

New Year Brunch with Patron, Angus Stewart

Sunday 4 Feb 2018
10am, Forest of
Figs

Highlights

in this issue

Australian Garden Update 7



Friends Annual Luncheon 7



Ever wanted to join the Cranbourne Friends but have been unsure where to start? This event is open to all who are interested in finding out more about how the group operates. Everyone is welcome to join us for Sunday brunch in the Forest of Figs. Bring a plate to share or just grab a take away coffee from the Boon Wurrung Café. Meet current and new Cranbourne Friends and find out about our activities, fund raising and committee work. Our Patron, Angus Stewart, will join us to discuss why he is involved with Cranbourne Friends.

For more information, contact Indra Kurzeme on 0408 002 028 or at president@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au



Cranbourne Friends Patron, Angus Stewart

GROWING FRIENDS AUTUMN PLANT SALE

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2018
10am to 4pm both days



Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - Cranbourne

Plant list will be available on our website one week prior at:
www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

Discovery Day: Waterways

Tuesday 20 March
2018, 10.30am

Australian Waterways Nursery

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

Inc no. A0025281B
ABN 43 551 008 609

Web address:
rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

For the first Discovery Day of the year, a visit is planned to the Australian Ecosystems nursery and seed store in Bangholme – next door to Melbourne Water's Eastern Treatment plant. It is a huge nursery of wetland plants specialising in indigenous plants. They collect seeds from many areas for both wetland and dryland plants. Australian Ecosystems also run a landscaping business and some of their projects include the Victorian Desalination Plant in Wonthaggi, Gum Scrub Creek at Officer and Heritage Henley Golf Course landscaping at Wonga Park. There have been many others through their 18 year history and their website is worth visiting at www.australianecosystems.com.au.

At the conclusion of visiting both the nursery and the seed store, we will then visit a nearby

wetlands area to enjoy our BYO picnic lunch. After lunch, it is then off to explore the area.

Meet at:

Australian Waterways Nursery
Cnr Alan Bird Drive and Thompson Road
Bangholme

For more information, contact:

Barrie Gallacher
b.gal@bigpond.net.au
or
Richard Clarke
5974 1750

Executive Director's Report

Chris Russell



And the winner is... Melbourne!

In the winter edition of Naturelink I mentioned that I was attending the 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress in Geneva in late June. It was a wonderful experience and I am pleased to share some highlights with you here. Organised by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), the peak international botanic gardens organisation, the Congress was hosted by the Conservatory and Botanic Garden Geneva, coinciding with the celebration of its 200th anniversary. Around 480 delegates from 70 countries came together, with a wonderful aspect being the huge diversity of gardens represented, from large city gardens to smaller developing gardens. By way of example, I chaired a session which included speakers from the Netherlands, Belgium, Kyrgyzstan and China, presenting on topics from underwater gardening to how botanic gardens can support urban sustainable development.

BGCI Secretary General Paul Smith opened the Congress, noting that there are now over 3,000 botanic gardens in the global network, a number that has quadrupled over the last 30 years. This was followed by an inspiring plenary by Dr Cristian Samper of the US Wildlife Conservation Society who provided a sobering insight into our current global plight, pointing out that only 23% of the world's wilderness remains, and that 10% of what remains has been lost over the last 20 years. What we do over the next 20 years is absolutely critical, and the role of botanic gardens worldwide in assisting to prevent further decline is extremely important. Despite this, progress on plant conservation over the past 20 years was highlighted, including: development of international plant lists and World Flora online; IUCN assessments of threatened species; an increase in protected areas; an increase in number of threatened species in botanic gardens (40 % represented in ex situ conservation); increased awareness of environmental issues, and increased partnerships in plant conservation.

RBGV made a solid contribution, with Melbourne Gardens Executive Director Chris Cole and Director and Chief Executive Tim Entwisle providing very well-received presentations under the "Management Challenges" theme. Tim spoke of the "4G" botanic garden, where the management process has moved well beyond the "1G" of entry and labels, to a much more sophisticated approach where science and research inform the gardens collections and management approach, using RBGV as an example. This segued nicely to Chris's presentation on the Melbourne



Tim Entwisle announces RBGV as host of 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress in February 2021. Photo: Chris Russell



What is thought to be the oldest extant Australian plant specimen, dating to 1696; that of *Synaphea spinulosa*. Held in Geneva Conservatory collection. Photo: Chris Russell



Chloe, Russell, Broni and Matt atop Mt Abrupt on a Grampians collecting trip. Photo: Chloe Foster

Gardens Landscape Succession Strategy, which showcased RBGV as a world leader in responding to climate change. I presented on RBGV's role in urban greening, showcasing our role in influencing urban development through scientific input on threatened species (especially the Southern Brown Bandicoot) and by promoting sustainable home gardening through the Australian Garden displays and educational programs.

The really exciting news came in the closing session, when RBG Victoria was announced as the host of the 7th Global Botanic Gardens

Congress from 7 to 11 February 2021, corresponding with our 175th anniversary. Whilst the scientific program will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, there will certainly be tours and other happenings at both Cranbourne and Melbourne Gardens and opportunities for the Friends to become actively involved. More on that later.

Of great interest in the Geneva Conservatory collection was a somewhat random/fortuitous viewing. This occurred as a whirlwind herbarium tour between entre and main course at the Congress Dinner, through sitting next to one of the Curators of the Conservatory of what is thought to be the oldest extant specimen of an Australian plant, and very likely among the first Australian herbarium specimens ever collected. The specimen, *Synaphea spinulosa*, is thought to have been collected by the Dutch mariner Willem de Vlamingh who explored Rottneest Island and Swan River during 1696 and 1697, which would predate the collections of Australian plants made by William Dampier in 1699.

Expanding knowledge and plant collections

Most of the Cranbourne Gardens Horticulture team recently spent a weekend together in the Grampians, providing a great opportunity for some fun time together whilst expanding plant knowledge and making a few collections along the way (all permits and documentation in place!). The Grampians is a biodiversity 'hotspot' with over 1000 plant species and 1/3 of the State's flora represented. The team collected some really interesting - and in some instances rare - plant material at Mt William, Mt Abrupt, Mt Zero, Mirranatwa Gap, the Chimney Pots and along various tracks and roadsides. In total 83 taxa were collected with over 3000 cuttings processed. Perhaps the highlight of the trip was collecting *Eucalyptus pauciflora* subsp. *parvifructa*, which is only found on Mt William. It's the smallest growing of all of the Snow Gums and we hope will be a feature of the Forest Garden in years to come.

