

Jubaea



Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Inc Newsletter

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FRIENDS OF
GEELONG
BOTANIC
GARDENS



Two Gardens for the 21st Century

2012 marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of the 21st Century Garden. It is also the year to celebrate another botanic garden milestone with the completion of Stage Two of the Australian Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne.....

There are strong parallels between these two projects; both are celebrations of contemporary landscape designs coupled with challenging and relevant horticultural agendas. Both gardens are in essence display gardens where the main objectives are not necessarily 'scientific' or where the plant collections could be considered an end in themselves. The plants and collections in both gardens reflect much broader themes. The 21st Century Garden set out to be a sustainable garden and to capture the diversity of plants both native and exotic that are adapted to low water requirements – plant evolution is also reflected

in this garden with much of the south west border dedicated to plants of ancient origins. The Australian Garden, through a series of distinct planting precincts, sets out to capture the beauty and diversity of our native flora and tell the story of water in the Australian landscape.

Recent market research at the RBGC has indicated that visitors are captivated by the experience of the Australian Garden and are genuinely interested to find out information about the garden and more generally about native plants, their natural distribution, ecology, horticultural applications and cultivation requirements. Similarly a study of the 21st Century Garden by Burnley student Elisabeth Addison indicated that visitors to this garden value the garden as a beautiful and interesting landscape. But they also recognised, through design, plants and interpretation, that the garden articulates sustainable landscape principles and water conservation messages. Our gardens are clearly about both people and plants. The role we share as botanical and cultural organisations is expressed through the visitor experience, where the enjoyment of our distinct plants and landscapes defines our Gardens.

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Winter Postcards

Photographs for this edition have been supplied by:

Helena Buxton and Jenny Possingham



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- 1: Winter Yarn Bombing @ GBG
- 2: Ro and Judy enjoying a morning coffee at the Teahouse
- 3: "Walking in the Rain" with Cathy McDonald
- 4: Growing Friends enjoying the weekly Wednesday morning tea
- 5: Robyn Lewis puts finishing touches to her entry for Melbourne
- 6: Little folk with origami sailing boats at "Walking in the Rain"

From the President

As I write, it is only a day or so after our Annual Meeting when a new Committee of Management was elected to lead the Friends for the year 2012/13. The Committee has rearranged itself with members changing positions as well as some new members joining and two long standing members retiring. Helena Buxton did not seek re-election as President, and I accepted nomination for that role. I am honoured to accept the position taking over from Helena, who led the Friends through a period of significant change in our organisation, and set us up to move forward in supporting and celebrating the Geelong Botanic Gardens into the future.

The Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and your Committee. My background is as a botanist, though I hasten to add that my studies were more about sticking plants in a blender and seeing what they could still do after separating out the sub-cellular particles than actually identifying and classifying plants. After playing around in laboratories at university, and having two children I qualified as a secondary science teacher with the idea that such a qualification would give me a more portable career as our family moved from one side of the world to the other (twice). I first came to Geelong in 1983 and have been a member of the Friends since returning to Australia from overseas in 2003. Like many members, I was approached by then President, Jayne Salmon to volunteer with the Friends, in my case to train as a Volunteer Guide and to assist in the delivery of the Friends Education Programs. I am looking forward to continuing to work on the Committee with Helena Buxton who takes up a position as Vice-President, supporting myself and our organisation with her experience gained over recent years. Judith Trimble, an Art and Architectural Historian, is the second Vice-President. We are fortunate in having Judy Fyfe continue her role as Treasurer. Judy is a volunteer with the Growing Friends and brings with her a strong financial background as well as enthusiasm for making things grow. Luanne Thornton, our Friends' Librarian, takes over the position of Secretary from Helen Rodd who remains on Committee. Jayne Salmon returns as an elected member of the Committee having been ex-officio for the past 3 years as the previous President. She has a wealth of experience with the Friends behind her. Our remaining Committee members are Susanna Keith, Anthea Williams and Don Spittle. Susanna is a long-term Committee member and past Tea House volunteer. Anthea and Don are both new to the Committee and are members of the Growing Friends. I hope that they will find their time on the Committee of Management rewarding.

