



Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden, Inc. Newsletter January/February 2011

No.12



Photo: FMBG display at the Melton Botanic Garden

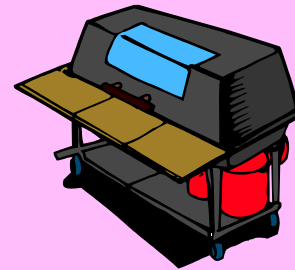
What's on in January 2011

- 3rd Monday Sausage Sizzle Bunnings
- 16th Sunday Executive Committee Planning Day
- 22nd Saturday Lakeside Live
- FMBG information stand – Assistance needed
- Please contact Margaret or Jill.
- 27th Thursday 3pm Working Party Meeting
- Eucalyptus Arboretum meeting Melton Community Hall Meeting Room 1

What's on in February 2011

- 9th Wednesday 6.30pm
- Meeting: Sausage Sizzle Melton Botanic Garden
- 13th Sunday 10am-noon Clean Up Day & Waterwatch
- Melton Botanic Garden – Meet at rotundas
- 10th Thursday & 27th Sunday 10-noon Grow the Garden
- Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

Wednesday 9th February 6.30pm Sausage Sizzle at Melton Botanic Garden



Meet at rotundas near lake
For information contact Jill Bentley: 9743 3819

Paid Team Leader Wanted for Melton Botanic Garden

An exciting opportunity as a team leader exists to supervise a team of 10 people aged 24 plus.

Are you or anyone you may know interested in a paid 2 days per week (15 hours) position?

FMBG are working with CVGT Employment & Training Specialists to provide a Work for the Dole team in the Melton Botanic Garden for 6 months starting in late February or March 2011. A position description is available.

The position is through CVGT and we accept applications until 28th January.

Interviews will be held by CVGT in mid-February.

Please contact John Bentley (president@fmbg.org.au) if you are interested and for the position description.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2010

The executive at the planning day held on Sunday 16th January listed the following as some of the FMBG achievements in 2010:

- Logo launch
- Landscape design plans accepted by MSC
- MSC Melton Botanic Garden naming – submission by MSC to Vicnames
- MSC agreed to enter MOU
- Good speaker program at meetings
- National Green Jobs Corp Project
- Eucalyptus Arboretum underway
- Support from Melton Lions plus a \$500 donation for plants for the National Green Jobs Corp
- Corporate Membership - Melton Toyota and donation of plants
- Corporate Membership - Platinum Accounting & Taxation
- Participated in events & festivals
- Attended & presented at the Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens Conference in Mildura
- Talks to many groups
- 11 Newsletter editions
- End of Year celebration
- Waterwatch, Clean Up, Planting Days continued
 - Scouts & Cubs involvement
- Dahl Trust Grant - \$15,000
- Melbourne Water - \$20,000
- MSC grant for tree labels - \$1,000
- Financially viable
- Reached 148 memberships
- Social events – dinners & trips

Thanks to everyone who contributed to these achievements.

Dave Peters attended the planning day as the strategic planning consultant. As a result we now have a revised strategic plan through to 2013.



Executive Committee at the Planning Day

Eucalyptus Arboretum Development

The eucalypt seedlings were potted up in late November and are continuing to grow, though they are growing slowly (must be the cool weather over summer). We had some losses with the wet weather in January, but they are enjoying the warmer drier weather that we are now getting.

Spraying of weeds is scheduled for Monday 24th January, and then the area can be ripped a few weeks later.

The Working Party meeting is on Thursday 27th January at 3pm in Meeting Room 1 at the Melton Community Hall.

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

We are currently preparing a Vision for Werribee Plains grant application of the order of \$120,000. This requires a co-contribution from FMBG. Some of this will be met by the work for the dole team, FMBG volunteer hours, MSC contributions Western Water and other contributions.

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

Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Up Australia Day Sunday March 6th

FMBG will again host a Clean Up Australia Day event at the Melton Botanic Garden. 10am – 12noon followed by a free BBQ at Hannah Watts Park.

Meet at the Rotunda near the lake. Enter via Lakeside Boulevard (Mel 337 C10). Please bring your own gloves and wear sturdy shoes and long trousers.

For more information phone Janet Dyke or go to <http://www.cleanup.com.au>



MSC Decisions for the Melton Botanic Garden

More good news. At the Shire of Melton Council Meeting held on Monday 20th December the Council passed the following motion:

1. Endorse the landscape masterplan developed for the Melton Botanic Garden as attached in Appendix 1.
2. In partnership with the Friends of Melton Botanic Garden develop a Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Friends of Melton Botanic Garden on the implementation of the masterplan and on-going maintenance of the asset.

