

Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens & Sherwood Arboretum

# Newsletter

October 2018 Better late than never!

Let's be friends

#### CONTACTING f BBGSA

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

Brisbane's Botanic Treasures (History & Place Information) www.brisbanebotanictreasures.info

#### Email info@fbbgsa.org.au

MAIL ADDRESS f BBGSA, PO Box 39, Sherwood, Qld 4075.

New Board of Directors Jeannie Sim (Secretary) John Taylor (Treasurer), with Annette Irish (IT & Member Services), Arno King (Events), Sidonie Carpenter, Phillipa Beeson and Dale Arvidsson (ex officio as Curator of both BBGs & SA)

The Board has implemented a contemporary Board structure for a trail period with a rotating meeting Chair.

ABN 20 607 589 873

Connect - Promote - Protect

Brisbane's Botanic Treasures are: Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt. Coot-tha City Botanic Gardens, CBD Sherwood Arboretum, Sherwood



Welcome to our ninth issue! Suggestions for stories or actual articles or photographs are very welcome! Please send them to the Editor, via <u>info@fbbgsa.org.au</u>

### **STOP PRESS!**

Queensland Police Memorial in City Botanic Gardens has been completed. Official opening on 24 November 2018. See more page 8.



DELECTABLE PLANT TREASURE: The Diggers Club Taste Test Winners Seed Collection includes Tommy Toe, Pink Bumble Bee, Jaune Flamme, Wapsipinicon Peach and Green Grape. (https://www.diggers.com.au/shop/edibles/tastetest-winners-seed-collection/s263/).

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Please refer to our main website for the most up-to-date Activities and Events!

www.fbbgsa.org.au/events-2/#!calendar



OUR FLORAL EMBLEM Proiphys cunninghamii Brisbane Lily Planted on 14 October 2015 in MCBG at the Launch of fBBGSA. These blooms photographed in November 2015 [MJK]

### Membership Counter September 2018: 187\*

Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum \*Current financial members

Welcome all new members! Since Sept 2017, we have welcomed 68 new members!

#### NEW MEMBERS and RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

The new online MembershipWorks software is up and running and offers easy operation and accurate database records. Any difficulties with this please contact <u>members@fbbgsa.org.au</u> or <u>webmaster@fbbgsa.org.au</u>

Renewals will be according to when you sign up with automatic reminders.

### Secretary's News

Welcome to the second newsletter for 2018. The Friends have been busy since June with several important events and more to come.

Increasing membership is a major goal for this year and beyond. Appearances at Plant Expos, the Ekka and our website help promote our causes. Please become active here and ask more of your friends and family to become members!

Behind the events and talks and gardening efforts, the Board of fBBGSA has been busy writing letters and talking to politicians about issues of concern.

The proposed ZIPLINE is a major contentious issue as it directly impacts the values of the Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha, the whole Mt. Cooth-tha Precinct and local residents. There is a more detailed report on pages 8 and 9.

Another matter we have undertaken is to ask that the Brisbane City Council's website (Botanic Gardens pages) have a link to our website. So far this is still under consideration but indications are favourable. Hopefully the BBC Sherwood Arboretum's page will also be upgraded soon. This will mean a great increase in possible readers of website and potential our new members!

We have also been steadily applying pressure for a **Propagating Nursery** facility at MCBG as agreed in the MasterPlan. If successful, we could centralise our efforts and resources so we can really get the Growing activities by the Propagation Team thriving.

Just last week we got some great news from Cr. McLachlan (Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee) about this so check out the full story in the next Lilygram in December! The Board is also exploring possible grants to help pay for this setup. Very exciting times!

And we are currently searching for a new Leader for the Propagation Team after the excellent efforts of Stephen Dosen this past year.



Julie looking sweet at Horti-Couture (photo by Kim Woods Rabbidge)

Finally, as we say goodbye to Julie Lumsdale as Chair we need to thank her again for all her hard work this past year.

It was fBBGSA's team of volunteers that did a grand job at the Ekka again this year, which entailed a huge amount of effort to promote our Friends' group.



FBBGSA EKKA Stand 2018: Can you see the popular water-dragon and scarecrow sculptures? (Source of image our Facebook)

We have had a couple of Tuesday Talks and the Spice Walk since the last *Lilygram*. Please read the descriptions of other activities on following pages!

Matters directly related to the three botanic treasures (CBG, MCBG and SA) are highlighted in more detail as well.

Lastly, get ready for the Brisbane Tomato Festival next weekend!

Happy reading!

