



ABN 20 607 589 873
Connect - Promote - Protect

Lilygram

Newsletter

Issue 1, December 2015

Let's be friends...

CONTACTING fBBGSA

Our Website
www.fbbgsa.org.au
(Membership details here)

Email
info@fbbgsa.org.au

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fBBGSA, PO Box 39,
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Steering Committee
Mary Jo Katter (Director)
Arno King (Director)
Jeannie Sim (Director)
Andrew Benison (FoSA)
John Taylor (AGHS)
Bettina Palmer &
Fay O'Sullivan (Volunteer Guides)
and
Dale Arvidsson
(ex officio as Curator of both BBGs)

Newsletter Editor:
Jeannie Sim

Membership Counter

5 December 2015: 73



Brisbane Lily planted at October Launch.
Check out blooms in November [MJJK]

EDITORIAL

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Welcome to our first issue!

We plan to publish a regular newsletter, sent out by email to all connected members and available on our website. The intention is to have an issue in December 2015 then February, April, June, August, October and December 2016, and beyond.

About the newsletter name...

← It was the favourable response via emails to this throw-away suggestion that convinced me (the editor) to trial the name! If sufficiently detested (please let me know!) I will change the name, otherwise I think it rocks!

About the contents...

Foremost we will deliver the important news of current events and activities in each of our three botanical treasures (**Brisbane BG city, BBG Mt Coot-tha and Sherwood Arboretum**). We will provide also an update on the group's governance and operations. For education and entertainment, we will offer at least two new articles per issue on these themes **PLANTspeak & History EXPOSÉ**. Finally, the back page will be a running Calendar for ready reference. Suggestions for articles and authors are welcome.

— Jeannie Sim

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GOVERNANCE

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Our very best news in time for Christmas is from our solicitor Paul Paxton Hall who advises us **we have registered as a charity** with the Australian Charities and Not for profit Commission. Paxton Hall Lawyers have steered us safely through the processes of being a Company Limited by Guarantee with a nicely worded constitution with the flexibility to ensure the interests of each of the three sites represented by the Friends will be secure.

The Launch was an excellent way to show off the beautiful Japanese Gardens as well as the latest addition to the Gardens where the flowering Brisbane lily was planted by Councillor Matthew Bourke. Speeches by Kate Heffernan President of the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens and by Councillor Bourke reinforced the importance of Friends for advocating for the sites and as Friends of Sherwood Arboretum has been so successfully doing for so many years, connecting with the local community and promoting the importance of the Botanic Gardens and the Arboretum.

Each step in our journey has been leading towards establishing a viable and vibrant Board of Directors. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Steering Committee (now evolved into a Management Committee) and look forward to welcoming more happy faces at future meetings. We need to get prepared for our first proper election of office bearers for the committee, before mid-2016. The existing Steering Committee came together in February 2015 to get things started but now we must hold elections, strategize our priorities, organise activities and share the workload.

— Mary Jo Katter.

Breaking News...

We just received the letter (dated 11 November 2015) from the Australian Taxation Office that we have "Endorsement for Charity Tax Concessions"!

"Horti-Couture"

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Our inaugural event held in September was an outstanding success. This was a catwalk exhibition themed 'Wearable Garden'. We raised over \$3000!

Horti-Couture

Presenting an Enchanted Evening
of Botanical Music with
Soprano Anna Stephens
to accompany a Catwalk Exhibition
of the "Wearable Garden"
as interpreted by 15 of Brisbane's finest florists and multimedia artists
in the Auditorium Brisbane Botanic Gardens
Mt. Coot-tha Road, Toowong
6:30pm 10th September, 2015
Join us for Bubbles and Savouries

Tickets will be on sale from 24th August, @ \$60.00
Limited Tickets will also be available at the Door
Enquiries to:
Bettina mob: 0405402340 or email: botanique.events@gmail.com
A Fund Raising Event in Support of the Proposed Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens

Under Bettina Palmer's wondrous direction, designers, models and artists were outstanding. The outfits ranged from sophisticated to hilarious. The musical accompaniment was most enjoyable – thank you "MIRAGE" (Harp|Piano|Voice)! Mary Jo Katter and her trusty elves fed and watered us! Thanks to all!



Old friends met new friends and we started our membership drive. Great fun! We plan to do this again in 2016 as a new springtime tradition!



