

Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Newsletter September 2009



Photo John Bentley ©2009

Photo: Billabong Melton Botanic Garden

What's on in September:

3rd Thursday 10am-noon Special Clean Up and preparation for Open Day at Melton Botanic Garden

5th Saturday 11am - 2.30pm Open Day
Melton Botanic Garden

9th Wednesday 7.30pm Meeting
Guest Speaker: Nora Peters - Birds of Melton

10th Thurs. and 27th Sun. 10-noon Grow the Garden
Meet Ryans Creek – Melton Botanic Garden

24th Thurs CVA - Volunteers planting at Ryans Creek 9am-3pm – Come along and help 10am-12noon or anytime during the day

25th Friday 7.15pm - FMBG Social Dinner (*please note time change*) Contact Lynette 9747 9034

29th Tuesday 7.30pm Executive Meeting
Bentley's place 9743 3819

What's flowering in October?

Wed 14th October 7.30pm
DJ Cunningham Centre
Members participation night – bring along samples of flowers from your garden to show and tell



Meeting Information:
Please contact John or Jill Bentley 97433819

What's on in October

11th Sunday 10am-noon Clean Up Day & Waterwatch at Melton Botanic Garden

12th Wednesday 7.30pm Meeting: Flowering Plants
*Bring your flowers to the meeting

8th Thursday 10-noon Grow the Garden – We will be planting

Ryans 'Creek – Melton Botanic Garden
* *Note no Grow the Garden on Sunday 25th - see field trip*

25th Sunday 9.00am Field Trip
Organ Pipes/Woodlands Park
Contact Alan Partridge 9743 5761 for details

FMBG Monthly Meeting Venue

Monthly meetings are held at the DJ Cunningham Centre in Exford Rd, Melton South (Melways 342 K3) on the second Wednesday night of each month.

There is parking, easy access, good meeting space, kitchen and toilets.

FMBG Library

We have books, DVDs and magazines in the library. Take a look at the library at the regular monthly meetings.

Recent purchases: Flora of Melbourne and Weeds of the South-East.

Executive Committee

Next Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday 29th September at 7.30pm – meeting at Bentley's place.

Alan & Jean Partridge at Grow West Planting Myrniong

Sunday 19 July, 2009: Grow West Planting, W. James Whyte Island Reserve.

This a huge tree planting project near Myrniong. The Project is a large scale revegetation with solely indigenous species of the Werribee Gorge and surrounding areas. More than 60,000 trees have been planted in about 3 years. Over 7000 trees were planted on the 19th July by 130 volunteers.

The project is run by Grow West and Conservation Volunteers of Australia and volunteers from many environment and conservation groups participate.

The sheer scale of the area covered and the type of terrain is vastly different from what we are doing along Ryans Creek and probably in the future as the Melton Botanic Garden develops. The eucalyptus arboretum may have a little similarity for planting.

Forty acres of the reserve was originally Jean's family farm, so there is a special attachment to this area and the planting for Jean and Alan.



Jean in action



Alan (scale of planting behind him)

Watering of Ryans Creek Plants.

A big thankyou to Allan Benson. He has been watering the Ryans Creek plants using mostly water from his tanks at home. Allan transfers the water into the FMBG water tank.



FMBG Water tank and trailer

August Meeting – AGM & Celebration

At the AGM the following positions were filled

AGM - 2009 Positions

President: John Bentley
Vice-President: Allan Benson
Treasurer: Margaret Peters
Secretary: Janet Dyke
Assistant Secretary: Alan Partridge
Executive members: Jill Bentley & Dave Peters
Safety Officer: Dave Peters
Public Officer: Leo Johnson
Returning Officer: Don Nardella

Thanks and congratulations to everyone who has a position.

We have included a new associate membership category:

Associate Membership for 'friends of the FMBG' who share a likeminded interest or where normal membership may result in a conflict of interest. Associate members foster and support the work the FMBG.

If the associate membership is for a group only one person from that group may be nominated, which is usually the Secretary or President of the group. Associate membership is \$20.

We finished with a supper to celebrate the year's achievements. Councillors Sophie Ramsey and Bob Turner attended the AGM and supper.

FMBG Open Day Report

This was a magnificent day only slightly marred by windy weather but the sun shone. We had about 250 visitors and 43 FMBG volunteers. A fantastic effort everyone. We had many first-time visitors to the site. Good feedback was received from the visitors. We had good radio publicity on 3RIM, 3AW, 774ABC and Magic.

Thankyou to Jill the Event Manager and the Open Day Planning Committee for their work in making the day a great success. Many of the visitors had not been to the site before and were impressed with what is being planned for the Melton Botanic garden. Some questions from visitors asked included: Where is the money coming from? How long will it take? What are the next parts of the garden to be developed?



