

FRIENDS OF BURNLEY GARDENS INC



Papyrus - Autumn Edition

No. 60 - March 2015 editor: Jan Chamberlain

From the Chair Bob Lazarus

Hello, fellow Friends! Here are just a few of my impressions of FOBG since I jumped into the Chair as successor to John Fordham, memorable for his famous Tree Tours - two of which Ruth (my wife) & I accompanied. John's Gallipoli Oak Project is literally 'bearing fruit' right now, and FOBG is involved in the propagation.

Over the last few months I've had the opportunity to observe FOBG Members and listen to their conversations. Some work week in and week out propagating top-quality stock for the Plant Sales at sunny Burnley which are one of our main sources not only of funding but also



Guildford River Red Gum

of recruitment of new members. This group is headed up by Fran Mason and Glenys Rose who keep things ticking along both horticulturally and socially.

I believe that working in the world of plants is fundamentally distinct from many other pursuits, in that plants evoke an immense aesthetic, even spiritual, response in many of us, such that the nurture of plants or gardens enhances deeply the intuition of our place in the world. Thus the community of plant people is infused with a depth necessarily absent from mundane groups. Recalling to memory this higher meaning helps us to feel genuine purpose in our efforts whenever our work in the Friends and elsewhere becomes onerous.

We have had three most successful Plant Sales at Burnley since June 2014, including the Spring Monster (pictured), and by the time this appears the fourth sale on 18 March will have taken place.



Many of our members possess a deep and hard-won knowledge of plants, and spend much personal time working also in associated groups such as the Herb Society, the Royal Horticultural Society of Vic, and the Society for Growing Australian Plants (to name but a few). Some are professional, running their own gardening, nursery or landscaping businesses, and working in their own special gardens, often generously allowing *Open Gardens* access.

The 'Friendly Guides' continue to reveal the delights of our Garden to ever-increasing numbers of visitors, and recruit quite a number of

new members. Dr Jean Corbett trains the new guides and Jane Wilson keeps them busy by organising the many tour groups that come through the Gardens. Just by way of example, 31 members of a Probus club took a guided tour last August and many others ranging from childrens' groups to adults with early dementia enjoy the peace and tranquility of our special place.

The Friends has a close alliance with the Burnley Cultural Collection (Archives) of the University, preserving the rich and colourful history of the Garden, the institution, and the countless students it has prepared for a horticultural life. Innovation and hard work by Jane Wilson and helpers is releasing flocks of records from the little office to fly free in the digital sky, available to all. Jane also continues as Treasurer to maintain our books to a most professional standard.

FRIENDS OF BURNLEY GARDENS INC 500 YARRA BOULEVARD RICHMOND VIC 3121

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Our one-and-only Michèle Adler warms up our functions, injects academic rigour into our deliberations, and through her universal respect and popularity attracts a ceaseless flow of interesting and memorable speakers for us.

We are grateful for the continuing patronage of the University, fostered devotedly by Andrew Smith, who not only assists at almost every Friends' function but also takes on demanding special projects. We look forward to his most appealing and thorough soon-to-be-released brochure for Burnley Gardens.

Our membership stands at a healthy 248 with Cheryl Andrews overseeing membership and sending out documents to members – a continuing job made effortless through her dedication.

Other Committee members include:

- Ruth Lazarus who as Secretary, deals efficiently with all the Committee formality. Ruth works full time but still finds time to contribute to Committee and functions,
- our very hard-working Minutes Secretary Jennene Arnel who is also a member of the Propagation Group,
- Sandra McMahon who maintains our publicity machine even though she works as a full time garden designer, and
- Dianne Cranston who hates recognition for the ample catering and cooking that she does for our functions from delightful nibbles at meetings to substantial meals at bigger functions. We call her 'Delicious Dianne'.

Our people behind the scenes: A big 'Thank you' to Pamela Carder, Anne Bishop and Barbara Brookes for their work on committee last year, filling in the short-fall when other Committee were away. Thanks also to Dr Susan Murphy who has developed our *Papyrus* newsletter with the support of Jan Chamberlain. Sue is now handing back the reins to Jan.