– Jean Sim

### **BOARD ISSUES**

8

We held our Annual General Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and confirmed the election of the Board of Directors for 2018-2019. Did you see the updated list on page 1? Please check out bios here: https://fbbgsa.org.au/fbbgsa-about-us/

The first issue in interest for this issue of Lilygram newsletter is that the Board of the Friends will trial a new "contemporary management model" that involves a 'rotating' Chair.

We simply nominate a Chair for each Board meeting and share that role around the table from month to month. This system is based upon various recommended models for company boards.

Our existing constitution allows this scenario provided the positions of Secretary and Treasurer are fixed – that's me Jeannie Sim as Secretary and John Taylor as Treasurer.

The rest of the Directors will manage the necessary portfolios such as communications, governance, events, volunteers and so on.

From now on, the secretary will be the central contact point for most matters such as communicating with the Brisbane City Council.

We plan to review this model in the new year. Thank you for your patience as we adjust to this new model!



### SOCIAL MEDIA

## INSTAGRAM news

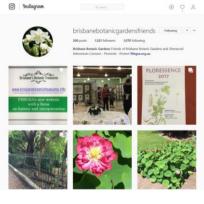


This social media outlet has been established since March 2016 and is thriving with **1,769** followers (16/10/2018) and still growing! WOW! And we just reached 352 posts! Here's our tag:

#### @brisbanebotanicgardensfriends

You can also follow Instagram on your computer. There are lots of botanic gardens, horticulture, arts, crafts and design postings out there!

Our team of enthusiastic social media workers now includes **Anne Marlay**, **Annette Irish and Jeannie Sim.** But, Anne does most of the hard work!





Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum <u>https://www.facebook.com/brisb</u> <u>anebotanicgardens/</u> §

#### Friends of Sherwood Arboretum

have established a Facebook page! Congratulations FOSA!

Check out their working bees and other activities directly.

https://www.facebook.com/Friends ofSherwoodArboretum/

### W/EBSITES

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Friends now operates two websites!

Our original one is the operational heart of our communications while the new one is devoted to interpreting the history and values of all three botanic treasures.

### www.fbbgsa.org.au



Please drop in regularly to see what's new! We have been titivating, adding and rearranging things lately. What do you think? What else would you like? Contact us: <u>info@fbbgsa.org.au</u>

Membership renewal and newbies are easily managed online. We are always seeking volunteers for the many projects we have underway. Please consider helping. Also, the events booking process is new and really easy to operate! Old favourites like "WHAT'S FLOWERING?" has its own menu tab while back copies of *Lilygram* newsletters are under NEWS. Under EVENTS we have a big calendar listing as well as individual notices.

Lastly if you can't find something easily in the top menu, the QSEARCH function is really clever and should get you to the right place!



www.brisbanebotanictreasures.info



featuring the fascinating **NOW and THEN Gallery!** 



1905 THEN: sheet 5 masted ship (Searce: St()/IOL) 217 NOW. Mt Coot-tha in background new obscared by new baildings and new of burrya pines consta



Please tell us what you think of our website! Contact us here: <u>info@fbbgsa.org.au</u>

Our new Brisbane botanic treasures website captures some of the interesting stories, images and ideas that have been prepared in recent times to interpret these places. And it will continue to grow as more articles are written by more people, more maps uncovered and more photographs taken. We aim to provide information for the casual visitor and the serious scholar, for real visits and virtual explorations. **Thus the real purpose of this website is to provide interesting and useful educational experiences.** 

Recently the Bush-house Tuesday Talk was added to the PDF presentations available for downloading! If the top or side menus aren't helpful in finding something, use the **Q**SEARCH function (located in top green space to right).

# **TALKS + Training**

### SPICE WALK!

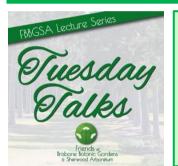
### JULY 2018

Spice & Flavours: Tastes & Walk with Dale Arvidsson, Curator, Brisbane BG & Annette Irish recipe collector

A fun and tasty time was had which calls out for a repeat!

The walk included a stroll through the Fragrant Garden to see and smell spices and herbs, down through the Ornamental Plants garden, across to the Tropical Display Dome, tastes of spices, herbs and flowers in tempting Cordials, and end at the Kitchen in the Garden/Orchard, for more tastes of spices, herbs and flowers in tempting hot chocolates and kinderpunsch.





### TUESDAY TALKS

You are invited to attend these regular Tuesday evening talks that provide fascinating insights from entertaining speakers! So much to learn!

