

Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens & Sherwood Arboretum **Secretary's Report 2019**



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
3RD SEPTEMBER 2019



Launched: 14 October 2015

Current members: 176



Benefits of being a fBBGSA member!

Let's review 2018-2019 for the AGM using these aspects of who we are!

Lilygram #10 December 2018 was an annual review of achievements arranged under these 10 benefits of being a member.

Please drop into our website and download any or all of 10 issues of our newsletter.

<https://fbbgsa.org.au/newsletter/>





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ABN 20 607 589 873



- While we are already a registered charity, our Solicitor is preparing our application for DGR (Donor Gift Recipient) status right now. This allows a tax benefit to donors.
- Membership subscriptions and donations help us implement our objectives
- We have in place a MOU with Brisbane City Council and continue to ensure smooth working relations with new policies and procedures.



Visiting other gardens provide insights and enjoyment for members



- We organised a couple of private garden visits in 2018 (thanks to Antonia McCaskie, Helen Henningham & Linda Brennan at Ecobotanica)
- We also allied with FOSA and the Volunteer guides for tours of Sherwood Arboretum
- Coming up is a bus-trip to Toowoomba to visit the public gardens during their Garden Festival
- One more garden ramble is scheduled for October to Lumeah Gardens, Chapel Hill.



Art and craft are effective allies to caring for and celebrating our botanic treasures.



- Bettina Palmer's Horti-Couture event in 2018 was wonderful again and will repeat in 2 years.
- Crafting training sessions and artistic exhibitions are well serviced in the Gardens by allied groups such as the Qld Spinners, Weavers and Fabric Artists (QAWFA) and Botanical Artists Society of Qld.



Socialising at events and activities underway but can be better. Any suggestions?



- Our annual 2018 Christmas Party in November was small but fun. We plan to meet at the Kitchen in MCBG this year. Hope you can attend!
- Catering at many of activities enables meeting, greeting and eating!
- Meanwhile making new and keeping old members continues: currently we have 176 financial members. Please ask your friends to join!



Propagating Team on standby for new Nursery! Kitchen Garden thriving!



- Our gardening team that meets monthly in the MCBG Kitchen Garden is at maximum membership!
- Negotiations with BCC to enable volunteers to help in the CBG are nearing completion!
- All volunteers must have done the training BCC administers
- We finally received permission to construct temporary propagating nursery behind depot at MCBG. Planning underway. Our Growing Team awaits!



Volunteering is satisfying but we need to protect our volunteers as well



- We actively support Health and Safety matters concerning our volunteers, including insurance cover, training sessions and record keeping.
- We work with the Brisbane City Council to ensure the training is relevant to our activities
- We have provided plant crèches at several horticultural events, only possible by members' generously volunteering.
- And our Plant Auditing Team is a group of intrepid helpers at MCBG (and they are seeking more members!)



The force is strong with this benefit!

So many activities are about learning!



- Inaugural 2018 Tomato Festival last October a great success. Planned for every 2 years.
- Our other website www.brisbanebotanictreasures.info contains an archive of talks, history interpretations for all 3 sites, galleries of historic and current photos, and more
- Special themed WALK/TALKS: Spice and Flavours Walk with Dale and Annette; Jeannie's Bush-House walks in CBG; and the ongoing efforts of the Volunteer Guides to explain all 3 botanic treasures!



And our TUESDAY TALKS continue! Local and special speakers and discussions.



- Annual duo with Australian Garden History Society 2018 (Stuart Reed) and 2019 (Tim Entwisle)
- Talks since last AGM: Linda Brennan, Annette Irish, Jeannie Sim, Darryl Jones, and Mike Ferrero
- We are discussing changing the timing for some sessions to daytime weekdays



Spreading the word, organising events and so much more

About Us
The FRIENDS OF BRISBANE BOTANIC GARDENS AND SHERWOOD GARDENS Ltd represents the interests of the communities of Brisbane and its surrounds to promote the overall welfare of the City Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mount Coot-ah and Sherwood Arboretum that collectively called Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum.

Volunteer with FRIENDS

Upcoming EVENTS

Horti COUTURE

Business PARTICIPATION

What's FLOWERING

Latest WELCOME

Lilygram
Welcome to our eighth issue! Suggestions for stories or actual articles or photographs are very welcome. Please send them to the Editor, via editor@fbggsa.org.au

STOP PRESS!
Sherwood Arboretum recognized and rewarded in recent Council Budget. Assistant Curator to help Dale Arv. See more on page 9

DELICIOUS PLANT TREASURE:
Camellia indica 'Jesse's Star' formerly called (Ocupasi, or Kumpung creper. This is a locally bred all white flowered cultivar gifted to MCBG (Photographer & breeder: Emma Matthews)

OUR FLORAL!
Prosopis juliflora (Bottlebrush) Planted on 14 October 2017 the Launch of FBGGSa (photographed in November)

Membership
31 May 2017

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Please refer to our main website

3. PROMOTING AND COMMUNICATING

- Our main website is our heart! We plan to update the look & functionality before year's end.
- Mailchimp emails have become our main communication path
- *Lilygram* newsletter has evolved into our annual review
- Printed brochures and banners provide traditional information platforms
- Our Social Media posts to Instagram (Anne Marlay) and Facebook (Annette Irish) are popular, timely & effective

<https://www.facebook.com/brisbanebotanicgardens/>
+ @brisbanebotanicgardensfriends



www.fbbgsa.org.au



Ensuring change is for the best reasons and keeping safe what matters



- The proposed Zipline intrusion into MCBG foiled! We need to learn from this successful community campaign.
- Improvements and selective aspects of the Masterplans for both MCBG and CBG continue
- New Police Memorial in CBG completed despite our misgivings. We will continue to advocate against further additions and clutter to both botanic gardens.



Please make time to visit and enjoy our botanic treasures! Doing wellness activities:



- Healthy walks (or other exercising) in natural settings, alone or with friends or family
- Photographing the plants and animals
- Drawing and Painting the plants and whole landscapes
- Writing poems and journals
- Thinking great thoughts or calming thoughts!
- Destressing, being creative or just deep breathing!



Many thanks to John Taylor!



John has been a Board Director and our treasurer since 2015.

His exceptional diligence and wisdom have been priceless!

Best wishes to John!
You deserve your rest and recreation!

Finally, a reminder...



14 October 2020 (Wednesday)
is
5th Birthday of fBBGSA!