



CAMPERDOWN BOTANIC GARDENS AND ARBORETUM TRUST INC.

Newsletter no 38

Winter 2022

Arboretum redevelopment

The Trust has been working closely with Council's facilities and recreation manager Jarrod Woff, governance officer James Plozza and parks and gardens staff on the Arboretum redevelopment project in accordance with Council's concept plan.

Cattle have been removed and old tree guards and internal fencing have been taken out. Parks and gardens staff have been clearing the area of obstacles and mowing the grass.

Projects funded by the grant of \$83,000 from the State Government's Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens program are nearing completion. They include new perimeter fencing around the entire 25-hectare Botanic Gardens and Arboretum site, arboricultural works, picnic furniture and bins, and some additional tree planting.

These projects mark the start of the re-opening and redevelopment of the Arboretum. The next stage of the project will include a carparking area off Park Road, pedestrian paths, picnic shelters, seating and further tree planting in the north-eastern section.

A community event to mark the re-opening is planned for October.



Above: Matt Weatherhead (banner photo) and his team of arborists from Tree Designs Australia spent a week in Camperdown doing some intensive work on the old trees. Rex Roldan (left) and Jayden Rance gave some attention to an oak tree at the Park Road border.

Below: Dale Evans, Scott Carbury and James Plozza met on a cold morning to plan the next steps for the Arboretum redevelopment.



Thanks to the Gardiner Dairy Foundation

Members of the CBGA Trust committee attended an awards ceremony in Warrnambool in July to receive a community grant from the Gardiner Dairy Foundation.

The Gardiner Dairy Foundation, which is administered by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, provides funds for groups carrying out projects in dairying communities.

We received a grant of \$4,752 for developing a digital engagement project to promote the Botanic Gardens and Arboretum.



A tribute to old Friends

There are two urns in our garden: one in the rose garden, which was purchased with funds provided by the Australian Garden History Society for the redevelopment of the rose garden, and the second (pictured above), which has been in the garden for a bit longer.

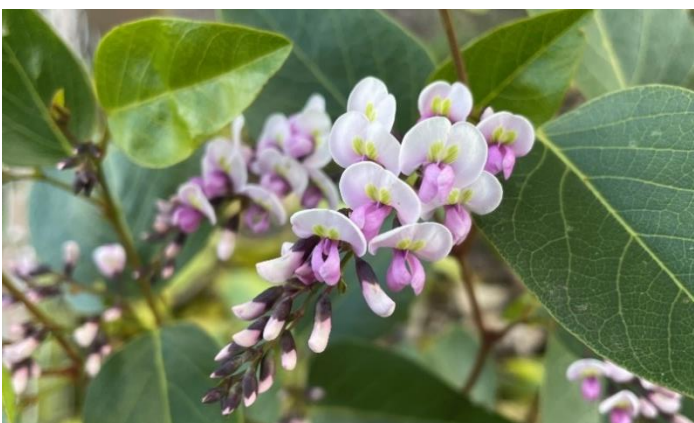
A Friends of Camperdown Botanic Gardens group was set up in 1996. It was one of many established around Victoria as part of a drive to conserve the unique network of botanic gardens in large and small towns across the State. By 2003, the Friends group had dissolved and its remaining funds were handed over to the Camperdown Garden Club. The Garden Club placed the urn in the garden to honour the efforts of the Friends.

Thanks to Troy Fisher, who was visiting the garden from Geelong and took the photo to publish on his Instagram account @trfphotog.

Council grants

Regular visitors will notice many new plantings over the last few months (such as the pink Hardenbergia below). Our volunteers have been busy planting, mulching and pruning over the winter period and new borders are being prepared inside the fence in the northern section of the garden.

A Community Grant from Council for \$2000 for plants and a Quick Response Grant for \$500 for garden tools and consumables will be put to good use by our volunteers to continue the beautification of the Botanic Garden for the enjoyment of locals and visitors.



What's growing?

Salvia 'Timboon'

A stand-out plant in the garden at the moment is *Salvia* 'Timboon'.

A hybrid of *S. involucrata* X *S. karwinskii*, *Salvia* 'Timboon' is described by the Victorian *Salvia* Study Group as a tall bushy shrub of three to four metres, flowering in winter with deep crimson flowers.

The original plant was found by a member of the Group in an old garden in Timboon.



Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting of the Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust Inc. will be held on Wednesday 21 September at the Killara Centre in Camperdown.

The meeting will begin at 5.30 pm and refreshments will be provided.

As we have done in previous years, we plan to show a 'before and after' presentation to highlight the developments and improvements in the Botanic Gardens and Arboretum.

Trust members and other interested members of the public are welcome to attend.

Please make sure your membership is renewed before or at the AGM so you will be eligible to vote in the election of the committee.



