

Wellingtonia

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NEWSLETTER WINTER 2014



From the President's Desk...

Greetings, and welcome to this winter edition of our *Wellingtonia*.

Do you like our 'typical' Ballarat winter? I do. I enjoy the changing seasons with winter's shorter days and longer nights. I don't mind the cold and rain, but detest the winds. How lovely if we could get a decent fall of snow. It's great to 'rug up' and get out in the garden, doing all those maintenance jobs in preparation for spring.

The City of Ballarat has established a register of 'exceptional' trees on public and private property, and called for nominations from individuals and groups by the end of this month. A panel of experts will assess the merits of all trees nominated. The FBBG has received a number of nominations. Keep them coming! (*See pages 4 and 10 inside. Ed.*)

I recently went out with a group of local Field Naturalists and we identified a number of trees for nomination. We started with the magnificent blue gum in our Ballarat Botanical Gardens, then identified a snow gum in a paddock in Windermere, and ended up on the south shore of Lake Burrumbeet looking at spectacular red gums.

Some of these red gums have suffered extreme damage from natural forces and, sadly, human activity. Whilst closely inspecting the fractured and burnt stump of one specimen we noticed some tiny shoots attempting to continue the life of this fallen giant. What an amazing illustration of the tenacity for life and capacity for regeneration in some species.

From angiosperms to bryophytes, from the huge to the small, Dr Graeme Ambrose, an environmental scientist at Federation University, gave the Ballarat Field Naturalists a fascinating glimpse into the world of



Ballarat Friends President,
Mike Sorrell.

Cryptograms and the vital role played by these smallest of photosynthesises. They include lichens, mosses, liverworts and hornworts. I mention them because we have these plants in our Botanical Gardens: unlabelled, un-noticed and unappreciated in terms of the niches they occupy and roles they perform.

Congratulations go to Beryl Plummer and her Western Bed group who have taken the first steps in rebuilding and extending the monocotyledon bed. Now that contractors have removed stumps and cleared the area the creative phase begins with design and replanting elements.

Well, back to my reading. I would thoroughly recommend Tatiana Holway's *The Flower of Empire* for a fascinating account of the horticultural scene in England during the 18th and 19th centuries.

This period was one of the most important in the history of botanical science. Some of the finest collections of plants from all around the 'new world' were assembled, botanical gardens as we define them were created,

Crystal Palace was constructed as a major exhibition centre and the Kew Gardens were born. *Victoria regia* was discovered, and samples sent back to England where they were successfully propagated.

Mike Sorrell, June 2014

CONTENTS:

1. From the President's Desk - Winter 2014
2. Guiding Friends
4. Visionary Plan and Re-Development of Fernery Project; What is Phytomining?
5. Friends Visit to 'Boninyong' and 'Narmbool'
6. Botanical Illustration
6. Wes Fleming at Buninyong Luncheon
7. Curator's Report
8. Ballarat Gardens in Spring
9. Reports from Western Bedders, Growing and History Groups
10. Significant trees and other photos.
11. Conference reminders and celebrity pix!
12. What's on, when and where?



FBBG Patron:

Prof. Tim Entwisle, Director and Chief Executive, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

Have you seen the result of the work recently done to demolish the unsafe parts of the existing fernery? Worth a walk up to the Gardens to see the changes.

Guiding Friends Report:

Autumn Colour:

Lorraine Huddle has captured the fallen ginkgo leaves (*right*) in the lily pond during one of the last autumn Sunday morning tours of the Botanical Gardens for 2014. We will renew these again in the spring.

Requests for guiding in the winter months are a rare event and the guides welcome the opportunity to reflect, plan, develop and anticipate until it gets busy in the Springtime.

Anticipating:

We finally have the date for the installation of the bust of the 27th Prime Minister in the PM's avenue. Julia Gillard has agreed to unveil the sculpture on 9 October, 2014. The bust was delivered to Ballarat in July 2012 and the site has been prepared for its installation since October 2012. (See photo below)



A golden carpet of Ginkgo leaves on the lily ponds in May 2014

The only attendance of a recent PM at the unveiling of their bust was John Howard in January 1997. Kevin Rudd did visit Ballarat to unveil his bust but he didn't take part in the ceremony because of the presence of protesters objecting to changes to laws about home birthing

Mr Rudd will not be coming to unveil a second bust for his second term as prime Minister as he like the other three prime ministers who have served multiple terms – Alfred Deakin, Andrew Fisher and Sir Robert Menzies - do not get another bust for the additional term but just have the dates added to their first pedestal .