Finally, I would like to thank our retiring committee members, Diana Sawyer and Cherry Collins who step back from Committee to enjoy their time with the Friends as a Volunteer Guide and Growing Friend respectively.

Life members

Helen Buxton, Diana Sawyer and Roz Hill were each awarded Honorary Life Membership of the FGBG at our recent AGM. All three have given sustained service to our organisation over a long period of time. Roz Hill has for many years coordinated the activities of the Growing Friends and overseen the operation of the Friends' Nursery which provides quality plants for sale to the public, sourced from the Geelong Botanic Gardens. Diana Sawyer has volunteered with the Friends in a number of areas.



Many will know her as coordinator of our hugely popular Music in the Gardens series. Diana has also been a Tea House Volunteer, a Volunteer Guide and presenter of Discovery Program walks, as well as an active member of the Committee of Management. Although she has stepped down from her roles with Music in the Gardens and on Committee, she remains active with the Volunteer Guides. We were also very happy to be able to honour Helena Buxton with Life Membership. Helena has had a long association with the Friends, but most will know her as the immediate Past President. Helena took on President of the Friends in a period of significant change as the Committee tackled a number of difficult and sometimes uncomfortable issues. It is due to her hard work and vision that we are now well placed to look forward to a strong future, supporting and celebrating the Geelong Botanic Gardens.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all three for their untiring work on behalf of the Friends and look forward to their on-going involvement with our organisation.

Members Programs @FGBG

The Friends offer a wide range of programs and activities to support the Gardens, both directly and indirectly as well as activities which are primarily for our members and their friends. These programs can be broadly separated into Public Programs which reach out to the wider community and Members Programs which are aimed primarily at our members.

Annette, in her Director's report, outlines the range of Public Programs @ GBG. These programs reflect the strong partnership between the Friends and the City of Greater Geelong as we work together to promote the aims of Botanic Gardens internationally and to engage in meaningful ways with visitors to the Gardens, whether they are participating in formal education programs or as recreational users.

The Friends also provide a number of additional programs, some of which overlap somewhat with Public Programs. Members Programs raise money to support our organisation, bring people into the Gardens and provide social activities for our friends.

Our Members Programs and Public Programs are all linked by a commitment to the Geelong Botanic Gardens and supported by our office, our website (www.friendsgbg.org.au) and *Jubaea*.

I look forward to nurturing a close working relationship with the management of the GBG, to the continued development of our Public and Members Programs, and to support and celebrate the Geelong Botanic Gardens as a place for plants and people, discovery and learning, ideas and innovation, engagement and pride, conservation, environment and quiet contemplation.

Jenny Possingham

At the RBG Cranbourne stage two of the Australian Garden is due for completion in October and completes the vision for the Australian Garden. As with stage one Taylor Cullity Lethlean, with Paul Thompson were the design team. A similar approach to that of the first stage has been undertaken with a series of distinct planting precincts, each with its own landscape character and associated vegetation. The design for stage two focuses on the eastern seaboard of Australia with its rivers, forest, coastal vegetation and urban landscapes.

The following is brief description of the stage two precincts:

The River Walk: This is located at the end of the Rockpool Waterway and is a space for picnics, with seating in a small performance amphitheatre. The planting in this area is dominated by stands of *Tristaniopsis laurina* affording filtered views to the water and the hills beyond.

Howson Hill: This is a major topographic feature of the new Garden and emerges from the waterway. A walk along the ridgeline will provide access to a range of Mallee Eucalypts underplanted with a rich array of flowering shrubs and ground covers. The planting on this hill is perhaps the most naturalistic of any of the garden precincts with much diversity in the understorey plantings.

The Cultivar Garden, Horticultural Research Plots and Arbour Garden: These precincts are adjacent to the hill and will provide interesting displays of different garden plants, cultivars and varieties. The Cultivar Garden is just that, a garden of cultivars presented in strong banded displays of form and colour graduating in height from small herbaceous plants to taller hedging and screening plants. Adjacent to this garden are the Horticultural Research plots which aim to be a “window” into the role of botanic gardens in researching, cultivating and displaying Australian plants. The Arbour Garden will display a range of Australian climbers on a series of climbing frames.

