



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

No.10



Photo: Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne – FMBG Field trip September 2010

What's on in October

2nd & 3rd Saturday & Sunday Spring Launch at Bunnings

**9th Saturday Platypus Festival Toolern Creek
FMBG stall – Assistance needed**

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

Melton Botanic Garden – Meet at rotundas

13th Wednesday 7.30pm Meeting

Guest Speaker: Richard Allen, author - Australia's Remarkable Trees

14th Thurs. 10-noon Grow the Garden

Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

24th Sunday 10-noon Grow the Garden

Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

What's on in November

6th Saturday 9am – Djerriwarrh Festival Stall
– **Assistance needed** – selling plants and providing information on the day.

Propagate plants for sale now.

Please contact Margaret or Jill.

10th Wednesday 7.30pm

Meeting: Guest Speaker: Barb & David Pye Central Australia Trip and dry land plants

11th Thurs. 10-noon Grow the Garden

Ryans Creek - Melton Botanic Garden

28th 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.

13th October Wed 7.30pm FMBG presents Richard Allen Author of Australia's Remarkable Trees



Book available for purchase on the night

This is a presentation of a fantastic story of how the trees made it into the book together with some spectacular photographs

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

For information contact Jill Bentley: 9743 3819

FMBG Vacant Executive Position

We are looking for someone suitable to fill the Vice-President position. Please see John if you are interested

Executive Committee

Next Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday 5th Oct at 7.30pm – meeting at Bentley's place.

Propagating for FMBG Plant Sales

Djerriwarrh Festival Stall Saturday 6th November - plants needed for sale

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

Eucalyptus Arboretum Working Party

The fifth meeting of the Working Party was held on Monday 27th September. We are still awaiting a number of decisions by Melton Shire Council before we can proceed further with some actions. We have also received costing on some items.

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.

Really exciting things are happening as some large rocks from the Anthonys Cutting Re-alignment project have arrived. We just need to move them into their final positions.

David and Bard Pye are germinating the seeds over the next few weeks. Volunteers will be called to help pot these up in November and next year. We will also need to move them to Melton next March as it warmer than Bullengarook – would anyone be prepared to care for some of these 1,000 trees in forestry tubes next March?



Truck arriving with rocks



Ready, steady, go!



Here they come



That's the lot



Rohan from the Earthworks Team with John

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

Garden Design Fest

Members might enjoy the Garden design fest that is coming up in November. It is run every two years.

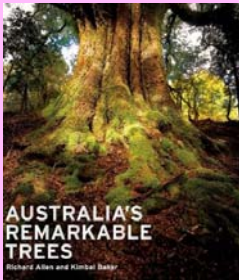
John Patrick is one of the organisers of this event. It's been recommend by an FMBG member who said "I've been to all of them and it's a fantastic weekend, you can visit as many gardens as you like."

The web site to have a look at for all the info is: www.gardendesignfest.com.au

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

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National Green Jobs Corps Project

National Green Jobs Corps team is continuing work in the Melton Botanic Garden. The project is run by CVGT Employment and Training. The trainees work has been on weeding and planting along Ryans Creek.

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

We received \$500 from Melton Lions towards plants for the NGJC. It is important to encourage and show support for our youth. Thanks Lions.

FMBG Talks to Groups

Melton Valley Probus – 14th September

Jill gave a presentation on the Melton Botanic Garden to about 35 people at the Melton Valley Club.

Keep Australia Beautiful National Sustainability Awards

Jill and John Bentley are representing FMBG at the national awards ceremony on 1st November in Sydney.

September Meeting – John Patrick

We were well entertained by John Patrick through the photographs of his favourite gardens, the stories behind them and the jokes we don't hear from him on TV.



John Patrick



John Patrick

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

On Sunday 19th September nine FMBG volunteers on the ground helped raise a **profit of \$1,407** from the sausage sizzle. Everyone worked hard.

Thanks to Jill and Margaret for their preparation work. Thanks to those who helped on the day: Elisabeth B, Jill B, Janet D, Lyn N, Lynette R, Tushan F, Don N, Alan P, Myles B and John B.

Great Effort Everyone

Royal Botanic Gardens - Cranbourne

On an overcast and cool Sunday on 12th September a busload of FMBG members visited the "Australia Garden" at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne.

Many plants were just coming into flower but it was a stunning show. John spent much of the time photographing the various types of paths as we have to build some in the Eucalyptus Arboretum in coming months.



Acacias and Grevilleas in bloom



Friends in bloom



The red centre?

Grow the Garden Days 10am-noon

We held GTGDs on Thursday 9th and Sunday 26th September. Thanks to Tony Dyke who brought the FMBG trailer and tools and to Alan and Aaron Benson for bringing the plants.



Hard ground - Tony had to help dig a few holes



FMBG Volunteers watering the plantings

Next Grow the Garden Days are Thursday 14th and Sunday 24th October.

Do not Enter!!!

Visitors to the Melton Botanic Garden may see this newly erected sign. It does mean you are not allowed to drive your vehicle into the Melton Botanic Garden unless you are on an authorised activity such as Grow the Days, Clean up days etc. The sign is little over powering and MSC are going to relocate it near the Industrial Estate cut-through and replace this sign with smaller no unauthorised vehicles allowed sign.



The rather large sign that suddenly appeared

Ryans Creeks – What is flowering?

There are some of our 2008 and 2009 plantings in flower and more will be in flower over the next two to three months. It will keep changing so why not take a walk along the creek at various times to see what is in flower.

Pycnosorus globosus common name Drumsticks is flowering with large bright yellow flowers high and flower heads about 3cm in diameter. As you can see in the photographs they have large yellow, ball-shaped flowerheads on erect stems up to 50cm in height, we have one which is on a one metre stem in the middle of the creek. According to one source they flower from November to February, ours have started in September. These are well worth a look before they finish flowering. Hopefully these will start to self seed.



Pycnosorus globosus Drumsticks at Ryans Creek



Pycnosorus globosus Drumsticks

The other indigenous yellow flowers that can be seen on Ryans Creek are *Ranunculus lappaceus* the Australian Buttercup.



Ranunculus lappaceus the Australian Buttercup



Large planting of *Ranunculus lappaceus* - Australian Buttercup

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

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:-

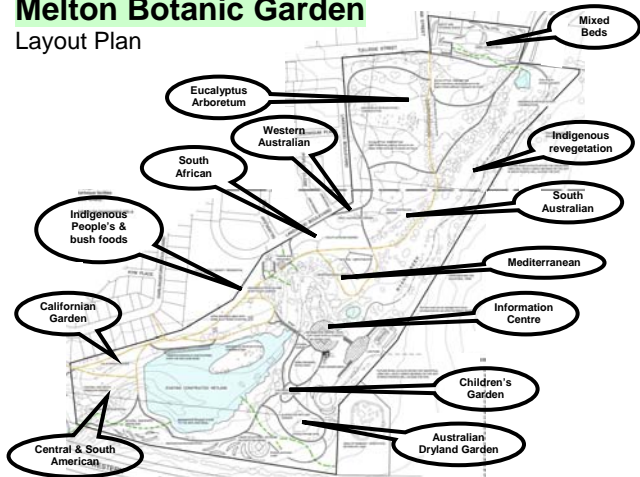
Allan – Mobile: 0419 005 895; Phone: 9746 6441

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

John – Safety Officer: Mobile: 0412 762 531

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

The Membership/Renewal form 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.

2010 Calendar – Suggestions for 2011

Our major speaker for 2010 was **John Patrick** from ABC Gardening Australia. 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".

We are starting to work out next year's calendar if you have any suggestions please tell Janet Dyke.

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

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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