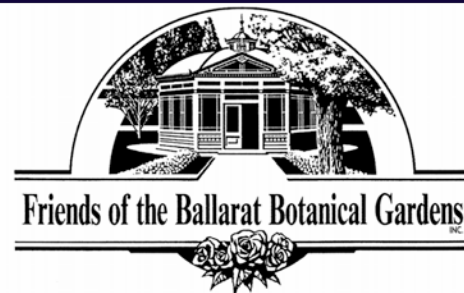


# Wellingtonia



## FRIENDS NEWSLETTER SPRING 2012

### President's Report

Spring is always exciting, with something new each day. It is always heartening to see the first *Galanthus* herald the way. It is hard to believe the year is culminating. Our gardens and Ballarat will be a buzz with Spring events. My thanks to all groups and committee members for their support, valued contribution and achievements in making this year so enjoyable.

Nine members of FBBG attended a most successful Association conference in Port Augusta. The association is the umbrella organisation. We were treated to inspiring speakers mixed with happy friendships. I hope you enjoy reading Raoul's report and perhaps consider attending the next conference in 2014 at the Gold Coast. It was with sadness we learnt of the redundancy of Sue Rhook. Sue has been a valued professional staff member & friend for 17 years; she will be missed. We wish Sue well in her future endeavours and hope to see her at future functions.

We were thrilled to hear that BCC has accepted the proposal for the construction of a new Fernery and plans are underway. FBBG will be working with BCC on this long awaited project, which could be a lengthy process but well worth the effort.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> Lorraine Powell and I were pleased to be the guests of The Garden Clubs of Australia AGM in Sydney. FBBG will be hosting the annual GCA convention in September 2013. We were proud to promote our gardens and there was a lot of enthusiastic interest in the proposed plans for this event. We will be looking forward to welcoming approximately 250 delegates from around Australia to Ballarat.

The accompanying Spring brochure outlines the planned programme. I would suggest you take the time to read the material and support these exciting events. We welcome all children and adults to participate.

It's Party Time! To mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FBBG, 'An Eden of Lovliness' A pictorial History of Ballarat Botanical Gardens will be launched at our end of year Christmas function on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We welcome all members and invited guests to festivities on this occasion.

As this is the last edition before Christmas, I would like to wish everyone a joyful and safe Festive Season, with time to relax in your gardens. *Elizabeth Gilfillan*



### MEETING TIMES 2012

George Longley Building 53429354  
Meetings are held in the George Longley Building at the rear of the Robert Clark Centre

Committee - 3rd Tuesday each month at 4.00pm

Growing Friends - Tuesday each week 1.00-4.00pm, 2nd Sunday each month

Plant Sales at the above times and 9-5.00pm daily from the trolley outside the Robert Clark Conservatory.

Guiding Friends - 4th Tuesday each month 10am .

History Group 1st Tuesday each month 4pm

Educating Friends - 1st Tuesday each month, late morning 11.30am, please bring lunch.

Plant Labelling as required  
Botanical Artists ("BAGS") - Mondays 12md-4.00pm.  
School Terms

## Guiding Friends

During July and August the guides were taken on very informative tours focussing on the Ballarat Botanic Gardens trees by Ballarat's senior Arborist, David Grant. These have been wonderful opportunities for increasing our knowledge and understanding of our trees and we are very appreciative of David Grant's willingness to share so much of his knowledge. We are about half way through this task and have had two 2 hour tours. David will continue our study of trees in the Southern section of the gardens later in the year. What we find as we tour and study the trees is that bits of knowledge and answers to puzzling questions come together and connect and we move forward in our understanding of our trees. Many of us have looked at the *Quercus canariensis* Algerian Oak and wondered why the canopy wasn't healthier. Suggestions given were that some time ago its canopy was cut to reduce the number of possums in the adjacent magnolia and to allow the magnolia's canopy to spread. Another suggestion was the Oak was still responding to improved conditions at its base. The road surface was removed from around the tree and replaced with mulch. All of this was some time ago. David Grant's explanation was that the *Quercus canariensis* was grafted onto *Quercus robur* root stock and this is the reason for the slower growth rate of the canopy.