Open Day Planning Committee



BBQ at Open Day David, Bev and Jill



Janet and Val – First Aid Tent



Plant sales



Plant sales



Information marquee



Information Marquee – Lynette assisting someone



Car park attendants – Colleen and Mathew



Shaun – Car park attendant



Rachel – Car park attendant



Ann – Car park attendant



Tony the bus driver

Thanks to everyone who helped on the Open Day and in all the preparatory tasks. Leading up to the day we had people procuring the BBQ requirements, flyer distribution, getting information into school newsletters, signage, cleaning up of the garden, digging holes for planting demonstrations and many other tasks.

Visitors included: Max Coster (Manager Vision for Werribee Plains), Mike Smith and Matthew Bradbury (MBG Landscape Designers), and Alex Smart (President Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens).

We received apologies from: Mayor Renata Cugliari, Cr Sophie Ramsay, Jane Edmanson, Justin Madden MLC, Andrew Shannon (Parks Vic), Rob Small (CEO Colac Shire and MBG Concept Plan Developer), Richard Barley (Director Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne).

Our helpers on the day:

Daryl Akers, Alan Bell, Aaron Benson, Allan Benson, Bev Benson, Anne Bentley, Elisabeth Bentley, Jill Bentley, John Bentley, Mathew Bentley, Rachel Bentley, Shaun Bentley, Val Clark, Judy Crabtree, Janet Dyke, Rob Dyke, Tony Dyke, Tushan Fernando, Les Gordon, Leo Johnson, Don Nardella, Elaine Neely, Alan Partridge, Jean Partridge, Carolyn Mc Gavin, Phyllis Perry, Caleb Peters, Corey Peters,

Dave Peters, David Peters, Margaret Peters, Nikki Peters, Verna Reed, Lynette Rehling, Ida Rzezinski, Ian Satur, Janice Satur, John Smith, Denise Stembridge, Colleen Thompson, Ted Whitehead, Leo Johnson, Richard Akers (Melbourne Water), Sasha Roos (Watery Wonders Tour), Linda Bradburn (Watery Wonders Tour).

Grow the Garden Days

The August Grow the Garden Days saw us planting the last of the Melbourne Water plants and the start of the Vision for Werribee Plains plants. Thanks again to Allan and Margaret for ordering and picking up the plants.

A big thankyou to everyone who planted or helped in other ways.

Janet looked after everyone and supplied much needed refreshments.



Vision for Werribee Plains Plants



A well earned cuppa after planting

Why not join us at the next Grow the Garden Days – 10am-noon 2nd Thursday and 4th Sunday every month. We can assure you the Grow the Day is very therapeutic, great exercise and extremely enjoyable.

Publications on the Web

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Floreo is the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Newsletter. Past issues can be found at:
www.rbg.vic.gov.au/about_us/publications

Newsletter of the Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand

See:
www.bganz.org.au/attachments/BGANZ_Iss24_Jul09.pdf

Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens

Campsis is the newsletter of the association.
See:
<http://users.netconnect.com.au/~friends/campsis.htm>
or www.friendsbotanicgardens.org

Website of the month

Take a look at the website of the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens:
<http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org/>
You will find what friends in other botanic gardens are doing.
Campsis is the newsletter of the association.

Propagate, Propagate, Propagate!

Djerriwarrh Festival is on at the start of November. We raise funds through plant sales at the festival so please start or continue to propagate plants for our sales.

This is an on-going activity so please keep propagating or help by starting to propagate for this spring. Margaret says we need to also think now about raising plants for sale in 2010.

Please look out for our propagation days. Propagating and selling plants is great fun and a fundraising activity that many Friends groups undertake. It is also a great way to catch up and learn about plants.

If you need pots or have any for us to recycle or to enquire about the propagation days please contact Margaret on 5367 3328.

Gardening Australia Expo Melbourne

FMBG have a stand at the **Gardening Australia Expo 2 - 4 October** where we will be displaying the landscape design plans of the Melton Botanic Garden.

Come to Melbourne's Garden Party
The Expo packed with practical advice, ideas and inspiration.

VISIT Nursery Walk & shop for all your plants.
LEARN at free stage presentations.
BUY tools & specialty products.
MEET the team from ABC TV's Gardening Australia, Stephen Ryan, John Patrick & Angus Stewart.

Gardening expo Melbourne
2 - 4 OCTOBER, 2009
CAULFIELD RACECOURSE, MELBOURNE
10AM - 4.30PM DAILY

abcgardeningexpo.com.au
Tel: 02 9452 7575
Admission charges apply.