Welcome to Alla Hires (former Burnley library assistant) who is now a Friends volunteer, helping Jane with the Cultural Collection and Andrew with labelling tasks. Jill Kellow continues to maintain our fine website which contains the Brochure and back-issues of Newsletters as well as information about Burnley and the Friends' events.

Our program of activities has been varied and well-attended. A brief overview since the last newsletter:

Phillip Johnson of Chelsea *Best-in-Show* fame talked of his life's work dedicated to the art of landscaping, after a sumptuous dinner by 'Delicious Dianne' Cranston.

Chris England of Merrywood Plants conducted yet another of his engaging workshops, *Summer pruning* (pictured), in which the espaliered apples and other trees in the Field Station were reinvented à la Felco and Fiskars.

On Valentine's Day this year, Di produced yet another of her famous dinners at the Sugar Gum Table, then Kevin Walsh explained his work with The Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust growing the trees under whose leafy canopies a number of us may well shelter in eternity



In March, Penny Woodward shared with us her enthusiasm and encyclopaedic knowledge of garlic, expanding our botanic and culinary horizons with a huge number of garlic bulbs and a colourful poster display.

The future: We have a number of new or long-term projects either in hand or under consideration:

- Final touches on the new Burnley Gardens brochure
- Continued preparation of materials for a new book on the history of Burnley, with financial support from the Herb Society.
- Supporting the VCA Sculpture Competition for the 125th anniversary of Burnley next year, the winner to be placed in the Gardens.

Our financial position is strong, augmented sometimes by generous donations from particular members or fellow societies, so that we can look forward to undertaking new projects with confidence. Your donations are always welcome.

The Members Programme

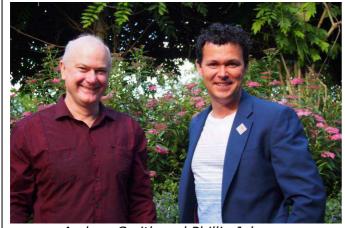
At the end of the newsletter is a copy of the 2015 programme of events which Michèle has organised and which is absolutely top notch – so, I'm looking forward to meeting you and discussing Burnley Gardens things. See you there!

In November we listened to great music, at another perfect dinner, in the superb setting of Burnley Gardens. We then settled in to hear Phillip Johnson, the winner of 'Best in Show' at Chelsea Flower Show in 2013. He recalled that his first lecture at Burnley was in the same lecture theatre where he was now giving his talk. Phillip gains his inspiration from Mother Nature and his connection with gardens has come from his parents and grandparents. He draws on natural landscapes such as the Franklin River, Mt Arapiles and 'The Prom' for his own designs. An example of how architecture can work beautifully with the environment is the Frank Lloyd Wright's 'Falling Water' property.

At home Phillip harvests water from the driveway and all roof water which then flows in to billabongs. There is no mains water but the house will be protected from fire by walls of water. On the property is a chemical-free swimming pool.

Phillip told of the Chelsea build and the time and detail that is required to win a unanimous 'Best in show'. From the mock-build in Scotland, the Waratah studio installation, sourcing 50,000 plants, playing recorded frog calls, the visits from royalty, celebrity visits and then all the interviews. After the show the hard landscaping from Chelsea was put in a container and Phillip would like to see it reassembled in Melbourne.

He stressed that each person is the custodian of their piece of land and that our planting ratios should be more like 80% plants and 20% hard surfaces – rather than the other way round. Many people took the opportunity to buy a signed copy of *Connected – the sustainable landscapes of Phillip Johnson.*



Andrew Smith and Phillip Johnson



Dinner at the Sugar Gum table

Did you know?

Are you wanting to advertise your business or services? Did you know that you can advertise in the FOBG Newsletter for \$50? Contact Andrew Smith on 9035 6861 or email: a.smith@unimelb.edu.au

Don't Die Wondering - Kevin Walsh - Jan Chamberlain

14 February

After another sit-down feast around the sugar gum table (Di Cranston does it again), Kevin Walsh, Manager, Horticulture Planning at The Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust entertained us with tales from the many and varied cemeteries under his responsibility. The trust was formed by an amalgamation in 2010. It covers the majority of Melbourne from Werribee to Emerald – 18 sites with diverse landscapes, geographic areas and ages which pose many horticultural issues. Cemeteries have to be in clay soils so that the graves don't collapse as they are being dug. There are 4543 burials in one year and 6240 cremations. Some sites are in pre-planning stages (Melton West and in the Plenty Valley) while others are closed and heritage listed (Williamstown).