From the President

Indra Kurzeme



We were very excited to hear the news that the 175th Anniversary of Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria will now coincide with the Gardens hosting the 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress in 2021. The Committee will be working closely with the staff of RBGV to support the activities in 2021. Please let us know if you have any ideas how we can support the Congress and 175th Anniversary and if you are able to assist.

There comes a time in every organisation when people move on. Rodger Elliot, Chair of the Events Sub-Committee and Marjanne Rook, Committee Member, have decided to step down. We have tried to calculate the number of years' service between them and it is incalculable! I thank them on behalf of all the Friends for their dedication, knowledge and hard work. It will be a very different organisation without them. Naturally, succession planning has been on our minds and we will have a number of new Committee members join us in 2018. I look forward to welcoming them to the Committee and introducing them to you.

Improvements are constantly being made to the Elliot Centre and surrounds. We now have disabled parking near the Growing Friends Nursery and will be planting around the Elliot Centre. We continue to fund improvements to the garden; recent donations to Cranbourne Gardens have enabled the removal of pine trees at the front

entrance of the Gardens and we have funded the upgrade of the entrance signage. We have also funded two Garden Ambassadors to attend the 2017 Australasian Botanic Gardens Volunteer Guides Conference and we will be sending Jill Burness, Landscape Planner to the 2018 Australian Landscape Conference.

I hope you have a wonderful Summer.

Stay safe and see you in the Garden!

Indra

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR 2018

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

JANUARY

Day to be selected early in the month

Nuytsia Pilgrimage at Australian Garden

FEBRUARY

Sunday 4

New Year Brunch with Patron Angus Stewart

Thursday 8

Open House, Elliot Centre

Wednesday 21

Illustrators Morning Talk

MARCH

Sunday 4

Beckler's Botanical Bounty Afternoon

Thursday 8

Open House, Elliot Centre

Wednesday 14

Botanical Illustrators Train Trip to view Beckler Botanical Project Exhibition at Art Gallery of Ballarat

Sat 17- Sun 18

Plant Sale

Tuesday 20

Discovery Day: Patterson Lakes & Waterways, Australian Ecosystems, Bangholme Treatment Plant etc.

APRIL

Friday 6

Talk & Walk: Australian Garden – Update & Development with John Arnott

Thursday 12

Open House, Elliot Centre

Wednesday 18

Botanical Illustrators sketching in the Australian Garden

Saturday 21

Annual Luncheon in Tarnuk Room, Australian Garden

Sunday 22

Workshop: Basketry – Melon Baskets

Sunday 29

Workshop – Habitat Gardening

MAY

Wed 9 – Sun 13

Australian Textile Exhibition

Thursday 10

Open House, Elliot Centre

Thurs 10 – Wed 30

Sicily Tour

Wed 23 – Thurs 24

Illustrator 2-Day Workshop: Subject TBA

JUNE

Thursday 14

Open House, Elliot Centre

Sunday 17

Workshop: Wildlife Corridors

Sunday 24

2019-20 Friends Events Planning Day

Wednesday 27

Discovery Day: State Library Victoria – behind scenes

JULY

Thursday 12

Open House, Elliot Centre

Sat 14 – Sun 15

Illustrators Bird Workshop with David Reynolds

Sat 21 – Sun 22

Plant Sale

Saturday 28

Workshop: Basic Botany/ Horticulture

AUGUST

Saturday 4

Breakfast & Bushland – Special Collections with Warren Worboys

Thursday 9

Open House, Elliot Centre

Sunday 12

Afternoon Talks: Regional Botanic Gardens – Melton, Shepparton & Wildlife Art Museum of Australia: Chair- John Arnott

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 13

Open House, Elliot Centre

Saturday 15

Discovery Day: GMH Proving Ground, Lang Lang

Tuesday 18

Cranbourne Gardens Spring Afternoon Bushland Wildflower Ramble

OCTOBER

Wednesday 10

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

Thursday 11

Open House, Elliot Centre

Sunday 7

Workshop – Small Australian Plants for year-round colour

Mon 15 – Fri 19

Discovery Tour: Grampians

Sat 27 – Sun 28

Plant Sale

NOVEMBER

Thursday 8

Open House, Elliot Centre

Sunday 18

AGM

Sunday 25

Half Day Workshop – Alpine & Subalpine Plants

DECEMBER

Thursday 13

Open House, Elliot Centre

*Dates are subject to change - please see the latest Naturelink or Quicklink for details.

(Some of) What's On at RBGV Cranbourne

For enquiries and bookings phone 5990 2200. For information about more activities at RBGV, see <www.rbg.vic.gov.au>.

DAILY ACROSS SUMMER

Flora Australis

Join an experienced guide on a fascinating journey through time. Discover how Australian plants have evolved and adapted over millions of years and how human interaction with plants has changed over time.

Discounted passes can also be purchased for two walking tours OR one walking tour plus a daily pass on the Garden Explorer.

Tours available at various times by request.

Group tours available at 11am or 2pm.

Meet at the Kiosk

\$7.30 adult, \$6.30 concession (group bookings \$6.30 per person).

T 03 5990 2200

Bookings required

Plants for your place

Experienced guides share tips that will help you find the best Aussie plants for your place.

Tours available at various times by request.

Group tours available at 11am or 2pm.

Meet at the Visitor Centre

\$7.30 adult, \$6.30 concession (group bookings \$6.30 per person).

T 03 5990 2200

Bookings required

Snapshots of Australia

This walk provides a snapshot of seasonal colour and an overview of the Australian Garden.

Tours available at various times by request.

Group tours available at 11am or 2pm.

Meet at the Visitor Centre

\$7.30 adult, \$6.30 concession (group bookings \$6.30 per person).

T 03 5990 2200

Bookings required

Garden Shed, Northern Display Gardens

Visit the Garden Shed and speak with Garden Ambassadors about sustainable gardening practices for your home garden including drought tolerant plants.

10am to 2pm

Free

(Some of) What's On at RBGV Melbourne

The following events are presented by the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

For enquiries contact the Friends office on 9650 6398 or at <friends@frbgmelb.org.au>.

