



Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden, Inc. Newsletter July 2016

Growing Plants Growing People

No. 42

FMBG Monthly Meeting Venue Join us at our NEW meeting venue Botanica Springs Community Centre

249 Clarkes Rd, Brookfield VIC 3338
Contact: Janet Dyke 9743 2733 / 0408 170 070

February Meeting

Come and kick off the year with a walk around and a free sausage sizzle at the Melton Botanic Garden. Please let us know if you would like to bring along a salad or dessert to share and also any special dietary requirements (phone Jill 9743 3819).



FMBG Patron
Jane Edmanson OAM



Category Winner

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria
Sustainable Cities Awards 2013

sustainability.vic.gov.au/KABV



Winner 2011 Powercor Melton Business Excellence Awards



Winner 2012 Powercor Shire of Melton Business Excellence Awards

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Monday 7.30pm at the Bentley's house

Help Build the Garden - Regular Activity Groups

- **Gumnuts:** 1st & 3rd Weds 9.30am-noon
- **Lakers:** 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday 10am-noon
- **Creekers:** Thursdays 9.30am-noon
- **Safaris:** Tues & Thurs 9.30am-noon
- **Sandgroppers:** 2nd & 4th Weds 9.30am-noon
- **Nursery Team:** Every Tues 10am-1pm
- **Odd Jobbers:** Tues & Thurs 10am-noon

Meet at Depot for all activities

Melton Business Excellence Awards

Congrats to all FMBG members we have been awarded the Best Access and Inclusion Award at the City of Melton Business Excellence Awards!

John Bentley



'Congratulations to all involved in driving such an inclusive community environment providing an opportunity for all to come and contribute'

Colleen Thompson

'Congratulations well done so happy for you all'

Lyn Nardella



Speech after receiving the Access and Inclusion Award.

Visit by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Twenty-nine Volunteer Guides from the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria Melbourne had a garden tour at the [Melton Botanic Garden](#) on Tuesday 7th June. Thanks to all FMBG volunteers in helping making the tour, morning tea, and nursery sales a success.



Photos courtesy Ralph Henger.

Thank You from RBGV Melbourne

We received the following thank you email from the Volunteer Guides at the RBGV Melbourne:

*'Dear John, and Members of the Friends of the Melton Botanic Gardens,
Thank you very much for showing us around the Melton Botanic Gardens yesterday. We appreciated the opportunity to see the Gardens through John's expert eyes; to hear about the history, the plans for the future, the engagement with community and much more!
The impressive achievements of the enthusiastic, hard-working Volunteers were there for all to see.
Some of the feedback from those who attended yesterday included such comments as "up-lifting", "inspiring", "marvellous", "a revelation", and "passion" came up a few times, not only in reference to John's enthusiasm and drive, but in reference to all involved!
We particularly enjoyed the welcoming morning tea provided by the Volunteers, and we would like to pass on our thanks to all concerned. The Nursery was also of great interest.
We would like to offer a reciprocal guided tour of the RBGV-Melbourne Gardens, in appreciation of your hospitality.
With our best wishes for the bright future of the Melton Botanic Gardens.'*

Kind Regards,
Sue Smith and Anne Ada

Melton Environment Day Grant Awards

FMBG members receiving an environment grant to place 5 bird information signs in the Melton Botanic Garden



Restoration of Ryans Creek continues

A temporary road has been made beside the depot for truck access where we normally park for overflow parking.

There is a large pile of concrete that is to be removed and many more truckloads of rocks being brought in.

Please be aware there will be a significant number of trucks using the depot entrance. Please be careful, entering, leaving and parking. I suggest if you can please look to park in the depot compound area.



Ryans Creek after rain



Due to the rain Ryans Creek has started flowing and bursting its banks

Ryans Creek & Lathams Snipe

Ryans Creek with dense grassy expanses is now recognised as an important site on the migration path of the endangered Lathams Snipe.