Remnant vegetation exists on many sites, even endangered plants and many roses (14,000 in Fawkner). Many well-known people are buried in Melbourne's cemeteries: Dame Nellie Melba, John Batman and Carl Nobelius to name a few.

Some of the challenges facing the cemeteries are: planning for the senescence of large trees, removing weedy species and conserving water.



Ruth Lazarus and Michèle Adler



Chinese Lanterns or Bladder Cherry

Michèle Adler

At our February meeting Andrew Smith picked from The Gardens some Love-in-a-cage. How appropriate for Valentine's Day! Judging by the 'oohs' and 'ahhs' of the audience, many people had not seen them before.



These eye-catching bright orange treasures were the papery calyces of *Physalis alkekengi* var. *franchetii*. Related to the edible Cape Gooseberry and Tomatillo (also Genus *Physalis*), we collectively wondered whether the fruit might be edible.

Later investigation revealed that the plant is a small herbaceous perennial, native to Europe, southern Asia and Japan. It has white flowers and a calyx that matures into the highly ornamental orange inflated papery structure that protects the developing fruit.

Now I'm one who likes to push the boundaries a bit and taste things, but knowing that this plant comes from family Solanaceae, I was cautious and did some research before trying the fruit. According to the literature, the answer is YES, edible, but the advice is that it's not very tasty or even possibly tasteless.

Further investigation of the literature revealed that other parts of the plants can be poisonous (raw leaves and calyx) due to their high solanine content but that the fruit is rich in minerals and vitamin C (twice as much as lemons).

So, armed with information I carefully un-sheathed the tiny wrapped-up-in-orange-paper berry and tried it ... I can confirm that the one that I tried was definitely bitter and seriously spit-outable. (It probably was not quite ripe as I did note a certain stickiness to the outside of the berry).

Sadly, the plant has a really bad habit – an aggressive rhizomatous root system. Growing advice is to keep it in a separate and dedicated container, otherwise volunteers pop up at great distances from the original plant.

The papery calyces are certainly decorative and retain their colour on drying, making them appealing. In Japan the seeds are used in a Buddist festival as offerings to the ancestors. In Chinese medicine the calyx and fruits are used to treat sore throats and thick coughs – but on balance, I think that I'd rather eat a lemon.

In the Burnley Gardens

Andrew Smith

With the start of autumn now with us, we can look back on summer and reflect that the milder temperatures were certainly welcomed by most Gardens. For the Melbourne region in recent summers, having no day over 40 degrees is rare. The below 40 degree temperature was particularly helpful for the Bergenia Walk area of the Gardens, as the removal of the old *Pinus canariensis* (planted 1861-1871) has meant that the shade loving plants below are now exposed to full sun. This *Pinus*, one of three that were planted around the same time, has shown signs of ill health for the last 15 years. With the amount of living outer cambium (bark) reducing each year and large amounts of dripping sap coming from upper trunk sections, the signs weren't looking good. Like many plants, once they go into decline, other diseases and problems also arise and it's difficult to stop.





Pinus trunk section, showing small area of lighter coloured living wood.

With fungal issues such as Phytophthora in the surrounding Rhododendron beds (treated on two separate occasions over the last decade) and aerial spores from the *Diplodia* fungus prevalent throughout the Gardens, as well as pine aphid attack due to warmer winters, the tree had a lot to fight against.

Despite improved irrigation in the last decade, fungal soil injection treatments, insecticide trunk treatments, composting, mulching and fertilizing, the tree took a dramatic decline at the start of 2014 (foliage changed colour) and was removed at the end of the year.

The replacement *Pinus canariensis*, planted a decade ago, is slightly further down the pathway and in good health. We have also planted a new shade tree on the other exposed western side of the removed tree. This *Ficus rubiginosa*, donated to the Gardens by Chris Williams (lecturer) from seed collected off an escarpment specimen at his western NSW farm, will one day provide a welcome umbrella of shade to the plants below.