Book events online, or download a booking form from the FRBGM website at <www.rbgfriendsmelbourne.org>.

Starry Southern Skies

Every Monday, additional tours 28 December, and every Thursday in January (Not running 25 Dec and 1 Jan)

9pm to 10.30pm

See Melbourne Observatory Telescopes rotate and open up to the Australian night sky. Have the chance to view planets using our powerful heritage telescopes under the guidance of experts from the Astronomical Society of Victoria.

Tours go ahead in all weather conditions; cancellation policy applies.

Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate

\$24 adult, \$20 child, concession and Friends' member; \$70 family of four

Bookings: T 03 9252 2429 or RBGV website

Secret life of birds in Melbourne Gardens

Thursday 14 December, Thursday 18 January and Thursday 15 February

6pm to 7.30pm

Learn about the amazing range of birds in Melbourne Gardens on a balmy summer's evening. On this stroll you will learn about their calls and habitats from our resident bird expert.

Meet at H Gate (on Alexandra Ave)

\$20 adult, \$15 Conc. and Friends' Member - Suitable for Adults

Bookings: T 03 9252 2429 or RBGV website

ClimateWatch Walk

Friday 15 December, Wednesday 10 January, Thursday 15 February

10.30am to 12.00pm

The environment needs your help! On this guided walk learn how climate change is affecting our plants and wildlife and collect valuable data for EarthWatch.

Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate

FREE - suitable for Adults and Children

Bookings: T 03 9252 2429 for more information

Nuytsia Pilgrimage January 2018

Alex Smart

The *Nuytsia floribunda* on Gibson Hill is battling to survive. The bark is seriously delaminating and a large branch is dead and will be removed. Current investigations suspect it is suffering from *Armillaria* root rot commonly called Australian Honey Fungus. It is ironic that this fungus produces attractive tan coloured fruit bodies about 10 cm diameter. The fruit is edible for humans and potentially deadly for Eucalypts and *Nuytsia*. Read more at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armillaria_luteobubalina

Concerned Cranbourne Friends will meet again in January 2018. Email notification will be distributed when suitable weather is forecast. Should we wear black? Or bright summer colours to brighten it up?

Contact Alex Smart smartie38@bigpond.com Ph 9707 5275



Nuytsia Tree. Photo: Alex Smart

Staff Profile

Jenny Raven,
Garden Explorer
Driver



My past 4 and half years have been as a Garden Explorer Driver at RBGVC. It's a really fantastic place to work, and gives me the opportunity to be outdoors amongst the beauty of the native plants and brilliant landscaping. It's a privilege to take visitors from all over the world on a journey around the Australian Garden in that "little train thing"! (as it's often referred to!). I love to hear their amazement at all that's been achieved here, and their appreciation of this service that we provide.

When the GE driver position was first advertised in 2012, I had only a few days to apply before going off on a 100 km walking holiday. My phone would be out-of-range, so I was desperately concerned that I might miss out on this perfect opportunity for a career change..... to a job that ticked all the boxes for me. But my luck was in!!

At age 17 I began my nursing career at the Royal Melbourne Hospital School of Nursing. I have lived in London and Scotland, completing my Midwifery Certificate, and worked both in London hospitals, as well as for wealthy private families, taking care of their newborn babies from birth to 2 months old, 6 days and 6 nights per week!

Nursing took me to many hospitals in Victoria, including the 2 years I worked for the Health Department, and also to WA and Queensland, providing me with some quite overwhelming experiences, which often included the need to call on our fantastic Royal Flying Doctor Service for help. Back in Melbourne, I added Paediatric nursing to my list, then spent time working in a clinic in an Aboriginal community in the NT, where there were even more challenging times to be had.

Some hobbies include: golf, woodwork classes, photography, getting amongst nature and animals and achieving a pilot's licence years ago. My keen interest in plants led me to complete some Horticultural subjects at TAFE, and I enjoy spending time working in my own garden.

I love travelling and exploring, from bush camping for 6 months through Africa, to taking the Trans-Siberian Railway in mid-winter. I like to see animals in their natural habitat, so have been very close to Grizzly bears; I could reach out and touch Humpback whales, and have been amongst colonies of 150,000 penguins. I have a fascination for icebergs and glaciers so have spent time in Arctic regions and Antarctica where I've enjoyed some great activities, such as dog-sledding, going on an ice-breaker ship and sleeping in an igloo. Cuisine varies throughout the world, and I love to try the "specialties" of the region. But the rotting shark meat in Iceland (a delicacy for them), is something never to be tried again!

And I love Australia. I have criss-crossed this country many times, bush camping and driving along some very rough tracks. I had the opportunity to work for some overland tour companies, which allowed me to take overseas tour groups across the countryside. I enjoyed sharing the beauty of this country.....the harshness, the colours of the outback and sand dunes, the carpets of wildflowers in the deserts, the magic sunrises and sunsets that light up the gorges, hearing kangaroos nibble the grass beside me as I slept in the open, hearing the dingos howling, and spotting crocodiles.

I still have a huge "list" of things to do in the future.....

Australian Garden Update and Development

John Arnott

Friday 6 April 2018
9.30 am for 10 am

Australian Garden Auditorium

Members \$15
Non Members \$20
Students \$10

Enquiries:

Barbara Jeffrey
0408 564 379

Over the last couple of years we have been hearing about the RBGV Cranbourne Gardens Master Plan. What does it mean for the Australian Garden? We are fortunate to have John Arnott (Horticulture Manager-Cranbourne) come to talk to us about the changes that we will see, both in the near future and in the years to come, in our much-loved Botanical Gardens at Cranbourne.

One of the issues that John will touch on is the management of the gardens through a multi-discipline approach, including landscape architecture, horticulture as well as visitor and environmental systems management. Developments forecast in the Master Plan for the Australian Garden involve the Potter Lakeside Precinct, the kiosk in the northern section of the garden, better access to the Visitor centre and improved customer service, and rejuvenation of the Southern Display

Gardens. John might also touch on other areas, including continued improvements in the depot and nursery, the Woodlands Picnic area and Stringybark picnic area, and the Special Collections area.

Come and learn about this exciting next stage of the Australian Garden. This will be a walk and talk activity so remember to wear your walking shoes.