- We always serve some light refreshments with the opportunity to chat to members and visitors. Great opportunity to meet the Board!
- And we have a table of Friends' merchandise for sale including our branded bags and mugs, second hand gardening books salvaged from the Brisbane City Library service and some of our propagating team's plants!
- ◎ Talks for 2019 are being organised now! Keep watching the Calendar online.



### AUGUST 2018

Three 'Ss' –Singapore, Spain, Sydney – how modern botanic gardens are adapting to stay relevant.

**Stuart Reed** images were wonderful and his words thoughtful and always amusing. Stuart has been involved with garden history and historic land conservation practice for decades!

He is an author, bureaucrat, scientist and landscape architect. His travels and studies have taken him through Australasia, Cuba, the Middle East, England and Spain.

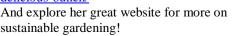


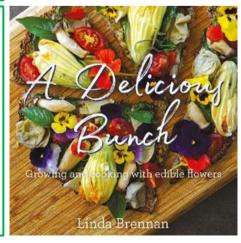


### OCTOBER 2018

The Edible Flowers Revolution

Linda Brennan presented a visual, aromatic and tasting treat as she explained how many flowers are edible and useful in different ways. Flowers are extraordinary to look and smell but to eat as well was such a joy! Her wonderful new book on this subject is really worth buying. It shows both gardening and cooking ideas. Buy online: https://ecobotanica.com.au/product/adelicious-bunch/





# WALKS

Hidden Treasures ~ November Open Garden visit!



When you stroll around Helen Henningham's Corinda garden in Brisbane, it feels like you're being introduced to lots of lovely friends. Some are cultivars with special attributes; some are fragile but perform with encouragement, and some are simply reliable old favourites. Filled with a lovely mix of native and exotic plants, the garden is imbued with serenity.

The Queenslander home sits to one side of the 1200sqm block, allowing for space to garden at the front, the back, and along the western border. On the eastern side there's just enough room for a path shrouded in greenery - an area Helen calls her 'Shade Gallery' and a place her grandchildren find mystical.

Wanda Trevor from Grandma's Garden and garden owner, Helen Henningham will have plants for sale on the day. Starts Thu 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018, 9:00am and ends at noon. Bookings (registration) essential. Please go to website: <u>https://fbbgsa.org.au/events/#!event/register/2018/11/6/hidden-treasures-open-garden</u>

This garden viewing will be the last major event for the year!

### **Pre-CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER!**

Come and say hello and grab some treats on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 between 3-6pm. This is or last event of 201.8. Watch out for the Mailchimp email for exact location and to register!



# **EVENTS + Exploits!**

CHECK our CALENDAR on the website for future events! https://fbbgsa.org.au/events-2/#!calendar

### **HORTI-COUTURE 2018**

#### Words by Bettina Palmer, photographs by Kim Woods Rabbidge

The concept of 'Wearing your Garden' may confuse most, but with the Horti-Couture parades held at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens each year, the temptation is spreading. From using organic bamboo, cotton, hemp and linen textiles and inspired by favourite plants, various artists painted, printed or dyed fabric with their chosen subject, others played with hand-made or recycled papers to create their interpretations of the wearable garden, but all alluded to an obvious environmental conscience for alternatives to the more mainstream fashion clothing events.

Obvious bursts of spring colour, alongside more subtle earthy hues were used as pigments, mordants and dyes; some with an added message featuring rare or threatened species. Experts in weaving with foraged plant material, wove skirts, shoes and head-pieces, arousing interest with the waiting audience, but it was the again the fresh floral material that stole the camera lens and the judges' attention.

Former florist and now Horticulturist

Local Florist, **Brittany Pate** and her team from **My Little Flower Shoppe** in Caxton Street used an incredible array of Magnolia, Philodendron and fern leaves decorated with roses, jasmine and orchids to portray her *Tinkerbell* modelled by Tammie carrying a pristine long-stemmed rose as her wand.

with a penchant for costuming **Belinda Payne** (centre) with her winning entries (1st prize for *Treasures of Texture* modelled by Jess and 2nd prize for *Bold and Breathtaking* modelled by Eleanor). Even a snakeskin didn't escape Belinda's foraging, but the leaf covered shoes and meticulous detail in accessorizing, easily stole the show (Left) The audience were able to vote for their favourite and chose another of Belinda's creations made of every type of sub-tropical leaf imaginable, again the accessories were not overlooked in *Lush and Lavish* (below) modelled by Rhyannon. Living succulents became necklace and earrings to complement this head-turner.