Rain garden excavations March 2014



What a difference a year makes. Rain garden March 2015

The completion of the planting in the rain garden bed, on the northern side of the new ramp at reception, has been well received by those entering the main building. With 21 different plant species, predominantly from Australia, the small bed is growing rapidly and flowering well. One lecturer joked that it's the only rain garden in Melbourne that's irrigated but for plant success (establishment and long term) some irrigation will be needed to ensure the main entrance to reception looks good. The stormwater from the roof and roadway is harvested and retained in a depression, where it percolates into the sub-soil over a few hours, thus reducing the runoff to the stormwater system that would otherwise occur. The overflow stormwater outlet in the rain garden, set at a level to stop flooding, is only required when rain events greater than 40mm occur.

I first met Margaret at one of the very early meetings of the Friends of Burnley Gardens. Margaret was a local resident and it was good to see some of the local Richmond people were interested in being involved with Burnley. I discovered she was very passionate about gardens and was part of the local group to prevent inappropriate development along the Yarra River. I also found out at one of the Friends early working bees that Margaret was the ex-principal of the Richmond Secondary College and that she had stood up against the Kennett Government closing many local state and high schools.

Margaret was great - she had a wicked sense of humour and called a spade a spade thus pulling no punches. We were on the FOBG Committee together and she was a very active member helping with fundraising events such as the Winter Lecture Series Weekend and the comedy evening in the gardens with Rod Quantock.

As with all committees people move on and I lost touch with Margaret but over the last year I bumped into her again. It was great to see her again and I was shocked when I heard she passed away.

I went to her funeral and am very glad I did. It was at her home in Richmond in her garden which she loved. Margaret had the most fantastic wild garden and the most beautiful old *Magnolia grandiflora* which is where her service was held. I didn't know Margaret belonged to an Italian Choir Il Cantiamo and they ended the service singing *Santa Lucia* and *Pardon Me for Not Getting Up*.





(L-R) Rod McMillan, Liz Cooper, Margaret Donald, Michèle Adler, Jan Chamberlain and Rosemary Smart

From the Archives

Jane Wilson

THE BURNLEY ARCHIVES: A CORE UNIVERSITY RESOURCE

The Burnley Archives were created in about 1990 as a collection of documents that contain much of the history and intellectual property of Burnley College. As the Archives develop they are becoming an increasingly valuable resource of The University of Melbourne. The collection includes original documents from the founding of the Gardens and subsequently the College. The records go back to the late nineteenth century and are a treasure trove of the history of horticultural education in Australia which includes landscape design, orchard management, arboriculture and the management of parks and gardens.

The Archives were set up as a resource for the centenary celebrations, of the founding of Burnley College, in 1991 when it was under the control of the Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture. A vast amount of material, including thousands of photographs, was collected from the former principals, staff and students. Since then, several volunteer archivists have organised and interpreted this material, cataloguing and digitising it as computers became more sophisticated. The collection is constantly growing as current and former staff and students have become aware of its existence.

This material is now quite accessible for research by students and staff. As an example of how useful a resource it is, a Research Fellow recently accessed some of the Orchard records. You can see from the example below how meticulously the information was recorded for, after all, Burnley was originally set up as an experimental site for the Horticultural Society of Victoria in 1863. Hundreds of varieties of fruit trees were planted to find out how they would grow in the Melbourne climate. The records below are for the year 1940. The handwritten ledger is for, 'Apricots, Pears, Peaches, Plums and Cherries'. Each variety is named, its position in the Orchard recorded together with a flowering date and ripening date for that year.

The accompanying photographs from the Archives show what the Orchard was like in 1940. One photograph shows students learning how to prune one of the hundreds of trees in the Orchard and the other shows a female student using a horse-drawn scarifier. It does not look that easy but I think the horses must have been very used to the work and did not need much guidance.







Garlic the Great – Penny Woodward -11 March

Jan Chamberlain

Wow! Who would have thought there are so many different types of garlic? Not just the small white bulbs that you buy pre-packaged in bags in the supermarket. There may be up to 11 distinct groups

of garlic. Penny Woodward, author, organic gardener and garlic grower opened our eyes to the many different types of garlic growing in Australia. Apparently garlic came out with the First Fleet but we do not know if it survived. With the wave of European and Asian immigrants in the last century many more garlic types were introduced.