A view of the Gondwana Garden.
Photo: Amy Akers

Annual Friends Luncheon

Saturday 21 April
2018
11.30am

Tarnuk Room
Australian Garden
RBGV Cranbourne
Gardens

\$65 per head

Enquiries:

Barbara Jeffrey
5998 5410 or
0408 564 379

It is time to mark 21st April 2018 in your diary for the Annual Friends Luncheon. It is being held a little earlier than in past years as many members will be travelling on the Friends tour to Sicily in May. The Luncheon is a good time to catch up with Friends, enjoy the splendid three course lunch provided by Sorrento Catering and listen to our interesting speaker, Anna Foley.

Anna is the regional Operations Manager for Trust for Nature. She co-ordinates her teams to work with landowners and volunteers to protect and conserve a network of private conservation reserves and covenanted land, totalling nearly 100,000 hectares, across Victoria.

Anna loves collaborating with Trust for Nature's partners to leverage big wins for biodiversity on a landscape scale, and enjoys travelling to regional Victoria to meet landowners who are passionate about protecting habitat.

Prior to working for Trust for Nature, she held senior positions at the National Trust in Victoria, where she focussed on the



Anna Foley, Guest Speaker at Friends Annual Lunch 2018.

conservation of Victoria's natural, built and cultural heritage.

Away from work she enjoys visiting historic gardens and has a particular interest in Australia's significant trees and landscapes.

Please book by 11th April 2018, ensuring that any food requirements are noted on the booking form.



Previous Friends Annual Luncheon

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

The Friends RBG 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 Basketmakers

3rd Saturday of the month

10am - 2pm

Elliot Centre,
RBGV Cranbourne
Gardens

Contact: Lynn Lochrie
0437 759 610

basketry@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

Come along and enjoy a cuppa whilst using native plant materials to create beautiful items to use or decorate with. We are a small group who work on our own projects, and help each other with techniques and materials.

If you haven't done Basketry before, you are most welcome to visit and have a look at what we do. We can chat about sourcing suitable materials, upcoming workshops etc.

We meet in the Elliot Centre on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am to 2pm.

BYO lunch; tea and coffee are provided.



Different types of Basketry. Photo: Lyn Lochrie

Botanical Fabricators

2nd Tuesday of the month

10am

Elliot Centre,
RBGV Cranbourne
Gardens

Contact Gwen Elliot
8774 2483

fabricators@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

For those who are not going away through the holiday season, our monthly get-togethers will continue on December 12 and January 9 at 10am in the Elliot Centre. Please feel free to bring friends and family who are holidaying with you. Visitors are always very welcome.

During August we were delighted to be able to share the pleasure of Dorothea Mitchell celebrating her 94th birthday. Dorothea comes along each month, together with her daughter Jenny Rollason. She works away busily making the decorative neckties or waist-belts which many of us wear proudly at our exhibitions. They are also one of the most popular items on our sales tables, ensuring that Dorothea is kept busy making more.

Don't forget that the dates for next year's Australian Textile Exhibition have changed.

It will now be held from Tuesday May 8th 2018 through to Sunday May 13th (Mothers Day). Further promotion will occur in the Autumn 2018 Naturelink.

Please phone if you need directions to the Elliot Centre or any further information.



Botanical Fabricators' Mini Quilts displayed in Elliot Centre. Photo: Gwen Elliot

Seed Collectors

Meets on an *ad hoc* basis

Contact:
Jan Hamilton
0417057982

seed.collectors@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

We gather and process seed from the bushland for the RBGV Cranbourne seed stock. The seed collected is used by the Growing Friends Nursery and the Gardens for regeneration of the bushland.

Our meetings are irregular, and the peak time for the group is November to March. Most of the 2-3 hour sessions are on Tuesdays, and involve a range of activities: reconnaissance, collection and processing, and documentation.

For the current season, a list of desired seeds has been prepared by the Growing Friends Group, and we are hopeful that a member of the Gardens staff will be available to help us identify and tag plants.

Mandy Thomson (Team Leader Nursery) is coordinating this. Plants are most easily identified when in flower.

Friends who would like to join our small group on our walks around the Gardens and bushland are very welcome.

Growing Friends

3rd Wednesday and every Thursday of the month

Growing Friends Nursery

Contact

Marjanne Rook
Ph 9769 7881 or
Don
Ph 9736 2309

growing.friends@
rbgfriendscranbourne.
org.au

Spring Sale

We were most pleased to hold our Spring plant sale in such beautiful weather. Saturday was the busiest day with some serious, early shoppers ready with their lists for their spring planting. Sunday was somewhat quieter although many Gardens visitors looked over our plants and made purchases – for some the first time they bought an Australian native plant. We are delighted to have made \$13,800!

Western Australia Tour

I was one of the lucky people who went on the Friends Wildflower tour of South-West WA. As well as seeing many wonderful plants, large and small, I was especially taken by the most interesting looking Hakeas and would like the Growing Friends to try to grow some. But first we need to source the seed and then hope for the best. There were of course countless other interesting and gorgeous plants, some of which we may be able to grow in the future.

Poly/Green House

Over the past month we have been upgrading our poly-house by adding a couple of heated benches which were partially funded by a City of Casey Small Equipment Grant. In addition, after some work on our existing benches, we now have 1/3 more bench-space and heat for our plant cuttings.

Spare plants

Should you have a large space to revegetate, below are a few great plants to help fill your space and all are selling quite cheaply from \$0.75 each. *Acacia brownii*, *Carex appresa*, *Leptospermum continentale*, *Leptospermum lanigerum*, *Leptospermum scoparium* and *Spyridium parvifolium*. Contact the Growing Friends if you are interested - details are on this page.

Pots, pots and pots

We love recycling pots and should you have some lying around, please don't hoard or bin them but bring them to us either when coming around to buy more plants or drop them off at our nursery gate sealed in a box or bag. We wash, store and reuse them.



Hakea victoria. Photo: Marjanne Rook



Hakea prostrata. Photo: Marjanne Rook



Hakea amplexicaulis. Photo: Marjanne Rook

Remember that our nursery is open to members every Thursday from 10.00 to 2.00. If you can't come on Thursdays but really wish to buy some plants, contact Marjanne or Don. Contact details are on this page.

Special Orders

As always, if you have any 'plant' wishes, perhaps a plant you have seen in the Gardens or multiple plants for a large area, then contact the Growing Friends with your request and we shall endeavour to grow them or may even have them in stock.