ABC Events | Gardening Australia | 774 ABC Melbourne

BUY TICKETS ONLINE NOW!

Vision for Werribee Plains Grant

FMBG received a \$19,000 grant for the revegetation of Ryans Creek.

We have now started planting with plants purchased from the V4WP grant. We are due to finish planting by 30th November.

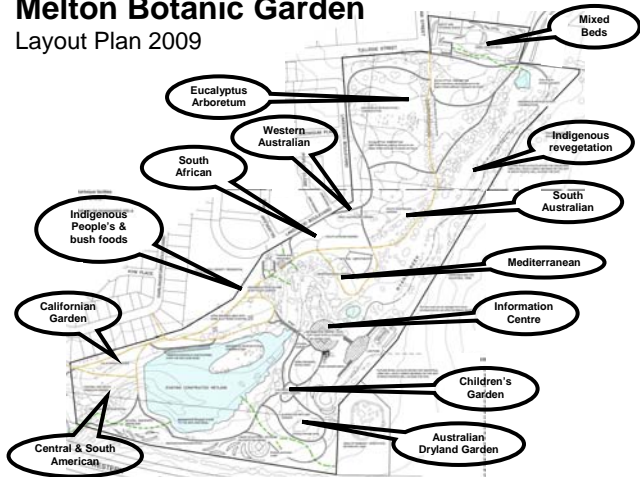
FMBG at the Botanic Gardens Australia New Zealand Victorian Region (BGANZ Vic) Forum

John Bentley is presenting a talk on 23rd September on "Plant collections for a new botanic garden" at the forum. This will be a great opportunity to network with some high level people from other botanic gardens. It will help to get our message and what Melton is achieving to others in the botanic gardens arena.

Rob Small who worked with FMBG on the Melton Botanic Garden Concept Plan in 2006 will be giving a talk on the Colac Botanic Garden.

Melton Botanic Garden

Layout Plan 2009



Membership

Renewals are due by July 1st – Have you renewed?

Please encourage some new memberships from your friends and family. We had 123 members and 4 corporate members at 30th June. To date we have just over 100 members for 2009-2010 and 5 corporate members.

Single - \$10, Single concession or student -\$5, Household/Concession - \$20/\$10, Associate - \$20, Corporate - \$50

New memberships are approved each month at the Executive meeting.

Please call Jill 9743 3819 for information or to drop in a payment. If you are housebound we can arrange to collect your payment and form.

Native Seed Collection Workshops

The Port Philip & Westernport CMA is running three Community Native Seed Collection Workshops in Werribee, Melton and Bacchus Marsh.

The Werribee workshop will be held on Saturday 3rd of October 10am-3pm at the Iramoo Community Centre (84 Honour Ave, Wyndham Vale). Contact Tim Bloomfield on 9218 5615 or tim.bloomfield@ppwcm.vic.gov.au to register.

Bacchus Marsh workshop is Thursday 15th Oct.

Melton workshop is Tuesday 15th Nov.

Given the scale of the Melton Botanic Garden this is something we should look to train up some native seed collectors for our Ryans Creek revegetation project and other indigenous areas of the MBG. Please consider attending a workshop.

For details and to register online: www.growwest.com.au

FMBG Corporate Members 2009 / 2010

Melton Home Timber and Hardware

45 Reserve Road, Melton, VIC 3337
Ph: (03) 9743 5033
Manager: Ken Morton

Melton Produce

38-42 Brooklyn Road, Melton South, Vic. 3338
Ph: (03) 9743 5201
Manager: Peter Earl

Satellite City Furniture

358 High Street Melton, VIC, 3337
Ph: 03 9743 4749 or 9743 6205

Transform Life Coaching Solutions

Melton VIC 3337
Ph: (03) 9746 7558
Manager: Karen Nikakis
Email: karen.nikakis@bordnet.com.au
Web: www.kirachronicles.com.au

Western Land Services

20 Collins Road, Melton, VIC 3337
p: (03) 9747 0855 f: (03) 9747 9593
http://www.westernland.com.au

Your Commitee

President: John Bentley (9743 3819)
Vice-President: Allan Benson (9746 6641)
Treasurer: Margaret Peters (5367 3328)
Secretary: Janet Dyke (9743 2733)
Assistant Secretary: Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Executive members: Jill Bentley (9743 3819) & Dave Peters(5367 3328)
Safety Officer: Dave Peters (5367 3328)



If you have stories or photographs from activities in the Melton Botanic Garden please send them to: editor@fmbg.org.au

Newsletter:

Editor: John Bentley (9743 3819)
Email: editor@fmbg.org.au

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