

Workshop: Alpine and Sub-alpine plants

Sunday 25 November
2018
9.30 am – 1.00 pm
with Morning Tea

Australian Garden
Auditorium,
RBGV Cranbourne

Members \$30
Non-members \$40
Students \$15

Highlights

in this issue

Friends in Focus

7



Microbats in Your Backyard

Australian Garden
Auditorium,
RBGV Cranbourne

Sunday 23 September
2018, 2.00 pm

Cranbourne Friends Royal
Botanic Gardens Victoria, Inc.
1000 Ballarto Road
Cranbourne Victoria 3977

Inc no. A0025281B
ABN 43 551 008 609

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www.rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

Impact of Sambar Deer in the Alpine region

No doubt many of you have enjoyed the alpine region with its wonderful wide views and colourful flora - especially those gorgeous swathes of daisies. But not all is gorgeous, as numerous large animals - deer in particular - are causing problems in this delicate environment.

The Friends have invited 3 speakers: Neville Walsh, Megan Hirst and Zachary Walker.

First Session: Neville Walsh is the Senior Conservation Botanist at the RBGV. His talk will give an overview of High Country Flora, with a mainland focus. Neville has a background in botanical survey work and particularly of alpine/subalpine vegetation. We are so fortunate to have him as a regular presenter for the Cranbourne Friends.

Second Session: Megan Hirst is the Seed Bank Officer for the Victorian Conservation Seedbank (VCS), which is located at the National Herbarium Victoria, RBGV. She will be speaking on Alpine daisies and *Brachyscome* in particular. Megan's main research interest is the Australasian genus *Brachyscome* and she had research plots for a few years at the Australian Garden where plants were cultivated under differing controlled conditions. Megan is currently working on the DNA of the group to ascertain its phylogeny (evolutionary relationships and patterns of lines of descent).

Third Session: Zac Walker is a Research Officer at the Research Centre for Applied Alpine Ecology, Latrobe University. Over the past two decades, sambar deer and their impact have become increasingly noticeable

Speaker: Dr Casey Visintin, B. Sc., B. Arch., M. Env. Sc., PhD and Environmental Conservation Researcher

Microbats are among the most common animals in our backyards and in bushland. They come out at night to feed on insects. These tiny creatures use echo-location (sonar) to navigate and hunt and consume huge numbers of insects each night, including mosquitoes and other pest insects. Children are much more likely to hear their high-pitched squeaks than adults. Through the day they roost in tree hollows or crevices in tree bark.



Coronidium waddelliae flowerheads seen on the Feathertop Walk.

Photo: Rodger Elliot



Wildflowers on Dargo - Hotham Road.
Photo: Rodger Elliot

and concerning above the tree-line in the Australian Alps. Zac Walker will discuss his research, which looks at the impacts of deer on some of the threatened alpine plant communities on the Bogong High Plains.



A Southern Freetail Microbat.

Casey will teach us about these important animals and you may have an opportunity to see one or two living Microbats up close. While everyone will be interested, this lecture is in school holidays so children are welcome to attend.

Acting Director's Report

Ricardo Simao

Marge, the good news is here!

By now you may have heard the very exciting and welcome news that the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria will receive a revitalising boost to funding, via a Victorian government injection of \$27.1 million over five years, plus ongoing support after that of \$5 million per year.

The Honourable Lily D'Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development, dropped in at a meeting at Melbourne Gardens celebrating staff long service, to deliver the good news. Amongst other things, this funding will secure ongoing employment for 13 current positions and provide for an additional 18 new positions across the organisation, which will get us close to completing the organisational re-structure that we have been undergoing over the last year or so.

For Cranbourne Gardens the funding will mean the ability to achieve many tangible goals. There will be: increased capacity on the weekends to service visitors and other areas of the business; the ability to host a horticultural apprentice, thus contributing to developing and supporting new talent in the industry; renovation and upgrading of infrastructure and other elements of the Australian Garden; replacement of tired equipment and tools; further automation of gates and some road improvement works as well as the implementation of strategies to prevent wildlife being hit by vehicles on our public roadways. We will be able to undertake more detailed and targeted soil and plant health investigations and respond to findings; make improvements to our irrigation system, including being better equipped to service the transition from potable to recycled water, and make improvements in the way we process green waste. There will be an upgrading of teleconferencing capabilities, which will reduce the frequency of staff travelling between the two Gardens to attend meetings. These are only some of the more immediate and obvious benefits from the funding provision, with many others unlisted here or more indirect in nature.

This kind of recognition and support from the government is the result of a number of years of hard work and dedication by multiple staff. There is more to come no doubt as we now have momentum to carry us through to becoming an even more remarkable cultural, scientific, conservation and botanical organisation.

Further to this great announcement and at the same meeting, our Director and Chief Executive Tim Entwisle, advised that, after careful consideration, the proposed final executive structure, which would have seen the consolidation of the Executive Director



The cause of fungus root rot in trees in the Australian Garden - *Armillaria luteobubalina*.

Photo: Warren Worboys



RBGV staff in background with RBGV Director & Chief Executive, Board Member and Minister in foreground.

roles for Melbourne and Cranbourne Gardens into a single position, will not be implemented. To me, this is a great outcome as the uniqueness of each site can continue to have a dedicated focus.

Have a barbeque with the bandicoots

If you haven't been lately, I encourage you to come and take advantage of the revamped Stringybark Picnic Area. The Infrastructure and Facilities team have been busy refreshing many elements of this popular destination. The toilet block has received a new coat of paint and new roof, tired picnic tables have been replaced and tracks have been spruced up with vegetation pruning and resurfacing around some of the recently completed works.

A big hort ache

The Horticulture team has been working hard to develop a management plan in response to recent outbreaks of *Armillaria* root rot. This indigenous toadstool *Armillaria luteobubalina* (commonly known as honey toadstool) can affect an extremely wide range of plants. The first step in the plan is to confirm the identification and extent of the pathogen across the Australian Garden. To this end we are undertaking extensive testing of suspicious material and associated mapping. Although there is no 'cure', there are a number of management options for control that will be considered on a garden-by-garden basis.

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/plant-diseases/fruit-and-nuts/stone-fruit-diseases/armillaria-root-rot>.
Continued next page....

Staff Notes

From the Horticulture Branch: Nikki May has left us to complete her Graduate Certificate in Garden Design and Chloe Foster is 'changing track' in her horticulture career and has picked up a new role teaching horticulture. We wish both every success in their new directions.

From the Infrastructure & Facilities Branch: Andrew Flint joins the team with a background in civil construction works. Andrew is a qualified auto electrician, has extensive skills in welding and auto mechanics and will focus on fleet and lake/irrigation pumps maintenance.