Another prominent landscape feature, Gibson Hill, will be dominated by the blue-foliaged *Acacia binervia* and *Atriplex paludosa* (Collected from the Geelong Waterfront!). A winding path will provide access to the top of the Hill, where seating and viewing platforms will offer a place to rest with elevated views to the Red Sand Garden and Rockpool Waterway.

Weird and Wonderful Garden: This interesting garden will focus attention on the strange unusual and beautiful forms associated with the Australian flora. It’s an eclectic mix of plants all exhibiting “weird or wonderful” characteristics such as strange or interesting form, large fruit and flowers or interesting pollination mechanisms/biology.

Melaleuca Spits: This is a coastal inspired garden with the structural plantings being strong bands of *Melaleuca liniariifolia* providing a striking vista from the River Walk Precinct.

Northern Display Gardens: The journey of water from the arid centre to the urban landscapes on Australia’s coastal margins in many respects culminates in these five-display gardens to the very north of the site. These gardens represent different urban themes all exploring important ‘take home’ practical messages.

A key element of Stage Two of the Australian Garden design is an open-air event precinct, the **Ian Potter Event Precinct**, which in practical terms is an expansive area of lawn to be used for a range of public events. Whilst there are numerous examples of lawns that have been established with native grass species, these have typically been established on smaller scales than these and without the pressures of being in heavily trafficked public spaces. The RBG are exploring the use of native grasses for this area and are undertaking a range of trial/research activities relating to the suitability of *Hemarthria uncinata* as the base grass. From day one the lawn will be a combination of native and exotic grasses with the view to having an exclusively native lawn once we have established just how to deliver an attractive, functional and hard wearing turf with native grasses

The Forest Garden and Gondwana Garden: This extends along the western flank of the Australian Garden. Over time these gardens will provide visitors with an immersive experience, that of being in a forest with canopy and under storey becoming more lush and enveloping. Moving through the Walk from north to south will take visitors from an area of Australian rainforest plants with a focus on species with Gondwana origins, through to the progressively more structured layout of the eucalypt “fingers” of the existing **Eucalypt Walk** in stage one.

The second and last stage of the Australian Garden will be opened on 19 October 2012...almost exactly 10 years to the date that the 21st Century Garden (which opened on the 2 November 2002). I have been in a privileged position to be involved with both gardens. They are distinctly different gardens but both aspire to engage our visitors and provide opportunities to engender a broader appreciation of plants, their beauty, applications, ecology and conservation.

John Arnott

‘A tour of Cranbourne RBG’ will be offered to FGBG Members in March 2013, full details will be posted in the Summer edition of Jubaea.

Seeking Volunteers for Music In the Gardens

Music in the Gardens needs Friends. Do you have time to help with this very popular February event? To reduce the pressure on concert days a volunteer briefing is being held during November. This will ensure all helpers are provided with the necessary information before they arrive on event days. To hold a successful series we need over 60 people to volunteer throughout the four-week season. Remember, ... “many hands make light work”. Register your interest by contacting Tracey Christie at the Friends Office on 5222 6053.

All MITG volunteers will receive two free tickets to use at an alternative concert during the 2013 season as our appreciation for your help with the MITG Season.

A Spring Guide's Diary Note:

Discovery at the Geelong Botanic Gardens takes many forms. As a volunteer guide, I like to think that my task is to help other people discover our Gardens. However, sometimes the boot is on the other foot.

As part of my role on the FGBG Committee I spend most Wednesdays in and around the Friends office and GBG Meeting Room. Wednesdays are a good time to meet people and sometimes to get a bit of work done in a friendly and lively atmosphere. In this way I have now got to know many of the 'Growing Friends' who meet on Wednesday mornings as well as the 'WAGtails', a group of Botanic Artists who gather together for studio time in the convivial surroundings of the meeting room on a Wednesday afternoon.

It was my contact with this latter group that led to my latest discovery.