Guides have also researched individual trees and shared their findings. Spirits can't help but be uplifted when we share the stories about trees' resilience such as the Gingko trees surviving the Atomic Blast on Hiroshima in August 1945 and ponder on species that have outlasted the dinosaurs. One of the trees selected by Beth Dixon for study was the Aspen near the Fernery. Some have thought this was *Populus tremula* but Beth's investigation and consultation with David Grant and John Patrick have confirmed that it is a *Populus deltoides*. Good detective work Beth. This tree is challenging the *Pinus Ponderosa* as the tallest tree in the gardens. David Grant suggested it is doing so well because it is growing over a drain.

The National Trust has classified 15 different species in Ballarat's historic garden as significant. The Guides have contributed to the production of a new pamphlet that will be available in November to help visitors locate and learn about these significant trees.

The Ballarat Art Gallery's "Capturing Flora: 300 years of Australian Botanical Art" exhibition and "Ballarat Gardens in Spring" Program are helping draw attention to our Ballarat Botanical Garden Tours. Several groups have already booked for tours and for their visit to Ballarat they are combining a Ballarat Botanical Gardens Guided Tour with time to enjoy the Capturing Flora Exhibition at the Art Gallery. Ballarat Regional tourism is also promoting these experiences and the guides are looking forward to helping showcase our Botanical gardens.

We also welcome another new member – Lorraine Peterson - to our Guiding Group. We always like welcoming new members as guiding demand is a bit erratic and at peak times we do need a large pool of volunteers to call upon.

Five of the guides attended the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Inc. Conference at Port Augusta. We were immersed in the development and challenges of the Arid Lands. We were educated about the 'Western Myall' and the work of Goyder thinking ahead of his time about climate risk and reliability, and we relived the experiences of the early explorers and were acquainted with research material on the different elements in the ecology of the SA arid zone. It is a different context to the cool temperate gardens of Ballarat but the challenge is the same. You need to have the knowledge of all the relationships between all the elements if the biodiversity is to be protected and have sustainable management. The range of stimulating speakers and excursions provided lots of opportunities for Friends of Gardens to explore these common concerns. There were Friends groups from all States and so you heard from a wide range of people about their various promotion approaches and how they are coping with similar management challenges. Next conference will be at Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens in two years time. The Ballarat contingent to the Port Augusta conference indicates they are keen starters for the next one as well. So keep the conference in mind when it is advertised as it combines lots of input and enjoyment.

**Terry O'Brien**

## Port Augusta Conference

Eight Ballarat Friends attended the Biennial conference of Friends of Botanical Gardens at Port Augusta, organised by the Friends of the Australian Arid Lands Botanical Gardens (AALBG), which is located on the outskirts of Port Augusta. About 160 delegates attended and it was impressively organised with a wide range of excellent speakers. With the conference title of “Mangroves, Myalls and More”, the theme was arid lands, defined as areas normally receiving no more than 10 inches of rain per year.

Professor Chris Daniels from SA University was the keynote speaker, addressing the issue of “Backyards – The Most Important Room in the House”. He outlined the increasing urbanisation of the Australian environment, the loss of green areas and the importance of suburban gardens in maintaining environmental quality. The professor referred to the condition of Nature Deficit Disorder, where urban dwellers suffer from lack of contact with the natural environment, and the problems where decision makers are often not connected with the environment.

We then had speakers on a range of subjects including Birds, Mangroves, Myalls (*Acacia papyrocarpa*) an unusually long-lived *Acacia* of great importance in arid lands, and Goyder's Line. Goyder was Surveyor General of SA in 1865, who surveyed a line north of which rainfall was too unreliable for sustainable farming. We were fascinated with Dr Dean Nicolle, a self-styled “Eucalyptologist”. Now in his thirties, he became enamoured with Eucalypts at the age of 15 and has studied them ever since. He has visited the sites of 700 of the 900 Australian species to collect seed, and the map which we saw showed him as having travelled to some very remote corners of Australia. He uses the seed to establish an arboretum, now with over 6,000 Eucalypts from 800 species.

One of the more controversial lectures was delivered by Professor Don Bursill AM, retired Chief Scientist for the SA Water Corporation. He was scathing in his criticism of the Murray Darling Basin Plan and its treatment of Adelaide and SA water needs compared with the Eastern States.