The shady audience at Launch Day [MJK photo]



Curator Dale Arvidsson listens! [JS photo]



Councillor Bourke making an interesting brief speech! [MJK photo]



Mighty horticultural media! Annette Irish, Arno King and Paul Plant at Launch! [KWoods Rabbidge photo]



Bettina Palmer and Jeannie Sim at Launch (resting between making members!) [KWoods Rabbidge photo]

LAUNCHED!

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Great success with our first mass meeting held on Wednesday 14 October 2015. The event at Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Garden, was located near the entry to the Japanese Garden, under the shade of Guavas and Fig trees and surrounded by flowering walking iris (*Neomarica gracilis*).

A crowd of over one hundred people plus many MCBG gardeners gathered for greetings and speeches from MC Arno King, Councillor Matthew Bourne (Chair of BCC's Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee) and Kate Heffernan (from the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens)! The official planting of the flowering Brisbane lily followed and was overseen by Curator Dale Arvidsson and a loitering brush turkey!

Over 45 new members joined on the spot! And some lucky folk were able to purchase a seedling Brisbane lily. For those of us who are horticulturally challenged (admit nothing!), we hope to keep this little historic and symbolic treasure alive and well and flowering.

Later, beside the pond in the Japanese Garden, we consumed scrumptious coffee, tea, scones and cake. It was a super start and many thanks to all who attended. The passion is strong and joyous.

— Jeannie Sim

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WEBSITE news

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www.fbbgsa.org.au



Another launch achievement was the creation of our first website, designed by Jim Dobbins with Mary Jo Katter advising and representing the wishes of the Steering Committee.

We are still adding and correcting this face to the world, but the important membership application function is well and truly functional! We use **PayPal** to safely gather funds and information. Please drop in regularly to see what's new!

PURPOSES:

- (1) To promote our Friends group and the botanical treasures we protect
- (2) To provide contact opportunities between members and visitors and the fbbgsa Management Committee.

CURRENT CONTENT:

- ⊙ Up front is our group's objectives and these guide all our activities and operations.
- ⊙ Location data using an interactive Google Map include all three sites.
- ⊙ History section is scant but already we can reveal how significant our treasures are according to the Queensland Heritage Register. Many more posts will be added in the near future!
- ⊙ Join Us section: contains the membership application procedure plus news of future events.
- ⊙ Newsletter section: still under development, but eventually we will have downloadable PDFs of each issue available here.

Future pages are probable and if you have any ideas or requests please let us know at the usual address:

info@fbbgsa.org.au

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Bump the Funny Bone !!

A PAINFUL PLEASURE?

What do we call ourselves?

Friends... for sure, but can we be more specific and distinctive?

Kim suggested *Fronds*! ☺

MJ liked *fabb friends*

JS ♥ *Brisbots* for kiddie events ☺ & *Brissylilies* for everyone (!?)

Get your thinking caps on before we select something awful, such as *FriBrisBotGarShArb* or *Lilylubbers*! ☺

You have been warned!

Votes and suggestions please to

info@fbbgsa.org.au

Other news

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As part of our pre-launch publicity, Jeannie wrote a piece for arguably the best garden blog in Australia, run by Catherine Stewart.



Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum is Alive!
Jeannie Sim October 5, 2015

At last we have a community group that can demonstrate the true depth of feeling about our three local botanical treasures, namely Brisbane Botanic Gardens (City established in 1855), Sherwood Arboretum (opened 1925) and Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt. Coot-tha (opened 1976). The official public launch is planned for 14 October 2015 up the mountain at Mt. Coot-tha, near the beloved Japanese Garden.

We aim to plant eventually a clump of Brisbane Lily (*Prophylla cunninghamii*) in each site as a symbol of our group's connection to each place and our tripartite affiliation. We have the Friends website established already and a Facebook page.



Please drop in and read the full story and loiter about and explore all the other posts if you don't already know this wonderful resource.

<http://gardendrum.com/2015/10/05/friends-of-brisbane-botanic-gardens-and-sherwood-arboretum-is-alive-2/>

ALSO...

We have joined the national group AAFBG (Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens! Their website:

<http://www.friendsbotanicgardens.org/>

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FACEBOOK news

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PURPOSES:

- (1) to promote our three botanical treasures by frequent postings of photographs with commentary
- (2) to connect with like-minded organisations and individuals and celebrate all things botanical.

FREQUENCY of POSTS:

Currently, there are weekly refreshes of cover photo and additional recent observations. This should increase to twice a week or more as more contributions are received.