Botanic Artists excel at noticing and interpreting the fine detail in plants. Rosemary Donnelly had been out in the Gardens when she noticed fallen seeds from the Indian chestnut that had started to sprout. A quick search of the ground under the tree revealed a whole series of seeds at various stages of germination.



The first I knew was Helena's urgent call "Jenny, you've got to come and see this". Given the urgency of the call, I was expecting a sizable spider or at least something that would not last long. What was revealed was a tray of Indian chestnut seedlings. Rosemary had laid the seeds out to show the stages of germination, from the first split in the seed coat that revealed the root radical, through to a young seedling, with the first leaves just starting to unfurl.

Together we examined each seedling, while Rosemary explained to me how, during the early stages of germination, the seed is sitting on the surface, but that as the root develops, the seed is pulled down into the soil so that only the shoot is visible. We both marvelled at the way the root twists around the seed to grow down into the soil and how the shoot radical emerges from the root near the seed. It then grows upwards towards the light, all surrounded by a frilly pink and cream collar!

I'm sure that the sequence of seedlings would make a wonderful painting and perhaps Rosemary will choose them as a subject for one of her works, but I am content to have been invited into the world of fine detail – and to take a few snaps on my camera!

Jenny Possingham

Grower's Notes

When the Growing Friends heard about the Indian chestnut seedlings they raced out into the gardens to collect the sprouting seeds, before they succumbed to a frenzy of weeding from our efficient GBG Gardens staff. The fresh sprouts were quickly potted up at the Friends' Nursery.

The Indian chestnut is amongst those plants that set a seed that needs to be planted fresh to ensure good germination. Other plants from our Gardens with this characteristic are the Ginkgo and the Black Bean tree. Seedlings of all three trees are now available from the Friends' Nursery on Wednesday mornings or at our next seasonal sale on the last weekend in October.

Out and About

A new column to keep members up to date about the networks and wider activities of the FGBG

BGANZ Victorian meeting at Williamstown

On August 9, Helena Buxton, Jenny Possingham and Anthea Williams, represented the FGBG at the Annual meeting of the Victorian branch of BGANZ (Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand) at Williamstown. The theme of the day was Restoring Heritage Landscapes with presentations on three exciting restoration projects: The Carlton Gardens 'Parterre and Scroll Garden' reconstruction; the restoration of 'The Cascades' at Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens; and Williamstown Botanic Gardens restoration of the 'Ornamental Lake'. It was fascinating to hear the stories of these three projects and discover the parallels with our own gardens and the challenges they face.

AFBG conference

A group from the Friends attended the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference "Mangroves, Myalls and More" at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden at Port Augusta in August. The keynote speaker was Professor Chris Daniels, who spoke on "Back Yards, the most important Room in the House". Judy Fyfe gave a short presentation on the experiences

and lessons learned with the FGBG over the last 2 years. Annie McGeachy was elected as secretary of AFBG.

Education Forum

On Wednesday August 15, the FGBG hosted a forum to discuss Learning Partnerships at the Geelong Botanic Gardens. The afternoon was well attended by teachers from a number of primary and secondary schools in the Geelong area, who were interested to hear about the Botanic Gardens and how they can participate with the FGBG and GBG to develop education opportunities and incorporate our resources into their programs.

From the FGBG office

There have been a few changes in the office in recent months. Simon Dawe resigned at the end of June to take up opportunities to return to work in Asia. Tracey will now work every day except Tuesday when members of the FGBG committee will open the office. If you are interested in the past year's activities the FGBG President's Report for the 2011 – 2012 year can be found in 'News and Views' on the Friend's Website.

Director's Report

Public Programs @GBG

Central to Geelong Botanic Gardens primary role in plant conservation is the provision of public programs that engage generational interest in the world of plants. We are developing a strategy called Public Programs @GBG that focuses on engaging our community. Successful implementation of the strategy will develop the capacity for our future Visitor Precinct to be a vibrant and engaging place.

Public Programs @GBG can be viewed as a seed pod in which a series of seeds nestle. Some of these seeds have germinated and are already growing. In partnership with the GBG the Friends have grown Discovery Walks, botanical illustration classes, an education program and public events. In partnership with tertiary institutions and industry partners the GBG has grown a pre-apprenticeship program, training for tertiary students and themed plantings in the Central Bed which are interpreted to a range of visitors. All of these public programs share our passion for plants with the community.