The Judges of course, had a major challenge deciding which outfit when the categories were so different, but they did their job with good humour and enjoyed the atmosphere. The judges for 2018 were Vicki-Lee Bower – our chief of Visitor Services at the Botanic Gardens; Cr Kate Richards – Local Councillor for Pullenvale Ward and Jess Toms from Queensland Racing and Judge of Fashions in the Field.

This year the fBBGSA stepped well out of their comfort zone in building community partnerships, namely with the Australian Dance Performance Institute (ADPI) of Albion, who happily provided eleven of their senior dance students to model the garments on the day, which they did most graciously and added great style and personality to the photos.

#### The Horti-Couture Events Team would like to thank the following for their support and donations:

- A grand morning tea was provided by the Friends' volunteers
- Photographs by Kim Woods Rabbidge of Our Australian Gardens
- Australian Flower Industry 'Flower Thinking'
- BASQ Botanical Artists' Society (Queensland)
- Isookfield Garden Centre
- I Husk and Vine Flower Bouquets for Judges
- Lynda Young
- Mappins Nursery
- Memory Cabinet
- Sancy Brown
- Redcliffe Garden Centre
- Generous Donations by Benefactors wishing to remain private helped us award monetary prizes to each of the winning Artists including an Encouragement Award
- Special Thanks to Dale Arvidsson (our Curator) and his dedicated Garden staff for preparing the Grounds to such a high standard and also being on hand to manage sound, electricity and set-up amenities on the day.



Close-ups of the winning outfits and models from previous page



Bettina Palmer

Dale Arvidsson (Curator) and Cr. Kate Richards

Judges: Vicki-Lee Bower, Cr Kate Richards and Jess Toms.

Patronage through our ticket sales for the event and raffle sales contributed to raising over \$3500 toward the refurbishment of the Childrens' Trail at MCBG, but also, the fBBGSA as an organization have opened a new door to Public Art Events with direct recognition to the Artists involved.

Note from Editor: If only we could fit all the 127 photographs taken by Kim Woods Rabbidge in this newsletter! Kim's images are wonderful and do great justice to all the hours of hard work and ingenuity by the designers/makers. Many thanks to all involved!

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

## **Brisbane Tomato Festival!** Sat 20<sup>th</sup> & Sun 21<sup>st</sup> October 2018

at Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt. Coot-tha

Some of our readers are familiar with the annual Tomato Festivals hosted by The Diggers Club in association with the Friends groups attached to RBG, Melbourne and RBG, Sydney. They are lots of fun and excellent for promoting heritage varieties of the beloved tomato. Food tasting and plants for sale! Interesting speakers and chefs! Yum!

Well it's Brisbane's turn for some subtropicalian varieties. **Please join our team of volunteers or attend yourself as a visitor.** Don't forget to spread the word and tell your friends and family about this exciting new event!

#### WHAT'S ON:

- Best In Show Competition! Bring your best tomato or relish for judging by our experts – first place receives a prize!
- Take part in Diggers famous Tomato Taste Test! Try and rate a selection of heirloom tomatoes both days from 11am-1pm
- Pop up shops the best kind of shopping, garden shopping! Seeds, plants, gardening materials, cooking gadgetry and tomatoes of course.
- Free talks both days indulge your passions with gardening and cooking demonstrations
- Meet The Diggers Club Team your chance to talk heirlooms and gardening with our experts.
- Meet the Friends of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens – talk to the people who support this beautiful space.
- In Plant Creche for your special purchases
- GUIDED WALKS of MCBG! Walks leave twice daily (Monday to Sunday) from the Visitor Information Centre at 11am and 1pm. It is not necessary for individuals or small groups to book these walks. Large groups or groups with a special interest can make a booking for a customised tour by phoning (07) 3403 2535.



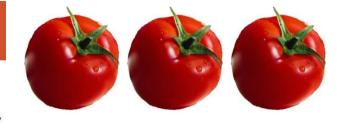


www.diggers.com.au/whats-on | www.fbbgsa.org.au

**The Diggers Club** is more than a mail-order nursery based on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria. Apart from saving and selling heirloom varieties of fruit and vegetables and flowers, they ardently promote sustainable gardening with books, workshops and more. Clive and Penny Blazey set up the Club in 1978. **The Diggers Foundation** was established in 2011. "We established The Diggers Foundation to ensure that the work we've done over more than 30 years in preserving historic gardens and houses as well as the best garden traditions through education will continue forever," said Clive.