From the Environmental Systems Branch: Tricia Stewart moves from a part time, temporary capacity to a full time, ongoing capacity in the role of Natural Areas Team Leader.

Service Awards

At the staff meeting previously mentioned, we celebrated the long service of the following Cranbourne Gardens stalwarts:

John Arnott, Manager Horticulture - 10 year award

Leanne Adams, Executive Assistant - 15 year award

Chris Russell, Executive Director - 20 year award

Terry Coates, Research Scientist - 20 year award

Congratulations to all!

Well, that's it from me for now. Next time I might tell you about some other interesting projects we are working on: mitigating wildlife losses by vehicles, mitigating impacts on vegetation by wallabies and microchipping snakes (you read that right!). Maybe I can even entice you to become a citizen scientist.

Wishing you peace, health and contentment.

From the President

Indra Kurzeme

Even though winter is a time of divine Australian flowering flora, what a welcome relief it is to see Spring arrive in the Cranbourne Gardens. We spent the past winter keeping warm and introducing a few new things into the Cranbourne Friends Event Calendar. I organised a tour of botanical treasures in the State collection at State Library Victoria. It was a lovely morning spent looking at paintings, plans, photographs and Gordon Ford's "Brag Book". Make sure you read Gwen Elliot's report. I have decided to organise another, similar occasion next year. It will be one of the many wonderful events our Events Committee is planning.

On July 21, we launched the Friends Expo in the Visitor's Centre at Cranbourne Gardens with the help of our Patron, Angus Stewart. The Expo was put together by three of our newest Committee members: Roger Watts (Vice President), Alexandra Stalder (Membership Secretary) and Janette Wilson (Committee Member). The three worked closely with Barbara Jeffrey (Chair, Events Subcommittee) and the leaders of our special interest groups, to develop an exhibition showcasing the work and activities of the groups. We are very interested in increasing our membership, so we hope that you brought your friends to see this great display and encouraged them to join the Cranbourne Friends.

We timed the opening of the Expo to coincide with the Plant Sale in July and it was the busiest we have ever had. Thank you to Marjanne Rook and all the Growing



Three visitors viewing photographs from the Friends in Focus Group.

Photo: Indra Kurzeme

Friends for running such a successful event. You may have seen Angus Stewart at the sale on Saturday afternoon. He was very generous with his time, spending the entire Saturday with us, talking to members and providing plant advice. We are very lucky to have Angus, a long-time and passionate supporter of Cranbourne Gardens, as our Patron.

Please take the time to have a look at our website, for details on special interest groups, events and your membership benefits. I have expanded our website to include back issues of Naturelink and hope to add to it until we have the entire run of Naturelink online. A number of you have mentioned to me and other members of the Committee, that you would like to be able to pay your membership fees online. We are investigating how we can make this happen, so that renewing your membership is an easier process.

See you in the Gardens!

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

We hope there will be no changes to the program, but if there are, members will be notified via *Quicklink* and/or email.

SEPTEMBER

Monday 10 & 17

Botanical Illustration Workshop with Dianne Emery. See page 10.

Thursday 13

Open House, Elliot Centre: Patagonia and Antarctica. See page 11.

Tuesday 18

Cranbourne Gardens Spring Afternoon Bushland Wildflower Ramble
See page 4.

Sunday 23

Microbats in Your Backyard
See page 1.

OCTOBER

Wednesday 10

Illustrators' visit to The Australian Botanical Illustrators Exhibition, Domain House Melbourne Gardens

Thursday 11

Open House, Elliot Centre: Making a Difference: Migration, Refugees and Peace Keeping. See page 11.

Mon 15 – Fri 19

Discovery Tour: The Grampians.

Wednesday 17

Botanical Illustrators: Sketching in the Gardens. See page 10.

Sat 27 – Sun 28

Growing Friends Plant Sale.
See page 16.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 7

Botanical Illustrators: Nature Printing
See page 10.

Thursday 8

Open House, Elliot Centre: Keeping Bees. See page 11.

Sunday 18

AGM. See page 5.

Sunday 25

Half Day Workshop – Alpine and Subalpine Plants. See page 1.

DECEMBER

Thursday 13

Open House, Elliot Centre: End of year Celebration.

Cranbourne Gardens Spring Afternoon Bushland Wildflower Ramble

Tuesday 18th
September 2018
1pm

Meet at the Elliot Centre

1.30 pm Ramble begins

Members \$20
Non members \$25
Students \$10

Shake of the winter blues and come on a ramble through the Cranbourne Gardens Bushland with Warren Worboys, Curator Horticulture at the Cranbourne Gardens, as we go looking for the first signs of spring flowers. Unfortunately the black wallaby population has enjoyed grazing the bushlands and has reduced the wildflowers to some extent. However, some areas have been enclosed by fences to allow the wildflowers to regenerate. So let me assure you there will be flowers to find! During the ramble we might expect to see the Common Heath, *Epacris impressa*, and various peas; the Common Appleberry, *Billardiera scandens*, Greenhood Orchids, *Pterostylis* species, and other orchids, as well as wonderful examples of the Cherry Ballart, *Exocarpus cupressiformis*.

Whether you love looking at our collection of native plants, taking photographs of them or just enjoy walking in the bushland, this will bring you together with people of shared interests.

After the walk come and enjoy afternoon tea in the Elliot Centre and have a chat with other Cranbourne Friends.

For more information, contact: Barbara Jeffrey on 0408 564 379 or

bajeffrey@westnet.com.au



Aotus ericoides: one of the showy pea flowers we hope to see on the ramble.
Photo: Rodger Elliot

Cranbourne Friends Annual General Meeting

Sunday 11 November 2018, 2pm

The 27th Annual General Meeting of the Cranbourne Friends will be held on Sunday 11 November 2018 in the Cranbourne Gardens Auditorium. We extend a warm invitation to all Friends to attend. If you are new to the Cranbourne Friends, this is a great opportunity to meet people.

This year we have invited Gillian Hund, Chair Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria, to be our guest speaker. We asked Gillian for a few words to explain why she loves RBGV.

"I would love to be able to say like many people associated with the Royal Botanic Gardens that I had fond memories of visiting as a child, however I really only discovered what special places they are when we moved to Melbourne twenty years ago. As a parent and Publisher of a monthly parenting magazine 'Melbourne's Child', it became my greatest pleasure to frequently visit and promote both Gardens in the calendar pages of every issue to parents in local and regional areas of Victoria.