Dr John Read, Ecologist, gave us plenty to think about with his talk on the effects of climate change, feral animals and plants, and various developments on the arid environment. He spoke in particular about Buffel grass. This is an introduced species originally valued as cattle fodder which is now dominating the environment, usurping native vegetation, and causing tree deaths from its habit of growing right up to tree trunks and burning far more fiercely than native grasses.

Valmai Hankel PSM was a delightful and entertaining speaker. A former librarian specialising in rare books, a recognised wine buff and frequent guest speaker on ABC radio since the 1970's, her talk was on the early explorers of Australia. Now (I think) in her 80's, she still travels alone in her 4WD retracing the routes taken by the explorers which takes her into extremely remote locations. She told us many fascinating tales from the main era of explorers, from 1839 to 1859.

As well as the talks, we visited the AALBG for tours. Covering 200 hectares and with 12 kilometers of walking tracks, these gardens, as the name indicates, specialise in plants suited to arid climates with particular emphasis on the genus *Eremophila*. They are beautifully laid out and well worth visiting.

This was the first Association conference that Beth and I have attended. We enjoyed it immensely and now hope to attend many more.

The next conference will be held on the Gold Coast in August 2014. The Friends of the Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens gave a brief presentation and it looks like being another great one.

**Raoul Dixon**

### Left to Right

Raoul Dixon  
John Garner  
Beth Dixon  
Elizabeth Gilfillan  
Joan Garner  
Joy O'Brien  
Janet Dale  
Terry O'Brien





## **Ballarat Gardens in Spring**

All is progressing well for our 5th Ballarat Gardens in Spring program. Our 2012 promotional brochure has been enthusiastically received, with many positive comments on the 'look' and content and is now being distributed in and around Ballarat and Country Victoria. This year Ballarat Regional Tourism has launched a promotional campaign 'Ballarat in Bloom' which our program is included, this will provide us access to even more potential visitors to Ballarat and our events.

Tickets for our popular Speakers Luncheon, scheduled for Friday 2nd November are now selling with this year luncheon being held at the Ballarat Art Gallery and will include entry into the much anticipated Botanical Art Exhibition "Capturing Flora- 300 years of botanical art". Jenny Philips – Australia's leading Botanical Artist and Trisha Dixon – well known Author and Photographer will be our special guest speakers. Registration forms are in the brochure.

Our open gardens owners are ramping up there gardening schedules and YES, we are certainly due for a fine weathered weekend the November. Be sure to organise a day out with family and friends to visit the four very different gardens.

The Growing Friends plants sales is scheduled for Saturday 3rd November and, specially arranged Guided Tours of the Botanical Gardens will most certainly be a highlight of the weekend's program.

If any friends would like to assist with the setup or flowers for the speakers luncheon – please contact Helen on 0407 324466. All help is most welcome and appreciated.

Spring is such a special time in Ballarat and with so many events on offer, be sure to get out and enjoy them !

***Helen Todd***

**Committee Member**

**Ballarat Gardens in Spring 2012**

**Kylie Rose's Garden**



## **OBITUARY**

The FBBG wish to acknowledge the sad passing of member Nancy Brewer

Nancy was a supportive member of the Gardens in Spring Programme. She has been a wonderful gardening friend & mentor. Her passion & depth of knowledge & understanding are a huge loss. We have treasured memories.

***Elizabeth Gilfillan, Helen Todd, Jan Todd, Wendy Taylor***

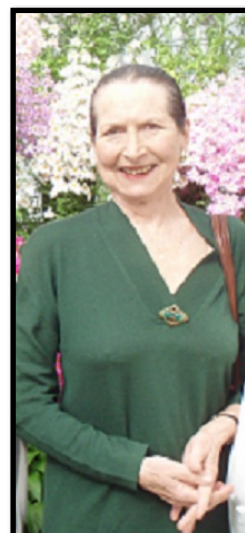


**Left to Right**

**Helen Todd , Elizabeth Gilfillan  
Nancy Brewer , Jan Todd**

**Right**

**Nancy Brewer**



## **Growing Report**

Thank you to all the people that have donated pots and plastic bags. Please keep them coming as we will need them in the future. After such a wet, cold winter the plants in the nursery are looking better now that the worst of the winter is over. Thanks to all the people that have volunteered with the potting up of plants, they are doing a great job. We seem to have a great number of volunteers at the moment, which is great. Hopefully we will have many sales as the weather warms up.