The strategy for Public Programs @GBG focuses on germinating the rest of the seeds in the pod. These seeds represent opportunities and over time the GBG will be developing them into new initiatives and partnerships. They will be germinated by implementing a 'whole of garden approach' where key messages are embedded in all elements of the real or virtual visitor experience.

Our first initiative is **Simply Green @GBG**. Our theme is sustainable gardening and has three primary elements:

1. **Green Mulch** – our Central Bed display will showcase groundcover plantings as an alternative to inorganic and organic mulch. Beyond the GBG the City's Parks

Department is using 'green mulch' to rejuvenate plantings in parks.

2. **Water: Eastern Park & GBG Irrigation** – our successful stormwater harvest dam will come into its own as we share its stories with the community, regional schools and industry professionals. The dam will provide recycled water to our irrigation system as it is retrofitted in stages over the next few years.
3. **Open Garden @GBG** - first held in 2010 this event focuses on engaging interest in plants and hands on horticulture through 'meeting the experts' who include GBG staff, Friends and special interest groups.

Holistic messages to grow interest in Simply Green @GBG will be given via interpretive information in the garden, on our website, through Discovery Walks and a program of activities. The opportunities to explore new delivery methods that will engage new audiences are boundless.

Gardeners know that germinating a seed is just the beginning of nurturing and Simply Green @ GBG offers many opportunities for the Friends to support us in growing this initiative. For example those inspired by our Green Mulch display could have the opportunity to purchase green mulch plants through the Growing Friends for their own garden.

The opportunity to develop partnerships beyond the garden to enhance the delivery of the Public Programs @GBG strategy is an exciting prospect. Simply Green @GBG is the beginning of a new way of engaging people in the world of plants and I look forward to sharing our journey with you.

Annette Zealley

Director Geelong Botanic Gardens

From the Library

Our first curator, Daniel Bunce, wrote his *Manual of practical gardening: adapted to the climate of Van Diemen's Land, containing ... directions ... for every month of the year* in 12 monthly parts from July 1837 to June 1838. A second and third edition was published in 1850 and 1851 as *The Australian Manual of Horticulture*. Mr. Bunce was obviously well aware of the needs of Tasmanian and Victorian colonists to grow their own fruit and vegetables. They wanted advice on suitable produce that would succeed in these climates.

The situation for householders was very different from today when supermarkets are in every suburb and shopping has become a daily affair for many people. At that time country people would have shopped for the staples of flour, sugar, tea etc. every three or six months or more. In the meantime they grew as much as they could and usually kept a milking cow and hens.

Today's kitchen garden movement, exemplified by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program has been a great success and has spawned gardens and cooking programs in many schools around Victoria and other parts of Australia as well as a wide range of books.

Bunce's Manual of Practical Gardening, published in facsimile edition by the FGBG, is still relevant for today's gardener. Penny Woodward, author and organic gardener, recently addressed local gardeners at West Geelong and commented; "I looked to see what I should be doing this month and found that I should be sowing spinach and parsnip seed, planting

out cabbage and cauliflower seedlings, blanching endive and manuring artichoke plants. All still absolutely right and relevant today, nearly 175 years later. The pages are full of gardening wisdom, such as this last comment for July; *'Every part of the garden should now be kept very clean (of weeds), as if the seeds are suffered to grow they will get ahead and prove troublesome all the following season.'*"

Penny's recent book *Pest-repellent Plants* (reviewed by Gail Thomas) has divided the plants and recipes in this volume into four categories; those that will kill pests; actively repel them; those that can mask the scents of plants targeted by pests; and those that will kill or control fungi and bacteria. Importantly, it is imperative to take an holistic approach in maintaining a balance between pests and predators.

Annie Smithers has also developed a kitchen garden, at *'Annie Smithers' Bistrot'* which supplies her restaurant in Kyneton where she sells copies of her own *Annie's Garden to Table* as well as Bunce's *Manual of Practical Gardening*. Annie is a great believer in using fresh organic produce with minimal food miles. With gardener Simon Rickard they have turned the half-hectare property into a garden supplying 90% of the restaurant's vegetables and fruit.