When PM Rudd's bust was unveiled many commented on its smallness and how old he was presented as being. PM John Howard didn't approve of how Nicholson had presented his bottom lip! (See right)

We have some idea of how Gillard's bust will be presented as Sculptor Peter Nicholson has used his website and Twitter to show working models of the likeness that he will present of Australia's first female prime minister. We await with interest this new addition to our gardens. A number of models were made before the final choice was arrived at. (See more at: <http://nicholsoncartoons.com.au/> Ed.)

Reflecting

John Howard, at the unveiling of his bust, urged us to reflect on our history and drew attention to the fact that Australia is listed amongst only eight countries that has been continuously democratic for the whole of the twentieth century. This is a remarkable thing. Why have we been able to achieve this? John Howard suggested that it is our healthy scepticism that is part of the answer. It is worth reflecting on and celebrating that all these Prime Ministers have contributed to a continuation of Australian democracy.

At our last monthly meeting we included a tour of the Tramways Museum. A visit helps illuminate the close link between tram transport and the Gardens. The increasing popularity of the Gardens at the end of the nineteenth century was helped by the ability of these trams to transport large numbers from the Ballarat railway station and the central city of to the Gardens.



(Above) PM John Howard taking issue with Nicholson's representation of his bottom lip. Photo by David Geraghty originally published in 'The Australian'; (below) Gillard maquettes by Nicholson for Ballarat PM avenue.



Continues on page 3

Continued from page 2

Two of the Museum volunteers, Peter Waugh and Roger Gosney, guided us through their collection of restored trams including the double-decked horse drawn trams, and shared the many stories that help celebrate and inform us of the Tramways' history. If you haven't ventured inside the Museum it is an activity well worth considering. On our visit we ran out of time and I think many of the guides will go back again to seek out more of their extensive display of machinery and memorabilia.

The last excursion for the guides was the Melton Botanic Gardens. The 25 hectare site is being transformed from a fairly desolate area into a botanic garden of dry land species. It is uplifting to see the transformation that is occurring here in such a short time by a volunteer group. *(Interestingly, they already have an impressive list of well over 200 members! Ed.)*



The famous Tram No. 1



John Bentley (President of Melton BG Friends) briefs BBG Friends Terry O'Brien, Jane Munro, and Margaret Bird during the Melton Botanical Gardens visit.



Part of the dry land plantings at Melton Botanical Gardens

They have selected species that tolerate a dry climate and low water conditions. There are many Eremophilas and small growing eucalypts. This garden only started recently and is a creation of the the new century and so is influenced and shaped by our times. They are influenced by climate change and the sustainable use of water resources.

Our Ballarat Gardens are a creation of a different time – a 19th Century pleasure garden. Our challenge is to preserve our inheritance but also move forward. Included in the many recommendations of the visionary plan for BBG are the development of Australian flora in sections of the western bed and the wetlands, and also to have display gardens of threatened ecosystems. As these suggested developments take place guides will need to become more informed about indigenous planting.

On our garden tours many of the guides start the history of the gardens by trying to create a picture of the site pre-1858 when there was a large swamp with native grasses, trees and shrubs. It would add more interest if we could actually show the plants of the early landscape and how they supported the needs of the original custodians. To have displays showing the starting point of our Garden's story would also be very effective in our education about the challenges with biodiversity across the basalt plains of the central highlands.

Planning

Part of guiding is helping visitors access the highlights in our garden and provide the necessary information. The guides are now working on a handout sheet that visitors can pick up at the Conservatory that will direct visitors to seasonal highlights in the garden. The sheet will endeavour to inform the visitor what they must see in the garden for that season. We will have one for spring and another for autumn. It will be part of the welcome to the gardens by the Friends and will include some plant information and photos and map with location of highlighted plants.

You may not be interested in taking groups through the gardens but if you are interested in helping us with research for plant information for our publications you would be most welcome to join the guiding group.



Roger Gosney (Tramways Museum Guide) has BBG Friends John Garner and Terry O'Brien enthralled during the recent tour.

Terry O'Brien Convener of the Guides for FBBG

Visionary Plan & ReDevelopment Update

On Wednesday 28 May the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Visionary Plan was adopted by the City of Ballarat (CoB). We are thrilled with this progress, and there will be a detailed implementation process with actions being completed over the next two years. The FBBG sincerely thank City of Ballarat and Mark Richardson for their roles in the process.