GROWING FRIENDS AUTUMN PLANT SALE

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2018

10am to 4pm both days

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - Cranbourne

Friends in Focus

2nd Saturday of the month at 2pm

Contact

James McKee
0411 102 107

Some members of Friends In Focus joined the recent Friends 2017 WA Tour to see and learn more about Australian plants that come from that part of our big island. While I could not always tell whether I was photographing a flower or a weed which happened to have flowers, there was a lot to photograph and often a challenge to ones' skill set.

However, there were plenty of FIF and others on hand who were happy to guide and assist.

Come along and explore the Cranbourne Gardens with its flora and fauna while at the same time expanding your photographing experience - whether you use a smart phone, a DSLR or something in between.

We gather on the second Saturday of the month.

On the first day of spring, we came across this magnificent *banksia*.

James McKee



Banksia Flower. Photo: James McKee

Friends IN the Gardens

3rd Tuesday of the month at 9.45am

Meet in the Administrative Building Tea Room

Contact:

Christine Kenyon
cekenyon@bigpond.com
or 0438 345 589.

In September, an eager and willing group of four Friends spent their first morning in the Gardens with staff member Jess van der Werff. Our brief for the day: to rake leaves and twigs and tidy the path through the Eucalyptus Gardens. How different the area looked afterwards!

This new group will meet at 9.45 am on the third Tuesday of each month in the Administration building tea room before then spending 2 hours assisting the hort. staff with whatever job needs doing: raking, sweeping, weeding, generally tidying up or - as John Arnott puts it - 'detailing and beautifying' the Australian Garden



Cranbourne Friends 1st day with Jess in the Gardens. L-R: Lyn Blackburne, Jess van der Werff, Edie Paterson and Marj Seaton. Photo: Christine Kenyon

Cranbourne Friends Committee

President: Indra Kurzeme	0408 002 028	Bookings Officers	
Secretary: Helen Kennedy	9560 0185	Marjanne Rook	9769 7881
Vice President: Helen Morrow	9850 9125	Ros Shepherd	5932 5611
Vice President: Amy Akers	0423 513 281	bookings@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au	
Immediate Past President: Richard Clarke	5974 1750	Events Sub Committee	
Treasurer: Karen Russell	9878 4857	Barbara Jeffrey, Coordinator	
Membership Secretary: Helen Morrow	9850 9125	Chloe Foster, Coordinator	
RBGV Representative: Chris Russell	5990 2200	Rodger Elliot	Alex Smart
General Committee		Amy Akers	Lyn Blackburne
Margaret Clarke	5974 1750	Liz McDonald	Marjanne Rook
Rodger Elliot	8774 2483	Ros Shepherd	Marg Kitchen
Chloe Foster	9725 3569	Naturelink Editor: Ashley Michailaros	0408 949 914
Christine Kenyon	9589 2154	naturelink@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au	
Marjanne Rook	9769 7881	Quicklink Editor: Roger Watts	0409 857 664
Rodger Watts	0409 857 664	Social Media Convenor: Amy Akers	0423 513 281

The General Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month (except January) at 6.30pm.

Botanical Illustrators

1st and 3rd
Wednesday of the
month

10am to 3pm

Elliot Centre, RBGV
Cranbourne Gardens

Contact Marg Kitchen
illustrators@
rbgfriendscanbourne.
org.au

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

Summer 2018 Events

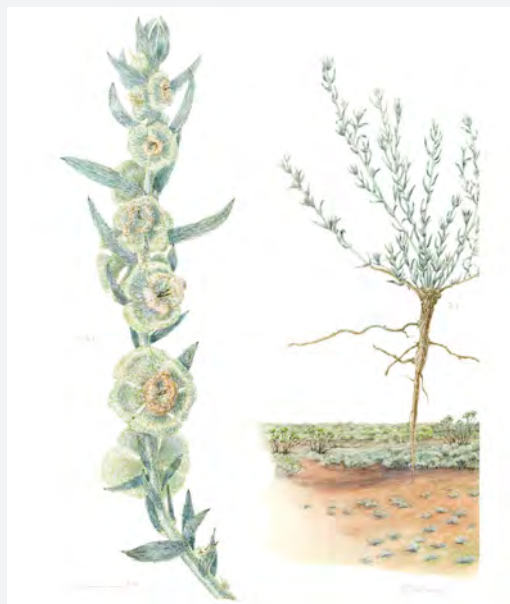
Creative Watercolour Backgrounds

Wednesday 21 February, 2018, 10am for 10.30am
Elliot Centre, RBGV Cranbourne
Cost: \$6

We are pleased to be able to invite Margaret Holloway to give us a talk demonstrating the steps involved in creating water colour backgrounds for our paintings.

Margaret Holloway convened and guided our group of Botanical Illustrators for many years from its inception until her retirement from that position in September 2017. She is a talented artist and teacher, as well as contributor to the Beckler Botanic Bounty project, who will be able to inspire us in this endeavour.

For further information about this workshop contact Margaret Kitchen on 0413 664 295.



Maireana lobiflora by Margaret Holloway

Beckler's Botanic Bounty Talk

An afternoon of adventure, history, botany, art

Date: Sunday, 4th March, 2018, 2pm – 4pm
Venue: Auditorium at RBGV Cranbourne

Botanical Illustrators - Reports of Recent Events

'Native Seduction' Botanical Art Exhibition

1 – 31 August, 2017 at the RBGV Cranbourne Visitor Centre

The RBGV Cranbourne Gardens presented an exhibition by the Friends' Botanical Illustrators describing how a variety of

Visitor Centre

Cost: \$15 Members/Students, \$20 Non-members (includes afternoon tea)

The fate of Burke and Wills on the Victorian Exploring Expedition in 1860 is familiar to most Australians. What is less acknowledged is the considerable scientific legacy left by the scientists who joined the Expedition – surveyor, astronomer, meteorologist, geologist, mineralogist, zoologist and botanist. This last role was fulfilled part-time by medical officer and botanical collector Dr Hermann Beckler.

Beckler was to resign when the Expedition reached Menindee on the Darling River. He remained there awaiting a replacement doctor for the Expedition, and was at last able to make considerable progress with his botanical findings. He sent 120 plant specimens to Ferdinand Mueller at the Melbourne Herbarium, where they are housed today. Only one plant specimen was painted in the field, and this task was never completed.

