



## FRIENDS OF THE MELTON BOTANIC GARDEN (FMBG) INC.

# NEWSLETTER

## FMBG Forum—Wednesday, 13th June, 2007—7:00 pm

This year's Forum will be held at the Victoria University,  
Melton Campus Auditorium .

Our Guest Speakers will be:

Tony Herwerth, Melton Shire Council Land Information Officer

Topic: Indigenous Plants at the Botanic Garden Site,  
Town Centre Park

-and-

Rob Small, Botanic Garden Consultant  
Botanic Garden Concept Plan

Refreshments provided.

Enquiries: Tel: 9743 2733 (Secretary)

Concept Plans of Botanic Garden Site will be  
shown on night



*Come and learn  
about the plants at  
the  
Botanic Garden*

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### Special points of interest:

- A succulent night: FMBG Meeting Weds. July 11th
- New address information for FMBG—see Page 4
- Great use for used potting mix bags— see Page 3

### Renowned Guest Speaker at July Meeting Attila Kapitany Weds. July, 11th—7:30pm

Want to be waterwise? Bird attracting Garden? Have you thought about succulents??

Attila Kapitany, President of the Cacti and Succulent Society of Australia and an author of seven books, will be here to speak to us on the varieties of succulent that suit the different soils, and climate zones in Australia. Attila will provide a table of plants and books for sale on the night. **Don't miss this Meeting!!**

# KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL—CLEAN UP DAY, BOTANIC GARDEN SITE

**Excerpt from the Melton Shire Newsletter:**

Clean Up Australia Day Success

With 150 volunteers working hard to collect a total of 252 bags of rubbish, Melton Shire is cleaner and even more beautiful after the success of Clean Up Australia Day.

Melton Shire Mayor Councillor Justin Mammarella paid tribute to the fantastic work of the volunteers who gave up their time to make their community a nicer place for people to live, work and visit through their efforts.

“Council was pleased to help facilitate the Clean Up Australia Day events in our Shire and everybody worked hard to make it thoroughly worthwhile and successful,” said Cr Mammarella.

“Everyone is aware of the importance of protecting the environment and this was an opportunity to take part in a local event that will also have a positive national impact.

“It’s good to see this event was so well-supported and that more new and different areas were covered by collections this year.”

Among those helping with the clean up efforts was a team of volunteer workers and a staff member from the Melton Visitor Information Centre who took to collecting rubbish around the town’s historic heritage trail.

“Guided tours around the Melton Heritage Trail are being booked up fast, so it was great to see our Visitor Information Centre volunteers their time to make the trail free of litter. That’s real dedication,” said Cr Mammarella.

“I really want to thank all of the volunteers and the CFA for their outstanding support on the day, from collecting rubbish through to providing the expertise of a chef for the thank you barbecue.”

In all, rubbish collections took place at Toolern Creek, Exford Reserve and road areas, Bullum Bullum, **Town Centre Park**, McPherson’s Park, Kororoit Creek, Little Blind Creek, Navan Park, , Hannah Watts Park and Westlake.

Among the items collected were shopping trolleys, bicycles and broken furniture.

“It’s amazing that people think they can pollute our public spaces with their unwanted rubbish. I hope the hard work of the volunteers might just encourage people to think twice before they illegally dump and litter,” said Cr Mammarella.

Volunteer Groups will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the Mayor for their participation in Clean Up Australia Day.



*Help Clean Up Melton*



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<http://www.melton.vic.gov.au/>

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## GREAT USE FOR USED POTTING MIX BAGS

FMBG would love you to save your empty potting mix bags as they make great bags for filling with rubbish on our clean-up days at the Botanic Garden Site, Town Centre Park.

Members bring along your empty bags to our Meetings and give them to John Bentley who will store them for the next clean-up day.

Please ring:

John Bentley 9743 3819

Our next clean up day at the Botanic Garden Site is:

10th June, - 10:00 am.  
Meet at the Rotunda, in Town Centre Park.

Refreshments provided.



***Go green with used Potting Mix Bags.***

## News on Upcoming events:

### Grants Writing Day Saturday 19th May

We need \$\$\$\$ for our future expenses, plantings, for providing tools, clothes on clean-up days, and many more areas.

An invitation is made to any enthusiastic members to come along with project ideas to help complete information on different grants. We are coming together, over a glass of wine, at Jill & John Bentleys' - 1:00 to 5:00 pm

### History of Botanic Garden Site at Town Centre Park

We are forming a sub-committee to seek information specifically on the history, past owners, maybe events held, information on the trees planted at Town Centre Park. Do you know about the area? We would appreciate any ideas, information you may know or especially if you would like to be part of the Committee.