Included in the **Year 1 Actions**

- * Re-brand the BBG to include the North, South & Lake foreshore as the Ballarat Botanical Gardens and Arboretum (BBGA)
- * Include the wetlands as part of the botanical gardens living collection.
- * Review links with the FBBG, Trout Hatchery & Tram Museum
- * Start establishing links for research and conservation.

Ballarat Botanical Gardens and Arboretum?

Year 2 Actions include:

- * Recruit an Education Officer 2014-15 and commence development of an education program.
- * Review the BBG's current staff structure and duties.
- * Establish the plant records including the purchase/development of a database and consider the appointment of a Plant Records Officer.
- * Develop a Living Collections Plan.
- * Review the use of the Conservatory.
- * Develop an Interpretation (Signage) Plan.
- * Review environmental sustainability

The ReDevelopment Project is moving along with the appointment of **Andrew Laidlaw** to complete preliminary proposal drawings for the new "Fernery" and surrounds. Andrew will continue to consult with the Friends, CoB and Gardens Staff throughout the developments.

Elizabeth Gilfillan. Redevelopment Project



The CITY OF BALLARAT has opened an EXCEPTIONAL TREE REGISTER (see right)

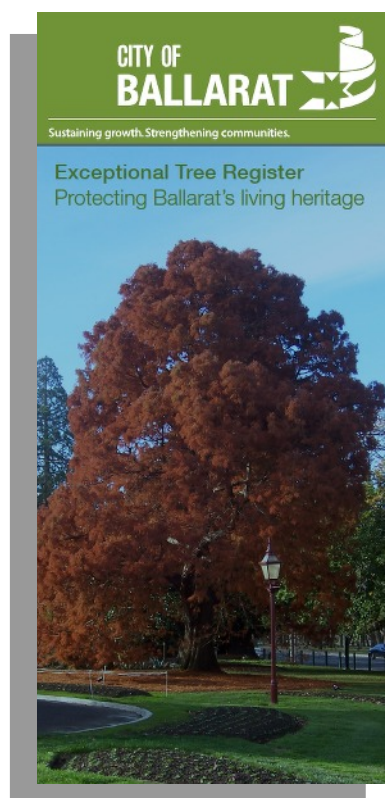
If you think that you know of a tree or trees worth nominating for assessment and consideration for inclusion in the City of Ballarat Exceptional Tree Register you can do so by completing a nomination form (available from City of Ballarat or George Longley Building). The information provided will be verified by the City of Ballarat. Please provide as much detail as possible.

Trees can be in private gardens!

Selection Criteria for exceptional trees

Examples of the selection criteria are provided and there are tick boxes next to all the criteria that you believe the nominated tree/s may fulfil. These include:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Horticultural Value | 7. Curious Growth Form |
| 2. Location or context | 8. Historical Value |
| 3. Rare or Localised | 9. Aboriginal Association |
| 4. Particularly Old | 10. Outstanding Example of Species |
| 5. Outstanding Size | 11. Outstanding Habitat Value |
| 6. Aesthetic Value | 12. Social, Cultural or Spiritual Value. |



PHYTOMINING :

We all know that plants take up dissolved minerals and salts with water absorbed mainly through their roots. And we know that certain elements are essential for healthy plant growth and production, whilst other elements in minute quantities are vital in plant physiology.

What we are becoming increasingly aware of is the capacity of certain plant species to survive in 'mineral contaminated' environments such as former mining sites. Not only survive, but take up metals in extraordinary quantities and store them in their tissues.

So the race is on to discover, or develop, plants that are 'hyper accumulators' of different metals. These can be planted in degraded or contaminated environments where they will absorb and store the metallic contaminants. They will then be harvested to extract the metallic concentrate.

One such plant has been discovered growing on an island in the Philippines where the soil was heavy with nickel. Its sap had a nickel concentration of 9 percent! Other elements taken up in large amounts by different species are: cobalt, thallium and gold.

Continues on page 6

FBBG Visit to ‘Boninyong’ and ‘Narmbool’

On a grey and overcast April morning more than 40 members of the FBBG boarded the coach taking us to two historic properties in the Buninyong district.

Our first stop was the historic property ‘Boninyong’ on the eastern side of Mt Buninyong. Forebears of the Scott clan, Andrew and Celia Scott, emigrated from Glasgow with their four children in 1838. They took up a ‘run’ of 16000 acres in the district we now call Scotsburn, initially grazing cattle, and later sheep. The original homestead was pulled down and replaced by the current building in 1884. The extensive gardens surrounding the homestead date from the 1850's and are one of the oldest in Victoria.



