

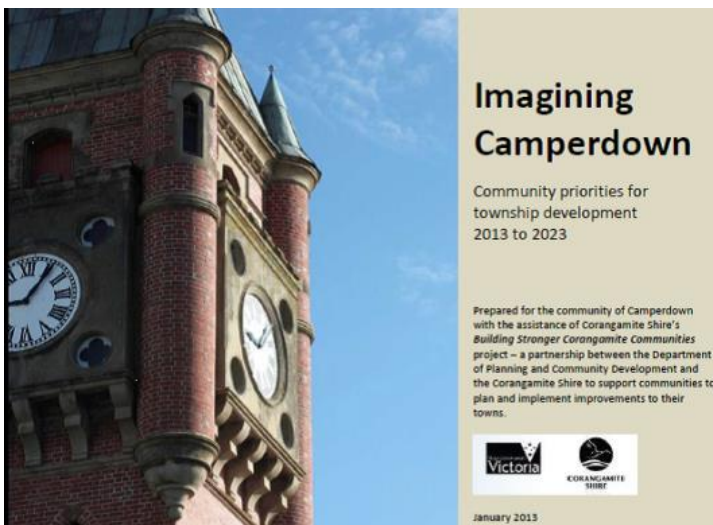
# CAMPERDOWN BOTANIC GARDENS AND ARBORETUM

NEWS

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WINTER 2013

## Imagining Camperdown



Corangamite Shire Mayor Councillor Chris O'Connor officially launched *Imagining Camperdown* at a community function in the Old Courthouse on the evening of 13 June 2013. The Camperdown Community Plan was prepared as an outcome of the *Building Stronger Corangamite Communities* project – a joint initiative of Corangamite Shire and the State Government of Victoria.

In all, 165 people contributed 231 ideas, which were sifted, discussed and voted upon to produce a list of 14 priority projects. Some of these were combined to make a list of eight projects. Restoration of the Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum came in behind Improving Tourism Services as a top priority, with some \$30,000 in seed funding made available by Council to set the restoration project in motion.



## An inspirational afternoon with Professor Tim Entwisle

Professor Tim Entwisle is the newly appointed Director and CEO of Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens. He grew up in regional Victoria, studied botany at La Trobe University and went on to become head of Sydney Botanic Gardens and a director at London's Kew Gardens. Professor Entwisle speaks enthusiastically about the importance of plants to our lives, 'from food and shelter to oxygen and inspiration'.

### ***Botanic Gardens in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

**Sunday 30 June 2013**

**Theatre Royal Camperdown**

**2.30 pm**

**Tickets \$10 available at the Corangamite Shire office**

Enquiries to Janet O'Hehir on 0427 629 557



This event is supported by the Building Stronger Corangamite Communities initiative.

## Camperdown conversations

As part of a series of 'conversations' around the key projects identified in the Camperdown Community Plan, public meetings were held on 17 April and 24 May 2013 to help identify early priorities for action in regard to the restoration of the Botanic Gardens and Arboretum. The scoping exercise involved a group bus visit to the Botanic Gardens and Arboretum by community members and Council officers, providing a 'visitor perspective' on arrival experience through the caravan park. Further public meetings have been scheduled for 21 June and 31 July to refine the scope of initial works.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**30 JUNE:** 10.00 am at the Arboretum  
Professor Tim Entwisle tree planting.

2.30 pm at the Theatre Royal  
An inspirational afternoon with Professor  
Tim Entwisle of Royal Botanic Gardens  
Melbourne, 'Botanic Gardens in the  
21<sup>st</sup> Century'.

**31 JULY** Meeting of CBGA Restoration Group  
Killara Centre, Camperdown



An early postcard of the Gardens showing the ornamental pond (courtesy of the Camperdown Historic Society).



No sign of a pond in February 2013 as Council staff keep the grass under control.



### What's growing?

#### Camellia

One of the shrubs flowering in the Gardens at this time of the year is the Camellia.

Originating in China, Japan and Korea, the Camellia became a favourite of early designer William Guilfoyle, who considered it 'exquisitely beautiful'. He introduced more than 200 Camellias into the Melbourne Botanic Gardens after he took over as director in 1873, saying they were among the shrubs 'any lover of flowers must admit are essential'. He wrote that 'the Camellia thrives exceedingly well in Australia, and is common in gardens of any pretensions'.

The restoration of our Botanic Gardens and Arboretum will provide an opportunity to add to our existing collection of Camellias and other flowering shrubs.

