



CAMPERDOWN BOTANIC GARDENS AND ARBORETUM TRUST INC.

Newsletter no 20

Summer 2017-2018

Botanic garden heads meet in Camperdown

Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ) is the peak body representing and promoting the interests of botanic gardens in the two countries. BGANZ recently held its Victorian executive meeting at Camperdown. On the agenda were the annual Botanic Gardens Day, a major event promoting botanic gardens, large and small, and the Care for the Rare project, which focuses on conservation of rare and endangered plants in local areas. During their two-day visit, we also gave the group a guided tour of our Botanic Gardens and Arboretum.



Pictured above are (from left) Chris Russell head of RBGV Cranbourne, Brad Crème curator at Bendigo White Hills Botanic Gardens, John Arnott horticulture manager at RBGV Cranbourne, Justin Buckley horticulture manager for National Trust Victoria, Tex Moon of Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens, Tim Rowe head of parks and environment at Wellington Shire and Sale Botanic Gardens, and Clare Hart open space coordinator at the City of Boroondara.

Enjoying the gardens

Pictured enjoying the gardens are Moira Kelly and Philip Ayres (below) of Camperdown. They joined other Trust members to celebrate our first annual State of the Garden get-together in November.



Felicity Paton (below) of South Purrumbete was intent on capturing some good butterfly shots. She was lucky enough to capture an Imperial Jezebel, a colourful native butterfly.



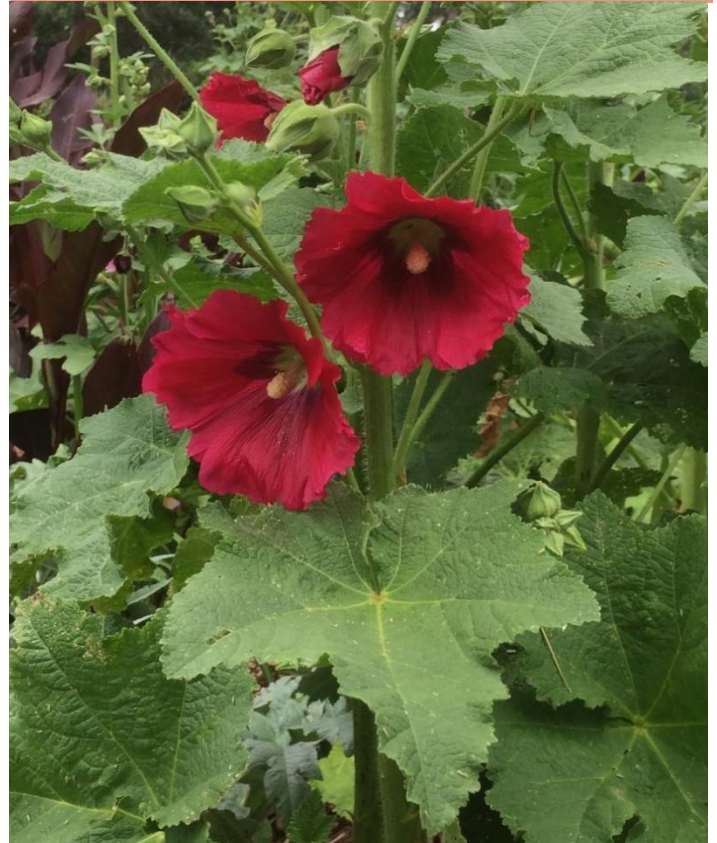
What's growing?

Hollyhocks (*Alcea rosea*)

Hollyhocks have been blooming in all shades of pink in the round bed in the central lawn. Some reached nearly two metres and they proved surprisingly wind resistant.

Hollyhocks belong to the botanical family Malvaceae, which has over 4000 species, including many well-known useful and ornamental plants, ranging from cacao, cotton and okra to Hibiscus and Abutilon.

Thanks to Carol Eagle for sharing the seed from her garden.



Liz and Zac (below) enjoyed the shade of the Linden trees.



What's growing?

Lilies (*Lilium* spp.)

There's Lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus*), Lily of the Incas (*Alstroemeria*), Peace Lily (*Spathiphyllum*), Arum Lily (*Zantedeschia*), Water Lily (*Nymphaea*), Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria*), Day Lily (*Hemerocallis*), Chocolate Lily (*Arthropodium*) and Belladonna Lily (*Amaryllis*). The list goes on. Many plants are called Lilies, but these are common names. They are not all from the genus *Lilium*.