Celia Burnham's ‘Boninyong’ Homestead

The current owners Celia Burnham (nee Scott) and her husband Graeme were delightful and proud hosts. They gave us a conducted tour of their gardens and pointed out some of the original and significant trees, damaged during a recent freak storm. We were invited into their homestead and treated to a much appreciated morning tea.



Ballarat Friends enjoy ‘Narmbool’

Let's hope the Scott clan continues their interest and enthusiasm for this historic property, well beyond the current 175 years and eight generations.

[Our local historian Anne Beggs-Sunter mentioned Celia Scott, probably the first white woman to settle in this area, when she paid tribute to our Scottish heritage, in a talk at the Ballarat Art Gallery as part of the *For Auld Lang Syne* exhibition. Anne believes Celia Scott was a ‘true pioneer’ in the widest sense.]

After thanking Celia and Graeme we set off along the Midland Highway towards Geelong for Narmbool, a magnificent pastoral property near Elaine. The 2000 hectare property ‘Narmbool’ was first leased from the Government in 1839 by Hugh Niven for a cattle run.

Around 1850 a two-roomed bluestone cottage was built where today's homestead is situated. The current homestead, built in the late 1880's, has a National Trust classification. The property has had a number of owners, and in 2000, Andrew and Robin Ferry gifted Narmbool to Sovereign Hill.



“Racing” at Narmbool!

This most magnanimous philanthropic gift requires Sovereign Hill to manage Narmbool as an environmentally friendly grazing property and as a unique educational centre focusing on conservation, sustainability, bio-diversity, and indigenous culture. Purpose built classrooms and accommodation facilities, together with a diverse curriculum and specifically trained teachers, all combine to enhance students' learning experiences.

Under Sovereign Hill management there have been many developments in the homestead precinct, including a *Garden Room* which can be hired for a variety of functions. The original bluestone cottage has been converted into a small museum with interpretive explanations of Narmbool's natural and cultural history.

The homestead gardens have undergone significant remodeling, featuring terracing, ponds and lakes, bridges, statues and contrasting plantings of both indigenous and introduced species.

Beyond the homestead the surrounding countryside expands into grazing land, native bush and scrub, and undulating hills interrupted by rocky volcanic outcrops. The entire property is a potentially marvellous learning environment. There is so much to do both inside and out. The FBBG could do well to explore the opportunity for a two-day ‘camp’ at Narmbool (as the days lengthen and the temperature rises).

The history of Narmbool has been thoroughly recorded by Mary Akers in her book: *Narmbool and its Pastoralists*.

Mike Sorrell



Southern Vista from Narmbool



Educational facility at Narmbool



Part of the garden at Narmbool

Botanical Illustration

What a glorious Autumn we have had and I do hope you have been able to do some painting. Now we can enjoy the rain!

Monday Painting Days (10-3pm) have been going since Easter and have continued until 23 June. There are no classes during school holidays 27 June to 14 July.

We will re-commence Monday 14 July until 15 September.

We are thrilled to welcome back **Marg Castle** who is going to do a series of three Monday workshops for us. This will be for all levels from beginners onwards. The cost will be \$70 for each full day 10-4pm. Marg is in Melbourne now and will travel to Ballarat each Monday. Please hurry to put your name down for this wonderful opportunity. The dates are 25 August, as well as 1 and 8 September.

Charlotte Thodey is a guest speaker at the Spring Speakers Luncheon this year. I encourage you to have a look at her website www.charlottethodey.com. She creates beautiful work, different and in acrylics.

Charlotte would do a workshop if we have enough interested people, dates to be fixed but are possibly 20-21 October or the weekend of 25-26 October. Or it could be a one day event only. Cost to be fixed -- possibly \$280 for two days. Again please let me know promptly if you are interested.

We are going to start some projects, including painting Begonias from the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Collection and any thing else from other collections, with the ultimate aim to do a small exhibition for the end of year in November. No pressure ! All in the fun.

Contact FBBG. Happy painting!

Elizabeth Gilfillan



Guest Speaker Wes Fleming Entertains in Buninyong

A Luncheon organised by the Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens recently filled the Town Hall to capacity. Guest Speaker, Wes Fleming of Fleming Family Nurseries, was part of a team that won the top award at the 2013 Chelsea Flower Show

Flemings were a driving force and worked closely with designer Phillip Johnson and a team of 18 volunteers when they, and Australia, won the Best in Show at the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show. Wes said that whilst the win was a tremendous achievement for all concerned, it would be their last attempt there as they now had other projects to foster.



