before proceeding we need, first, to ensure committee succession, and second, in the event that funding is available, to decide how it might best benefit the Association and its members. WHAT is your opinion?

I am retiring from the committee at this AGM having served for 12 years. It has been a most enjoyable and enriching experience, meeting like-minded Friends from all over Australia, learning and increasing my understanding of the pleasures and challenges that are part of running a successful Friends' group, being inspired by what groups achieve, visiting many wonderful botanic gardens around Australia and networking with others in the botanic garden community.

Our very able Treasurer, Graeme Caple (RBG Melbourne), is also retiring from the COM and I thank him very much indeed for his contribution and for keeping us on a sound financial footing!

On behalf of you all I would like to thank all the Committee members for their input and commitment to furthering the interests of the AFBG and its members. They have been a wonderful group to work with. Thank you also to Anne Rawson for the work she has done in producing *Campsis* and thus keeping us all in touch. And a big thank you to Ro Noone for all that she has done since her appointment as Administrative Officer in May 2011. I am truly grateful to you all for your support and friendship.

*Janet Thomson, President*

## *Calendar of events*

### **2012**

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

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

### **2013**

Aust Native Plant Society of Aus-(ANSPA) Confer-  
ence & Seminar 'Diversity is in our Nature' 9-16  
August brochure available at: [www.anpsa.org.au](http://www.anpsa.org.au)

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA)  
National Conference, Sydney 22-24 August

Garden Clubs of Australia (GCA) National Conven-  
tion Ballarat from Sunday 15 September

5th BGCI 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](http://www.bganz.org.au)>

### **A book to look at!**

A very recent release of particular interest to our  
Victorian members.

*Long Views and Short Vistas*: by Gwen  
Pascoe

The story of public Botanic Gardens established  
in Victorian towns in the second half of the 19Th  
Century.

See [www.friendsbotanicgardens.org/news.atm](http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org/news.atm)  
Publisher <http://www.scholarly.info/home/>

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

## *Websites worth visiting*

Visit our website:

<[www.friendsbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org)>

Contact website editor to list your events or add  
garden photos to the members' gallery:  
<[info@WordsWorthcommunicating.com](mailto:info@WordsWorthcommunicating.com)>

BGANZ on line Newsletter – *The Botanic Garden*  
<[www.bganz.org.au/newsletter](http://www.bganz.org.au/newsletter)>

Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra  
<[www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/](http://www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/)>

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

Garden Plant Conservation Association of Australia  
<[www.gpcaa.com](http://www.gpcaa.com)>

Weeds Australia  
<[www.weeds.org.au](http://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](http://www.opengarden.org.au)>

Fungimap:  
<[www.rbg.vic.gov.au/fungimap/home](http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/fungimap/home)>

Plants for the Planet:  
<[www.plantsfortheplanet.com](http://www.plantsfortheplanet.com)>

# *Members of Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Inc*

## **ACT**

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

## **New South Wales**

Albury Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 1056, Albury NSW 2640.  
Botanic Gardens Sydney, 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.

## **Queensland**

Brisbane Botanic Gardens Volunteer Guides, Mt Coon-tha Botanic Gardens, Mt Coon-tha Road, Toowong QLD 4066  
Gold Coast Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 5653, Gold Coast Mail Centre, QLD 9726.  
Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens. Friends Association. PO Box 6850, Mackay QLD 4741.  
Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 445, Buderim, QLD 4556.  
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**

Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton, Friends of. P O Box 6912, Shepparton VIC 3632.  
Australian Inland Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 2809, Mildura VIC 3502.  
Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Friends of. PO Box 33W, Ballarat West VIC 3353  
Benalla Botanical Gardens & Riverine Parkland, Friends of. PO Box 589, Benalla VIC 3672.  
Bendigo Botanic Garden, Friends of. PO Box 117, Strathdale VIC 3550.  
Buninyong Botanic Garden, Friends of. 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.