Administrator / Contributors:

Currently, Jeannie Sim is posting and commenting, using her own phone camera snaps plus the outputs of Kim Woods Rabbidge and Mary Jo Katter.

More contributions are avidly sought! Please send in any "jpgs" to me through the info@fbbgsa.org.au address! Already two student volunteers from QUT's landscape architecture course have signed up to keep watching briefs over one treasure or another. I will get more! And these guys can really take photos (with proper cameras and everything)!

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

- ⊙ newsy stories (like the cannon!)
- ⊙ what's flowering / fruiting
- ⊙ botanical oddities / absurdities
- ⊙ wildlife (non-human sorts)!
- ⊙ heart-stopping works of nature
- ⊙ jaw-dropping scenery! And so on.

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Brisbane Lily *Proiphys cunninghamii* (Aiton ex Lindl.) Mabb.

Family AMARYLLIDACEAE

By Jeannie Sim

The Brisbane lily was chosen as our f-BBGSA floral emblem because it is indigenous to Brisbane and readily grows in home gardens. It looks elegant and delicate but is really robust! That's us. We almost chose *Araucaria cunninghamii* (hoop pine) but several other groups have claimed that already. We wanted to be distinctive.

You might argue that an herbaceous plant does not match the idea of an Arboretum. We agonised over that notion, but eventually we realised this floral emblem is a symbol for the **'IDEA' of distinctiveness** (our highly valued botanic treasures which are our three living collections) plus the **local connection** to the Brisbane area. We hope you agree.

The genus *Proiphys* comprises three species: *Proiphys alba* (occurs in FNQ, NT, WA, PNG), *Proiphys amboinensis* (Cardwell lily) and *Proiphys cunninghamii*. (also called Moreton Bay lily, range SEQ to NSW). Previously the genus was known as *Eurycles*. Botanist David Mabberley was responsible for renaming *Eurycles*.

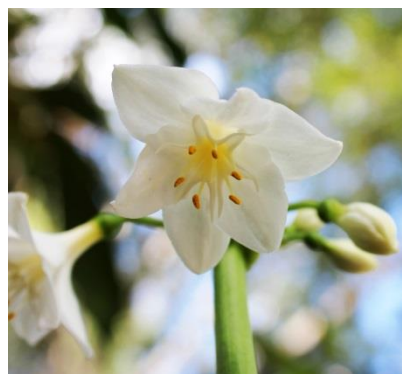
The ANBG website states: "These plants occur in light shaded areas of the rainforest or in open forest bordering rainforest regions... *Proiphys* are ideally suited to warm frost-free areas and can be grown in a rockery, beside a garden pool or in pots or tubs in cooler regions. They are hardy and easily grown although development to the flowering stage is slow. They do best in well composted soil in sheltered areas of the garden with little sun."

Source: ANBG (Australian National Botanic Garden) Accessed 28 October 2015
<http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/gnp14/proiphys-genus.html>



Friends of
Brisbane Botanic Gardens
& Sherwood Arboretum

LOGO explanation:
Three flowers representing the three
botanical collections:
OBBG, MCBG and SA.



Proiphys cunninghamii
[Dale Arvidsson]



Eurycles cunninghamii (1832)
Edwards's Botanical Register; Consisting
of Coloured Figures of Exotic Plants
Cultivated in British Gardens; with their
History and Mode of Treatment. London
[image from Wikimedia Commons]

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Bougainvillea No Longer the 'Bogan' Plant!

By Arno King

It's November and the Bougainvilleas are looking magnificent around Brisbane with their gaudy shawls of deep red, purples and obscene purplish-pinks draped across the verdant green landscape.

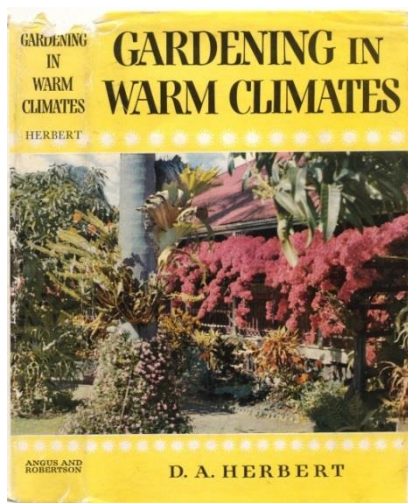


This cover page of the weekly newspaper *The Queenslander* from 1931 salutes the bougainvillea as a colourful gateway arbour cover.