Anne King and special guest Wes Fleming at Buninyong Friends recent luncheon

One of these other projects is the 'Kindergarten' series of designs that they had pioneered with Ballarat City Council and which were aimed at being an 'imaginational' space for young children. Mt Clear was the first kindergarten to be completed, then Wendouree and, more recently, Buninyong Kindergarten's new play area and garden was opened and included a vegetable garden and chook run.

He was hopeful that the 'Kindergarten' scheme would spread to other kindergartens in many areas.

Wes gave an impassioned plea for more thought and ideas to be put into public open space areas to encourage all socio-economic and demographic groups to use for their recreational time.

The Winter Lunches are held annually, partly to raise funds for the Gardens, and now have a reputation for providing a range of interesting speakers.

Russell Luckock

PHYTOMINING : (from page 4) Various species of *Alyssum* (e.g. *Turkish alyssum*, right) have been found to take up nickel in commercially viable quantities. By treating the soils to improve rates of absorption, and using the latest in genetic modification and selection of plants, this concept is looking increasingly viable. A Canadian company recently claimed to have extracted 100 Kg of pure nickel from 500 Kg of plant ash in an electric oven within minutes.



[Thanks to LP for drawing my attention to: 'Good to Grow', New Scientist, 22 March 2014]

Emwess.

Curator's report:

In recent weeks the fernery has been reopened to the public after being closed for the last couple of years because of the danger of falling battens. The roof battens have been removed, paths tidied up and ferns cut back once again making it safe for staff and public to enter the building.

Over autumn staff are kept busy picking up leaves throughout the gardens. The leaves are stockpiled in the North Gardens and then removed to the transfer station for composting. So far this year over ten truckloads have been removed.

I attended a luncheon organized by the friends of Buninyong Botanic gardens on Saturday, 14 June, as did a number of members from Ballarat. Wes Fleming spoke on his Chelsea experiences and other projects that he is currently involved in. One of those projects saw gardens at Buninyong, Mt Clear and Wendouree pre-schools redeveloped. An inspiring presentation by Wes on bringing the gardens back into kindergartens, I encourage you to seek out and listen to this speaker if you get the chance. You should also make the effort to have a look at the pre-school gardens.



The fernery re-opened for public access after being closed for some years



Eureka! The recently restored Eureka Stockade Gates

A project that has been recently completed is the maintenance works on the entry gateway at the Eureka Stockade gardens. Works have included repainting and renewing of sign writing. The gateway is located in Eureka Street and forms a suitable entrance to this important precinct.

Ballarat is to host an Iron Man competition on the 16 November 2014. This recently announced event further shows the importance of the Lake and Gardens precinct. Over 1400 competitors are expected at this event which includes a swim in Lake Wendouree, a run and cycling leg. This event is one of a number of significant happenings including the World Masters Rowing and Spring Fest to be held later in October and November this year.

Peter Marquand, Curator

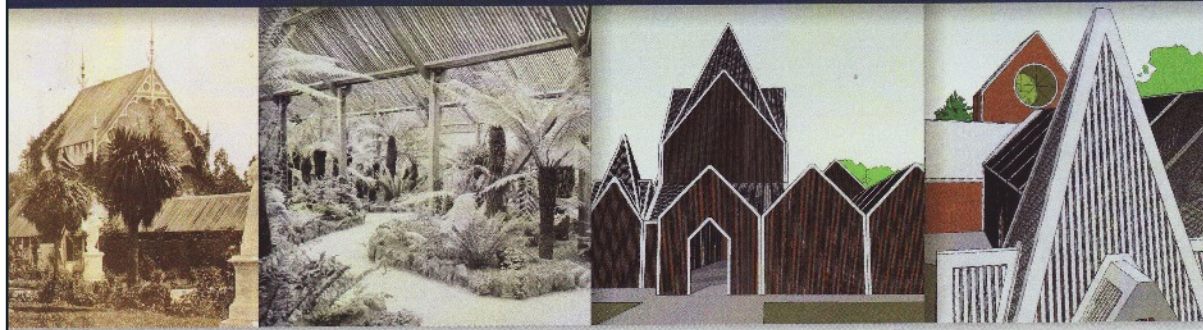
The FBBG will be playing a significant role in the major project to redevelop the existing fernery. We will have input into the refining of the concept building, its functions, its contents and its usage.