As part of the recognition of the Expedition on the occasion of its sesquicentenary, a group of Melbourne botanical artists decided to celebrate Dr Hermann Beckler's contribution by revisiting his plant collections made in Menindee. Every year since 2010 a group, led by botanical artist Mali Moir and with generous help from botanist Andrew Denham, has spent time searching for, collecting and pressing specimens for lodgement in the Melbourne and Sydney herbaria, and painting them.

This exciting and challenging project has culminated with the *Beckler's Botanic Bounty Exhibition* at the Ballarat Gallery, to be opened on 27 February by Professor Tim Entwisle, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria.

Join some of the artists for an afternoon to hear about this most enjoyable and challenging project -- the history, the experience of present-day Menindee in outback NSW, the botany, the excitement of the search for plants, and the painting. Details below.

Excursion to Ballarat to see Beckler's Botanic Bounty Exhibition

Date: Wednesday, 14 March, 2018
Meet: Southern Cross Station in time to catch 10.17am V-line train to Ballarat
Entrance: Free
Lunch: Kittelty's at the Ballarat Art Gallery

native Australian plants attract pollinators in order to secure their own reproduction. Our artists-in-residence demonstrated their skills and answered questions each Sunday during the exhibition and visitors were able to meet the artists for informal talks on the 2nd and 16th August. Several hundred visitors

admired the exhibits and some works were sold. We thank our recently retired founder, Margaret Holloway, for bringing this, our first exhibition at RBGVC, to fruition.

Afternoon Talk by Carolyn Landon - 'The Illustrated History of Botanical Illustration'

10th August, 2017 at the Elliot Centre, RBGV Cranbourne

Carolyn Landon, author of "Banksia Lady", the biography of famous botanical illustrator Celia Rosser, gave a talk about the history of botanical illustration at the regular Elliot Centre Open Day.

Carolyn's talk on the history of botanical illustration was based on the Blunt & Stearn book, *The Art of Botanical Illustration*. Her photographs of the Bauer Brothers' work from the Kew Gardens Library include pages from *Curtis Magazine* circa 1790 and first edition prints from the Bauer & Brown *Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae et Insulae Van Diemen*. She also demonstrated the truth of Wilfrid Blunt's statement to Celia Rosser when he looked at her work and then told her that the world had been waiting 200 years for her.

Drawing Foliage Workshop with Geoff Sargeant

To coincide with the Botanical Illustrators exhibition, 'Native Seduction', we were privileged to hold a two day colour pencil workshop with Geoff Sargeant exploring the subtleties of drawing foliage.

Geoff, an architect, works in the medium of colour pencils on fine papers. He is a fellow of the Australian Guild of Realist Artists and has won many prizes for his work in their recent exhibitions. He is also a member of the San Francisco chapter of the Colour Pencil Society of America. His work is represented in local, private, government and overseas collections.

Our workshop with Geoff was attended by ten people of varying skills and experience in botanical art as well as in the main medium for the workshop, coloured pencils. Geoff began with an introduction to both his own work and the background of coloured pencil work – an historical perspective and a very far cry from the 'colouring in' reminiscent of schooldays.

Greens are difficult to create so foliage is an excellent subject for discovering the magic of mixing and layering colours. One of our group is so experienced with this medium that it was hard to differentiate her drawing of a fallen eucalypt leaf from the real subject.

Geoff worked the room constantly, making suggestions, demonstrating; always kind and smiling. Periods of intense concentration were interspersed with a demonstration of his own work, sharing information, resources and ideas. All of us using colour pencils dream of attaining the rich, vibrant intensity and sharp detail which he achieves in his artwork.

The room was warm; we shared a sense of friendship and generosity which made for two delightful days. Come again Geoff.



Geoff Sargeant Workshop

Open House Elliot Centre

2nd Thursday of
the month

1pm to 4pm

Elliot Centre,
RBGV Cranbourne
Gardens

Contact:
Helen Morrow
9850 9125

In July John Arnott (Manager Horticulture at Cranbourne) presented on "Care for the Rare". The project aims to establish a Victorian Regional Conservation Collection with the object of exploring multi-site conservation collections of Victorian rare and threatened species in regional botanic gardens. Initial work has been undertaken to identify interested botanic gardens and assess the capacity of individual sites to participate in the program. Thank you, John for telling us about this very important and fascinating project.

Carolyn Landon came to us in August with a presentation of the History of Botanical Illustration. She showed photographs of the Bauer brothers' work from the Kew Gardens Library and also brought along two large limited edition folios. One was Celia Rosser's *Banksias Volume 1* and the other was prints of *Ferdinand Bauer Flower Paintings* by William Stern with an introduction by Wilfred Blunt.

Thank you, Carolyn for your wonderful

presentation and also giving us a rare chance to see the 2 folios.

Climate Change Research was the subject in September, presented by Roger Francey and Penny Whetton. Roger was the first Director of the new Cape Grim Baseline Air Pollution Station in NW Tasmania and by 1990 played a lead role in establishing CSIRO's Global Atmospheric Sampling Laboratory in Aspendale; he is also CSIRO honorary fellow. Penny is an Honorary Research Fellow with CSIRO's Oceans and Atmosphere Flagship, and with the University of Melbourne. She led CSIRO's national climate change projection work from 1992 until 2014 and was a Lead Author of Assessment reports for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2001, 2007 and 2014.

Thank you, Penny and Rodger for your very informative talks and your willingness to answer questions from the interested audience.

Monash University (Clayton) Discovery Day

Jan Chamberlain

A mighty wind greeted us as we rounded the corner of the multi-storey building in the centre of the Monash Uni Clayton campus. With our guides, Johan de Bree and Mark Corea (former and current Manager Grounds respectively), we were on a whistle-stop tour of the plants and grounds of the campus. Lots of building is underway and Mark is working to implement the 2011 Masterplan.

Back in 1989 Paul Thompson designed one of the first Australian gardens on the campus. There had been wrangling over the plantings for the campus, with Prof. Jock Marshall leading the charge for Australian plants. He had seen Australian plants used very well on campuses in Oxford and UCLA. A compromise was eventually reached with enclosed courtyards being given over to exotic plants. And an on-campus reserve of predominantly indigenous plants is named after him.