Whilst my formal association began with *Melbourne's Child*, being a corporate supporter of the newly created Australian Garden in Cranbourne and the Children's Garden in Melbourne, my more personal involvement grew when invited to join the RBGV Foundation in 2013 and become Foundation Chair in 2015.

Many people ask me about my role and why I am so passionate about the Gardens, and it's not an easy answer to give because there are so many reasons! Obviously, the

Gardens are stunningly beautiful places, that require the great skills of our horticulturalists to maintain and develop. The passion of the staff who work across all areas of the Gardens is infectious and I love learning from their vast knowledge, but I am not sure I will ever be able to say those botanical names, as easily as they do!

In my role at the Foundation I feel it's critical that people understand the importance of protecting the botanical treasures that we have; realise how fortunate we are in our crowded city to have such places to visit, and appreciate the breadth and depth of the historical and scientific knowledge that is discovered and developed. The fact that government funding only covers the minimum required to keep our 'gates' open and that we all have a responsibility to give what we can to ensure the Gardens sustainability for future generations - these are what motivate me and the Foundation Board to raise awareness, and promote and encourage philanthropy for the Gardens, in all its forms.

The Foundation is working closely with a newly developed Engagement and Impact team, and we are looking forward to gaining some much greater support with the new initiatives - stay tuned!

Thank you for the invitation to speak at the Cranbourne Friends AGM, I look forward to meeting you then."

Gillian Hund

We hope to see many of you there.

Friends enjoying our Annual Luncheon

Full report, page 13

21 April 2018



Left: Indra Kurzeme with guest speaker Anna Foley.

Centre: Paul Birch and Jill Burness

Right: Carolyn Landon talking with Richard and Margaret Clarke

Photos: Judith Cooke



Latest Information on Proposed Cranbourne Friends Tours

See booking form to register your interest in upcoming tours

On the current Booking Form you will find the following destinations listed:

1. Alpine Victoria: January 2019 (will be at Mt Hotham)
2. Costa Rica: 10 day tour in November 2019.
3. Far north-east Queensland: May or June 2020
4. New Caledonia
5. New Zealand
6. USA National Parks

We continue to seek expressions of interest (EOI) from members for the tours listed above.

NB. People who register Expressions of Interest will have first option to participate in any Tours. We have had some members saying that they want their partner or friend to be able to participate in a tour. If people's names are not on the EOI Registration Listing compiled by the Booking Officer, we are not in a position to offer those people a place on a tour until we know that there is a vacancy available.

- People must be members of the Cranbourne or Melbourne Friends to be able to participate in these tours.
- Initial planning is underway for the far north-east Queensland Tour. It will be held in May or June 2020 to coincide with the Banks & Solander celebrations and the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference being held in Brisbane.
- Itinerary and prices are available for the Costa Rica 10-day Tour to take place from 3 – 12 November 2019. We have a few vacancies for this Tour.
- We have enough people expressing interest in the New Caledonia, New Zealand and USA National Parks Tours for us to investigate further the possibility of running these tours.



The pitchers of this *Nepenthes* species are actually modified leaves which catch insects that are dissolved by enzymes and absorbed by the plants; Riviera Blieu Road, New Caledonia.

Photo: Rodger Elliot

- If you would like to be included on a listing for any of these proposed Tours, make sure you place your name in the allocated space on the Booking Form and please send it to Marjanne Rook who is the Booking Officer at present.

Many tours organised by the Friends have been very popular and successful. Tours are excellent fundraising events as there is a levy to be paid for each tour and the funds raised through the levy benefit the Cranbourne Gardens.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me by email: rgelliot@optusnet.com.au or phone: 0448 013 892

Rodger Elliot

Volunteer Garden Group Report June 2018

Christine Kenyon

Five hardy souls set about digging holes, fertilizing and planting *Centella cordifolia*, *Scaevola hookeri* and *Xerochrysum palustre* in two of the northern display garden swales for our May day in the Gardens. 'Hardy' because, just after we started work, it began to drizzle. The Hort. staff kindly offered raincoats and were very appreciative that we achieved so much in the morning despite the weather. June found us raking the Eucalyptus Gardens paths.

Russell Larke and Trent Loane are looking after us while Jess Van der Werff is on maternity leave. The group is slowly growing in numbers with seven now on the list, although not everyone comes each month.

If you would like to join this happy group, we help out on 3rd Tuesday morning of each month between 10 and 12.30.



Kit Wignall, Ralph Henger, Marj. Seaton and Gardens staff planting in northern swale garden.

Photo: Christine Kenyon

Contact Christine Kenyon by email: cekenyon@bigpond.com or mobile: 0438 345 589.

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

The Friends RBGV Cranbourne run several regular monthly activities, which are described below. If you are interested in participating in any of these activities, even on an irregular basis, please ring or email the contact person, or just turn up. Don't worry if you don't have specific skills, you will learn on the job, and you will be made most welcome!

Botanical Fabricators

2nd Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Elliot Centre.

Further information -
Ph. 8774 2483

Gwen Elliot

This year's Australian Textile Exhibition at Cranbourne, held from May 8th to May 13th, proved to be another very successful event, thanks mainly to the efforts of Leesa Chandler and her team at Chandlers Cottage. We had around 1200 visitors to the display in the Auditorium, many of whom had not visited the Cranbourne Gardens previously. The winner of the quilt donated by Leesa was G. Austin, while the second and third prizes went to J. Carruthers and M. Evans.

If you are interested in textiles and textile crafts but have not been able to come along to the Botanical Fabricators group in the past, we have very enjoyable get-togethers on the second Tuesday of each month, 10am in the Elliot Centre. Visitors and new members are warmly welcomed. Just phone or email prior to your first visit for further information.

In recent months we have supplied numerous gifts for speakers at Friends' workshops and Open House days; we have also enjoyed making items that were sold at the Textile Exhibition in May, and at the Friends Expo in July. All proceeds contribute to the ongoing development of the Cranbourne Gardens.

We have a quantity of items on hand that can be accessed at "the drop of a hat", so



Quilted wall hanging by Lee Baker.
Photo: Alex Smart

there's no pressure to produce things quickly – only lots of time to sew at a leisurely and enjoyable pace. We concentrate on items with an Australian flora and fauna theme, in keeping with the theme of the Cranbourne Gardens, and can supply fabrics for members to use.

One of our members, Lee Baker, obtained special permission to make a quilted wall hanging of the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria logo and this stunning work is now being donated to the Gardens for future displays.

Friends in Focus

2nd Saturday of each month in the Elliot Centre

9am October to March (Daylight Saving) and at 2pm April-September

Further information:
president@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

Although our numbers remain small, we are a friendly, active and enthusiastic group, meeting in the Australian Garden on the second Saturday of every month at 9am October to March (Daylight Saving) and at 2pm April-September.