In the 90s the market was flooded with tasteless imported garlic which decimated the Australian garlic growing industry. Not everyone knows that all imported garlic has been sprayed with methyl bromide (as has most imported fruit and veggies).

At that time the Australian Garlic Association imported known cultivars of garlic and started trials with them. 103 of those have survived. Garlic can be classed as softnecks or hardnecks. The main garlic groups

available in Australia are Artichoke, Silverskin, Turban, Creole, Rocambole, Purple Stripe and the Asiatics/Middle Eastern.



Membership Update

Cheryl Andrews

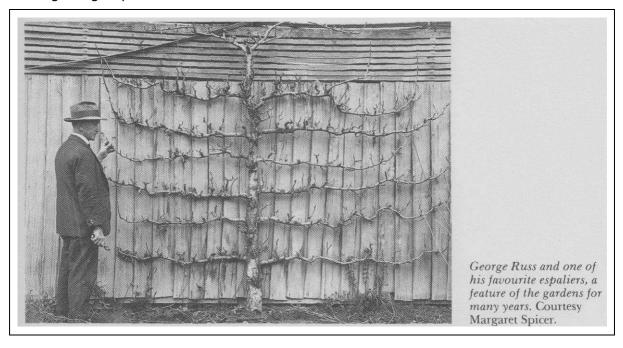
Since the Spring Newsletter of 2014 membership has increased to 246 members. The new members have joined due to word of mouth from current members and attendance at the plant sales. Others have joined after attending our events as a result of promotional material in the media. I would like to welcome the following members who joined between October 2014 and February 2015:

- Dianne Randall
- Dale Burslem
- Frances Faul, Bridey Oliver, Fiona Webber
- Cathy Simpson
- Melanie Simpson, Dr Thomas Baker, Prof Alan and Jennifer Bishop, John Hill

Guides report Jane Wilson

The Guides have been quite busy at the start of Autumn with several tours booked. We would like to welcome Judith Scurfield to the Guides. She is a long-standing member of the Friends and has always helped at our events and, more recently, she has been assisting in the Archives.

On a recent tour of the Gardens, the organiser, Jeni Moodie, mentioned that her Grandfather had worked at Burnley. His name was George Russ and he was at Burnley from 1910 to 1936. He was the Foreman of the Outdoor Staff and was considered to be the ultimate authority on all matters relating to outdoor Burnley. We have a number of photographs of him at Burnley. Copies have been sent on to Jeni and her family. She was very grateful to receive them but she also thanked the Guides for the tour of the Gardens saying what a wonderful morning they all had spent at Burnley and what a great group of volunteers we have.



The Botanical Riches of St Kilda Cemetery

Mary Reid

On Sunday March 15, the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery held a horticultural walking tour led by John Hawker of Heritage Victoria. Several enthusiastic members of the Friends of Burnley Gardens enjoyed this interesting and informative tour on a beautiful autumn afternoon.

As well as learning about the symbolism of cemetery plantings and botanical markings on headstones, participants visited the graves of the influential Armytage family who acquired Como, Sir Frederick Sargood who created the marvellous Rippon Lea garden and his gardener Adam Anderson, the nurseryman George Brunning and leading gardener and nurseryman, William Sangster.

Trees have deep-rooted symbolic meanings in every culture and this is especially true of the cypress tree. In Christian tradition the Cypress is a symbol of death (it fails to



regenerate when cut back severely), life (with its evergreen leaves) and resurrection (its column like shape reaches for the sky and is thus associated with the heavens). St Kilda cemetery has several Mediterranean (or Italian) Cypress, the occasional Funeral Cypress (with its weeping habit) and a fine pair of Bhutan Cypress (pictured left). It also boasts a large North American White Ash (quite rare in Victoria) a very large Camphor Laurel and various eucalypts, including flowering gums, Spotted and Lemon Scented Gums and the Southern Mahogany Gum.

Among the botanical symbols seen on graves were ivy (friendship, faithfulness, undying affection, immortality), laurel leaves (special achievement or distinction), two beautifully carved opium

poppies (peace, rest, eternal sleep, consolation) and roses with their broad range of meanings.