Our wanderings took us through:

- The Rainforest Garden which was where we crushed the leaves of *Backhousia anisata* and learnt that the eucalypts sheltered the new rainforest plantings and were supposed to be removed, but that no-one is brave enough to do that
- The Systems Garden, which was planted as a teaching systematics garden with plants grouped in families, and contains a National Trust Significant Tree – the Bat-wing Coral Tree (*Erythrina vespertilio*)
- The Kenneth Hunt Garden, which contains exotic plantings, including an apple tree grown from a cutting of Newton's apply tree and Wisteria
- The West Gate Garden, which again was designed by Paul Thompson and used to be a quagmire. It also contains pieces of the collapsed West Gate bridge as the failure investigation was undertaken at Monash
- The Aboriginal Gardens, containing interpretive signs explaining Aboriginal uses

of the plants

- The Monash Earth Sciences Garden, an innovative 'rock' garden

Pru Perry, of the Monash University School of EAE, explained that this last area contains rock specimens from throughout Victoria. The plants in each individual area reflect the local plants found there. We refreshed our secondary school geology rock knowledge (sedimentary, igneous or metamorphic) and had a go at identifying the rocks.

The Monash Uni gardens are open to the public and you should make the time to visit. Thanks to Chloe Foster for arranging the day.

<https://www.monash.edu/about/our-locations/clayton-campus/gardens-at-clayton/garden-locations-map>

Jan Chamberlain.



Indra in the Earth Science garden. Photo: Jan Chamberlain



Tour Start. Photo: Jan Chamberlain

Membership Update

Please contact Helen Morrow if you have any membership queries:

Phone: 9850 9125; if you leave a message I will return your call

Email: membership@rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

The annual membership renewal for the Friends was due on the 1st July. Following the subscription reminder in the Winter Naturelink I have received lots of payments. Thank you to all who have paid and for your prompt response.

For those who have not yet paid, you will receive a reminder in this newsletter. I hope to hear from you soon.

If you are a member who pays directly into the bank or by transfer, please be sure to use the code 'Subs' and your family name as the reference, and send the renewal form and receipt to me by post or email.

We are delighted to welcome 28 new members this quarter and look forward to meeting them

at some of our activities and special interest groups.

Welcome to Jason Alcock, Jennifer Allerton, Lyhn & Gordon Barfield, Margaret, Willem, Renata & Vanessa Boon, Tom Gleeson, Maree Hart, Kiersten Jorgensen, Cynthia Lai, Norma McDonald, Kerry McLaughlin, Peggy Muntz, Yvonne & Geoff Preston, Rodney Pitt, Debra & Geoffrey O'Brien, Mick Robertson & Gill Read, Carole & David Scholes, Helen Stalder, Jean Svoboda, Yvonne Turner and Arimbi Winoto.

Discovery Day Whale-watching around Phillip Island

Rodger Elliot

About 30 people boarded the *Kasey Lee* at the Rhyll Pier on a sunny Monday 10th July with great expectations - on the understanding that they might not even be realised!

However, after only about 20 minutes we came across two humpback whales cruising along fairly close to the coast just west of Cowes. We followed them at the required safe distance for a lengthy period. They performed very admirably for people with cameras in well-aimed positions and the nearly constant clicking sometimes had the desired result of a tail held above the water; sometimes they were mainly images of deep greyish blue ripples!

We left them and headed for Australia's largest Australian Fur Seal colony at the Nobbies or Seal Rocks. Here we encountered much lurching while crossing a very determined swell as seawater was expelled from Westernport Bay.

The young seals cavorting beside the *Kasey Lee* in a sheltered location kept our minds off the rather strong odours that emanated from the huge population on the exposed rocks.

After leaving the Nobbies and heading along Phillip Island's south coast, someone with excellent eyesight spotted a Southern Right Whale near Pyramid Rock. (Some of us wondered whether the sighting was fair dinkum but apparently it was). We then enjoyed seeing the startling orange granite rock formations that plunge from about 110 metres into the rough and dangerous seas. These very impressive Pinnacles arise as spectacular, erect columns. The granite was quarried for many years.

Arriving back at Rhyll early afternoon, many smiling and contented seafarers were extremely thankful that Alex Smart had organised this adventure!

Discovery Day: Inverloch Dinosaur Dig Family

Finn Renkin and
Will Hansen

This report has been written by two of the children who attended the Discovery Day - Thanks Finn and Will!

On Wednesday the 27th of September 2017 some kids and adults got together at the Bunurong Environment Centre with Mike the Palaeontologist and went to the Inverloch caves on the beach. Before that though, Mike told us some interesting facts and information about archaeological dig sites and dinosaur fossils. The kids had to pass a test about finding dinosaur bones in some rocks. We also had a look around in the shell museum and gift shop. Then we got to the fun part, chiselling and hammering rocks and looking for fossils!



Group inspecting Dinosaur footprint.



Mike Cleeland explaining the original dig site.



Fossil Hunters.

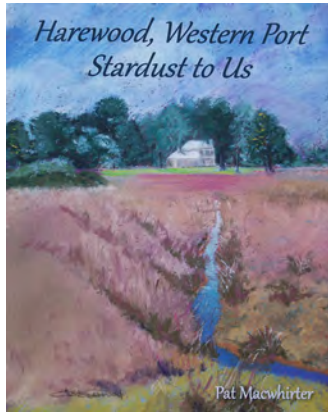
First we went and looked at a dinosaur footprint. Then we did the hammering and chiselling of rocks. Ian found a tree branch with some clay in it. Heather found a plant with seeds as well. We had to be careful so we didn't cause a landslide! After an hour of digging and searching for fossils we had to pack up because the tide was coming in and soon we would be under water. Before we left we went to the remains of a very old volcano and had a look at some lava. When we were about to leave we went and looked at petrified wood and tree stumps.

Sadly it was time to go and we headed back to the environment centre.

Photos: Alex Smart and Greg Runge

Book Review

Robin Allison



Harewood, Western Port Stardust to Us

By Pat Macwhirter

ISBN 9780995351509 (Paperback)
Published by Hilaka Press
Available from the Gardens Shop
RRP \$48

Veterinary Surgeon, Pat Macwhirter, gained her PhD through the National Centre for Australian Studies (Vet Practice Magazine Nov 15, 2016). This book emerged from her thesis, *Harewood, Western Port: a History of the World from an Australian Verandah*.

Macwhirter and her family purchased "Harewood", a heritage-listed property on the north-east shore of Western Port Bay, in 1922. The homestead was built for William Lyall in 1857. The contents of the house, including, most significantly, the extensive library collected by William Lyall in the 1850s, were included in the purchase.