Please read more about the history and philosophy of The Diggers Club and Foundation here: <a href="https://www.diggers.com.au/about-us/history-of-diggers/">https://www.diggers.com.au/about-us/history-of-diggers/</a>

### THE DIGGERS CLUB BRISBANE TOMATO FESTIVAL



sbane Following images sourced from: https://www.diggers.com.au/whats-on/brisbane-tomato-festival/ Please visit for more detailed information.

alo

#### PRESENTERS AT THE BRISBANE TOMATO FESTIVAL 2018



**KEVIN REDD** 

MORE >

ARNO KING



PHIL DUDMAN



ROMAN SPUR

LINDA BRENNAN



GLEN BARRATT





#### Meet the chefs and the horticulturists!

#### **STALLHOLDERS BOTH DAYS 2018**

The Diggers Club The Friends of the Brisbane Botanic Garden & Sherwood Arboretum Julia's Pantry Sustainable Cuisine Shogun Tools Brookfield Nursery Chris and Jodi Bond Pomodoras Balsamic Green Harvest Rocky Point Bob The Beeman **Direct Compost Solutions** Ozpeat The Curious Caravan Farthlife

#### **PROGRAM SATURDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2018**

#### LEARN WITH OUR EXPERTS 10:00-10:45am - Healthy soil, healthy food,

healthy you with Leonie Shanahan Do you want vibrant delicious tomatoes and health, energy and happiness? It all starts in the soil.

11:00-11:45am - Celebrate 40yrs of Diggers with Clive Blazey

Clive Blazey, founder of the Diggers Club will talk about the importance of heirloom seed preservation and how the ownership of seeds has changed from public ownership to dominance by corporations in the last 50 vears.

#### 11:00 - 1:00pm - Take part in Diggers' famous Tomato Taste Test.

Sample and rate a selection of heirloom tomatoes

12:00-12:45pm - Growing the perfect tomato with Phil Dudman.

Beat the rot and farewell the fungus. Join Phil when he shares his recipe for growing the perfect beefsteak, Roma, Grosse Lisse or Tommy Toe.

1:00-1:45pm - The Future of seeds with Clive Blazey, Frances Michaels & Arno King

Seeds are the basis of life so join our experts for an entertaining and informative discussion about the future of seeds.

2:00-2:45pm - SELDOM SEEN SOLANACEAE: Growing the perfect tomato with Kevin Redd

Some other wonderful culinary plants from this diverse group.

3:00-3:45 Chilli growing made simple with Hedrik Kwan

#### WHAT'S COOKING ON SATURDAY?

Location kitchen Garden 2:00-2:45pm Tomatoes to table with David Pugh & Alison Alexander.

Whether using them fresh or cooked, tomatoes are a favourite ingredient in Alison's cooking. In her demonstration she will make dishes suitable for the warm weather and summer

entertaining. 3:00-3:45pm - Dressing up your tomato salad with Chris Bond.



#### **PROGRAM SUNDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2018**

#### LEARN WITH OUR EXPERTS

09:00-9:45am - Growing Organic Food in Small Spaces with Roman Spur

Practical and inexpensive ideas and tips to grow tomatoes and other organic vegetables

10:00-10:45am - Gardening with children at home and in schools with Leonie Shanahan. We'll talk about how to engage kids in

gardening, how to start gardens, best plants for success, equipment and activities.

11:00-11:45am - More than just marigolds how to grow delicious organic tomatoes using companion planting and crop rotation with Linda brennan.

Would you love to harvest your own juicy, sweet tomatoes like you remember tasting as a kid? Greenthumb Goddess Linda Brennan will help you sort out the best ways to sure success.

11:00-1:00pm - Take part in Diggers' famous Tomato Taste Test-

sample and rate a selection of heirloom tomatoes

12:00-12:45pm - Tomatoes all year round -Growing and harvesting tomatoes according to the local season with Arno King

Arno will discuss his experiences with various tomatoes and recommendation for seasonal planting

1:00-1:45 - Go No Dig - enjoyablel with Phil Dudman.

Phil explains how no dig gardening methods will help you create better soil and reduce your weeding, watering and fertilising.

2:00-2:45pm - Secrets for a successful organic tomato harvest with Frances Michaels. Frances Michaels from Green Harvest will talk

you through the key aspects of production tomato crops in your organic garden.

#### WHAT'S COOKING ON SUNDAY?

Location: Kitchen Garden 10:00-10:45am

Homage Restaurant with Ash Martin.