***Yvonne Curbach***

## **Tenants Group Report**

The Conservatory will be closed to the public on Monday 24 September 2012 so that Ballarat Regional Tourism can formally open Gardens in Spring with a luncheon. The Conservatory will again be closed towards the end of September while the *Schizanthus* display is prepared.

A new table has been ordered for laptop/data projector setup.

The footpath along Gillies Street is now shared between pedestrians and cyclists. Be aware!!!

***Mike Sorrell***

## **Lake Wendouree & Gardens Advisory Committee**

**(LWAGAC)** With the lake and its perimeter returning to top condition there have been many requests to conduct activities and events. Next year some 96 events have been planned, creating a need for scheduling and integration, as well as consideration of 'appropriate' events and best sites.

The Golden City Paddle Steamer Society has been given an extension of six months to get their craft operational and Marine Board certified.

Dredging is almost complete and weed harvesting will soon commence using Council's cutter and staff. A detailed review of literature on re-growth of the large water ribbon (*Triglochin procera*) recommends that it should be managed, rather than eliminated from the lake.

The fernery restoration project is alive, but action is slow due to a lack of Council funding in this current budget year. Council has agreed to fund more detailed analysis and planning of Option 4, and to assist the Friends plan a major fund raising effort.

***Mike Sorrell***

## **Maintenance**

The GLB has a new digital TV with built in recorder which will enable better quality data projection. Our building does not yet have an aerial for TV reception. ***Mike Sorrell***

## **Engraving**

The engraving equipment has recently undergone some expensive maintenance and repairs. It was successfully testing on two new orders from Macedon Ranges. ***Mike Sorrell***

## **Botanical Illustration**

As part of the Association conference in Port Augusta we were privileged to view a collection of original prints by Ferdinand Bauer, "Where Science meets Nature". Bauer accompanied Matthew Flinders & Robert Brown, Botanist aboard the "Investigator" on "A Voyage to Terra Australis". Ferdinand Bauer & his brother Franz, who worked at Kew Gardens for 50 years, are recognised as being among the greatest botanical artists of all time. Some of Bauer's works are featured in 'Capturing Flora' the current exhibition at the Ballarat Art Gallery which is a must see for everyone.

The group has enjoyed 2 more workshops, one with Geraldine Roberts who has taken us on a journey of true pleasure with treasures from the Gardens to illustrate, combined with words of wisdom from botanical writings. Then in September we have had the pleasure of Marg Castle's company. Marg has guided everyone through the awareness of colour using watercolour to depict flower specimens. It has been both a challenge and a joy.

It is proposed that the group will hold a small exhibition of works. This will take place on the occasion of the celebration of The Friends 30 years anniversary and launch of the Eden of Loveliness a Pictorial History on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. ***Elizabeth Gilfillan***



Engraving of  
Ferdinand  
Bauer

## Curators Report

The gardens have hosted a number of events over the last few weeks; the Premier Mr. Ted Baillieu launched the Ballarat in bloom season of events here in the Conservatory in early September. We also hosted a media launch in the Conservatory on the 24th. September which included a sit down lunch catered by Peter Ford with floral candelabras which were put together by Jenny Burke Florist



**The Conservatory  
at 7.30 am  
on  
24th September**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of September I attended the exhibition opening of Capturing Flora at the Art Gallery of Ballarat. This exciting exhibition celebrates 300 years of Australian botanical art and was opened by Dr Phillip Moors Director and Chief executive of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

I am aware of the amount of work that all the friends groups are undertaking presently, the history group are putting the final touches on the book. BotaniKids are preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Great BIG Gardens Play Day on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October and the Growing Group are busy potting up plants in preparation for sale. It is a pleasure to see so many members enjoying their time in the gardens.

Council recently resolved to endorse the Lakes and Gardens Advisory Committee and Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens preferred option for the construction of a modern architectural representation of a gothic fernery. The next stage of the project will see the formalising of concept plans and the preparation of detailed costings. There will also be the launch of a public awareness and fund raising campaign. The fernery project has been a much talked about project particularly with a large part of the building currently closed for safety. I look forward to this project moving forward.