Bougainvilleas fascinate me, they reek of sunny warm climates, yet they are one of only a handful of plants you can see growing and flowering profusely in Darwin, Cairns, in dry and dusty western Queensland, Mediterranean Perth or on a sunny wall in Melbourne.

They certainly thrive in South East Queensland. In fact I would dare to say there are few other places where they put on a more spectacular show. I consider our mild but warm temperatures and the distinct dry and wet seasons stimulate this unprecedented floral profusion. At times, leaves can be totally obscured by those colourful bracts.

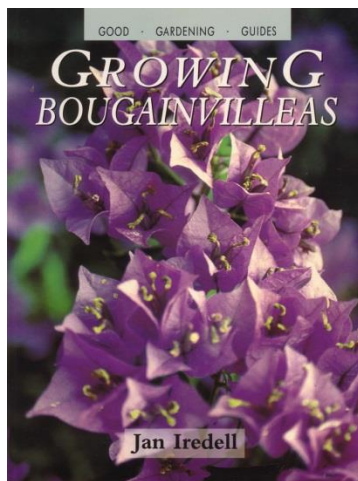
We can also claim a colourful and distinctive history growing these plants. They were a particular favourite of **Frederick (F.W.) Turley, Curator of Queens Park in Ipswich** (1909-1961). Turley not only imported plants but hybridized them and grew on the progeny. Ipswich became known as the Bougainvillea capital of world and early last century and people flocked to the city each year to see the spectacular floral show. The Bougainvillea also became the floral emblem of the city. This legacy is reflected in the many famous cultivars still seen in gardens and on plant lists around the world – names like 'Turley's Special', 'Bois de Rose', 'Silver Magenta', 'Turley's Red', 'Tomato Red', and 'Laterita Improved'. Some of these original plants still survive to this day in Queens Park, although they have been heavily hacked and many have long since given up the ghost. Let's hope Ipswich once again recognizes the historical, tourism and economic value these plants provide, and one day reinstates an annual Bougainvillea Festival.



Bougainvillea Gardens pictured on the dust jacket of Herbert's ground-breaking book (1952). Note the bougainvillea trained along the verandah of the house.

Henry Thomas (1865-1958) was another great grower of these plants and his residence called Somerset or Bougainvillea Gardens (now called Thomas Park), on the Brisbane River at Indooroopilly was a favourite private garden with visitors donating a fee to charity and the family providing teas. During many years, the gardens were widely acclaimed for their beauty. They were taken over by the Brisbane City Council in 1962 as a public park but unfortunately, beyond the photographs, little of these gardens remains today. However, the Bougainvilleas have proved to be great

survivors and large specimens, once lovingly pruned as hedges, standards and climbers, now ramble among the trees and amongst one another. Here you will find the original *B. spectabilis* 'Thomasii' with its pink bracts. This is a chance mutant whose progeny are now grown around the world.



Cover from one of Jan Iredell's books.

Another more contemporary addition to this rich legacy is 'the Bougainvillea Lady', **Jan Iredell**. I remember being shown around the Lucknow Botanic Gardens in India in the 1990s by the curator: "Of course coming from Brisbane you would know Jan Iredell? Such a lovely lady. Please give her my regards". I could actually say I did know Jan, having been to many of her talks, and of course having copies of her two books. Jan has also very patiently, over many years, helped me identify plants in numerous photos I have taken. The Iredell garden in western Brisbane has possibly the largest collection of Bougainvilleas in the Australia. Jan imported many plants during the 1970s and 1980s, grew many more from seed and kept her eyes out for strange sports or mutations which are not uncommon on Bougainvilleas.

Jan is also the originator of the **Bambino Bougainvillea** range – regarded as one of the most successful plant marketing strategies in Australia. She patented many of her best sports and seedlings, concentrating on compact, floriferous, less thorny plants. She regained gardeners' confidence by providing them with many stunning small shrubs and groundcovers that you will now see flowering in gardens, parks and streetscapes across Australia. Between the 1960s and 1990s, Bougainvilleas went through a 'bad patch'. Those vigorous thorny

monsters, planted in entirely the wrong location, were the bane of many gardeners' lives. To add further insult, people of loud, flamboyant and unsophisticated demeanour were nicknamed Bougainvilleas – a term still used by the more mature members of our community, particularly in regional areas. In typical Queensland fashion, this became abbreviated to 'Bogan' – a popular Queensland (now Australian and New Zealand) term for 'an uncouth or unsophisticated person, regarded as being of low social status', and made popular in the 1980s by Kylie Mole on the Comedy Company television programme. No, Bogans don't come from Logan, nor do they come from an isolated shire or river in western New South Wales. They were here all along!