Writing a forward to this book, Tim Flannery acknowledges Macwhirter's wide ranging research, "from earth history to Aboriginal anthropology and Australian colonial history" (page xiii).

Macwhirter (p.3) refers to "primordial stardust of which everything is made". This theme is developed throughout the book, inviting readers to contemplate the stardust

woven over time to make us who we are, and where we are.

Stardust to Us delves deeper into these questions as it opens Harewood's books, explores her buildings and walks across global landscapes to follow her narrative, from the big bang singularity event through the lives and families of Yamerboke the Kulin tribesman, to Dockin the Shetland pony and William Lyall, the Scottish entrepreneur. (page 8)

The book should have special appeal to readers of Naturelink. Pat Macwhirter is a keen member and supporter of the Cranbourne Friends RBGV. Lyall's Inlet, where Harewood stands, is quite close to Cranbourne and shares a common geological, biological and social history. I particularly enjoyed reading about the Lyall family coming to Western Port and the references to Cardinia Creek. Cardinia Creek formed the western boundary of the farm where I spent my childhood. As a little girl, I wondered where the water went. The Boonwurrung people are mentioned frequently, as is the Tarnuk (a wooden vessel for carrying food). The book includes an index and bibliography and is illustrated with many pictures from the Lyall collection.

This book is both "a good read" and a useful reference book, but do not imagine you are going to skip through it over a relaxing weekend. There are three hundred and sixteen thought-provoking pages.

From the Friends Library

Ann Miller,
Honorary Librarian



Peninsula perspectives: vegetation on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria by Winty Calder, was first published in 1975 by the Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne and was sponsored by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and the Victorian State Government. It is located on the shelves with other natural history books at "P". Having spent so many holidays on the Peninsula at the beach house which my parents built over 70 years ago at Frankston South, albeit just on the northern edge of the Peninsula, I was fascinated by this book when it first appeared. There is so much botanical history of the area.

The book begins with the "Pristine Peninsula" followed by the impact of European settlement. *Leptospermum laevigatum*, the coastal tea tree, was originally restricted to a narrow zone near cliff tops or on sand dunes close to high tide level; the inland spread of this species is a direct consequence of disturbance by European man. It spread over the Nepean Peninsula after the open woodland of *Casuarina stricta* (now known as *Allocasuarina verticillata*) was destroyed in the middle of the nineteenth century to provide fuel for kilns and for the bakeries of Melbourne. This is much a social history as a botanical history. During the early 1930s, tree ferns were removed from

the gullies of Arthurs Seat and Red Hill and the removal of other species allowed for the invasion of boneseed; the upper areas were cleared for orchards and pasture. The foreshore between Mount Martha and Mornington changed as *Casuarina stricta* and *Eucalyptus viminalis* were cleared, again replaced by a dense scrub of *Leptospermum laevigatum*.

The next section is devoted to a description and drawings of the six *Eucalyptus* species that grow naturally on the Mornington Peninsula. This is followed by a chapter devoted to coastal communities: salt marshes and mangroves of Westernport Bay, open-grassland and scrub on coastal sand dunes and communities of low growing shrubs on coastal cliffs. Another chapter is entitled "Important remnants" covering Greens Bush, Sandy Point, Quail Island/Chinaman Island, Arthurs Seat, Point Nepean and Langwarrin Military Reserve.

Interspersed through the text are maps, tables, photographs and drawings by Anita Podwyszyński (now Barley).

A 2nd edition was published in 1986 with some additional information; maybe someone has a copy, which they would like to give to the Library?

Mitch Smith – Sex, Lies & Seduction; Fascination of Orchid Pollination

Rodger Elliot

This talk, on Sunday 13th August, really lived up to its title, with Mitch Smith taking his audience of about 50 on a stimulating, almost unbelievable journey.

If not able to attend, you certainly missed an exceptional afternoon!

We learnt about the ground-breaking work of Mitch and Rudie Kuiter in identifying many of Victoria's orchid pollinators. Their work, believed to be the most comprehensive to date, has identified over 150 pollinators of our terrestrial orchids. The pollination of Australian plants has previously been little understood, yet plants definitely require pollinators to ensure their continued existence.

We heard that the orchid populations are excellent indicators of the general health of regions and the presence and number of pollinators is indicative that the ecosystems are in balance.

The important pollinator groups are Hymenoptera (including bees, sawflies, wasps and ants), Diptera (two-winged and true flies) and Coleoptera (beetles). Mitch stressed the importance of the often much-maligned flies as pollinators. He also mentioned that there are a number of insects which might appear to be pollinators but which are in fact just visiting flowers to rob them of food.

Recently Mitch and Rudie observed the pollinator of a Helmet Orchid (*Corybas* species) that had previously only been seen in the early 1970s by David Jones. David was one of very few people during that period trying to observe terrestrial orchid pollinators.

The photography was staggeringly beautiful and so revealing. Some of the pollinators were only about 1mm long, yet here they were for us to observe at close range on the screen, clearly enough to be identified as male or female!

Mitch explained that trying to observe pollinators can entail lengthy periods on one's belly - and having to deal with very interested mosquitoes, because he and his co-workers often gain their best results in temperatures of over 40°C. At this temperature pollinators are extremely active! On some occasions however, many hours lying in the one spot can be completely fruitless.

The mechanisms of pollination were fascinating and shown through wonderful images covering sexual deception, floral deception, food reward and self-pollination.

The accompanying image of the *Cryptostylis subulata* with Ichneumon wasp is an example of sexual deception as the orchid emits a pheromone that attracts the wasp. That orchids have evolved such a number of pollination mechanisms is truly remarkable.

One suggestion from the audience was that it would be wonderful for a university with a strong biological science presence to link up with Mitch and Rudie, as this could make their research more valuable and spread it to a wider audience.

Rudie and Mitch have published a number of books on orchid pollination which can be purchased via specialist booksellers as well as on websites.



Cryptostylis subulata and Ichneumon wasp in pollination position. Photo: Mitch Smith



Wasp pollinating a *Caladenia tenticulata* flower. Photo: Mitch Smith



CRANBOURNE FRIENDS

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS VICTORIA

*The Committee of the Cranbourne Friends would like to wish you a
Happy New Year!*

See you in the Gardens in 2018