Members enjoy a programme of explorative walks to seek subjects on which to practise their photographic skills, and everyone is willing to share their knowledge and experience.

On our walk in the Garden in May, we photographed cloud formations and the



A New Holland Honeyeater surveys its domain in May from the vantage point of a convenient *Banksia marginata* flowerhead. Photos: Judith Cooke



Podoscypha petalodes on the litter layer in bushland at Wylie's Track taken in June.

muted landscapes of late Autumn, as well as items in the textile exhibition. In June, we investigated an area of the bushland along Wylie's Track and found several photogenic species of fungi.

Four members contributed examples of their photography for exhibition at the Friends' Expo held in the Gallery of the Australian Garden Visitor Centre in July. Also, as a result of the Expo, we have welcomed two new members who attended our July meeting. As we move out of winter, there is increased activity amongst the local fauna, as well as wattles and other plants in flower, so we found lots to photograph.

Botanical Basketry

3rd Saturday of each month from 10am – 2pm in the Elliot Centre.

Contact

Lynn Lochrie
0437 759 610

basketry@

friendscranbourne.org.au

Basketry is a wonderful way to get 'hands on' with Australian Plants!

You are invited to visit us and discover how some beautiful Australian native plants can be turned into useful or sculptural basketry.

We meet on the third Saturday of the month in the Elliot Centre from 10am to 2pm, (BYO lunch and materials - tea and coffee provided) where we work on our own projects, using Australian native plant materials. Beginners are very welcome, and we can help you with advice on how to get started – and progress.



Examples of Botanical Basketmakers works on display at the Friends Expo held recently in the Australian Garden Gallery. Photo: Lynn Lochrie

Herbarium Collectors

1st Monday of each month, 9am-2pm

Elliot Centre.

Contact

Nola Foster 9583 5731

The Herbarium Collectors would like to pay tribute to one of its outstanding members, Dan Linsten, who died on the 22nd of June. Dan was with our group for a number of years before a series of debilitating illnesses kept him at home.

An outstanding photographer, he was also highly skilled at the computer, cataloging and recording the photographs of our plant collection. He was such a gentle, patient man, and enthusiastically gave us many hours of his time, both at Cranbourne and at his home.

His beautiful photos, taken in the field on our collection days, will be a great and permanent legacy. We all loved him dearly and feel his loss greatly. He was a tremendous asset to our work.



Dan Linsten doing what he enjoyed greatly, photographing wildflowers in Western Australia.



Barb and Dan Linsten in Monet's Garden, Giverny, France.

Friends 2019 Events Planning Day

24th June 2018

An enthusiastic group of Cranbourne Friends, along with three RBGV staff from the Engagement and Impact team and two Melbourne Friends, met to plan the Cranbourne Friends' Events program for 2019. The morning started with coffee/tea and scrumptious things, then we got serious, beginning with an illustrated overview by Rodger Elliot of the past 18 months' events. Émer Harrington, Head, Programming & Audience Development, followed with a brief talk on the work being carried out by the RBGV team to encourage visitors to both Melbourne and Cranbourne Gardens.

It was next on to the business of formulating lists for possible Workshops, Talks, Walks and Gawks in the Cranbourne Gardens, Discovery Days, 3-4 day Discovery Tours within Victoria, Interstate or Overseas Tours, special interest groups events and Open House speakers. Some of the topics entered on the lists had been sent by Friends who could not attend on the day and it was very encouraging to see the wide range of events

that people would like to have included in the program.

The Events Subcommittee hopes to include a few more child-orientated events as well as more weekend Open House talks. Some joint events with the Gardens and Melbourne Friends are also envisaged for 2019.

The Friends 2019 Calendar will be formulated over the next few months and will be published in the Summer Naturelink.

Barbara Jeffrey

Growing Friends

Every Thursday, 10am
– 2pm

Growing Friends Nursery

Contact:
growing.friends@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

Marjanne 9769 7881
or
Don 9736 2309

Spring Plant-Sale

Saturday 27 and
Sunday 28 October.

Nursery open to members:

Thursdays 10am –
3.30pm

Birds and Bees

Don't you love spring? I do, as well as the anticipation of it: fresh green on trees and grassland, colourful, gorgeous flowers and much bird activity. On a cold, rainy July day as I write this article, spring seems a long time away - but at least the shortest day has passed.

Birds: As usual we will have a Spring Plant Sale when many of our plants will have buds and/or flowers for you to admire. We are trying our best to have the Kangaroo Paws looking their best, with strong growth and maybe some flower stems (although October may be a little early for these).

Anigozanthos flavidus, a wild species, is one of the strongest K.P.s and *Anigozanthos flavidus* 'Red Form' will be for sale as well as a number of other species and cultivars in 15cm and 20cm pots at \$10 - \$15 each. *Flavidus* is a long-lived, clump-forming plant to 1m diameter with strappy leaves; these clumps can be divided. Flower stems can reach a height of 2 metres and are stunning in both fresh and dried flower arrangements. Native birds just love Kangaroo Paws and we often see birds visiting them in our nursery. Some very useful growing instructions can be found on Angus Stewart's (of ABC 'Gardening Australia' fame and now the Friends' patron) website.

Bees: Last summer, for the first time, we spotted Blue Banded Bees in our nursery – they were attracted to the bright blue flowers of the *Plectranthus graveolens*. This plant is an easy to grow, loosely branched, sub-erect/sub-prostrate shrub up to 1.50 metre in height with violet-blue flower and large aromatic, somewhat hairy leaves. Prune regularly to promote flowers and bushiness. A great filler in your garden.

Members can buy plants every Thursday

Our nursery is open to members every Thursday from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. If you can't come on Thursdays but really wish to buy some plants, email growing.friends@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au or phone/text Marjanne 0431 607 796 and leave a message. It may be possible to arrange another time.

Joining the Growing Friends

People regularly wish to join the Growing Friends but unfortunately, we have had to start a waiting list. Although it is difficult to predict how long the wait can be, don't be deterred as it might not be too long. If you are interested, please email growing.friends@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

Stop Press on the Winter Plant Sale

The Winter Plant Sale was well attended, especially on the Saturday - and even before the starting time of 10am. Some



Blue Banded Bee.
Photo: Luis Mata

very enthusiastic gardeners were waiting at the gate, keen to rush in to make their purchases. Sunday was busier than usual and we sold out of many popular plants. Our takings this sale went just over the \$20,000 mark, which beat our previous record by \$5,000. The fine weather may have had something to do with that.