Most importantly, we will be involved in promoting and raising funds in support of the staged development of the project.



Your help and encouragement for this venture will be most valuable.



THE FERNERY REDEVELOPMENT



Only you can make it happen!



Available from City of Ballarat, Friends Committee members or the George Longley Building.

Ballarat Gardens in Spring

24 OCTOBER TO 26 OCTOBER 2014

Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens

With the theme of '**Earth's Bounty**' celebrating all that Spring has to offer in the garden, the 7th annual Ballarat Gardens in Spring kicks off with the popular Speakers Luncheon on **Friday, 24 October**

We are very excited to announce our Guest Speakers for 2014:-

• **Marcus Ryan** is the Plant Product Manager at The Diggers Club and OS Garden Tour leader. A passionate plantsman with 15 years experience in the industry, including 12 years with David Glenn at Lambley Nursery. Marcus is also a recipient of a prestigious Churchill Fellowship.

• **Marcelle Nankervis** is a Horticulturist and Author who has worked in the Horticultural Media for over 16 years. She is passionate about Permaculture, Sustainability and Gardening for the Future. Marcelle regularly writes for *Your Garden* magazine and *Better Homes and Gardens*.

• **Charlotte Thodey** is well known for her creative, colourful and beautifully illustrated Botanical Art and has exhibited her work for over 25 years both here in Australia and in France. Charlotte regularly teaches classes in Sydney and produces posters for the Botanic Gardens and Historic Houses Trust, as well as illustrations for books.

As you are aware, tickets are limited for our informative and fun event, so be sure to diarise this event now.



Registrations forms will be again in our program brochure which will be posted to you in August.

Again a selection of gardens will be opened around Ballarat, some for the first time. This year's gardens are in Warrenheip/Dunnstown and Invermay areas. It's always a delight and treat to visit other private gardens and share their wisdom and appreciate their creativity and hard work.

Brochures with the Speakers Luncheon Registration and open garden details will be posted out soon.

Rug up and enjoy our winter gardens!

All members should put these dates in their diaries and look forward to the return of sunshine at the end of winter.

Thanks to all involved with this year's organising and we look forward to all the Friends support in Spring.

Helen Todd
Committee
Ballarat Gardens in Spring 2014

Earth's Bounty



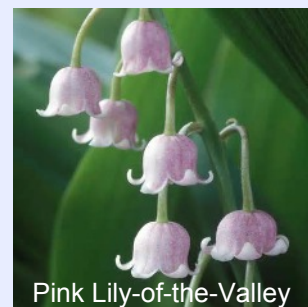
(Above) Charlotte Thodey with her 'earth's bounty'.

GROWING FRIENDS GROUP

Plants are still selling well and it is great weather for gardening, for shifting plants (or getting rid of them) and even buying new ones better suited to a vacant spot in your garden.

We have plenty of choice in our little nursery and a great team of potters who like to be kept busy.

If you have plants that you are willing to donate please do so. At the moment we are hunting for someone willing to donate pink lily of the valley. There have been many people asking for this little bulb (*right*), so if you have 'spare' tubers please let us know.



Pink Lily-of-the-Valley

Yvonne Curbach, Convener

WESTERN BEDS GROUP



Six Western Bedders... Janet Dealy, Val Richards, Wendy Sandiford, Beryl Plummer, Jacinta Nuttall and Rae Shearer

—Convener Beryl Plummer

We had our first "hands on" in the *monocotyledon* (grasses, etc) garden on 14 May. Seven of us removed various plants. Some of these will be kept for replanting and others will be given to the Growing Group to pot up for sale.

More plants still have to be removed before the contractors come in to remove the largest plants.

The landscape will be redesigned which will include a new path. A new irrigation system is to be installed.

FRIENDS HISTORY GROUP

Lorraine Powell, Convener

The History Group members are working towards a small exhibition detailing some of what happened in these gardens during the period of the Great War and immediately after, as a recognition of the centenary of that terrible time. If any members have information relating to gardeners who enlisted, or are aware of other stories involving our Gardens, please contact the History Convenor Lorraine Powell 53 413151 OR send an email to info@fbbg.org.com. As part of this project, our Botanical Artists are producing images of Flanders poppies and rosemary for use in the display. We anticipate a launch in November, so check carefully the Spring edition of the 'Wellingtonia' for the dates.



WEST INDIES



CRICKET

And now for something completely different - a sporting paragraph!