The snipe are presently breeding in northern Japan & Siberia so they should not be disturbed by the capital works underway in transforming Ryans Creek from a concrete drain back into a living creek

Royal Horticultural Gardeners Day Out.



Margaret and Jen.

Does anyone have a Cherry Ballart?

Does anyone have some? We are looking to put them into the Bushfoods Garden but they are not readily available.



Cherry Ballart

Exocarpus cupressiformis

A small tree with yellow-green foliage. Produces fleshy, red fruit in late spring that are eaten by the Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike and other birds.

Their roots raid (parasitise) roots of other plants such as grasses and wattles from which they obtain valuable nutrients.

Bird Surveys at MBG

1-30pm-2-30pm Thursday 9th June 2016

Nora Peters did the bird survey this week as Geraldine is overseas enjoying herself

Birds seen were:

Willy Wagtail, Magpie, Magpie-lark, Spotted Turtledove, Purple Swamphen, Rainbow Lorikeet, Black Duck, Myna, White-plumed Honeyeater, Red Wattlebird, Noisy Miner, Red-rumped Parrots, Coot, Blackbird, Dusky Moorhen, Welcome Swallow, White Duck and Darter (Female) - 18 in all
no Black Swans!

Not bad for a cold, wet & windy day.....

Thursday 20th June 2016 4.00 – 5.00

Hi all

Pete and I went to MBG (to do Geraldine's survey) at 4pm today until 5pm, great time even though very cold and windy..... shortest day of the year..... roll on summer

My List :-

Magpie-lark, Red Wattlebird, Magpie, Raven, Eastern Rosella, Blackbird, Willie Wagtail, Noisy Miner, Indian Miner, Starlings, White-plumed Honeyeater, New Holland Honeyeater, Masked Lapwing, Black Duck, Maned Duck, Australian

Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, White-faced Heron, Red-rumped Parrot, White Duck, Rainbow Lorikeet, Sparrow, Little Pied Cormorant, Darter (F) & Pelican.....

26 Species! No Swans

I did most of my count with the camera so I got quite a few photos this time! The White-faced Heron was a little bit shy and tried to hide amongst the tree-guards before flying off to the other pond, the Wood Ducks were very much into spring, as were the Swamphens and Coots, looks like Spring is going to come early this year

When I spotted the Pelican and Darter I couldn't get a decent shot from near the rotunda, went back to the car and grabbed the tripod and went over to the other side, that's when I saw the L/P Cormorant. Managed to get a bit of a video of the Darter and Pelican

Regards

Nora

Hi all

Today's (Tuesday 28th) survey done at 1-30pm to 2.30 pm

My list

Blackbird, White-plumed Honeyeater, Magpie-lark, Starling, Indian Myna, Magpie, Eurasian Coot, Maned Duck, Welcome Swallow, Red Wattlebird, Red-rumped Parrot, Purple Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, Sparrow, Spotted Turtledove, Crested Pigeon, Little Raven, White-faced Heron, Willie Wagtail, Pelican, Darter (female), Black Duck, White Duck, Eastern Rosella, Masked Lapwing, New Holland Honeyeater & Noisy Miner!...27 in all....no Swans

I spotted the New Holland Honeyeaters in the flowers and thought the baby looked cute waiting for its mouth to be filled, sorry only had the little camera today ☺

Nora



Purple Swamphen



Pelican



Coots



Wood Ducks



New Holland Honeyeaters

FMBG Nursery Plant Sales

Tuesdays from 10.00am - 1.00pm, 2nd and 4th Sunday
10am-noon or other times by appointment
Melton Botanic Garden Nursery
21 Williams Street, Melton

Native plants grown in the Melton Botanic Garden
A range of plants including Eremophila and Eucalyptus varieties

Plants suited to growing in Melton gardens
Some decorative succulents

Prices

Forestry tubes \$2, 70mm pots \$4 and 90mm pots \$6



Friends of the
Melton Botanic Garden Inc.