Bougainvilleas may have been regarded as bogan plants all those years ago, but not so these days. The **Bougainvillea Arbor at Southbank** has become the signature shot for the city of Brisbane; the bougainvillea trees at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles appear in many a designer book; and the new entry arbours at Getty's New World Symphony Campus at Miami Beach, Florida have become icons. Bougainvilleas appear on textiles, wallpapers – they are 'oh soooo retro and trendy'!

It would be great to see these hardy and colourful plants used to advantage in our two botanic gardens and arboretum. A motley crew of plants is located on a dry bank near the lookout, at one of the highest points in the Mt Coot-tha Gardens. However, this is just a collection and not a garden that highlights to the public the great potential for these plants. Wouldn't it be great to have a well-designed, seasonally and colour coordinated garden containing Bougainvilleas and complementary plantings to create a stunning floral extravaganza? The subtropical climate lends itself to imaginative planting design and yet there are few public examples and we must go south or overseas to see them. As well as responding to the public craving for floral colour, we can introduce them to our cultural history and contemporary design flair. We can also celebrate the contribution Bougainvilleas have made to our local gardening history.

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Joseph Street (northern) Entry 31 October 2015 (JSim)

FoSA News

Friends of Sherwood Arboretum

Negotiations are currently underway to bring FOSA together into the fBBGSA group. Merging a well-established community group and a new, more broadly focused group is not easy. We hope that all bodes well for a successful outcome in the New Year.

The existing community group, FOSA (Friends of Sherwood Arboretum Association Inc.) have been promoting and protecting this extraordinary botanical treasure for over 29 years. Their members provide hands-on support to managing and regenerating the areas of habitat along the creek lines, lagoons and river edge. Similarly they work on protecting and replanting the arboretum collection when necessary. After the damage of the 2011 floods, there was extensive repair work required.

Sherwood Arboretum 2011 flood view from Joseph St



Canoeing the Avenue. Sourced from report on Alan Fletcher Research Station (27 Magazine St, Sherwood) <http://wtsag.org.au/sites/default/files/Joe%20Rechman%20Alan%20Fletcher%20Research%20Station%20Flooding%20Issues.pdf>

FOSA celebrated the 90th anniversary of the opening of Sherwood Arboretum in March 2015. There were many locals and dignitaries planting trees including the Lord Mayor Cr. Graham Quirk, Cr. Matthew Bourke, Cr. Nicole Johnston, former Curator of BBG, Ross McKinnon AM and current curator Dale Arvidsson. It was a hugely successful event.

The event also marked the 80th year of Institute of Foresters Australia (IFA) in Queensland and so many local foresters joined the celebrations. See their report here:

http://forestry.org.au/ckeditor/ckfinder/userfiles/files/The%20Forester%20April15_5.pdf

FoSA's current logo reveals the strong connection and respect the members have for their botanical treasure.



Sherwood arboretum

Brisbane's living treasure

Sourced from

<http://www.bushcaresmajordavout.org/location/sherwood-arboretum-sherwood>

For **bird watchers**, Sherwood Arboretum offers some real treats. FOSA have hosted Bird Walks in recent years and fBBGSA hope to provide the same enjoyable adventure in BBG City and Mt. Coot-tha. Hugh Possingham and Mat Gilfedder published an excellent illustrated guide "Birding Sherwood Arboretum" January 2012, available online:

http://www.uq.edu.au/spatialecology/docs/Hughs_Bird_Files/Sherwood_bird_guide_hpp_mg_2012.pdf



FoSA members and Cr Nicole Johnston [from her Summer 2015 flyer]

Be on the lookout for FOSA's new website that is scheduled for launching before February 2016!

Breaking News... Dale Arvidsson has been appointed Curator of SA as well as the 2 BBGs. Yay!

We hope to include more news and views of Sherwood Arboretum in future *Lilygram* newsletters.

— Jeannie Sim

OBBG news...

Old Brisbane Botanic Gardens

MESS to LIGHT the WAY!

Extensive construction works in the OBBG at the moment will result in well-lit paths and safer passage. Scheduled to be complete by 2016? Lookout for the new black lampposts.

One of the original cannons in the **Battery** (established in 1862!) has been reinstated! No pot-shots at the yachts or Kangaroo Point allowed!