***Peter Marquand***

### **AGM February 21st. 2013**

Speaker for February is Peter Donaldson, who will speak on one of the worlds greatest Botanists, Joseph Hooker retracing his journey's through the Himalayas and elsewhere.

[www.jupeproductions.com](http://www.jupeproductions.com)



**The Forgotten Men:**  
**Members of the Ballarat Botanic Gardens Committee**

*Zelda Martin*

When the Police Paddock, facing the Swamp (Lake Wendouree) on its western side, was vacated, the relatively new City of (West) Ballarat Council, under the Chairmanship of James Oddie, was quick to act. Oddie moved that the Council apply to the Government for the site to be gazetted for botanical gardens. The application was successful, and Oddie then moved that the Council should apply for £ 2000 to lay out and commence the gardens. Although only £ 500 was received, the Council set out to develop a “great place of public resort and amusement”. George Longley – many years later to become Curator of the Gardens - was employed as a gardener. The Council established a competition for the design of the gardens, had the site surveyed, and formed a Committee of “gentlemen of practical ability and conversant with the knowledge of botany” for the management of the gardens. Probably the most interesting aspect of this Committee is that very little about the Committee, or its members, is known today.

**Why Remember the Committee Members**

Although George Longley, the gardener, was employed by Council in 1859, it was to be many years before he had any real influence over the development of the Gardens, or indeed over its every day workings. The Committee controlled all but the most mundane tasks in the gardens, as extracts from the following four motions of the Committee will show:

“That the eastern side of the Gardens be dug 18 feet in width for the purpose of being planted with Trees for a wind break and shelter for the Gardens...That a border of 12 feet in width be dug the North and South sides for the same purpose...That tenders be called for the above work at... per rod to be dug 10 inches deep. That as the above borders are prepared **the Gardener be instructed to sow seeds** of Cape Wattle intermixed with the seeds of Blue Gum.”

Even at this very early stage of the Committee’s life, it was being made quite clear that the Gardener was just the gardener, and all decisions would be made by the Committee – made up of men whose names have been long forgotten in the history of the gardens.

**Who are the Forgotten Men?**

The **first meeting recorded** in the *Minutes of Meeting of the Ballarat Botanic Garden Committee* was held on February, 1860 – chaired by Mr. Binsted and attended by Lang and Elliot, however, this was not the first meeting of the committee. “A report was read ...plants and seeds received from the Melbourne and Geelong Botanic Gardens also from private contributors, and from purchases made by order of the Committee.”

The **next recorded** meeting of the Committee was held on April 30, 1860, chaired by Mr. Nicholls and attended by Lang, Elliot and Binsted. Mr. Elliot presented a report on his interviews with Dr Mueller of Melbourne and Dr Bunce of Geelong Botanical Gardens. Mr. Elliot was paid £ 1.4.0 for dahlias. The

Secretary was requested to write to the President of the Board of Land and Works seeking funding for the “languishing state of the gardens for the want of funds and to obtain a large proportion of the grant in aid of improving public gardens”.

**Common interests of the members of the Committee**

Subsequently, over the following twelve months or so, four other committee men also attended meetings, although the structure of the Committee did not appear to change much. Thus it would appear that the Committee, in total, consisted of G. E. Binsted, W. Elliott, Thomas Lang, R. U. Nicholls, George Smith, W. C. Smith, William Appleby and Robert Lewis. How were the members of Committee chosen? To a large extent, the members were ‘self-chosen’ because, as mentioned, a request had been made for men of knowledge and experience to form a Committee for the management of the gardens. Although the population of Ballarat was relatively large - about 22,000 - in the early 1860s, it is very likely that these

members can be ascertained?

### **Councillors and Members of Parliament**

The two most prominent Committeemen were William Collard Smith and Robert Lewis. Smith was elected to the newly formed Ballarat West Council in 1856 and became chairman in 1860. He was elected MLA for the seat of Ballarat West in 1861, resigned in 1864, citing pressure of business, but returned to Parliament in 1871, and became Minister of Education in Berry's Liberal government (1877-1880). Lewis was elected to the Council in 1859, became chairman in 1862 and subsequently first Mayor in 1863. Lewis had been a well known businessman (Rowland and Lewis soft drink factory) and was a prominent member of many Ballarat organisations. He was elected as MLA for Ballarat West in 1864, a position he retained for only a matter of months. These two, who would be very well known to each other, were initially the only Councillors on the Gardens Committee.