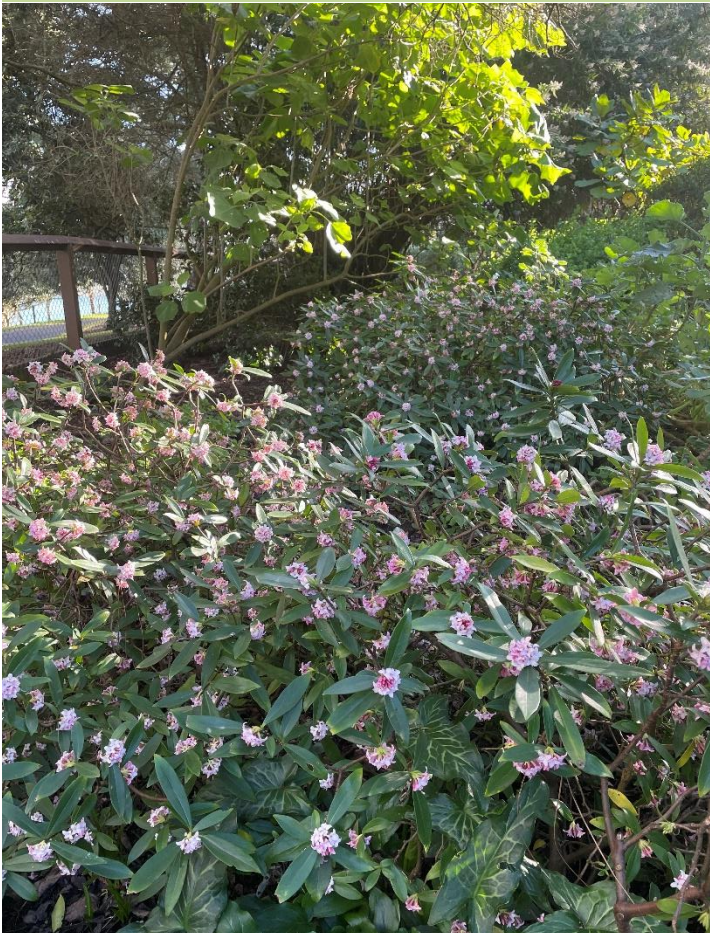
What's growing?

Daphne (*Daphne odora*)

Visitors have been enjoying the fragrance from the Daphne growing in the bed at the southern end of the garden. It's the first thing you notice when you come in the gate.

Daphne originated in China and is one of the most well-loved of winter-flowering shrubs.

We shifted several of these plants from the central ornamental bed in the Gardens where they weren't thriving, and they haven't looked back.



The people you meet

We met Nic Kennedy and Lee Walker from Melbourne in the garden. They stopped off for a look around on their way from Birregurra to Dunkeld.



Carolyn and John Menzies (below) took an afternoon stroll around the Arboretum with their puppies.



Bronwyn (below) was in the Garden early one morning to take some photos. She shared some reminiscences about growing up locally and school sports in the park.





New furniture

New picnic tables and bench seats were delivered to the Gardens last week. The furniture, which is constructed from recycled railway sleepers, will be installed at the picnic shelter.

The tables are designed to accommodate wheelchairs at either end and to replace the existing climb-through seats with easier access benches.

Above: Crane truck driver Justin delivered the bespoke furniture to the Gardens from Melbourne.

A cultural collection

Over 10 years Trust volunteers have been working to put the 'garden' back into the Botanic Gardens, reinstating the understorey, which had largely disappeared. From necessity, we have been propagating from seeds and cuttings as well as accepting many donations from our supporters. In this way we have assembled a third collection of plants, our 'cultural collection'.

This group of plants represents gardens and gardeners of the local area. Some have been grown over generations, and their survival is testament to their suitability for local conditions. Just a few examples are *Fascicularia bicolor* from Gnotuk House (below), Irises from Meningoort, Clivias from Leonie Salmon, Dietes from Mrs Falk, *Cordyline stricta* from Rydal Farm, *Brachyglottis repanda* from Dalvui, Tree Ferns from Ian Currell, and Irises from the late Mavis Reed.

When we are offered donations, we need to consider a number of factors, such as whether they meet the needs of the garden, fit our criteria for climate appropriateness and match our capacity for ongoing care.



Dates for the diary

- 14 August Working bee 8 am to 12.00
- 11 Sept. Working bee 8 am to 12.00
- 21 Sept. 5.30 pm Annual General Meeting, Killara Centre, Camperdown
- 25-29 Sept. Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Melb.
- October (TBA) Arboretum reopening ceremony
- 9 Oct. Working bee 8 am to 12.00
- 23-28 Oct. Botanic Gardens Guides conference, Melb.
- 29 Oct. - 4 Nov. Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AABFG) tour of Tasmania
- 11-13 Nov. Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) annual conference in Tasmania

Please see the relevant organisation's website if you are interested in details of conferences and tours.

Follow us on Instagram

Check out our Instagram account. We make regular posts and now have more than 2,400 followers. Also have a look at Corangamite Trees, which focuses on trees growing around our Shire.



Camperdown Botanic Gardens



Corangamite Trees