Did you know that the 1961 Ballarat Begonia Festival Association Committee sent a box of *Begonias* to the West Indian Cricket Team, and provided each player with a Begonia Festival booklet?



CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Could this act have provided the impetus for the tying of the 1961 Test Series?

**COMING
SOON...
BENDIGO**

The 10th FJC Rogers Seminar on "*Brachychiton and Allied Genera*" will be hosted by Bendigo Native Plant Group on 18-19 October 2014. This is open to all interested persons. For details of the program and registration, go to www.apsvic.org.au/FJCR.

For more information, contact Sandra Birch: bendigonativeplantgroup@yahoo.com.au or phone 0400 149 319.



New faces on the Friends Committee in 2014 are Trish Twaits (Secretary) and John King.



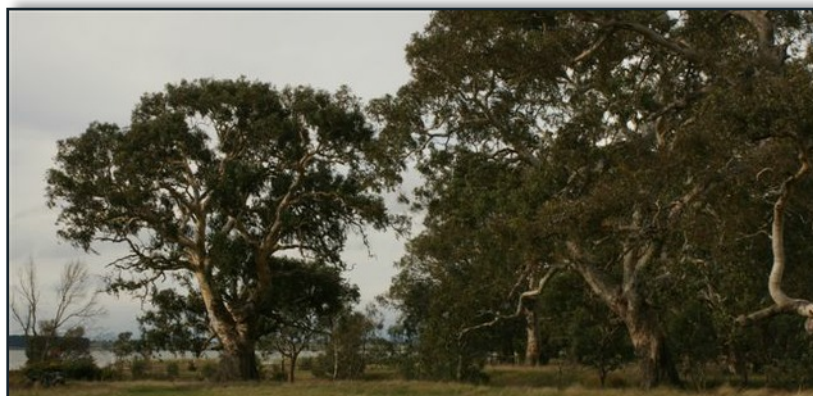
How does this red gum stand and still support a massive canopy?



Amazing! Rudolf Huebner inspects shoots emerging from this shattered, sawn and burnt red gum at Lake Burrumbeet. The circumference of the base was more than 14m.



Friends helping at a recent General Meeting are Beth Dixon, Helen Vincent and Di Dunne. Di is also new to the Committee this year.



Significant trees? A magnificent stand of red gums with Lake Burrumbeet in the background.

DISCOUNTS FOR FBBG MEMBERS AT LOCAL NURSERIES, 2014

- **Formosa Gardens Nursery** Leith St Ballarat 5% off all stock
- **Grow Master** Western Highway Ballarat 10% off plant purchases excl adv trees
- **Spot on Pots** Wallis Street Delacombe 10% off all purchases
- **Blackwood Ridge Nursery**, Trentham-Greendale Rd 10% off all purchases

You will need to show your FBBG membership card

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER FOR FBBG MEMBERS!

Payments to FBBG are available via eft:

Please use your **surname** and **first initial** as **your id.**

Account name: **Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens**

BSB 633 000

Acc. Number: 125334615



Is this tree significant? Yes! A classic bark canoe tree showing the scarring near Lake Burrumbeet.

PLEASE NOTE: recently a wooden fence has been erected between the Friends Nursery (plant sales area) and the driveway leading to the Gardens' workshop area.

Members MUST NOT access the Friends' area through the drive way!

Please use the *single wooden gate* at the rear of the Robert Clark Centre only.
This is a safety issue and must be followed.

Feeling cold? Want to experience some tropical weather? Two experiences are on offer....



1 Registrations are now open for the 2014 BGANZ Queensland Regional Conference to be held in beautiful sunny Cairns from Thursday 2 to Saturday 4 October.

This year's conference is themed "Cultivating Connections" and will include keynote speaker Kate Faithorn, Director of Public Engagement, Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney who will be giving an enlightening talk on how the RBGS engage with its four million plus visitors per year as well as presenting a workshop on marketing for botanic gardens.

Also presenting a workshop at this year's conference is Andrea Ambrosio who is regarded as the grant and tender writing expert in the Far North QLD region. Andrea has been responsible for successfully attaining over \$40 million in Government grants and tender contracts on behalf of an extensive portfolio of corporate and not-for-profit clients in a multitude of industries in North and South-East Queensland over the last eight years.

Cost of the conference is just \$260 for BGANZ members (\$290 for non members) who register before 1 July (payment can be made in the new financial year) and includes **all** social activities and study tours during the conference. (*Sorry. Ed. Notice received too late for our deadline.*)

To register just go to <http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/cbg/whats-on/2014-bganz-qld-state-conference> and download the registration form.