It was very satisfying to see quite a few familiar faces - both members and non-members - but unfortunately I didn't have much time to stop and talk. I was too busy replenishing stock! It is always surprising that some plants, which may not sell well at one sale, will virtually walk out of the gate at the next.

Thank you to the members who support us by regularly visiting our Plant Sale – some of you come quite a long way to do so.



The moss-like *Scleranthus biflorus* in the Diversity garden of the Australian Garden.



A selection of plants for the Plant Sale.
Photo: Marjanne Rook

Botanical Illustrators

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 10am to 3pm in the Elliot Centre

Margaret Kitchen 0413 664 295

illustrators@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

Wednesday Botanical Illustrators Group

The Botanical Illustrators group meets regularly in the comfort of the Elliot Centre to enjoy the pursuits of painting, drawing and to share ideas. We support and encourage each other, hold workshops and talks and work towards holding exhibitions. We welcome visitors and new members.

2-day Botanical Illustrator 'Silver Princess' Workshop with Dianne Emery

Monday 10 & Monday 17 September 2018
10am – 3pm

Venue: Elliot Centre, RBGV Cranbourne

Cost: \$175 Members, \$205 Non-members

We are delighted that Dianne Emery is able to come to Cranbourne. She is a noted botanical art teacher at Melbourne RBGV and a distinguished natural history artist, who is motivated to portray her subjects scientifically, realistically and as individual character studies. Dianne will conduct a two-day workshop with demonstrations on the painting of the flowering *Eucalyptus caesia*, 'Silver Princess'. Diane has exhibited widely and won the Celia Rosser Medal three times. Her work is held in public and private collections both in Australia and overseas.

The workshop will be open to all skill levels. A materials list will be supplied upon enrolment.

Sketching in the Gardens

Wednesday 17 October

10am for 10.30am

Australian Garden, RBGV Cranbourne Gardens

Cost: Free

As a result of the enjoyment and success gained from sketching in the gardens earlier this year, it is going to happen again. This time will be under the banner of the Casey Ageing Positively Festival that is to be held during October. So get out your sketching materials and have a lovely time in the Australian Garden with like-minded people. Do not forget to bring folding chairs if you like comfort! You could even start off with a coffee or tea at 10 am in the Boon Wurrung Café!

Nature Printing

Wednesday 7 November

10am for 10.30am

Venue Elliot Centre, RBGV Cranbourne Gardens

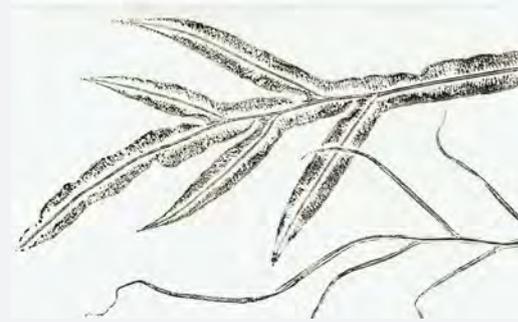
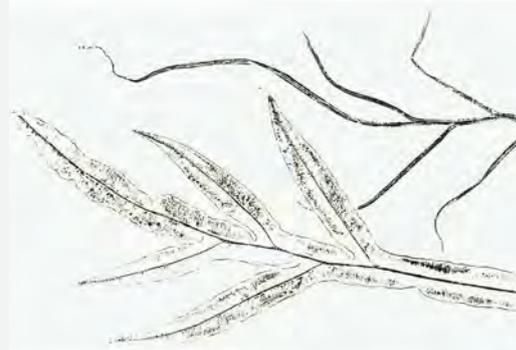
Cost: \$6

Ann Cunningham will give a talk about Nature Printing - a simple method of creating images on paper directly from plants. Ferns and leaves are particularly suited to this method of printing.

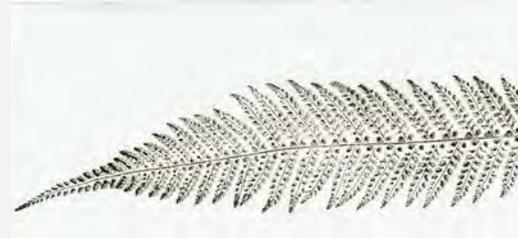
Ann was introduced to Nature Printing by Pia



The nearly translucent young frond of Batswing Fern, *Histiopteris incisa* beginning to unfurl. Photo: Marg Kitchen



Nature print of *Blechnum patersonii* frond. Photo: Ann Cunningham



Nature print of a *Dicksonia youngiae* frond segment. Photo: Ann Cunningham

Ostland, at London's Chelsea Physic Garden, in 2011. She has recently been recording Nature Prints of the ferns in the Fern Gully at RBGV Melbourne. Ann will talk about the technique and demonstrate the method, as well as show her collection of prints.

For more information on all of our events, please call Margaret Kitchen on 0413 664 295.

Open House at the Elliot Centre

The April talk was presented by Lex Nieboer, Supervisor, Wilson Botanic Park Berwick. Lex explained the history of the site, a former quarry producing blue stone for the Melbourne region. The quarry closed in the late '70s and its transformation into a park was commenced in the late 1980s by the City of Berwick; it was opened as the Botanic Park in 1992. There are 3 lakes in the park that create a wonderful wildlife habitat. Perched on the edge of one of the lakes is a bird hide, making it perfect for bird watchers. Many fossils were found when the quarry was active and some are still found when earth works are done today. The fossil sites have been studied by universities across Australia; they show both tropical and temperate species. The Park continues to be managed by the City of Berwick Council and is also supported by an active Friends Group.

At the May Open House Ken and Carlene Gosbell shared some of their Polar experiences around the Svalbard Islands in the arctic region. They boarded the small ice-strengthened ship 'Polar Pioneer' in Longyearbyen and for 11 days they circumnavigated the Island of Spitsbergen, which took them 82°North and within almost 1,000kms of the North Pole.

Ken and Carlene shared the presentation, Ken describing the migratory birds seen in this untouched wilderness and Carlene talking about the history of the island cottages, which they visited when they went ashore. The audience was treated to a superb show of Ken's photos, which included several species of birds, a polar bear on an ice flow and of course the stunning arctic scenery.

In June we returned to Cranbourne with Russell Larke and Matt Henderson from the Horticulture Team, who shared their experiences of a 3-day Grampians Plant Collecting Trip. They covered a large area, which included Mt Abrupt, Mt William, Mt

Zero, the Victoria Range and the Chimney Pots, collecting 83 species along the way. Back in the nursery the strike rate from cuttings has been excellent; we saw a selection of tube plants which were being grown-on prior to planting, and we can expect to see many of the Grampians plants out in the Australian Garden soon. Thank you to Matt and Russell for their excellent talk. Their enthusiasm for the plants is obvious and it was great to have a look at what goes on behind the scenes in the Nursery.