Tel: Janet: 9743 2733

### Trips:

September 9th—Field Trip: “Wattle I.D. Walk”  
- Riddells Creek Land-care Group.

October 21st.  
- Bus Tour of Colac Botanic Gardens

*“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.”  
Robert Louis Stevenson”  
Our aim for a Botanic Garden*

## HELP PROPAGATE PLANTS FOR THE DJERRIWARRH FESTIVAL

We are having a stall at the Djerriwarrh Festival in November this year.

Are you willing to plant cuttings, grow seeds? We need plants to be ready for sale at the Festival.

If you require pots?  
- Any size.

Please ring:  
Janet on 9743 2733



***Start planting cuttings, seedlings for our Stall at the Djerriwarrh Festival***

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION:

### NEW FMBG ADDRESS:

P.O. 2381  
MELTON SOUTH. 3338  
Tel: 03 9743 2733  
Fax: 03 9743 3819

botanicfriends@fmbg.org.au  
www.fmbg.org.au

**We're on the Web!!**  
**Www.fmbg.org.au**

### **Meetings:**

**We meet at:**  
**Woodgrove Shopping**  
**Centre, Community Room**  
**1 (next to 100% Cycles)**

**2nd Wednesday of the**  
**month - at 7:30pm**



### Calendar Of Events:

**MAY: 19TH Grants Writing Day**  
**1-5pm at Bentleys**  
**(see Page 2)**

**JUNE: 10TH Clean Up Day**  
**(see Page 2)**

**JUNE: 13TH \*Public Forum**  

- \*Public Meeting instead of Ordinary Meeting for June (see Page 1)*

**JULY: 11TH Meeting: —**  
**Guest Speaker: Attila Kapitany**  
Horticultural consultant and author  
with plants and books for sale.

## **\$\$\$ REMINDER: Membership renewals will be due 1st. July**

### **RAFFLE RESULTS FROM EASTSIDE LIVE, CAROLINE SPRINGS, 31 March, 2007**

All prizes have been delivered. Congratulations to:

1st: B. D, 2nd: Danielle,  
3rd. Jen, 4th. Danielle,  
5th. I. D, 6th. Aygul,  
7th. Gann, 8th. Cameron

**All Articles for Newsletter  
due 1st July— email to:  
secretary@fmbg.org.au  
or provide to an Executive  
Member**

On 31st March FMBG prepared a stall at the Eastside Live Event at Caroline Springs.

It was a long day/evening but a successful time with new members, raffle and sale of plants.

Thanks to everyone who attended on the day—especially Elisabeth Bentley, Lyn & Don Nardella for their help and prizes, Marg. & Dave Peters who supplied the marquis and also, along with Jill & John Bentley the plants for sale.



*Our Stall at Eastside Live  
Notice smiling faces with the Police  
presence!*

# **FMBG March Meeting**

## **Visit to Iramoo Sustainable Community Centre, St. Albans**

**By Jill Bentley**

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March seven members met in the car park of the St Albans Campus of the Victoria University to visit Iramoo. From the car park it looked like some portables with a scraggy garden but when we went inside and met Colin and Brett we were amazed at the depth of the work that was being done. Iramoo is situated between the St Albans campus of the Victoria University and the Cairnlea housing estate. This area is also one of the last homes of the legless lizard.

The garden contains species indigenous to the basalt plains. One part of the garden is growing indigenous vegetables, another is a small wetlands area uses recycled water which is becoming a home for frogs, all areas are water wise. They have a seed garden which is developing methods to gather seeds from scarce indigenous plants. The nursery for growing these and other indigenous plants is now developed so Iramoo is now able to sell some of these plants.

It was very interesting for the group to hear Colin talk about the development of Iramoo, about applying for grants, working relationships with other groups and Brimbank Council.

It was encouraging for Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden, as a group on the beginning of our journey to be encouraged by a group that has been on their journey for 10 years and to see what they have achieved and their willingness to share their knowledge and experiences with us.

We said goodnight to Colin and Brett at about 9pm as we went home they went out to join a group of volunteers doing a spider survey.



Members at Iramoo  
with Colin and Brett

Want to know more about Iramoo Sustainable Community  
or join Friends of Iramoo?  
Iramooz Newz Magazine is also available  
Look on their website: [www.iramoo.org](http://www.iramoo.org)

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