



Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden, Inc. Newsletter August 2010

No.8



Photo: Lake Melton Botanic Garden

What's on in August

5th and 7th Woodgrove Promotion for John Patrick

8th Sunday 10am-noon Clean Up Day & Waterwatch

Melton Botanic Garden – Meet at rotundas

11th Wednesday 7.30pm Annual General Meeting
with photo competition – bring your best photos
See page 3.

12th Thurs. 10-noon Grow the Garden
Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

25th Sunday 10-noon Grow the Garden
Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden
with Conservation Volunteers Australia

What's on in September

8th Wednesday 7.30pm

Meeting: Guest Speaker: John Patrick - Gardening Australia

9th Thurs. 10-noon Grow the Garden
Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

12th Sunday – Field Trip
Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne

24th Friday 6.45-7pm FMBG Social Dinner
Melton Country Club – *contact Lynette 9747 9034*

26th Sunday 10-noon Grow the Garden
Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

FMBG Monthly Meeting Venue

Monthly meetings are usually held at the DJ Cunningham Centre in Exford Rd, Melton South (Melways 342 K3) at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday night of each month.

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

FMBG logo badges

Keep wearing your badge to meetings, in public etc – we are being noticed! – show your badge for a discount at the Newport Indigenous Nursery

FMBG Monthly Meeting

11th August Wednesday 7.30pm



AGM

and

Photo Competition

Bring along your photos

Categories: Wildlife and plants, botanic garden scenes, flowers, close-up of plants, people and botanic gardens, objects and plants and a general section for anything else.

DJ Cunningham Centre, Exford Rd, Melton South,
Melways 342 K3

For information contact Jill Bentley: 9743 3819

AGM and FMBG Executive Positions

The AGM is on the 11th August. We need an Executive Committee of eight. We are looking for some new faces on the Executive as two members are moving on.

Please start to consider yourself or anyone you know who should be nominated for an executive position. The AGM is only one month away – so put your thinking and motivation caps on.

Executive Committee

Next Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday 27th July at 7.30pm – meeting at Bentley's place.

Propagating for FMBG Plant Sales

We have plant sales throughout the year.

If you wish to assist with propagation and growing some plants please contact Margaret Peters on 5367 3328

Eucalyptus Arboretum Working Party

The Working Party next meeting is on Thursday 12th August.

If you know anyone who is willing to contribute please let David Pye or John Bentley know. The project requires site preparation through activities like marking out, ripping, building pathways plus getting associated materials and equipment.

Soon we should be starting grow or source around 800 Eucalypts but also there are 20,000 understorey shrubs, grasses and ground covers such as Eremophilas, Acacias, Grevillias, etc. to procure.

Eucalyptus Arboretum Contacts

Project Manager: David Pye (5428 9369)
dabpye@gmail.com
Working Party Chair: John Bentley (9743 3819)
president@fmbg.org.au
Plants: Barb Pye (5428 9369)
dabpye@gmail.com
Site Preparation: David Pye (5428 9369)
dabpye@gmail.com
John Bentley (9743 3819)
president@fmbg.org.au
Funding: John Bentley (9743 3819)
president@fmbg.org.au

Melton Toyota Plant Donation for National Tree Day



Melton Toyota donated 4 boxes of plants to FMBG for National Tree Day on 1st August. Pictured is Sue Birch from Melton Toyota with Janet Dyke (far right) and Jill and John Bentley (left).

We also welcome Melton Toyota as our latest corporate member.

**John Patrick is coming!!!
Ten best gardens of the world
Only 80 places!**



Members free, non-members \$5
You must book your seat with Alan Partridge
Wednesday 8th September 7.30pm

Launch of National Green Jobs Corps Project by CVGT

On Friday 30th July the National Green Jobs Corps Project was launched in the Melton Botanic Garden. The project is run by CVGT Employment and Training. The trainees work is in the Melton Botanic Garden, Mt Rothwell and with Gro West.

A National Green Jobs Corps Team are currently working two days a week in the Melton Botanic Garden weeding and planting.

We had good show of support from FMBG members. We helped in providing morning tea for the attendees. The weather was great for the launch.



Keep Australia Beautiful National Sustainability Awards

KAB national judges are visiting the Melton Botanic Garden on Monday 9th August at 12.45pm. FMBG are setting up a marquee and display near the lagoon/billabong/small dam in the middle of the botanic garden where the amphitheatre is eventually going to be.

If you are free please come along to help set up at 11.30am. We will have have tea and coffee. Or may be take walk through the garden at that time so it looks like people are in the area.



Old River Red Gum MBG (Photo courtesy Andy Wong ©2010)

It's Time to take or find some photos for the FMBG Photo Competition

On Wednesday 11th August at 7.30pm we have the Annual General Meeting but more exciting still is the FMBG photo competition. This is an opportunity for members to display some of their best and favourite photos about plants and gardens.