11:00am

Moda Restaurant with Javier Codina 12:00pm

"SALSA, SOUP and SORBET : WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR BOUNTIFUL TOMATO HARVEST" with Kevin Redd and Clive Blazev

1:00pm

Executive chef at stokehouse Richard Ousby 2:00pm

Glen Barratt - Executive Chef at Wild Canary, Brookfield Nursery



RICHARD OUSBY







### NEWS

From Lord Mayor's 2018-19 Budget speech: "I have allocated \$5 million towards continued upgrades and delivering on the master plan at the City Botanic Gardens."

2018-19 BCC BUDGET documents https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/about-council/council-information-rates/news-publications/council-annual-plan-budget-2018-19

### **QPS MEMORIAL**

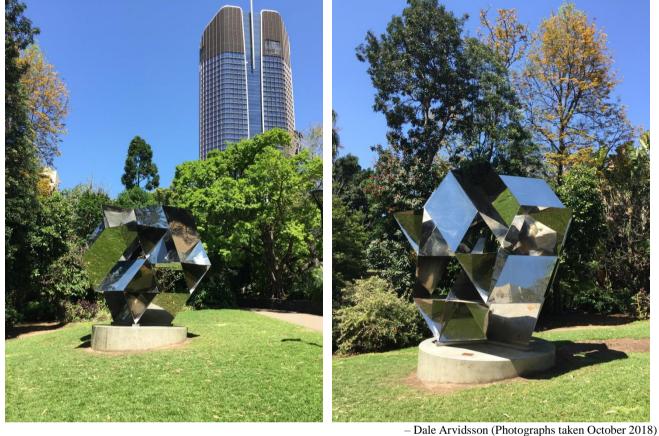
The approval of this new intervention to the City Botanic Gardens was announced in *Lilygram* #8 in June. Since then, construction has been completed under the watchful eye of Council officers to ensure minimal damage to the Gardens. The resultant positioning and scale of the stone faced arches and adjacent flagpole and bench seating has been more successful than the original drawings and models indicated. The Memorial is snuggled on the edge of the open space next to the generous shade of the old fig tree with the old *Grevillea robusta* tree safe and sound. As part of this development, the Expo '88 sculpture *Morning Star* has been removed and relocated (see next page). This action was actually recommended in the 1995 Conservation Plan to re-establish the original open space. The whole Wedding Lawn area has been enhanced with this clearing of the space. Currently the new turf is being protected from harmful wear and tear by temporary fencing. Please come into the city and check out the new addition for yourselves.



The official Dedication of the Queensland Police Memorial will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018. It is heartening to know that the much-needed Memorial for the families and friends of the Police Service will contribute to the layers of social value that exist for these historic old Gardens. A restful place indeed. – Jean Sim (Photographs taken 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018)

The sculpture Morning Star has been successfully relocated to the lawn between Alice Street boundary and the back of Oakman's Rockery. Please come and visit and check out the new feature for yourself.

Consider taking a photograph and posting on Instagram or Facebook with hashtags #cbgmorningstar and #citybotanicgardens and #brisbanepublicsculpture





New site for Morning Star sculpture

Original site of Morning Star sculpture. The new QPS Memorial is nestled near the trees to the north.

Nearmap image dated 14 Feb 2018.



### **NEWS**

Implementation of the Masterplan will be done in stages. From the Lord Mayor's 2018-2019 Budget speech: "I have allocated over \$5 million to continue upgrades to walking trails, picnic areas, the Botanic Gardens, the Planetarium, the Visitor Information Centre and the new Zipline project."

018-19 BCC BUDGET documents https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/about-council/council-information-rates/news-publications/council-annual-plan-budget-2018-19

### ZIPLINE PROJECT

The Board of fBBGSA has already written to the Lord Mayor with advice to reject this project because of the damage that would occur to the physical infrastructure of the Botanic Gardens and the loss of quiet refuge landscape character in the Australian Plant Communities area. We plan to continue voicing our disapproval.

Here is the current state of play. There are two approvals to be obtained before any construction can start. Firstly there is the current Development Application which the Brisbane City Council assesses. Secondly a Land Management Plan has to be submitted to the State Government for approval. Check out the process and download the documents from here: <u>https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/parks-venues/mt-coot-tha-precinct/mt%C2%A0coot-tha-precinct-projects/mt-coot-tha-zipline</u> Accessed 16 October 2018. This page states:

"Council has submitted a development application to ensure the zipline meets planning standards while having minimal impact on the environment, amenity and local community. An external planning company produced the development application, which addresses all codes and statutory requirements through extensive detailed technical reports by qualified experts."