Views taken 25 November 2015 (JSim)



Firing Salute Botanical Garden, Brisbane.

Historical View, dated about 1860s:

Cannons firing a salute at the Botanic Gardens, Brisbane (John Oxley Library & <http://trove.nla.gov.au/version/167840540>)



Right now – around the Lagoons near Alice Street are massed cannas with different foliage and flower colours that are a special treat!

— Jeannie Sim

Volunteer Guides

By Bettina Palmer

It was during Brisbane's hosting of **Expo 88** and the ensuing success of the Volunteers who escorted the various visiting VIPs around the South Bank environs that the idea of introducing a Volunteer Guiding Programme to the Botanic Gardens of Brisbane was first mooted.

Following negotiations between the then Curator, Mr. Ross McKinnon AM and the Brisbane City Council, the first group of Volunteers were assigned (many of whom had been among the original Expo 88 Guides) and embarked on an intense, short-term botanical education programme founded by the Visitor Services Co-ordinator of the time, Mr Malcolm Cox.

By the end of that year, the first graduates were offering Guided Walks to the visiting public at the Mt. Coot-tha botanic gardens and six months later, a second group were offering a similar service at the Brisbane City botanic gardens.

Within a few short years, Brisbane representatives were invited to join the more established Volunteer Guides in Melbourne and Adelaide, through their Friends' Association meetings in a congenial social exchange. **Brisbane Botanic Gardens' Volunteer Guides** were asked to host the first combined Conference in 1997.

The tradition has continued biennially to allow a different Capital City to host. These conferences now include all Volunteer Guides in Botanic Gardens throughout Australia and New Zealand, offering a unique insight into Volunteer activity in other Botanic Gardens and ensuring an opportunity for networking and ongoing relevant education, as well as offering mentorship to smaller Regional Botanic Gardens. Brisbane has since had a second successful turn at hosting in 2011.

In 2013, Her Excellency, Ms Penelope Wensley AC (Governor of Queensland at that time) joined the Volunteer Guides in celebrating 25 years presence in the Botanic Gardens, and presented an award to Mrs Mary Peden in recognition of her loyalty and continuous service.

Free guided walks are offered twice each day except on public holidays and during the Christmas recess. Themed walks are offered to commemorate significant historical events, such as the ANZAC centenary celebrations earlier this year. Volunteer Guides were engaged in offering extra information for visitors at the Freedom Wall, creating a Poppy Trail through the Gardens and generally sharing stories of wartime experiences in Brisbane. Booked walks are offered to Groups of 12 or more visitors and often themed according to a requested specialty.

Ongoing education for Volunteer Guides is available through the regular invitation of industry experts as guest speakers at monthly meetings, and mentorship in workshops of horticultural research projects such as the Millennium Seed Bank Project and supportive opportunities within the Artist-in-Residence Program.

Twenty-seven years since their induction to the Botanic Gardens, a handful of the original Volunteers have been joined by willing and committed ambassadors of Brisbane's premier green spaces and botanical collections. Interpreting the city's botanical evolution through history, climate, culture, and science as well as engaging the public in an appreciation of the conservation and environmental relevance of plant bio-diversity.

With the introduction and integration of the new Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum it is anticipated that this loyalty and commitment demonstrated by the Volunteer Guides, will be further enhanced by supportive fund-raising activities, allowing a wider community to participate and expand the appreciation of the educational and interpretative material already used by the Volunteer Guides.

CONTACTS: Email:
BotanicGardens@brisbane.qld.gov.au
or telephone council on 07 3403 8888.

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Guides Conference 2011, Groups 9 of 23. Can you spot Bettina Palmer in there?

Member Perks

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If you join the Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens there are perks and there will be more benefits! Here's a few beauties to be going on with:

- ☉ you can nourish your philanthropic heart with generous donations ♥
- ☉ you can partake of special activities organised by fBBGSA – see the preliminary activities listed to the right 🐾
- ☉ you can meet like-minded enthusiasts, socialise, discuss and strategise about matters botanical, and enjoys the eats! 😊
- ☉ as we evolve, we envisage special reduced prices for members to associated places, local cafés, garden centres, and to events we organise for fund-raising \$\$\$
- ☉ you can exercise your green digits by joining the GROWING FRIENDS who will be looking after the Kitchen Garden at MCBG and propagating plants from cuttings and seeds gathered from our gardens and Arboretum (all under Dale's watchful eye!) 🌱
- ☉ make your voice heard as we advocate to protect our treasures, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, City and Mt. Coot-tha and Sherwood Arboretum. We have more power as a strong lobby group with many active members. 🗣️

Tell us what you want from fBBGSA! That acronym does get easier to remember with practice! How can we better provide the connections, promotions and protections that are our core goals?