Several of the graves visited are associated with Rippon Lea which was established in 1868 by Sir Frederick Sargood, merchant and politician. The garden was originally laid out with geometric beds and paths, then in 1882 Sargood employed the horticulturalist, William Sangster, who redesigned the formal garden in a more natural and irregular style. As Head Gardener, it was Adam Anderson who oversaw the changes. William Sangster also helped shape the garden at Rupertswood in Sunbury and the Carlton Gardens, as well as owning nurseries in Toorak and Macedon.



One of the most impressive monuments in the St Kilda cemetery is that of Baron von Mueller, arguably Australia's most prominent nineteenth century scientist, who was appointed government botanist by La Trobe in 1853. He contributed enormously to Australian botany through his collections on numerous expeditions. He was appointed director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in 1857 where he constructed the National Herbarium and began exchanging seeds and plants with botanists in Europe and America.

The Brunning family, various members of which are buried in graves visited by the tour, has also



played a large part in the development of horticulture in Australia. George Brunning established a nursery business in St Kilda and by 1885 four hectares of land were in intensive use for nursery plantings. His nurseries became known for their high standards and the publication of a detailed catalogue, one of the largest in Australia. Brunning introduced the pepper tree, the Waltham cross grape and the Monterey cypress. In 1858 Brunning's Australian Gardener was launched and became well known throughout Australia as the bible of Australian gardening, with 34 editions by 1958.

The Friends of St Kilda Cemetery would like to publicly thank John Hawker for leading the tour. His extensive knowledge, enthusiasm and unflappability (even when faced with the impossibility of making himself heard over the roar of fighter planes circling before the start of the Grand Prix!) made this an enjoyable tour.

Cooking with Clive

29 April 2015

Come along for an evening exploring and tasting fresh vegies and herbs With Clive Larkman on Wednesday 29 April.

Clive has a passion for cooking and growing plants. He loves using all sorts of unusual herbs with an emphasis on "no fuss" cooking. You'll be treated to a 4 course 'supper feast' whilst he shows you how to cook-up-a -treat using gourmet food.

Clive is a botanist and 2nd generation nurseryman. He and wife Di, run Larkman's Nurseries (wholesale) at Lilydale and Wandin. They are responsible for running the annual Herb and Chilli festival in March each year. In his spare time Clive is Chair of the Victorian Agribuisiness Council and he designs farms, specialising in lavender.

Place: Burnley College, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond.

Time: 6.30 - 8.30 pm for eat-in and talk

Cost: \$15 (members). Non-members = \$25

Bookings essential: Tel: 9035 6861 or email: a.smith@unimelb.edu.au

FOBG Committee Members

Introducing three of your committee members:



Robert Lazarus is a semi-retired programmer, not a plantsman. He liked being in the Burnley gardens so much that they gave him small jobs to do, then made him president of Friends! He has a deep and instinctive personal reverence

for Place in life and in art, be it a managed garden, an unremarked patch of ground or abandoned building, or just a faded picture haunting the memory. He tries to establish the integrity of "belonging to Place" by becoming a "Keeper", perhaps even a "Friend and Helper".

Sandra McMahon is responsible for publicising our events to the broader community. She was a student at Burnley in the '90s and since graduating has run a landscape design business in Melbourne, Gardenscape Design. The Gardens at Burnley provide constant inspiration for her work



 she is a plant lover, and her design work places a great emphasis on plant material for structure.

She joined FOBG about 12 years ago, and over the years has attended many inspiring presentations organised by this group. To be able to help on the Committee is a way of contributing to a very worthwhile organisation.

Michèle has been a member of the Friends since the beginning (1997) and has held various positions on Committee, such as Chair and Vice Chair. She started up the 'Friendly Guides' who are still going strongly working on the history of the Gardens and showing visitors around. She is mainly responsible for organising the monthly speakers and other events, such as workshops and bus tours. She really is a Burnley Gardens-a-holic, and even though now nearly retired from giving lectures, she's often in the Gardens just soaking them up.



Succ-it-and-see - a succulent experience

18 April 2015

You've seen those designer vertical gardens and now is your chance to create a beautiful framed wall hanging out of succulents. It's a living picture and a great gift idea. All materials will be supplied including the frames and plants.

Sascha Andrusiak is one of the driving forces at the Burnley Nursery (University of Melbourne, Burnley Campus).