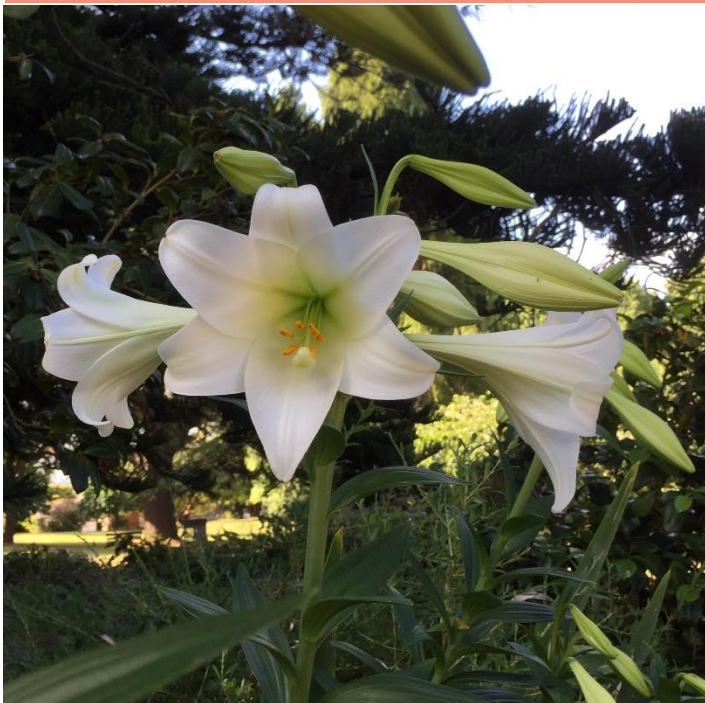
Several *Liliums* have been flowering in the Garden over summer.

Lilium candidum, the Madonna or Christmas Lily, flowered right on cue for Christmas. Growing up to a metre and a half tall, it has large white perfumed flowers.

We also have *Lilium asiatica*, Asiatic Lilies. They are not fragrant but their flowers are large and colourful in shades of pink, orange and yellow.

Lilies grow from bulbs. Their flower parts are arranged in threes: three petals and three outer sepals (or together may be referred to as six tepals), and six prominent stamens with bright orange or yellow pollen.

We look forward to adding more lilies to the garden.



A boost for the roses

The rose garden was at its peak in early summer. Over the last few months it has been given some special attention, with rejuvenation and removal of old plants, pruning, mulching and interplanting. Next, we will be looking at bringing the watering system back into operation.

Diane and Gary Clissold of Mammoth Mart nursery, arts and crafts, and furniture store in Camperdown, donated the original roses to the Botanic Gardens in 2006. Diane (above) recently donated a substantial (and smelly!) tub of Neutrog rose fertiliser to give the plants a boost.



Thanks to *Laffs*

We were recently very grateful to receive a donation from Laffs store in Camperdown.

Laffs are well-known as great supporters of local community groups, making regular donations from their sales.

Kim and her staff pride themselves on continuing the tradition of the country department store, with good old-fashioned service, personal attention and a range of goods that have made it one of the treasures of our town for many years.

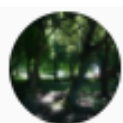
VIP guests

Director of Horticulture, Learning and Operations at London's Kew Gardens Richard Barley was back in the country for a brief holiday in January. We were pleased to have him accept our invitation to bring his wife Anita and daughter Georgie to Camperdown for a picnic in the Gardens.

Richard is a great supporter of our Botanic Gardens and Arboretum and it was a wonderful opportunity to have his expert advice and encouragement. He also checked on the progress of the Champerops palm he planted in 2015 (below).



Follow us on Instagram



camperdownbotanicgardens

Also follow Corangamite Trees, which highlights some of the interesting and special trees around the Shire.

An Autumn Soiree at Wuorong

A very special event has been arranged by Trust member Diana Allen with Jazz Australia. An Autumn Soiree at Wuorong will feature the David Gardner Swing Quartet.

Saturday 7 April

The Cottage at Wuorong

20 Naroghid Road, Camperdown

2.30 pm for a 3 pm start

or arrive at 2 pm for a walk around the beautiful gardens of the Wuorong homestead overlooking Lake Bullen Merri.

Tickets \$50

**include refreshments at interval
(finger food, wine and afternoon tea)**

Bookings are essential. (Tickets will not be available at the door.)

Contact CBGA Secretary Emma Bell on 0428 398 624 or email rydalfarm@bigpond.com

All proceeds will go towards the conservation and improvement of Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum.



Above: The beautiful Wuorong homestead and garden overlooking Lake Bullen-Merri.

Dates to remember

Working bees Second Sunday of every month
8.30 am to mid-day
11 February
11 March
8 April

An Autumn Soiree at Wuorong
Saturday 7 April