On 30th June we held our first Saturday Friends Open House. Dr Noushka Reiter, Research Scientist in Orchid Conservation RBCV and a member of the Science Division based at Cranbourne, gave us a presentation on the work she is leading in the laboratory at Cranbourne Gardens. (Noushka first established the Orchid Conservation Laboratory in Horsham, then in 2014 it was relocated to Cranbourne). The research being done by her team and a group of volunteers goes from pollination in the laboratory to re-introduction of grown plants in suitable habitat. 137 species were reintroduced between 2013 and 2016, with an excellent survival rate. Noushka's expertise is world-renowned and the research work she is doing with her team and volunteers is a very valuable addition to the RBCV. Noushka was an excellent speaker, able to make the story of her work accessible and easy to understand. We are planning a visit to Cranbourne's orchid greenhouses in Spring when many of these endangered species will be in flower. So keep an ear and eye out for further information.

The Elliot Centre is open on the 2nd Thursday of every month and members are invited to come along to the free talks. The topic for discussion will be advertised in Quicklink and an email promo will be sent to Friends members.

The rest of the program for 2018

August 9: Lindy Harris from the Karwarra Australian Plant Garden, Kalorama

September 13: Christine Kenyon: Patagonia & Antarctica

October 11: Alf Reina: Making a Difference: Migration, Refugees and Peace Keeping

November 8: Carole Scholes, Keeping Bees

Membership Update

Alexandra Stalder
Email: membership@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

With the Cranbourne Friends' new membership year beginning on July 1, the last few weeks have been a busy period for membership renewals and new member enquiries. The Friends Expo running in the Visitor Centre Gallery throughout July generated real interest from visitors, both in Friends' membership and involvement in Friends' groups and activities. I hope that many members had the opportunity to see this wonderful exhibition.

This year's Membership Card (pictured) features the Cranbourne Friends' logo, which incorporates acacia and eucalyptus graphics on a deep red background as representation of the native flora identity of the Cranbourne Gardens. Membership cards have been posted out to those who have already renewed for the year. Members who are yet

to renew will receive a renewal form along with this quarter's Naturelink. Please fill in and send your form by post or email with payment. If you are unsure whether your membership is current, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Welcome to new members

This quarter we are pleased to welcome 9 new members: Elizabeth Barraclough, Joanne Harris, Sarah Jabor, Chester Keon-Cohen, Bruce Moulson, Nicky Muston, Heather Ross, Linda Sijpkens & Nadia Wharton.



Wildlife Corridors Workshop

Wendy Smart

On 17th June about 40 people listened to a very informative series of presentations on the need to create as well as conserve, wildlife corridors. Existing parks and reserves are often in isolated pockets and this usually limits the survival of native species of flora and fauna.

Associate Professor Rodney van der Ree spoke on the impact that major road projects have on local flora and fauna, also stressing the importance of estimating the monetary cost of the loss of local species. This is a major factor in convincing governments of the needs of animals - and reminding them that someone in the world has actually worked out a solution to the problem.

Darryl Argall, representing Project Hindmarsh, spoke on their 40 years experience in the Wimmera River district. Originally with little expertise, but with the backing of local councils and many volunteers, they transformed 100km of bare roadsides into reserves. The result was a biolink for native plants and animals covering a district of some 2000 square km and encompassing two rivers.

Dr Pat Macwhirter explained a project to create a biodiversity link ranging from Western Port to Healesville, involving probably six creeks and rivers: the Bass, Cardinia, Toomuc, Bunyip, Cannibal and

Tooradin Drain. A major, long-term project, it would include a large biodiversity area to include all five Victorian emblems: the Leadbeater Possum, Helmeted Honeyeater, Pink Heath, Weedy Sea dragon, and goldmining.

Cranbourne Gardens is an important remnant of native bush and Chris Russell, Director of the Cranbourne Gardens, spoke on the consultation being undertaken with housing development groups surrounding the Gardens. As the area is becoming landlocked, wildlife links are important for the survival of species.

One of those species is the Southern Brown Bandicoot, and Dr Sarah Maclagan from Deakin University gave an interesting talk on evidence which has found that the Bandicoot can adapt to housing areas in their search for food and shelter, and often multiply more readily than in natural areas.

Bob Anderson of the Helmeted Honeyeater Program at Yellingbo talked of the need to find suitable forest areas for the Honeyeaters. Presently, wild populations exist only at Yellingbo and in a small group at Bunyip. A fire through that area could destroy the population forever. He illustrated the effectiveness of revegetation in certain areas, which could enable relocation of a Honeyeater population.

Behind the Scenes at State Library Victoria

Gwen Elliot

Wednesday June 27 was a chilly morning in Melbourne, but that did not stop 19 of our Cranbourne Friends' members from making an early start and arriving at the State Library in Swanston Street by 9am, where we were met by our President, Indra Kurzeme, who is also the Manager of Community Programs at the Library.

A very warm welcome awaited us, and no sooner were we inside the door of the Library (which officially does not open until 10am), than people started to shed their heavy coats



SLV Pictorial Librarian Madeleine Say opening *The Banksias Vol 1* by Celia Rosser and Alex George to the page with *Banksia coccinea*. Photo: Indra Kurzeme



Banksia coccinea from *Illustrationes Florae Novae Hollandiae* (1813) by Ferdinand Bauer who travelled with Matthew Flinders.

Photo: Indra Kurzeme

and enjoy the warmth of the Library and its staff.

Madeleine Say, Picture Librarian at SLV, had set up a captivating display for us from the Library's extensive collection of botanical and allied material, which also included landscape plans and letters. On the table were items which she felt would be of particular interest to us as plant enthusiasts, and she was not wrong.

We started by looking at an album by Alfred Bock featuring photographs of wildflowers of Gippsland from 1870-1890. Alfred Bock conducted a photography business in Sale,

and worked with Ferdinand von Mueller preparing photographs of herbarium specimens and other hand-coloured works prior to his death in 1920.

Next we saw a collection of stereographic photographs of orchids and their pollinating wasps. Dr. Edith Coleman (1874-1951) was a pioneer student of orchid pollination by wasps in Australia, and the photographs in this display were the work of Mrs. Ethel Eaves, a photographer assisted by J. A. Kershaw from the Museum.