Nearly 170 years after it was first published, Bunce's manual is still relevant for today's gardeners. Copies are available from the FGBG office

Luanne Thornton

Botanicals And Vessels 1

...This winter our Friday Tutor Dolores Malloni offered Vessels 1, a two day workshop, that took the Friends in a new botanical direction...

It was time for the Winter workshop, what could be better than to explore something new..... The idea was to use preliminary drawings of botanical artwork and adapt these designs for the decoration of a vessel.

Inspiration for the shape of the bowl, plate or vessel was drawn from old porcelain or earthenware forms. Students made reference to Chinese, Japanese, Mediterranean, English and American pottery. Some students simply designed a shape to suit. Once the research was complete the real excitement followed.....

The shape of a 13th century porcelain bowl was used by Suellen Simpson to design her bowl, using partially skeletonised leaves and rendering them in blue and white she produced a with a clean pure, flowing line. STUNNING !!!

Mal Osborne - Collins based her design on a 16th century, pharmaceutical, Mediterranean, earthenware jar, using drawings from her collection of chillies, grown in the GBG's Central Bed. Mal's design is interesting, colourful, well executed and warm. BEAUTIFUL !!!

This workshop was so successful that another is already planned in the diary.

BOTANICALS AND VESSELS 2 is scheduled for 14 /15 January 2013.

Dolores Sk – Malloni



Discovering the Geelong Botanic Gardens

How well do you know our Gardens? Would you like to know more? Do you have an interest in interpreting our gardens for visitors, young or old(er)?

For over 25 years, our volunteer guides have had a key role in providing interpretive services to visitors to our gardens. Volunteer guides take groups on tours of the gardens as well as presenting our popular Discovery Walk series, which explore the gardens thematically. This year has also seen the introduction of a Discovery Table on Sunday afternoons where volunteers provide a hands-on experience for visitors. We have also introduced an expanded Family Discovery Program for those with young children.

A new group of Friends will start their own journey of Discovery on Monday mornings during fourth term starting on Monday October 8. These sessions will be based around some of our most popular walks backed up by a number of workshop sessions which will enable participants to build on their skills to become confident ambassadors for our Gardens.

This program is for anyone who wants to get to know the Geelong Botanic Gardens better. Participants may be interested in volunteering on the Discovery Table, training to become a Volunteer Guide, willing to assist with the Public Programs (including School Programs), a member of the Growing Friends Group or any other interested member of the FGBG. Those people who are not interested in the delivery of Public Programs at the GBG are welcome to attend individual sessions which interest them.

For more information on Discovering the Geelong Botanic Gardens, please leave your name and contact details at the FGBG Office.

What's on Events, dates for the diary

September

- What:** **Discovery Walk – ‘SHIFTING CONTINENTS’**
- plants of the Southern Hemisphere, discover botanical and geological connections with our neighbours in Africa, around the Pacific Rim, in South America and south to Antarctica
- When:** Sunday 16 September, 2.00 pm - no booking required
- Where:** Meet your Guide at the front steps of GBG
– gold coin donation
- What:** **Discovery Walk – Tunes, Tones and Treble Clefs: “MUSICAL TREES”** – explore the many associations between trees and music: from inspiration and composition to the use of plants in making music and musical instruments.
- When:** Sunday 30 September, 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - no booking required
- Where:** Meet your Guide at the front steps of GBG
– gold coin donation