Minutes and a full report of this agenda item can be found on the Shire of Melton website.

This will help in our applications for grants and understanding our role, rights and responsibilities in the development of the Melton Botanic Garden. Special thanks to those members who attended the meeting to show support. We will now work with Council through Brett Luxford to develop the MOU.

FMBG logo badges

Keep wearing your badge to meetings, in public– we are being noticed! – show your badge for a discount at the Newport Indigenous Nursery. We are ordering more. Please let Jill know if you need a badge.

Propagating for FMBG Plant Sales

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

Grow the Garden Days 10am-noon

Next Grow the Garden Days are in February on Thursday 10th and Sunday 27th 10am-12noon.

Fundraising

Monday 3rd January

Our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle raised \$1,160.40

Thanks to everyone who helped – Janet, Tushan, Margaret, Dave, Alan, Jean, Verna, Brooke, Jane, Jill, John, Julie, Lyn, Lynette, Myles.

BGANZ

FMBG is an associate member of Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand. Publications and information on their website is well worth reading if you are interested in Botanic Gardens.

The latest newsletter publication available online is The Botanic Garden - Issue 28 November 2010. See www.bganz.org.au

Frog Census for 2011

Janet Dyke is our Frog Census Coordinator. Dates for frog census recordings in the Melton Botanic Garden are:

- Sunday March 21 at 5pm
- Tuesday June 21 at 4pm
- Friday September 23 at 5pm
- Thursday December 22 at 7pm

Please contact Janet if you like to be involved in the Frog Census. In January following the rains a Pobblebonk (banjo frog) was heard in Ryans Creek.

Ryans Creek – What is flowering now?

Last couple of times I have been to Ryans it has been underwater so could not see much flowering as I could not get near the plants, but they look to be surviving. We will continue planting this year with new plantings around the small lake as we have received funding through a Melbourne Water Community Grant.



Margaret Peters identified the mystery Ryans Creek plant from the Nov/Dec Newsletter as Poison Lobelia, Lobelia pratioides.

What's in flower will keep changing so why not take a walk along the creek at various times to see what is there.

Executive Committee

Next Executive Committee Meeting is Tuesday 22nd February 7.30pm – at the Bentley's.

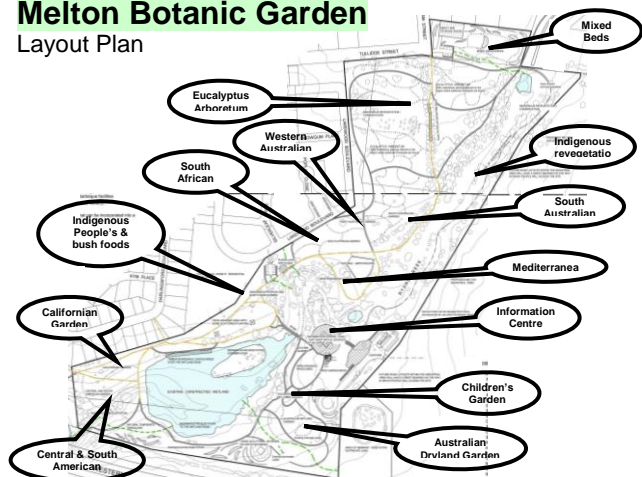
FMBG Monthly Meeting Venue

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.

Melton Botanic Garden

Layout Plan



Membership

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

Please encourage some new memberships from your contacts. We had 148 members in 2009-2010. So far we have 133 members for 2010-2011.

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

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

You can also pay by direct bank transfer to FMBG.

Account Name: Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Inc.

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

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

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.

2011 Calendar

We have an interesting speaker program lined up for 2011. To name a few we have: Bill Morrison on Growing Cacti & Succulents, Chris Findlay from Flora Victoria on grasslands & weed control, Richard Barley CEO of the Open Garden Scheme, Don Journet from the Garden Plant Conservation Association of Australia on 'Why conserve garden plants', and Marcus Ryan of Lambley Nursery fame on Mediterranean Plants.

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 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

Platinum Accounting & Taxation

9 Sheepfold Court, Melton Vic 3337

Ph: (03) 9746 6479

Manager: Corinne Cole

Email: info@platinumaccounting.com.au

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:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Margaret Peters (5367 3328)
Secretary:	Janet Dyke (9743 2733)
Assistant Secretary:	Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Executive members:	Jill Bentley (9743 3819)
	Lyn Nardella
	Peter Sell
Safety Officer:	Vacant – John is filling in
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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