An original Edna Walling garden plan was on display, as were several hand-written letters by Edna. Elizabeth Conabere (1929-2009) was the botanical illustrator for the 2-volume *Wildflowers of South-Eastern Australia*, published in 1974, and we were able to admire her original works in the copy of Volume 1.

We were also shown the 1993 volume of *The Banksias*, by Celia Rosser, and had an

opportunity to compare Celia's painting of *Banksia coccinea* with that of Ferdinand Bauer (1760-1826) as published in *Illustrations Flora Novae Hollandiae* following Bauer's appointment as a botanical draughtsman to accompany Matthew Flinders and the renowned Scottish botanist Robert Brown, on *The Investigator*.

Finally we saw the bound book of *Ferns of Australasia*, featuring pressed and mounted specimens by Mary Ann Armstrong, who compiled the album around 1900.

Indra then took us upstairs where we saw more items of botanical interest in 'The World of the Book' display – ending a really memorable tour, and encouraging us all to re-visit the Library again in the near future.

Our visit concluded with coffee & muffin at 'The Moat' café, downstairs from the Library. A thoroughly absorbing and fascinating morning. Many thanks Indra.

Cranbourne Friends RBGV Annual Lunch Report

21 April 2018

The Cranbourne Friends Annual Lunch, held on Saturday 21st April, once again brought together people from near and far. Old and new Friends came to enjoy a relaxing lunch and listen to an engaging and passionate speaker, as well as participate in fund-raising activities. A total of 83 people attended this special day.

As the guests arrived at the Tarnuk room, they encountered the tables of Silent Auction donations and bidding starting quite early, continuing until the last moment before the hammer fell to end the Auction. Raffle tickets were also keenly sought-after with 5 prizes to be won! Many of the donations came from first time donors and I would like to thank all donors and bidders for their generosity in helping us raise funds for the Cranbourne Gardens. The total raised was \$2,681.

Our guest speaker, Anna Foley, outlined the role of Trust for Nature and how it works collaboratively with private landholders to develop conservation covenants and protect the native plants and wildlife on their land.



John Adam, Jan Fleming, Jan and Ian Chisholm at Table 4.
Photo: Judith Cooke

She also explained how Trust for Nature purchases properties which are converted into conservation reserves. Anne described the work that has been done at Ned's Corner in far north-west Victoria, at Melba Gully in the Otways and on several other projects.

All guests enjoyed a delicious 2-course lunch catered for by Sorrento catering and served by their friendly staff.

I would also like to mention the beautiful quilted wall hanging – the logo of Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria – that adorned the Tarnuk Room. This was made by one of our Friends, Lee Baker, who has donated it to RBGV, where it will be displayed in the future, following its unveiling at the Lunch.

As this was my first time organising the Lunch, I would like to sincerely thank Lyn Blackburne, Margaret and Richard Clarke and Indra Kurzeme for their support in helping to make it such a happy and enjoyable event in the Cranbourne Friends Calendar.

Next year's Lunch is already being planned, so remember to enter it in your diary for 2019 once the date is announced.

See you at next year's Lunch!
Barbara Jeffrey



Enjoying lunch!
Photo: Judith Cooke

Habitat Gardening Workshop

Sunday 29 April
2018

On Sunday 29 April about 50 people attended this high-quality Workshop, with Camilla Myers as our MC.

The day began with Nadine Gaskell presenting on the Gardens for Wildlife Program. Nadine has extensive experience in policy, strategy, planning and community education programs. She is Biodiversity Manager for Knox City and the architect and co-founder of the award-winning Knox Gardens for Wildlife Program; she is also currently chair of Gardens for Wildlife Victoria co-ordinating group. Her passion for working with community to create neighbourhood habitat corridors that connect native vegetation and neighbours was very evident in her presentation. She spoke on the importance of developing and supporting biodiversity programs that build community capacity, partnerships and provide social and well-being outcomes.

The second topic was 'Holistic Habitats: the what, how and why' by AB Bishop, who has co-authored two books with Angus Stewart, including *The Australian Native Garden*, which won the 2018 Horticultural Media Association of Australia Book Laurel Award. She has a new book, about habitat gardens, due for publication in November 2018. As a native plant enthusiast and passionate conservationist, AB dreams of inspiring enough people to help tip the balance in favour of the environment, and this was a major point of her presentation. She stressed that we consider a holistic approach to our gardening and learn to understand the importance of the inter-dependence of plants and animals. Following this presentation AB and Pam Yarra, a devoted habitat gardener, talked about the design and practicalities of how Pam went about developing her garden for wildlife.

Emmaline Bowman, from STEM Landscape Architecture & Design, undertook a presentation on Providing Permanent Water, Soaks and Swales in Gardens. With a background in animal husbandry and a love of water from the days of helping her father rehabilitate the creek that runs through their property, she wanted to do more for the environment by transforming spaces to cater for not only people, but also for native plants and animals. During her tertiary studies, Emmaline worked at a local aquarium and reptile shop and as a side job she designed & planted aquariums, terrariums and ponds. This experience provided her with a very valuable lesson in learning to balance aquatic ecosystems, and these practices have followed into all her design decisions today. One highlight of this passionate presentation was Emmaline's very good grasp of plants and their requirements – a rare quality in many of today's practising landscape architects.

In his presentation 'Habitat Gardening in Small Spaces', Rodger Elliot stressed the importance of becoming ecologists and not

just good gardeners. For him ecology is the cornerstone for successful habitat gardening: "Ecology is the scientific study of inter-relationships among organisms and between organisms, and all aspects, living and non-living of their environments" according to the Oxford Dictionary of Natural History. Diversity is important, especially for small gardens. To have a selection of shrubs and clumping plants of varying heights and habits that flower at different times is important if you are hoping to attract and cater for wildlife in such areas. Water is paramount, as is shelter for wildlife! Rodger also provided a short presentation on providing habitat for local lizards.



Blotched Blue Tongue Lizard sunning on a hollow log in Montrose courtyard garden

Broni Swartz inspired us with her presentation on Catering for Insects. Broni claims to be a casual observer of insects, but she is certainly more than just an observer as her knowledge is extraordinary. According to Broni, these creatures are vital to the existence of the world and she is always keen to share her passion for them. Her opening slide set the scene for her presentation with this quote: "Biological diversity increases biological complexity which increases biological stability" from Eric Grissell's book 'Insects and Gardens in Pursuit of Garden Ecology'. Broni showed us that by having trees and shrubs as well as a grassland and wetland areas, we can attract beneficial insects. We need to provide leaf litter, plants with fibrous or peeling bark, dead stumps and logs, resin from gums and wattles, flowers with pollen and nectar that attract insects, sand, clay, bare earth, shady and sunny areas and water.