### **Influence of local nurserymen**

Not surprisingly, at least three of the Committee were nurserymen (Thomas Lang, George Smith and Robert Uriah Nicholls) - all considered eminent and remarkable citizens – influential not only locally, but throughout the State. George Smith had been employed at Her Majesty's Gardens, Windsor Castle. They were also all members of Ballarat Horticultural Society. (William Appleby, though not listed as a nurseryman, was also a member of the Horticultural Society in 1859.) The book lists the address of R.U. Nicholls as Peel St, opposite the Eastern Cricket Ground. In 1860, George Smith J.P., F.R.H.S.(England) decided to return to his trade of nurseryman, setting up his nursery on the north side of Lake Wendouree, and subsequently opening a seed store at 41 Armstrong St. He was a committee member of the Horticultural Society, and also provided technical advice, in his role in superintending the planting of the Botanic Gardens. Many reports about these men may be found, either as judges or competitors, in newspaper reports of the Agricultural and Pastoral Society shows of the time.

Thomas Lang & Co had a number of addresses, including a seed store at Bridge Street, Ballarat, and a nursery at Warrenheip. William Elliot was a business partner of Thomas Lang. Some indication of the size of Lang's business may be ascertained by reference to the catalogues he published. For example, his 1870 catalogue ran to about 72 pages. It has been estimated that, in the twelve years to 1870, he had imported over a million plants into the colony.

### **Other Linkages**

Surprisingly, the Ballarat Gas Works also provided a small linkage. Thus W. C. Smith was on the Provisional Committee of the proposed Ballarat Gas Works (and one of the Share Brokers to the company), while G.E. Binsted was Secretary. When the Incorporation Bill was passed in 1857, these two gentlemen were confirmed in their roles. William Appleby, in his role as lessee of the Clunes Gasworks, would almost certainly have known these two men.

### **Council's Sudden Interest - Why?**

The Committee worked with basically the same membership until October 1863, when the status quo changed significantly, with only W.C. Smith, W. Elliott and W. Appleby retaining their positions on the Committee. Four new members – Cnr. J. A. Deane, Cnr. G. Duncan, Cnr J. McDowell and Cnr Robert Dunne - joined the Committee, thus together with Cnr Smith, Council had a strong controlling interest. It is interesting to speculate on the reason for this sudden, though not sustained, spurt of interest by Council. Perhaps the grant of £ 1000 from the Government for garden improvements, announced in April 1863, was a motivating factor. In June of that year, it was announced that plans and specifications were to be drawn up for new gates, new fencing, two lodges and a propagating house, as well as smaller sundry items such as improving roadways and culverts, gravelling, and a design for plant labels. After about a year Council representation gradually started to decline. Is it too cynical to think that the grant had been spent by this date, so they had no further need to maintain control of the Committee.



### **Gardener's position unchanged**

Not all the former members of Committee returned immediately, although two other non-Councillor members (Gilbert Dunne and S. Wilson) did. Unfortunately, the Minutes are only available in this form, up to October 1864, when there is a gap in minutes/reports until 1870. However, the position of the gardener did not change initially as the following extract shows.

“The **Gardener was instructed** to keep the present Labourers employed at work in the Gardens for a fortnight.”

After a gap of six years, in 1870, George Longley's monthly reports to either the Council Works Committee or to the Councillors begin and, as the following extract shows little appears to have changed for Longley:

“Cleaning and potting plants... I would suggest to your committee for a depot of the night soil to be on the western side of the Wellingtonia Ave about 6 acres, bad in itself but trenching and burying the manure it would be preparing it for planting or any other purpose, and you allow me the extra allowance for labour I will see that it is properly done. 5 December 1872

However, over later years, Longley's reports began to show a subtle change, and by the 1880s, he appeared to be largely in control of the Gardens. Eventually Longley was able to sign his reports as Curator, and it was apparent that a new era had commenced.