She is responsible for the lovely succulent terrariums and living art around the Campus. You've almost certainly seen her about

When: Saturday 18 April 2015

Place: Burnley College, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond.

Time: 10.00 am - 1 pm

Cost: \$65 (members) \$80 (non members)

Bookings essential: Tel: 9035 6861 or email: a.smith@unimelb.edu.au

Help needed with newsletter

We need someone (or a team) to take over the reins of the newsletter. You should know a bit about word processing, be able to put some words together and have a little spare time. Speak to Jan Chamberlain or Michèle Adler at the next meeting if you want to be involved.

Photo credits

Thanks to Bob Lazarus, Jan Chamberlain, Andrew Smith, Elizabeth Hore, Sandra McMahon, Michèle Adler and Jane Wilson (Burnley Archives) for providing photos for this edition of Papyrus.



FRIENDS OF BURNLEY GARDENS INC

2015 Programme		
When	Who	What
April Saturday 18 10am – 1 pm (workshop) Price \$65/\$80 tbc	Sascha Andrusiak from the Burnley Nursery. Sascha is responsible for the lovely succulent terrariums and living art around the Campus.	"Succ- it and See" - a succulent workshop You've seen those designer vertical gardens and now is your chance to create a beautiful framed wall hanging out of succulents. It's a living picture and a great gift idea. All materials will be supplied including the frames and plants.
Wednesday 29 6.30 – 8.30 pm (for eat-in and talk) \$15/\$25	Clive Larkman co-owner of Larkman Nurseries, botanist and nurseryman.	Cooking with Clive Clive has a passion for cooking using all sorts of unusual herbs. Come for a 4 course 'supper feast'. He'll show you how to cook-up-a-treat using gourmet food with fresh veg and herbs with no fuss. You'll be the talk of the town at your next barbie. There will also be plants for sale.
May Wednesday 6 \$5 / \$15	Simon Rickard author and vegetable grower	Heirloom vegetables and the stories they have to tell. Illustrated talk. Heirloom vegetables have really gathered momentum; even available from mainstream nurseries these days. Simon will tell us about where and how heirloom vegetables have arisen, and their 'social history'.
June July	Winter recess	Nothing doing
August Wednesday 19 AGM 6 pm Talk 7 for 7.30 pm \$5/\$15	Dr. Greg Moore Our patron, arborist and Senior Research Associate, Melbourne University. Former Principal of Burnley College (1988-2007).	Dormant Buds: Trees' and Gardeners' best friends
Saturday 29 All day TBA (~\$100)	John Fordham, Heritage Tree expert	In conjunction with the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne join a bus tour to south-east Melbourne/Mornington Peninsula exploringfor heritage trees.
September Tuesday 15 11am – 12 pm. Price \$5/\$15 Tuesday 15 7 for 7.30 pm \$5 / \$15	The Burnley Guides Dr Tim Entwistle Director and CEO, RBG Melbourne. And self-confessed media addict and internet pest.	Spring into Action A meander through the Australian sectors of Burnley Gardens Algae – are they plants or what? And the genus Entwistlea. Tim spent his early scientific years investigating fresh water algae - of which there are more than 3000 spp. in Australia. They are an important part of freshwater ecosystems and can be found on stones, aquatic plants, dam walls, any floating debris and in fast-flowing water.
October Tuesday 13. \$5 / \$15	Bryan Paten, Member of the Bromeliad Society	Bromeliads –fashionable designer plants or tried- and-true oldies We have a great collection of bromeliads in the Burnley Gardens. Let's find out how versatile they are.
November Tuesday 17 5 pm. Christmas Dinner 7.30 talk price tbc.	Lynsey Poole Botanist	Wildflowers of the deserts of Utah and Arizona Deserts are renowned for their spectacular flowers. Lynsey will take us for an illustrated botanical adventure.
February 2016 Saturday 14 12.30 pm lunch 2 pm talk	Michèle Adler author, presenter, botanical bicycle rider, FOBG Committee member	Flight of fancy through the Heart Michèle recently rode a bicycle 1000 km from Tennant Creek to Darwin to celebrate her grandfather's record- breaking ride of 1914. It was a botanical wonderland. She'll show the video, share the experience and explore the plant collection.



Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show - 2015