



# CAMPERDOWN BOTANIC GARDENS AND ARBORETUM TRUST INC.

Newsletter no 18

Winter 2017

## Conservation Management Plan

The CMP will go to Council on 22 August following a period for public comment on the draft in May.

The CBGA site was listed on the Victorian Heritage Register in 2011. However, it wasn't until 2015 that Corangamite Shire took steps to begin the preparation of a CMP to guide future developments on the site, and set down the basic directions for future planning for our Botanic Garden and Arboretum.

The report, prepared by Context heritage consultants, sets out a comprehensive and fascinating record of the history of the place, identifying elements of particular significance, and setting out policies and actions to make sure heritage values can be conserved.

Once the CMP is adopted, we can begin to work together to realise a vision for the future of a heritage asset in a spectacular location, which has the potential to be a beautiful public amenity for our local community and a major attraction for visitors.

We can also begin to plan activities in 2019 to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the CBGA Trust Inc. will be held on Wednesday 9 August at 5 pm in the Killara Centre, Camperdown.

A committee and office bearers for the coming year will be elected.

Outgoing president Leon Morrissey will highlight the achievements of the last 12 months. The meeting will be followed by a visual presentation showing before-and-after pictures of the changes made and the growth that has occurred over the past four years.

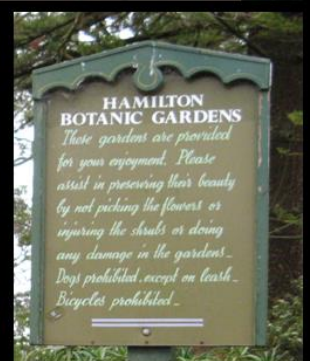
## Victoria's Botanic Gardens Legacy

Janet O'Hehir will present our next public talk on Victoria's Botanic Gardens Legacy.



**2 pm**  
**Sunday 20 August**  
**Theatre Royal**  
**Camperdown**  
**Admission \$15**

Janet will talk about the renaissance occurring in our regional botanic gardens, and the roles they can play in increasing our understanding and appreciation of plants and their value to our lives.



## What's growing?

### Persian Shield or Pewter Bush (*Strobilanthes gossypinus*)

One of the most asked-about plants in the Garden is the Persian Shield or Pewter Bush.

It grows into a neat rounded bush about a metre high and wide. The outstanding feature is the silver foliage covered in fine golden hairs, which give the leaves an unusual metallic sheen.

It is a shrub from India and Sri Lanka and should cope well with dry conditions now that it has settled in.

Persian Shield is a monocarpic plant, that is, one that flowers once and then sets seed and dies – but not for a few years yet.



Below: Persian Shield in the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.



## A winter film for garden lovers

Our winter film for garden lovers seems to have become an annual event. A very pleasant way to spend an afternoon with friends, afternoon tea and a film set in a garden.

This year we will be screening *Enchanted April*. Based on Elizabeth von Armin's charming 1922 novel, it is a story of four women whose lives are transformed by 'wisteria and sunshine' during a month-long stay in a medieval Italian castle.



**2.00 pm**  
**Tuesday 15 August**  
**Killara Centre,**  
**Camperdown**

Screened in collaboration with Corangamite Film Society, and sponsored by Shalimar Nursery of Colac.

Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.



## Dates to remember

Sunday 6 August	9 am – 12 noon Working bee
Wednesday 9 August	Annual General Meeting 5 pm, Killara Centre
Tuesday 15 August	Film: <i>Enchanted April</i> 2 pm, Killara Centre
Sunday 20 August	Public talk: <i>Victoria's Botanic Garden Heritage</i> 2 pm, Theatre Royal
Tuesday 22 August	CMP presented to Corangamite Shire Council 7 pm, Killara Centre
Sunday 10 September	9 am – 12 noon Working bee

## Australian National Botanic Gardens and Canberra Arboretum host Friends

The Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG) held its AGM in May at the Australian National Botanic Garden (ANBG) in Canberra. ANBG volunteers conducted tours for the visitors and explained their involvement in education programs and guiding.

Robyn Saunders from the Friends of Benalla Botanic Gardens encouraged everyone to come to the next bi-annual AAFBG conference, which she and her group will be hosting in 2018. There are likely to be some keen attendees from Camperdown, who enjoyed last year's conference at Geelong.

On the second day, AAFBG members visited the National Arboretum. Hundreds of visitors were out and about enjoying a perfect sunny autumn day. Volunteer guides showed the group around and talked about their involvement in the project since it began in 2004.

The 250-hectare National Arboretum aims to display rare, threatened and/or iconic species from around the world, and incorporates existing Cedar and Cork Oak plantations.

It is rapidly becoming one of the most visited destinations in Canberra. On a dramatic site with 360 degree views, the National Arboretum will only become more spectacular as the trees grow.



Above: Janet O'Hehir (left) met up with Friends from regional Victorian botanic gardens at the AAFBG meeting in Canberra, including (left to right) Robyn Saunders from Benalla, Elizabeth Gillfillan from Ballarat and Nea Gyoffry from Malmsbury.



Above: Sticky Wattle (*Acacia howittii*) in the National Bonsai and Penjing collection at the National Arboretum, Canberra.

## Visitors from Penang

Daphne Saw (below left) spent several weeks working with the Camperdown Vet Clinic recently. We caught up with her at our May working bee, when she brought her parents for a walk in the Garden.

Milton the Whippet, Emma Bell and Tim Gatehouse (below) were pleased to make the acquaintance of our visitors from the Malaysian city of Penang.

We received some enthusiastic encouragement to visit their home city and see the botanic gardens and the different plants that grow in Penang's tropical climate.



## What's growing?

### Giant Tree Daisy

*(Montanoa leucantha ssp. arborescens)*

At the front gate is the Giant Tree Daisy from the cloud forests of Mexico and Central America. It should thrive in that protected area of the garden, in semi-shade and out of the wind.

This is a giant, fast-growing plant that is classified in the Heliantheae tribe of the Asteraceae or daisy family, along with some more well-known garden plants such as sunflowers, Jerusalem artichokes, Echinacea and Cosmos.

It has stems that reach up to three metres or more in one season, and its clusters of fragrant white daisies with yellow centres are a welcome feature in the garden in winter.

It will soon be cut back to re-grow again in spring.



Above: Camellias are a winter highlight in the Botanic Garden.

Below: The working bee team found shelter after a cold morning's effort.