October

Botanic Art Classes @ fgbg

Term 4 Class Dates, 9 weeks
October 8 to December 7

- What:** **‘GUILFOYLE’S GARDEN’ – Friends of RBG Melbourne present** - 100 years since the death of William Guilfoyle, learn about his legacy and influence on landscape and plantings in Botanical Gardens and Victoria’s Western District Gardens with Lynsey Poore.
- When:** Thursday 11 October, 10.30 am –
Morning Tea served at 10.00 am
- Where:** GBG Meeting Room - gold coin donation.
- What:** **Childrens Week: ‘FOLLOW YOUR NOSE’;**
Nose-on stories and activities for preschool children.
- When:** Thursday 25 October, 45 min sessions, 10.00 am, 11.00 am & 12 noon
- Where:** Meet on the GBG Teahouse Lawn
Bookings essential @ FGBG office 5222 6053 - Free
- What:** **Family Discovery Walk – ‘FOLLOW YOUR NOSE’ -**
Nose-on Discovery activities for all the family
- When:** Sunday 28 October, 2.00 pm – no booking required
- Where:** Meet your Guide at the front steps of GBG
– gold coin donation
- What:** **Growing Friends’ Spring Plant Sale** - make the most of the warming soils and spring growth, the Friends Nursery is at its best in Spring. On Saturday a table of second hand books will also be on offer at very reasonable prices for the avid garden book reader.
- When:** Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
- Where:** Growing Friends’ Nursery, rear of GBG, vehicle entry via rear carpark.
- What:** **Capturing Flora, 300 years of Australian botanical art** - Join the Friends on a tour of the Art Gallery of Ballarat to view an exhibition featuring a magnificent collection of Botanic Art. The tour will also take a guided walk of Ballarat Botanic Gardens.
- When:** Monday 29 October, departing 8.30 am – returning 4.00 pm
- Where:** Meet at Gate 3 Carpark to join the Bus Tour.
- Cost:** \$35 members, \$45 non – members – bookings essential
Morning tea at Mt Buninyong, BYO lunch at Ballarat Botanic Gardens

November

- What:** **Botanic Masterclass with Hillary Parker**
From New York, Hillary Parker is an internationally renowned Botanic Artist visiting Australia during November. Join a Masterclass and learn new skills and different approaches to Botanic Art, suited to those with advanced skills - minimum 2 terms of Botanic Art classes a prerequisite.
- When:** Wednesday 14 November, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm
- Where:** GBG meeting Room
- Cost:** members: \$110 - non members \$125
- What:** **Discovery Walk – ‘AUSTRALIAN GARDENS – EUROPEAN STYLE’.** Celebrate 10 years of the 21st Century Gardens and see how they’ve grown
- When:** Sunday 18 November, 2.00 pm - no booking required
- Where:** Meet your Guide at the front steps of GBG
– gold coin donation
- What:** **Spring Welcome & Discovery Walk .**
An invitation to new and old Friends to come together and enjoy the Gardens, learn about our activities and events and be introduced to the resources in the GBG meeting room.
- When:** Wednesday 21 November, 10.00 am
- Where:** Meet your Host @ the front steps of the GBG
- What:** **“Through the Garden Gates”**
A self drive tour of six Gardens, clustered across the Bellarine
Gardens of Friends will be open throughout the day, starting with a guided tour of a rarely opened private garden. Choose the order of your visits, the time you spend lingering and your place for BYO lunch.
- When:** Monday 26 November, 10.00 am start, 4.30 pm finish
- Where:** A full program will be listed in “What’s On @ GBG” early November
- Cost:** \$25 members, \$35 non – members - contact FGBG Office for tickets
Afternoon tea is included and will be served @ Arundel, from 3.00 pm, where house and garden will be open to relax and enjoy.

December

- What:** **Christmas Celebrations** – Join Members, Volunteers and GBG Staff to herald the end of another wonderful year with the Friends @ GBG
- When:** Monday 3 December, 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm
- Where:** Walnut Lawn, Geelong Botanic Gardens
Free to Members, help us with the catering and make your booking.
- What:** **Discovery Walk – ‘FERNS FLOWERS AND FOUNTAINS – The Raddenberry Legacy.** Our second curator, John Raddenberry had a huge impact on the development of our gardens. Join us to discover what remains of his plantings and how his designs influenced the shape of our gardens today.
- When:** Sunday 9 December, 2.00 pm - no booking required
- Where:** Meet your Guide at the front steps of GBG
– gold coin donation

For all bookings Contact the FGBG Office on 5222 6053

To keep up with everything that is happening at the GBG and with the Friends, make sure your email is registered at the Friends Office so that you can receive our monthly What’s On @GBG.