- Melton Home Timber & Hardware
- Alan Mance Nissan and Mitsubishi
- Platinum Accounting and Taxation
- Melton Produce
- Tabcorp Park Melton
- Woodlea Leakes Road Rockbank
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- Sign Perfection Melton
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Proudly supported by the City of Melton

Sponsors



Alan Mance
2 Holland drive, Melton
PH9971-4400
alanmance@nissan.com.au



Your Executive Committee

President:	John Bentley (9743 3819)
Vice-President:	Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Treasurer:	Margaret Peters (5367 3328)
Secretary:	Janet Dyke (9743 2733)
Assistant Secretary:	Alan Partridge (9743 5761)
Executive members:	Jill Bentley (9743 3819)
	Dave Peters
	Steve Parker
	Jen Eldridge
Safety Officer:	John Bentley & Dave Peters
FMBG librarian:	Jean Partridge (9743 5761)

**FMBG can give presentations to groups
and host guided tours of the garden**



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) / Daryl Akers
Email: editor@fmbg.org.au

Facebook and Twitter Fans

If you use Facebook and/or Twitter you may want to keep up with information via the Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden Group. Type "Melton Botanic Garden" into the search box and you should be able to find us

Janet Dyke after serving as the FMBG Secretary for over 10 years has reluctantly tendered her resignation from this position as of the AGM on Wednesday 10th August, 2016.

We greatly appreciate and thank Janet for undertaking the position and work of Secretary and being a vital player as part of a wonderful team leading FMBG and working with all our volunteers. Janet will continue with some of her activities and involvement in FMBG. So she is not going away. We are now in need of new secretary. Are you interested in taking on this role? Let us know ASAP if you are interested and if you have questions about the position and what it entails.

Nominations for FMBG positions and Committee membership are required to be submitted 7 days before the AGM.

Membership

Membership fees are due by 30 June 2016

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

We welcome all our new members and your membership helps support the development of the botanic garden and we hope you can participate in our activities.

FMBG is local, regional and international. We have members in Switzerland, China, Hong Kong, New Zealand, UK, USA, and now Denmark. Please encourage some new memberships from your contacts. We had 206 members in 2011-2012 and 218 members in 2013/14. **In 2014/15 we have achieved our greatest total of financial memberships ever, reaching 250 members comprising individual, corporate and associate memberships. Well done everyone.**

Please help to sign up a new member to keep up a strong membership base.

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.

For membership information please contact Jill Bentley on 9743 3819 for information or to drop in a payment. If you are housebound we can arrange to collect your payment and form

FMBG Corporate Members 2015/16

Alan Mance Nissan and Mitsubishi

2 Holland Drive, Melton, VIC 3337
Phone: (03) 9971 4444
www.alanmancenissan.com.au

Aquarium Leasing Specialists

Manager: John Candy
Phone: 9743 6619 / 0408 134 005
22 Springway, Brookfield, 3338
aquarium@westnet.com.au

Callea Pearce Lawyers

MELTON: 311 High Street, Melton. 9743 1333
BACCHUS MARSH: 127 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh. 5367 2283
WERRIBEE: Ballan House, 1 Duncans Road, Werribee. 8742 6162
Web: www.calleapearce.com.au

Everite Garden Supplies

19 Melton Valley Drive
Melton Victoria
Phone: 9743 6021
office@everitegs.com.au

Melton Home Timber and Hardware

45 Reserve Road, Melton, Vic. 3337
Phone: (03) 9743 5033
Manager: Ken Morton

Melton Produce

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

Melton Toyota

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

Platinum Accounting & Taxation

9 Sheepfold Court, Melton Vic 3337
Phone: (03) 9746 6479
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Email: info@platinumaccounting.com.au

Satellite City Furniture

358 High Street Melton, VIC, 3337
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Western Land Services

20 Collins Road, Melton, VIC 3337
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