### **Why are the Committee Members *Forgotten Men***

Research cannot really reveal why Ballarat has forgotten these men, although some suggestions can be made. Perhaps part of the answer lies in the fact that these men were really “gentlemen of practical ability”. As such, they were hardworking and successful in their own right (mainly in their own businesses), as well as in their work and advice to the gardens, so they probably did not crave publicity and thanks.

Evidence is easily available to show that the Gardens were very well used as a recreational resource by Ballarat residents, as well as by visitors. However, the question could be asked, “Did the Ballarat population really value the Gardens as a beautiful and unique asset to the city, prior to the statues being put on display?” Quite possibly they needed the statues to convince them of the garden's value, thus the ‘forgotten men’ were probably little appreciated in their lifetime. No doubt the point could also be made that one person presenting statues to the city attracts far more media attention than a group of men working tirelessly behind the scenes to develop Ballarat's beautiful Botanical Gardens. These could be some of the reasons these hard working men have become the *Forgotten Men*.

Star Newspaper, various issues

Minutes of Meetings of the Ballarat Botanic Garden Committee 1860-1864, various dates

Lake and Gardens Committee Minutes 1875 – 1886

Botanic Gardens Report Book 1870 – 1887 – reports by George Longley

City of Ballarat, Half Yearly Reports

Proudley, Ray Gas in Ballarat

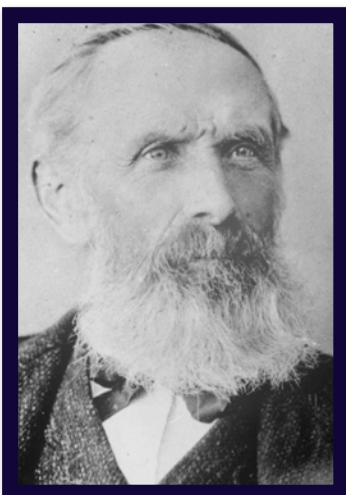
Ballarat Historic Landscapes, Trees, and Gardens Part 1

Reprinted from Lamplight, courtesy of Ballarat Historical Society

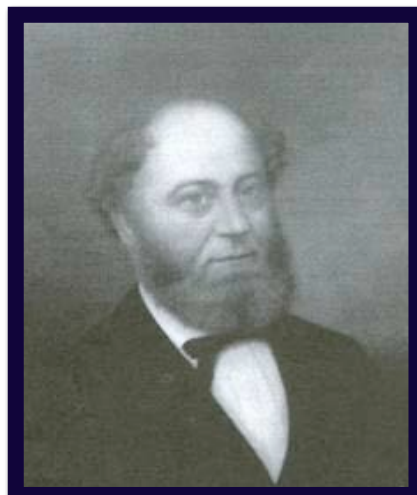
**Winning Garden  
Design**



**George Longley**



**Robert Lewis**



**W.C. Smith**



## **Ballarat BotaniKids**

### **24th OCT GREAT BIG GARDENS Play Day**

Organisation is going well BCC Community Grant applied for will probably go in October round due to delays of quotes. Have opted St Johns First Aide to be in attendance other than that status quo to last year, bookings coming in, Peter Marquand has agreed to open the day.

Request to Raoul can you help with sound system for opening please. Ballarat High School and Loreto and UB students involved this year that's a total of 80 students!

**Request that schools and other educational settings have a special membership fee and we consider what this will give them.**

Schools Subscription ideas for consideration by Committee.

Suggest schools subscription be \$20 per annum, entitles schools to access to educational materials, free access to Bucket Brigade materials, a free visit by BotaniKIDS committee for one Nature Study session at school, visit to the Gardens with a guided tour from Guides on chosen topic, BotaniKIDS to provide previsit, during visit and post visit materials and resources.

WE are thinking of initiating a CultureKIDS Holiday Activity brochure

Talks with Sovereign Hill, Art Gallery. BotaniKIDS, Library and Eureka Centre for holiday activities all positive.

**Christmas Activity:** Dec 5th. Invited schools {Wendouree Preps and Specialist school P-2s} Olden days school Picnic. Novelty races and picnic. Please consider coming along to celebrate a great year for BotaniKIDS in the Gardens!

