



# Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden, Inc. Newsletter January 2016

Growing Plants Growing People

No. 38

## FMBG Monthly Meeting Venue Join us at our NEW meeting venue Botanica Springs Community Centre

249 Clarkes Rd, Brookfield VIC 3338  
Contact: Janet Dyke 9743 2733 / 0408 170 070

## February Meeting

Come and kick off the year with a walk around and a free sausage sizzle at the Melton Botanic Garden. Please let us know if you would like to bring along a salad or dessert to share and also any special dietary requirements (phone Jill 9743 3819).



**FMBG Patron**  
**Jane Edmanson OAM**



Category Winner

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria  
Sustainable Cities Awards 2013

[sustainability.vic.gov.au/KABV](http://sustainability.vic.gov.au/KABV)



Winner 2011 Powercor Australia Business Excellence Awards



Winner 2012 Powercor Australia Business Excellence Awards

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Monday 7.30pm at the Bentley's house

## Help Build the Garden - Regular Activity Groups

- **Gumnuts:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds 9.30am-noon
- **Lakers:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 10am-noon
- **Creekers:** Thursdays 9.30am-noon
- **Safaris:** Tues & Thurs 9.30am-noon
- **Sandgropers:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Weds 9.30am-noon
- **Nursery Team:** Every Tues 10am-1pm
- **Odd Jobbers:** Tues & Thurs 10am-noon

Meet at Depot for all activities

## End of Year Celebration held at the FMBG Depot on Wednesday 9th December.

A lovely summers evening and great company was enjoyed by all.



**Fascinating day at the Karoo Desert National Botanical Garden, Worcester, South Africa.**

Steve and Ella Parker have taken a trip to South Africa – here are some photos from them.

We have a Southern African section at the MBG and hopefully we can achieve something like this as our beds take shape and the plants grow.



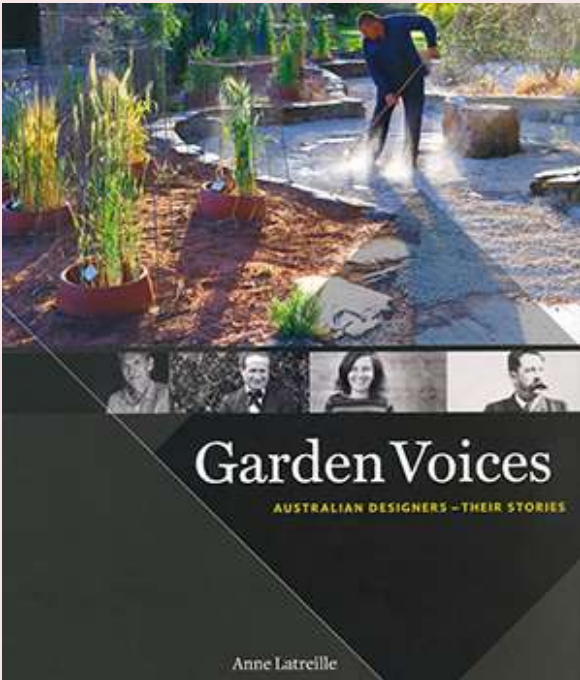
*'Preview of the future MBG'*

**Karoo Desert National Botanical Garden.**



Not quite an Australian theme but perhaps an example of what is possible in a Botanic Garden (*hopefully without Steve in the sculpture*)

### 'Garden Voices' by Anne Latreille New addition to FMBG library



Anne Latreille has sent FMBG a signed free copy of her latest book *Garden Voices* for the FMBG library. Anne was "The Age" Gardening Editor from 1985-97 and has published 4 books.

See Anne's website to purchase the marvellous 256 page hardback book for \$25 plus postage.

I can certainly recommend it after reading through it.

We will now put it in the library for everyone to borrow.

### Nursery 2016

The FMBG Nursery has been closed over the Christmas break.

The nursery reopened on Tuesday January 19th and will open every Tuesday from now on plus regular openings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays starting in February.

### Well Done Don

Congrats to Don Journet an FMBG member on receiving a National Medal from the Assistant Chief Officer of the CFA, Peter O'Keefe, for more than 15 years on the front line of fire fighting in and around Victoria.



Don Journet has also passed this comment onto the Friends:

*"A number of people from Bacchus Marsh who have taken the time to come down the Melton Botanic Garden have expressed their admiration for what you have achieved over the last few years."*

### Have a sit down beside the Creek

Bench seats built and installed in the Acacia Walk by the MatchWorks Work Experience Activity Team.



There is even a dog bowl you can fill with fresh water to keep your dog hydrated. Don't forget that it is a Council by-law to ensure your dog is on a lead and you carry a plastic bag to collect any poop from your dog. We don't want any nasty deposits left in the MBG.

## Visit to Wurundjeri Garden at Pipemakers Park in Maribyrnong



Some Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden visited the Wurundjeri Garden at Pipemakers Park in Maribyrnong in December.

This is an activity in our partnership with the Melton Aboriginal Men's Group.

We are working with the group to consider projects in the Indigenous Peoples and Bushfoods section of the MBG that include: a ceremonial fire pit used for smoking ceremonies, Aboriginal paintings on the public amenities block and Aboriginal plants in the garden.