For our final activity we were highly privileged to visit the nearby 'Whispering Garden' of Shari Judges and David Duncan, who also happen to be Cranbourne Gardens' staff. Participants were blown away by this excellent habitat garden, developed over a number of years, primarily for attracting wildlife. There were excellent examples of dense grassy areas and densely shrubby plantings as well as other examples that many of the presenters had mentioned during the day. Although we did not see any of the numerous resident Southern Brown Bandicoots, there were numerous sites where their pointed snouts had been seeking truffle-like fungi and other goodies. The completed evaluation forms for this workshop showed the highest response for any workshop ever presented by the Cranbourne Friends!

Cranbourne Friends' Sicily Tour

May 2018

This was truly a wonderful tour that was organised by 'one of our own', Alf Reina. Alf was born in Sicily but moved to Australia with his family when he was 17 years old.

One of his major coups in organising this Tour was to coerce his cousin Alfie Orlando, who has been running tours of Sicily for over 25 years, to be our Guide. We do not think that Alfie took much coercing, for he loves and knows just about every square kilometre of Sicily and wants to share his marvellous island with everyone.

There were many highlights (too many to fully describe here) during the 22 day tour, as Alfie, with his highly contagious and excitable presence, took us to yet another one of the 'Seven Wonders of Sicily'. We think we might have reached his 'forty-ninth Wonder' by the end of the Tour!

One major highlight occurred in Alf and Alfie's home town Cianciana, when at a special Mayoral Reception, Alf Reina was presented with an award "for nobleness of soul and humanitarian spirit" in recognition of his peacekeeping efforts and work with refugees and asylum seekers. It was a marvellous morning for the town, Alf's relatives (some had travelled from London) and us. There were many teary eyes in our group that morning as we partook of the delightful celebratory local delicacies.

Throughout the tour, the food was undoubtedly a highlight with plenty of seafood, pasta (the range of which is mind-boggling), real pizzas, sublime gelati (some people who shall remain nameless were hardly ever without a cone or cup in their hands!), granita and of course, coffee. One lasting memory is from the very first day when some of us had a scrumptious oven-fresh sourdough panino at a quiet café on the coast at Castellammare de Golfo. It was generously filled with beautiful mozzarella, tomato, basil and prosciutto. Heavenly! It really set the panini standard for the whole tour.

We learnt so much about Sicily from Alfie and Alf, who were founts of knowledge covering the centuries of history and culture of this strategically important island. Early civilisations made a huge impact on Sicily and the archaeological sites of Segesta, Selinunte and Agrigento certainly provide much information as to how these early and very well-organised civilisations lived, 500 years BC. The Villa Romana del Casale near Piazza Armerina displays stunning ceramics, regarded as possibly the best in the world!

The scenery was breathtaking whether we were on the coast, in the mountains or in agricultural areas. It was truly heartening to see farms with such a diversity of crops; we did not see any evidence of monoculture farming. There is a strong emphasis on organic farming and we were treated to a special tasting of freshly made Ricotta by



A recently renovated cacti planting in front of the 15th century Villa San Giuliano near Lente. Photos: Rodger Elliot



A very large River red Gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* confined to a rocky surround. Note the base of the trunk that is pushing up the rock paving!



This humungous *Ficus macrophylla* forma *columnaris* in Palermo Botanic Garden originated from Lord Howe Island.

one local farmer. Over the years they have learned not to plant seedling pistachio trees because they die; instead they let them multiply from seeds that germinate in the old lava flows, and they continue to thrive to a very old age.

We were fortunate to visit some stunning nature reserves and come face to face with many native plants, some of which are only found on Sicily. In the Riserva Naturale dello Zingaro we enjoyed the splendour of the Dwarf Palms, *Chamaerops humilis*, and many other flowering plants including outstanding yellow thistles, brilliant red poppies and *Acanthus mollis*, as well as viewing exhibitions of traditional agricultural tools and practices.

For the full story, visit our website at www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

Friends Photo Archive

Please contact Christine Kenyon (Archivist)

Email: cekenyon@bigpond.com or mobile: 0438 345 589

The Friends have an archive, kept in the Elliot Centre Office. It includes Minutes of meetings and reports and information on special meetings and projects, such as the History of the 1990s Ballarto Road Campaign that successfully stopped the construction of Ballarto Rd through a section of the Cranbourne Garden site.

The part of the archive that is still quite small is the photographic archive. Carolyn Landon is writing the history of the Cranbourne Friends and wants more photos to enrich the content.

We would love to have copies of any images you have taken on Discovery Days, Special Event days, group meetings, at Workshops, on tours (local and overseas). They can be prints or in electronic format. We can scan your photos and return them if you wish. They will be important additions to the Friends Archive.



Then Friends President, Don Jewell; Dame Elisabeth Murdoch; Hon Peter Howson, Chair of Maud Gibson Trust Committee and Past Friends Patron with Marian Brooks, Maud Gibson Trust Committee member at the opening of the Friends Nursery in 1993.

Cranbourne Friends Committee

President: Indra Kurzeme	0408 002 028	Booking Officer	
Secretary: Helen Kennedy	9560 0185	Ros Shepherd	5932 5611
Vice President: Helen Morrow	9850 9125	bookings@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au	
Vice President: Roger Watts	0409 857 664	Events Sub Committee	
Immediate Past President: Richard Clarke	5974 1750	Barbara Jeffrey	Deb Abbs
Treasurer: Karen Russell	9878 4857	Rodger Elliot	Alex Smart
Membership Secretary: Alexandra Stalder	0458 550 509	Lyn Blackburne	Richard Clarke
RBGV Representative: Chris Russell	5990 2200	Marjanne Rook	
General Committee		Ros Shepherd	
Christine Kenyon	9589 2154	Naturelink Editor:	
Barbara Jeffrey	5998 5410	Ashley Michailaros	0408 949 914
Alexandra Stalder	0458 550 509	naturelink@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au	
Janette Wilson	0477 711 569	Quicklink Editor:	
Rosemary Miller	9578 2819	Janette Wilson	0477 711 569
Mick Robertson	0402 648 998	Social Media Convenor:	
		Amy Akers	0423 513 281
		The General Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month (except January) at 6.30pm.	

GROWING FRIENDS SPRING PLANT SALE

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October 2018

10am to 4pm both days

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - Cranbourne

Plant-list available one week prior to sale -

www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au



Left:
Mixed spring flowers for sale.
Photo: Marjanne Rook

Right:
Anigozanthos 'Bush Tenacity' with New Holland Honeyeater.
Photo: Amy Akers

