

banksia

bulletin

spring 2017

**Mistletoe
experiment
continues**

**Habitat for
Bronzewings**

**Our Gardens:
Our Refuge**



Bayside
CITY COUNCIL

From the Mayor

Welcome to Spring, Bayside.

It is a great time for planting and putting some time and energy into our gardens.

Recently, I had the pleasure of opening a unique exhibition that celebrates many of the wonderful home gardens of Bayside.

Our Gardens: Our Refuge has been a fantastic exhibition showcasing our leafy streetscapes and neighbourhood character featuring thriving gardens.

Photographs of 58 private gardens from across our municipality included large open spaces and small sanctuaries.

While different in size, they are all places where we can connect with nature to enhance our sense of wellbeing.

After its showing in the ARTrium, the exhibition commenced a tour

of all four Bayside libraries, and there is still time to catch an information session at Brighton Library on 26 September.

I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of Pauline Reynolds who initiated this project. Pauline is an avid photographer whose work appears in *Banksia Bulletin* regularly. She is also a tireless volunteer. I would also like to thank John Barrett and Jo Bisset who made up the three-person project committee that made this exhibition a great success.

I am delighted that Council was able to support the project with one of our Community Grants as well as assistance from our Environmental Sustainability and Arts and Culture areas.

Thank you to all of the photographers who contributed



their wonderful, vibrant images. To see some of the photos and hear more about this exhibition, turn to page 14.

Cr Alex del Porto

Mayor
Bayside City Council



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Cover image: Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus pryoriana*)
at George Street Reserve by Pauline Reynolds.



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BUILDING A BRONZEWING HABITAT



CRANES, STORKS, EGRETS AND HERONS



OUR GARDENS: OUR REFUGE

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BRASCA President resigns

By Pat Salkin and Jim Richardson

After four years as President of the Black Rock and Sandringham Conservation Association (BRASCA), Bob Whiteway has resigned.

Bob joined BRASCA in 1976 and was an executive member for almost 40 years including the position of Secretary, which he held before succeeding long term President Janet Ablitt in 2013.

BRASCA stemmed from the Black Rock Foreshore Protection Committee to oppose the construction of a car park south of Half Moon Bay.

This group formed on 21 November 1969, and it achieved its objective three weeks later on 3 December 1969.

On 8 December 1969, a bulldozer dumped an ugly mass of rubbish over the edge of the cliff near Harold Street in Sandringham down a small valley, then in its natural state, to form a rubbish dump.

Concerned about these matters a new group, to be called BRASCA, was formed on 25 March 1970 with Keith Tarrant as President and Dr Valerie Tarrant as Secretary.

There were many highlights during Bob's commitment to BRASCA. In 1998, he helped mount a campaign to fight a Cheltenham Road development that would clear trees and other vegetation to make way for concrete paths and roadside drains, and therefore changing its natural ambience. Bob worked very hard to save Cheltenham Road from this type of development.

Bob was also passionate about creating a Marine Sanctuary at Ricketts Point. In 1986, he developed and promoted the concept of a Marine Park and campaigned tirelessly until its creation in 2002. He received the Victorian Coastal Award - Excellence Life Time Achievement Award later that year in recognition of this and many other achievements in coastal conservation.

BRASCA's aim was to conserve the foreshore by clearing Boneseed plants and other weeds, and to extensively replant the area with endemic species. It also opposed inappropriate developments.

Through his membership of BRASCA, Bob worked tirelessly on the foreshore with other volunteers. Each year, the



group removes hundreds of weed species and replaces them with thousands of endemic plants.

Bob also worked at Bayside Community Nursery propagating plants and sharing his knowledge.

He was responsible for purchasing and maintaining gardening tools for BRASCA for more than 30 years. He also applied for and obtained grants, built signs, selected and delivered plants to various sites along the foreshore, oversaw working bees and trained volunteers from the local community.

We wish Bob well in his retirement.



Plants of Bayside

With Aaron Hurrell of
Citywide Parks and Gardens



Coast Daisy-bush

Coast Daisy-bush (*Olearia axillaris*) is found along the foreshore and can be seen when walking along the coastal path in Bayside.

With a distinctive dark green leaf that is silvery white underneath, this attractive dense and erect shrub grows between one and two metres tall and is the same diameter in width.