Friends of
Brisbane Botanic Gardens
& Sherwood Arboretum

WELCOME

CONNECT · PROMOTE · PROTECT

§

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

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The current committee have targeted six majors areas of interest to get moving in 2016. They match up with most of the interests members have nominated in their application forms, but we can always refine and improve!



TALKS (5 talks per year to start)
We will host educational lectures and forums to feed our members' curiosity and thirst for knowledge! Arno King and Jeannie Sim are already on board for delivering some great talks.

WALKS (7 visits proposed so far)
We see lots of opportunities for guided visits to our own sites, special private gardens, allied nearby botanic gardens and special events like the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.

GROWING / GARDENING
From 2016 we will start our conjoined green digits under Arno King's leadership. Please contact us through info@fbbgsa.org.au to sign up! We have yet to find a suitable nursery facility for propagation purposes, but that's high on our list of priority tasks!

NEWSLETTER (6 issues per year)
At the moment, we will publish one newsletter using the email system for distribution of a PDF version. We thought it too wasteful of precious resources to do a print run and post it. By adding the PDF to the website, we believe we satisfy the non-emailing members.

SOCIALS (3 plus more!)
So far we have identified several fund-raising events that link art and plants in a big way, for example Bettina Palmer's "**Horti-Couture**" night and her art/craft sales events called **Botanique Bazaars**. That's for starters! Who likes to throw parties? Want to be our team leader for socials?

Calendar

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We have gathered all sorts of information about events and activities by other community groups plus school holidays and public holidays. This helps us plan our own events to avoid conflicts. Eventually, we hope to add a more interactive version on the website.

WISH-LIST for the future:

- ☉ ANNUAL PLANT FAIR – getting local nurseries/growers to hold stalls and eventually include stock from our own Growing Friends (who would target our own heritage and rare plants sourced from within BBGs/SA)
- ☉ BRISBOTS – activities for kids and families, especially learning adventures!
- ☉ PLANT COLLECTING TRIPS – eventually limited trips for Plant Friends subgroup led by our intrepid Curator Dale Arvidsson!
- ☉ FUND-RAISING "Donation Posts" at all three sites (Dale said this was really successful at Mackay RBG!); just drop in a gold coin! Kerching!
- ☉ Bird-watching walks in all sites
- ☉ Photography excursions and exhibitions
- ☉ More art/craft activities e.g. liaising with the Botanical Artists' Society of Queensland, etc.
- ☉ YARNBOMBING for beginners!
- ☉ More ideas from our members!

— Jeannie Sim

SEASONS GREETINGS!



Best wishes for all
members, families, friends,
and pets! ☺

Tolerance and kindness,
and compassion
are great gifts to give & receive.

2016 CALENDAR for Friends of BBGSA

To be regularly updated with each NEWSLETTER!