Please contact Tony Roberts or the conference organiser, Rebecca Anderson on 07 4044 3019 with any questions.

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PO Box 359, 119-145 Spence St, Cairns Q 4870

2 You will have to hurry to attend the
**2014 AFBG National Conference, 8-10 August
at the Mecure Gold Coast Resort.**

Visit Friends or AFBG websites for Conference details and bookings:
www.friendsgcrbg.org.au OR www.friendsbotanicgardens.org



22 May , Members' General Meeting: Speaker Anne Vale, (above) author and lecturer in Australian Garden History, engaged all with her talk entitled 'The Last of the Romantics'.



(Above) Mark Richardson (visionary plan author), Friends Rae Shearer and Lorraine Powell at the Fernery Redevelopment briefing.



(Above) Friends Guide Sandie De Groot conducts a session for U3A Course on the Ballarat Botanical Gardens earlier in 2014.



(Above): Hospitality Friends: Carole Haines and Lorraine Powell cleaning up after catering for recent General Meeting.



Ginkgo leaves carpet the Gardens' fishpond in May 2014



Now just how many students does it need to hold up one sequoiadenron?

Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens Information 2014

Email: info@fbbg.org.au
Website: www.fbbg.org.au

Friends of Ballarat Botanic Gardens Inc.
P.O. Box 33W Ballarat West 3350

Tel. George Longley Building 03 5342 9354

Meetings and Events:

August 8 -10	Association of Friends Conf. Gold Coast
August 21 10:00am	General Meeting (see below)
October 6 8.30am	Friends Bus Trip to Geelong Bot Gardens
October 16 10:00am	'George Longley Day'
October 24 10am -3.30pm	Spring Lunch and Events
October 25 - 26	Ballarat Open Gardens
November 3 TBC	RMBG Art Exhibition (via V-line train)
November 27	BBQ Xmas Meeting

MEETING TIMES 2014

Meetings are held in the George Longley Building
(rear of the Robert Clark Centre):

Committee - 3rd Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm
Growing Friends - Tuesday each week 1 pm-4 pm,
and the 2nd Sunday each month, 1 pm-4 pm.
Plant Sales at the above times and 9 am -5 pm daily
from the trolley outside the Conservatory.
Guiding Friends - 4th Tuesday each month 10 am.
History Group - 1st Tuesday each month 4 pm.
Educating Friends - 2nd Tuesday each month, 10 am.
Plant Labelling as required.

BotaniKIDS 2014

July 8	Coffee and Cake; 10am to 12pm. "Kites/Windy"
August 12	Coffee and Cake; 10am to 12pm. "Bugs"
September	Coffee and Cake; 10am to 12pm. "Flowers"
October 22	Big Garden Day ; October 21 booked for preparation 10am-3pm.
November 11	Coffee and Cake; 10am to 12pm. "Red Poppy"
December 3	Coffee and Cake; 10am to 12pm. "Christmas"



Early Notices:

August 21, General Meeting: Guest Speaker Carol Hall is a local photographer of international repute with a keen interest in world travel and the natural world.

October 6 (Monday). Visit to Geelong Botanical Gardens via coach. Depart 8.30am returning 5.30pm. Morning tea and tour included. BYO picnic lunch. Cost: \$30

November 3: Botanical Illustration Exhibition by Friends of Royal Melbourne Botanical Gardens at 11am. Travel by V-line and tram.

2014 FBBG Committee Appointments

POSITION	NAME	POSITION	NAME
President	Mike Sorrell	History Convener	Lorraine Powell
Vice president	Vacant	Hospitality	Carole Haines/Diana Dunne
Secretary	Trish Twaits	Membership	Raoul Dixon
Treasurer	Bruce Holland	Merchandise	Helen Vincent
Past President	Elizabeth Gilfillan	Western Bed Convener	Beryl Plummer
Education Convener	Julie Bradby	General member	Kathleen Hobson
Grants/Proposals	Glen Lake	General member	John King
Growers Convener	Yvonne Curbach	Newsletter Editor	Michael Bird
Guides Convener	Terry O'Brien	Engraving Convener	Joy O'Brien (non Committee)



Photo credits: Thanks to Raoul Dixon, Lorraine Huddle, Terry O'Brien, Mike Sorrell, Helen Vincent, Elizabeth Gilfillan, David Geraghty, Roger Permezel and Peter Marquand for providing photographs used in this edition. Ed.