The new growth on the tips of the branches is silver in colour that changes to dark green as it matures.

The Coast Daisy-bush flowers from December to May with up to seven yellow disc florets found along its upper branches, making it an attractive addition to any garden.

This coastal plant prefers sandy, well-drained soil with full sun. It has a resistance to salt spray, roots that are effective at erosion control, and a high potential for hedging.

The Coast Daisy-bush can be propagated from both seed and by cuttings, and can be purchased from the Bayside Community Nursery.

Source: Bull, Marilyn (1991) *Flora of Melbourne: A guide to the indigenous plants of the greater Melbourne area* Carlton Vic: Hyland House Publishing

Photo by Elizabeth Walsh



Cheltenham Park bird walk

By Denis Young

Bayside Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

More than 20 people participated in an early Sunday morning bird walk recently, organised by the Bayside Friends of Native Wildlife Inc..

Pre-activity discussion at the playground car park anticipated a sighting of Common Bronzewing as a pair was known to be frequenting the area.

Anne Jessel used her local knowledge of the area to lead the group along numerous tracks passing through a variety of vegetation communities. Cold winds and dominant Noisy Miner and Rainbow Lorikeet numbers resulted in a lack of little birds such as Brown Thornbills and Scrub Wrens that are usually sighted in the thick scrubby sections of the park.

Numerous Little Ravens and Pied Currawongs were already checking potential food sites as they noted the signs displayed by Rainbow Lorikeets examining tree hollows and Noisy Miners carrying nesting material.

Haunting calls from a pair of Grey Butcherbirds drifted across our path occasionally, but the birds themselves remained unseen until the group returned to the playground.

Near the end of the walk, the keen bird spotting skills of Lewis Hiller confirmed a pair of Common Bronzewing across the far side of a small dam.

Excitedly, the group spread out along the fence trying to pinpoint the spot these birds were huddled in. Suddenly the male flew over the dam alighting on the ground a few metres in front of us. He proceeded to walk around seeking food and was soon followed by the female

Common Bronzewing
Photo by Denis Young



who remained some distance away watching us. Everyone with a camera began snapping images of the male, while others gazed in admiration at the striking iridescent plumage of this beautiful bird.

The Common Bronzewing sighting was a fitting highlight to a successful activity and justifies the Bronzewing planting program our group maintains at the nearby golf driving range.

While only 12 separate species were identified during the walk, numbers of birds were high and the antics of Rainbow Lorikeets up close were especially enjoyable.

Participants new to the location vowed to return, given the wonderful experiences that wandering local tracks and topography can bring.



Red Bluff to Half Moon Bay Masterplan

We are now seeking your feedback on how to best plan for the area.

Bayside City Council is developing a masterplan to protect and enhance Half Moon Bay.

The draft masterplan covers the beach and foreshore area between Potter Street and Arkaringa Crescent in Black Rock, including Half Moon Bay and Red Bluff cliffs.

It will inform Council's works program and priorities for the site for the next 10 years.

Consultation closes 1 October 2017. For more information and to have your say, please visit www.yoursay.bayside.vic.gov.au/half-moon-bay



Abel's fun facts

By Abel Dickinson

Citywide Bushland Coastal Crew

Sea spurge

Sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) is a coastal weed, introduced to Australia 70 years ago from Europe.

It first started to spread from Western Australia and is now found across most of the south east coast of Australia.

Sea spurge can grow up to 70cm tall and spread up to 5,000 seeds after flowering.

Removing Sea spurge

Removing Sea spurge is easy. First, ensure you have identified the correct

weed. To remove it, pull the whole plant out with its tap root, then place in a bag or the closest bin. This weed has a white sap that can cause skin irritations, so wear gloves, clothing and eye protection.

Alternatively, if you find Sea spurge, contact Bayside City Council with the location of the weed. Council will arrange its removal or control in collaboration with local Friends groups.



Winter Manna Gums

Story by Dr Valerie Tarrant

Co-convenor Friends of George Street

Photos by Pauline Reynolds

Co-convenor Friends of George Street

The Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus pryoriana*) is a splendid tree, indigenous to Bayside and a delight for birds, animals and humans.