We had a very informative guided tour of the garden by Peter Haffenden a volunteer at the Living Museum of the West.



*Jill, John, Dave and Janet at the ceremonial pit*



We have new stock of a great book for those interested in native plants. On sale at the FMBG Nursery at \$15 for FMBG members and \$20 for non-members

### FMBG Nursery Plant Sales

Tuesdays from 10.00am - 1.00pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
10am-noon or other times by appointment

Melton Botanic Garden Nursery  
21 Williams Street, Melton

Native plants grown in the Melton Botanic Garden  
A range of plants including Eremophila and Eucalyptus varieties

Plants suited to growing in Melton gardens  
Some decorative succulents

#### Prices

Forestry tubes \$2, 70mm pots \$4 and 90mm pots \$6

## Sponsors

Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Inc.

- Melton Home Timber & Hardware
- Alan Mance Nissan and Mitsubishi
- Platinum Accounting and Taxation
- Melton Produce
- Tabcorp Park Melton
- Woodlea Leakes Road Rockbank
- Westwaters Hotel Caroline Springs
- Avis Rentals Melton
- Sign Perfection Melton
- Don Nardella MLA Melton

Proudly supported by the City of Melton

## Your Executive Committee

President:	John Bentley (9743 3819)
Vice-President:	Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Treasurer:	Margaret Peters (5367 3328)
Secretary:	Janet Dyke (9743 2733)
Assistant Secretary:	Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Executive members:	Jill Bentley (9743 3819)
	Dave Peters
	Steve Parker
	Jen Eldridge
Safety Officer:	John Bentley & Dave Peters
FMBG librarian:	Jean Partridge (9743 5761)

FMBG can give presentations to groups  
and host guided tours of the garden



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

### Newsletter:

Editor: John Bentley (9743 3819) / Daryl Akers  
Email: [editor@fmbg.org.au](mailto:editor@fmbg.org.au)

### Facebook and Twitter Fans

If you use Facebook and/or Twitter you may want to keep up with  
information via the Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Group.  
Type "Melton Botanic Garden" into the search box and you should  
be able to find us

### Membership

#### Membership fees are due by 30 June 2016

Have you renewed your membership or encouraged  
others to join FMBG?

We welcome all our new members and your  
membership helps support the development of the  
botanic garden and we hope you can participate in our  
activities.

FMBG is local, regional and international. We have  
members in Switzerland, China, Hong Kong, New  
Zealand, UK, USA, and now Denmark. Please  
encourage some new memberships from your  
contacts. We had 206 members in 2011-2012 and 218  
members in 2013/14. **In 2014/15 we have achieved  
our greatest total of financial memberships ever,  
reaching 250 members comprising individual,  
corporate and associate memberships. Well done  
everyone.**

Please help to sign up a new member to keep up a  
strong membership base.

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

The Membership/Renewal form is available on the  
FMBG website.

You can also pay by direct bank transfer to FMBG.

**Account Name:** Friends of the Melton Botanic  
Garden Inc.

**BSB:** 033-121 **Account Number:** 20-8503

**Please ensure that your name appears under the  
transaction details. In addition, also submit the  
form or email to [friends@fmbg.org.au](mailto:friends@fmbg.org.au)**

New memberships are approved each month at the  
Executive meeting.

*For membership information please contact Jill  
Bentley on 9743 3819 for information or to drop in a  
payment. If you are housebound we can arrange to  
collect your payment and form*

## FMBG Corporate Members 2015/16

### Alan Mance Nissan and Mitsubishi

2 Holland Drive, Melton, VIC 3337  
Phone: (03) 9971 4444  
[www.alanmancenissan.com.au](http://www.alanmancenissan.com.au)

### Aquarium Leasing Specialists

Manager: John Candy  
Phone: 9743 6619 / 0408 134 005  
22 Springway, Brookfield, 3338  
[aquarium@westnet.com.au](mailto:aquarium@westnet.com.au)

### Callea Pearce Lawyers

**MELTON:** 311 High Street, Melton. 9743 1333  
**BACCHUS MARSH:** 127 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh.  
5367 2283  
**WERRIBEE:** Ballan House, 1 Duncans Road, Werribee.  
8742 6162  
Web: [www.calleapearce.com.au](http://www.calleapearce.com.au)

### Everite Garden Supplies

19 Melton Valley Drive  
Melton Victoria  
Phone: 9743 6021  
[office@everitegs.com.au](mailto:office@everitegs.com.au)

### Melton Home Timber and Hardware

45 Reserve Road, Melton, Vic. 3337  
Phone: (03) 9743 5033  
Manager: Ken Morton

### Melton Produce

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

### Melton Toyota

143-147 High Street, Melton, Vic, 3337  
Phone: (03) 8746 0300

### Platinum Accounting & Taxation

9 Sheepfold Court, Melton Vic 3337  
Phone: (03) 9746 6479  
Manager: Corinne Cole  
Email: [info@platinumaccounting.com.au](mailto:info@platinumaccounting.com.au)

### Satellite City Furniture

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

### Western Land Services

20 Collins Road, Melton, VIC 3337  
Phone: (03) 9747 0855 Fax: (03) 9747 9593  
<http://www.westernland.com.au>