These technical studies include:

- planning report
- ecological assessment
- owl and raptor study
- vegetation management plan
- arboriculture impact assessment
- traffic impact assessment and design
- bushfire risk, hazard assessment and management plan
- acoustic (noise) impact assessment

- heritage impact statement
- visual impact assessment
- landscape plans
- architectural plans
- construction methodology
- site based stormwater management plan
- social and economic assessment.

These documents can be viewed online at Brisbane Planning and Development Online: <u>https://pdonline.brisbane.qld.gov.au/masterplan/</u> and search using application number **A005011420**.

The architectural plans show the extent of the two structures to be constructed within the Australian Plant Communities area. Some extracts from these documents are included on the following page.

Council's website also states: "In parallel to the Development Application and its assessment, Council will also submit a land management plan to the Queensland Government for the proposed change in use of the land (the Deed of Grant in Trust) at Mt Coot-tha, as required under the Land Act. Before the plan is submitted, Council, in conjunction with an experienced land management planning consultancy, will undertake community consultation on the draft land management plan. This will occur in parallel with the development application public notification period. Consultation activities for the land management plan are still being determined, but will include drop-in information sessions and an online survey. Council will notify the community once these activities are confirmed."

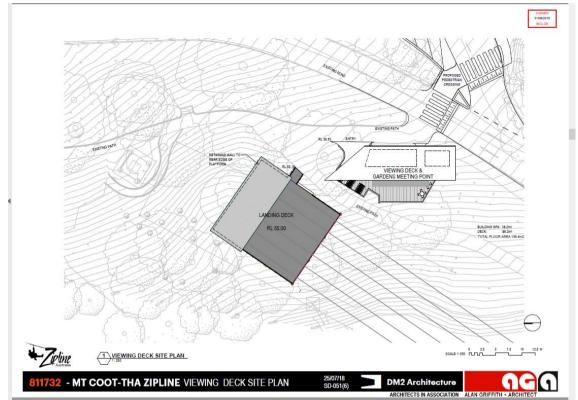
PLEASE NOTE: feedback will be most effective during this notification period which has yet to be announced. The Friends will send out a Mailchimp email notifying you when that period is announced. We will make a formal submission on behalf of the Friends, but your individual voice and opinion will add weight as well.

There are ardent protests being made by several other community groups, including setting up ePetitions.

Mt Coot-tha Protection Alliance Inc. has a website and a Facebook page:

https://www.mountcoot-thazipline.org/ and https://www.facebook.com/MtCootthaProtectionAlliance/

They ask, "please join the conversation". The comments on Facebook and the images are most revealing.



Extract from DA architectural document showing plan view of the two structures needed for landing across the Lake in Australian Plant Communities section.



Artist's rendering of the landing Deck and Amenity Block also showing the tower on top of the hill at the back of the Botanic Gardens (Photograph taken at Community Information Session at Toowong, Wednesday 10 October 2018 by JSim).

The six ziplines stretch across the lake from the hilltop Tower (obscured by convenient tree) necessitating the removal of several large trees. Exactly which trees will go has not been documented. Imagine the noise of zinging lines and screaming users. Shuttle buses will carry users back to their cars up the Mountain. Please get involved if you are concerned.



### NEWS

Volunteer Guides, Curator Dale Arvidsson and FOSA host an explorative walk in the Arboretum 27 October 2018. Book now! See below.

2018-19 BCC BUDGET documents https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/about-council/council-information-rates/news-publications/council-annual-plan-budget-2018-19

### Explore a treasure of trees!

Many of us have a tree in our backyard, neighbourhood or city that is just a little special to us. However, when you have a collection of more than 1000 trees in one place, you definitely could be spoiled for choice picking a tree that really catches your eye or heart. That one place is the heritage-listed Sherwood Arboretum which recently returned to Brisbane City Council's botanic gardens 'family' after decades of parks-level care.

The Curator of Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Dale Arvidsson (pictured with the Volunteer Guides of Brisbane Botanic Gardens) is inviting you to enjoy the fun of exploring some of the Arboretum's fascinating tree collection at 9.30 am on Saturday 27 October.



However, you will need to book soon for this wonderful combination of tree knowledge, history and storytelling with the Curator, volunteer guides and the Oxley-Chelmer History Group, as the numbers are limited. The walk, starting at the Jolimont Street entry, is free with a morning tea, hosted by the Friends of Sherwood Arboretum Association (FOSA), to follow in the shade of some of the Arboretum's rainforest giants.