**Begonia Festival 2013:** Request made by BCC we have four activities under the banner of BotaniKIDS

1. Make a Sunflower sponsored by STEMS, led by Guides
2. A garden plaque in partnership with Woodworkers Guild, BotaniKIDS.
3. Chalkboard fun trails based on gardens in storybooks, BotaniKIDS.
4. Safe haven for young mothers including nappy change facilities etc, garden fun for under three's in partnership with Eureka Community Kindergarten Association. A fenced area with water and sand play. Please come and play anytime with us. *Julie Bradby*

## **BOTANI KIDS**

### **2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Meeting Times : 2nd Tuesday of each month. 10.00am

Meeting Place [unless otherwise arranged].

### **FUNCTIONS**

Each of the School Holiday activities and Coffee and Cake sessions have a limit of 20 so ringing Julie on above phone number to register is recommended. **Cost \$6 per child**

### **The Explorers and the Oak Trees in our Gardens**

July 10th Robert Clark Centre 2pm-4pm

**Great Big Gardens Play Day--it's aMAZEing.** See next newsletter for details.

**October 24th 10am-4pm**

**Olden Days Christmas Picnic** December 5th Robert Clark Centre and North Gardens from 10am

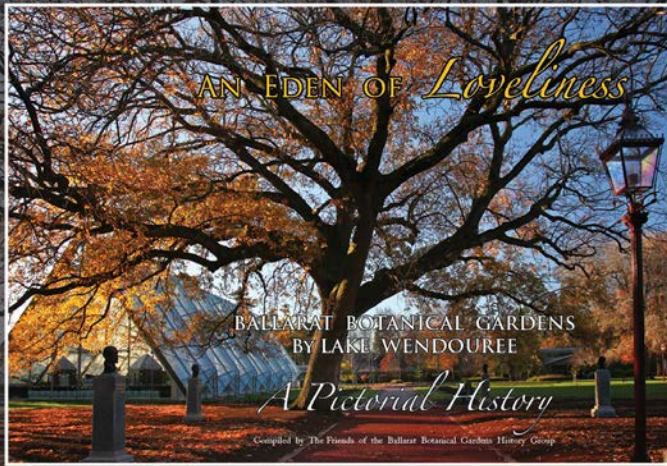
**Coffee and Cake sessions for Mums and activities for Toddlers**

**Nov 13th. Robert Clark Centre 10am -12pm**

## EVENTS AND HOSPITALITY

Members enjoyed the visit of Mr Geoff Cosgrove to our General Meeting in August.

Geoff gave an interesting talk on his trips to China and also gave an insight into the cultivation of tree and herbaceous peonies. He encouraged members to have peonies in their own gardens not only for the beautiful flowers, but for the attractive leaves as well. *Carol Haines*



Pre-order your book.

### **Special Friends Offer**

**\$35** normal price **\$40**

Contact Details

Cheques to

FBBG P.O BOX 33W

BALLARAT WEST 3350

### Cover of Book "Eden of Loveliness"

A pictorial history of Ballarat Botanical Gardens is at publisher and we all look forward to the exciting launch (see calendar of events below)

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2012**

*Please note all these dates in your diary*

**October Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> George Longley Day at 4pm** in the George Longley Building.

On this day, the anniversary of the death of George Longley, we celebrate the contribution to the Gardens of founding curator, George Longley, to the stunning place we all enjoy today. All welcome, **refreshments will be served.**

**October 22nd Monday Bus trip to Cranbourne Gardens** Ring GLB to book on 53429354  
**\$40** Collect tickets from Conservatory or GLB or on payment.

**October 24<sup>th</sup>.Wednesday. Great Big Gardens Play Day-----it's aMAZEing!**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday. Spring Luncheon** to be held at the Ballarat Art Gallery

**November Sat 3rd & Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Ballarat Gardens in Spring**  
Open gardens. Brochures can be picked up from Conservatory & Visitor Info Centre

**November 22nd. Thursday 4pm Book Launch (Conservatory)**

followed by

**Party( to mark 30 years of FBBG ) & Xmas Function**

**February 21st 2013 AGM**

Email [info@fbbg.org.au](mailto:info@fbbg.org.au)

Website [www.fbbg.org.au](http://www.fbbg.org.au)

**Friends of Ballarat Botanic Gardens Incorporated**

**P.O. Box 33W Ballarat West 3350**





**Table Decoration at Port Augusta Conference**



**BotaniKids enjoying The Explorers and the Oak Trees in our Gardens**