Categories include: Wildlife and plants, botanic garden scenes, flowers, close-up of plants, people and botanic gardens, objects and plants and a general section for anything else.



Fuschia Gum (*E.forrestiana*) Melton Botanic Garden

Bring your photos on the night for display. Rule is you must have taken the photo yourself. The more the merrier for a Champagne celebration.

Get excited by visiting the International Garden Photographer of the Year Competition and see what is possible.

Great shots and ideas at: www.igpoty.com

Grow the Garden Days 10am-noon

We held GTGDs on Thursday 8th and Sunday 27th July. Conservation Volunteers Australia joined us on 27th and many FMBG members worked until 3pm. This was a great effort. Take a stroll along Ryans Creek to see the planting and rehabilitation. Thanks to everyone who came along and helped.



Conservation Volunteers Australia on 25th July



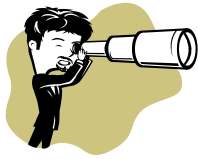
Clearing and planting



Enjoying morning tea

Next Grow the Garden Days are Thursday 12th August and Sunday 22nd August. We hope to see you there.

The MBG Patron Search



Who would you choose as a patron for the Melton Botanic Garden or FMBG?

We still want suggestions for a patron. They are coming in slowly. So have a think and

send in your pick.

We have not determined any criteria so keep your mind open put your thinking cap on then send us a name(s) together with a reason why they would be suitable.

Suggestions to: friends@fmbg.org.au
or John @ 9743 3819

Support FMBG and help create Sustainable suburbs in the West



Do you want to save money on bills and be more sustainable at home but don't know where to start?

Climate change is now an issue that affects everyone. Sustainable Suburbs is a home improvement program run by councils in the Western Region of Melbourne to help you save money on bills by improving the environmental performance of your home.

This council program offers participants:

- FREE home assessment - water, waste and energy
- FREE information sessions
- FREE light globe and showerhead exchange
- DISCOUNTS on a large variety of quality products and services
- REBATES from state and federal governments
- RELIABLE information that is easy to understand

As a **special offer** for Friends of the Melton Botanic Gardens, Envirogroup will donate \$10 for each member who signs up for the free home assessment.

All you have to do is register for your FREE home assessment and select Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens in the "How you heard" field.

Register online at:
www.envirogroup.com.au/sustainablesuburbs

OR call 1300 206 113 and mention "Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens".



Working outside of scheduled activities

Members who wish to work at the MBG outside set Grow the Garden or Clean Up Days must observe the following:

1. There must be a minimum of two Members in each work party.
2. Either Allan Benson or Margaret Peters must be contacted the night before to let them know who will be working at MBG, starting time, estimated finishing time, and proposed activity. You can ask Allan or Margaret what needs to be done.
3. You must have a mobile phone with you and have given the phone number to Allan or Margaret. You must also have emergency services contact numbers with you at all times.
4. You must work to FMBG safe working practices.
5. As a means of identification by the public, logo badges must be worn. If you have high visibility clothing, this should also be worn.
6. You must use your own tools and FMBG will not be responsible for any damage to such tools.
7. Allan or Margaret must be advised immediately of any problems arising while you are working at MBG.
8. When you finish you must again contact Allan or Margaret to let them know what work was done and your finishing time for our records.

Contact Numbers:-

Allan – Mobile: 0419 005 895; Phone: 9746 6441

Margaret – Mobile: 0412 097 391; Phone: 5367 3328

Dave – Safety Officer: Mobile: 0417 560 353

Renew your FMBG Membership

Membership renewals are due July 1.

Contact Jill or Margaret to renew.

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

You can also pay by direct bank transfer to FMBG.

Account Name: Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Inc

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

Please ensure that your name appears under the transaction details. In addition, also submit the form or email to friends@fmbg.org.au



Some FMBG plantings close up

Melton Botanic Garden

Layout Plan



Membership

Renewals are due July 1st – Have you renewed?

Please encourage some new memberships from your friends and family. We had 148 members in 2009-2010.

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

New memberships are approved each month at the Executive meeting.

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

2010 Calendar

Our major speaker for 2010 is **John Patrick** from ABC Gardening Australia. He will be with us in September. Another great speaker was **John Arnott** Director of the Royal Melbourne Botanic Gardens Cranbourne in Melbourne in July. We have also managed to secure **Richard Allen** to speak in October about his new book "Australia's Remarkable Trees".

Please get a copy of the calendar from the website or at meeting

Facebook Fans

If you use Facebook you may want to keep up with information via the Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Group.

Type Melton Botanic Garden into the Facebook search box and you should be able to find the group.

FMBG Corporate Members 2009 / 2010/11

Melton Home Timber and Hardware

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

Melton Produce

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

Melton Toyota

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

Satellite City Furniture

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

SOV Consulting

Melton VIC 3337
Ph: (03) 9746 7558
Manager: Con Nikakis
Email: nikakisc@gmail.com

Western Land Services

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

Your Committee

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



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

Newsletter:

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

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