The morning tea cost of \$5.00 for adults supports FOSA's voluntary work in the Arboretum. Bookings can be made by emailing <u>info@sherwoodarboretum.com.au</u> or by calling FOSA on 3278 6525.

Sherwood Arboretum was definitely a pacesetter in Australia when established in 1925. This inviting 15 ha 'botanic treasure', with its impressive tree collection, wetlands and riverside setting, led the way in the 1920s as Queensland's first Arboretum devoted solely to Australian native trees. Today, the Arboretum, with its iconic avenue of 72 Queensland Kauri Pines, is home to one of our nation's most valuable collections of northern Australian native trees.

### A 'botanic treasure' comes home!



After a gap of more than 50 years, one of Brisbane's iconic botanic treasures, Sherwood Arboretum has finally 'come home'. Brisbane Lord Mayor, Cr Graham Quirk announced in his 2018-2019 budget speech in June that this 93-year-old Arboretum would be brought under the umbrella of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens – Mt Coot-tha and City. During the late 1950s, the long-serving Curator of Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Harold Caulfield also shared responsibility for the Arboretum, which officially opened in 1925 with the planting of an impressive avenue of Queensland Kauri trees by prominent citizens. As part of the Lord Mayor's budget announcement, a new assistant curator, with a focus on Sherwood Arboretum, is expected to take up this new Council position next month.

President of the Friends of Sherwood Arboretum Association (FOSA), Andrew Benison welcomed Council's decision as a new era for the heritage-listed Arboretum. Andrew said, "This will ensure that the Arboretum's valued collection of more than 1000 Australian native trees will receive a high level of professional botanic care for generations to come. This is wonderful news for our community and the many visitors

who enjoy one of Brisbane's three major botanic treasures. The Arboretum's 90th anniversary in 2015 was a catalyst for Council introducing a higher level of care for the site. In late 2015, Council appointed the Curator of Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Dale Arvidsson to be responsible for the tree collection, while keeping the Arboretum under the on-going care of Council's parks management. We welcome the fact that Council has taken another important step to ensure the Arboretum remains an inviting and valued 'botanic treasure' for both residents and visitors to discover and enjoy."

Stories and images from **Andrew Benison**, President of Friends of Sherwood Arboretum (FoSA) For more information, please email <u>info@sherwoodarboretum.com.au</u> or call 3278 6525.

### **OUR ACTIVITIES**

TALKS



We achieved six Tuesday Talks in 2017 and similarly planned for 2018 and 2019.

Don't forget the Volunteer Guides provide excellent guided walks around our two Botanic Gardens and around Sherwood Arboretum this year. We also have great hopes for bird watching events in the future. "Hidden Treasures" are visits to Open Gardens. More to come!

We have begun our much desired propagation from botanic garden material without a small nursery facility and are selling already at events. But we will not give up on the real nursery goal!

Our diligent volunteers helped maintain the Kitchen Garden at MCBG this year. We are still negotiating to help in the City as well.

Going well! 3 per year (#9 now)! We will publish the newsletter using the email system for distribution of a PDF version with an archived version to download from the fBBGSA website. Also a hardcopy version will be available from MCBG Library.

Going very well! 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". We have nibbles and beverages at our Tuesday talks that aid the socialising. What else would you like us to do?

#### New!? Other Good Works?

We have also started volunteering to help with the labelling of plants up at MCBG and provided some expertise in identifying herbaceous material in the CBG, and so on.

We have also been lobbying governments about threats to our treasures such as the Mt Coot-tha Zipline and so on.

# Watch out for email notices & our website for all future events!

### Friends' Merchandise for sale!

Friends' branded items include:

mugs \$12, small bags \$6, large bags \$15, t-shirts \$15 (limited sizes), and white soft ball caps \$12.

These items are available for sale at most Friends events including our stand at the Tomato Festival!

### **REGISTERING for EVENTS!**

The online booking/payment system is really easy to use and makes administration so much better for us. Please use this option instead paying cash on the night! Many thanks.

### **FUTURE-WATCH**



The fBBGSA is a member of the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG) which has annual conferences that alternate between Guides and Friends groups every year.

Our website has a link to their website under OUR PLACES / LINKS where you can access their newsletter and much more.

There are many plans around Australia for 2020 to celebrate the journey and plant collecting by Joseph Banks and his mates on board the *Endeavour* with Captain Cook in 1770. Our turn to shine will be to host the AAFBG Conference in 2020 here in Brisbane! So please keep a watch for more news and calls for help!

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