JANUARY	
Friday 1 Jan	Qld School Hols to 25 Jan
Tuesday 26 Jan	New Year's Day
	Australia Day
FEBRUARY	
6 – 7 February	International Cordyline Soc. Show @ MCBG
Sunday 13 Feb	Compost and Worm Farming (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30am	
12 – 14 Feb	Aspley Orchid Society Show @ MCBG
Mid-February	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #2
tba	TALK 1:
Tuesday 23 Feb	Compost and Worm Farming (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-12.30pm	
Saturday 27 Feb	Begonia Society of Qld Show @ MCBG
Saturday 27 Feb	Sustainable Gardening (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-12.30pm	
MARCH	
12 – 13 March	IPSWICH PLANT EXPO
12 -13 March	Palm and Cycad Soc. Aust. Show @ MCBG
Saturday 27 Feb	Cooking with Fresh Seasonal Produce (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Grdn @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
	Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show
16 – 20 March	
19 – 20 March	West Brisbane Orchid Soc. Show @ MCBG
tba	SPECIAL General Meeting for fBBGSA
25 – 28 March	EASTER
26 – 27 March	Qld Orchid Society Show @ MCBG
25 Mar - 10 April	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS QLD
APRIL	
tba	TALK 2
9 – 10 April	Bimer Bonsai Club Show @ MCBG
16 – 17 April	Qld Council of Garden Clubs @ MCBG
Saturday 14 April	Grow it, Cook It, Compost It (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
12-3pm	
Mid-April	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #3
tba	Flora Guided Walk OBBG
MAY	
20 April – 1 May	Bris. Visual Arts Community Show @ MCBG
Sunday 1 May	Compost and Worm Farming (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
Monday 2 May	LABOUR DAY
7 – 8 May	Qld Rose Society Show @ MCBG
Sunday 8 May	Mothers' Day
Sunday 15 May	Sustainable Gardening (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
mid-May	Open Private Garden visit
20 – 22 May	Brisbane Plant Collective Fair @ MCBG
last week May	National Botanic Gardens Week
24 – 28 May	Chelsea Flower and Garden Show UK!
Saturday 29 May	Cooking with Fresh Seasonal Produce (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Grdn @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
28 – 29 May	Floral Art Society of Qld @ MCBG
23 – 29 May	Botanique Art Bazaar Randall Studio MCBG
JUNE	
tba	TALK 3
tba	Flora Guided Walk MCBG
4 – 5 June	Gunyah Lapidary Club Show @ MCBG
10 – 12 June	Cactus & Succulent Soc. Qld Show @ MCBG
Monday 13 June	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY
Mid-June	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #4
Tuesday 21 June	Grow it, Cook It, Compost It (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
25 – 26 June	North Moreton Orchid Soc. Show @ MCBG
25 June - 24 July	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS QLD
End of financial year	Annual subscriptions due!

JULY	
5 – 10 July	Hampton Court Garden Show
5 – 10 July	Pastel Society of Australia @ MCBG
8 – 10 July	QLD GARDEN EXPO
16 – 17 July	John Oxley Orchid Society Show @ MCBG
tba	Sculpture Walk in OBBG
22 – 24 July	Creative Glass Society Show @ MCBG
Sunday 31 July	Planetark National Tree Day
23 - 31 July	SINGAPORE GARDEN EXPO
Sunday 30 July	Compost and Worm Farming (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
31 July	Qld Camellia Society Show @ MCBG
AUGUST	
tba	fBBGSA AGM
4 – 7 August	Watercolour Society Show @ MCBG
tba	TALK 4
Saturday 13 August	Sustainable Gardening (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
Mid-August	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #5
13 – 14 August	Woodturners Society of Qld Show @ MCBG
Tuesday 16 August	Grow it, Cook It, Compost It (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
Wed 17 Aug	EKKA Day
20 – 21 August	Sogetsu Ikebana Qld Show @ MCBG
Saturday 27 August	Cooking with Fresh Seasonal Produce (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Grdn @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
27 – 28 August	North Brisbane Orchid Soc. Show @ MCBG
SEPTEMBER	
3 – 4 September	Bonsai Society of Qld Show @ MCBG
10 – 11 September	West Brisbane Orchid Soc. Show @ MCBG
16 - 25 Sept	visit TOOWOOMBA CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS
17 – 18 September	Native Plants Qld (SGAP) Show @ MCBG
24 – 25 September	Geranium & Pelargonium Soc. Show @ MCBG
tba	Sculpture Walk in MBBG
OCTOBER	
30 Sept – 1 October	Qld Rose Society Show @ MCBG
1 – 9 October	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS QLD
Thurs 6 October	"Horti-Couture" night! MCBG AUDITORIUM booked again! BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW
6 – 9 October	
7 – 16 October	Botanique Art Bazaar Randall Studio MCBG
8 – 9 October	Qld Orchid Society Show @ MCBG
Mid-October	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #6
11 October	Arbor Day
15 – 16 October	African Violet Society @ MCBG
Sunday 16 October	Grow it, Cook It, Compost It (Ngaire Gilligen) Kitchen in Garden @ MCBG
9.30-11.30	
22 – 23 October	Orchid Species Society Show @ MCBG
29 – 30 October	North Moreton Orchid Soc. Show @ MCBG
NOVEMBER	
5 – 6 November	Qld Wildlife Artists Society Show @ NCBG
tba	TALK 5
12 – 13 November	Bris. Visual Arts Community Show @ MCBG
mid-November	Open Private Garden visit
16 – 21 November	Botanical Artists Society Show @ MCBG
26 – 27 November	Woodturners Society of Qld Show @ MCBG
DECEMBER	
Early December	fBBGSA Newsletter issue #7
16 Dec 2016	
to 22 Jan 2017	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS QLD
Friday 25th Dec	Christmas Day
	Happy Holidays!

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