At the July working bee, Friends of George Street Heathland Reserve planted three Manna Gums along the reserve's boundary. We are looking forward to watching them settle in and flourish.

The Manna Gum is described by G.R. Cochrane, B. A. Fuhrer, E. R. Rotherham and J. H. Willis – the authors of *Flowers and Plants of Victoria* – as a valuable timber tree. The authors point to the 'Rather ruthless destruction of these trees' in certain forests, but suggest that improved milling practices will bring benefits.

Botanists refer to the white flowers of the Manna Gum, the source of its name, which is derived from the Bible story of the Israelites' need for food as they travelled to the Land of Canaan.

According to the storyteller, there was dew on the ground and lying there was a 'flake like thing' which the people gathered up as their bread called 'manna'. It was white like coriander



seed and tasted like wafers made with honey. (*Exodus*, Ch. 18, v. 31).

At the working bee, volunteers were more concerned in planting than with origins of words, concentrating on in-fill planting within the revegetation area, including *Correa reflexa*, *Bossiaea cinerea* and a variety of *Acacias*, which will bring in the colour that we enjoy as these species come into flower.

For the September planting in the reserve, the Bayside Community Nursery is propagating Prickly Tea Tree



(*Leptospermum continentale*) – which is smaller than the Coastal Tea tree (*L. laevigatum*) – and belongs in local heath and woodland.

Friends of George Street Heathland Reserve meet on the third Sunday of each month between 10am and 12pm. Meet at the entrance on the slip-rail in Tulip Street Sandringham.



Building a Bronzewing habitat

Citywide crew members Abel and apprentice Taylor hosted the annual Bronzewing habitat program recently with Friends of Native Wildlife (FONW) Inc.

The event, held on Saturday 5 August, was attended by 13 adults and 3 children.

Around 400 plants were dug in and we are hoping for success considering the damp conditions that followed. To complete the day's work, a group of volunteers also attended to an area of chick weed, which was overgrowing a few precious plants.

For over a decade, the area behind the Sandringham Golf Driving Range has been weeded, mulched and planted by Citywide and FONW with a

variety of healthy seed plants, low grasses and bushy undergrowth for protection.

The Bayside Community Nursery also provided a variety of *Acacia* bushes and trees as the Common Bronzewing pigeons love the nourishing seedpods.

FONW encourages the community to send in reports of all wildlife observations and particularly sightings of the cryptic Common Bronzewing.

A small number appear in the Sandringham and Royal Melbourne golf courses. The flourishing corner habitat at the golf driving range regularly

harbours a pair of Bronzewings, with occasional single or pairs being sighted through George Street Heathland Reserve, Long Hollow Heathland and Donald MacDonald Reserve.

It is difficult to compare species when the most obvious pigeons throughout Bayside are the introduced Spotted Turtle dove, and the previously inland Crested Pigeon – an Australian native that moved into Bayside during the mid-90s and stayed after the drought of the early 2000s. They peck grass seeds in open reserves and golf course fairways.

Predators such as cats and dogs off leash in bushlands, combined with loss of habitat, restrict the Common Bronzewing pigeon population. With the planting efforts of the Citywide crew, Council and passionate local volunteers and associated Friends groups, wildlife populations can be encouraged to return.





Mistletoe experiment continues

By Rob Saunders

Convenor – Friends of Long Hollow Heathland

Bayside's most common, and possibly only remaining, mistletoe species – the Creeping Mistletoe (*Muellerina eucalyptoides*) – occurs on a variety of indigenous, native and exotic trees.

As noted in previous editions of *Banksia Bulletin*, research is beginning to change people's attitudes towards mistletoe, highlighting its significance in fostering the diversity of native insect and bird populations, and emphasising its important contribution to overall biodiversity.

As Michael Norris reported in the Spring 2016 edition of *Banksia Bulletin*, when we started experimenting with planting mistletoe berries on potential host trees in Bayside Reserves, we realised they were disappearing but weren't fully aware of all the relevant research and advice available.

Mistletoe researcher and biodiversity expert Professor Dave Watson strongly advises placing the berries on vigorous, pencil-thin twigs in good sunlight, and suggests using the same host tree as the parent mistletoe, although the evidence for doing this does not seem strong.

In February 2006, we began collecting about 100 berries from three large *Muellerina eucalyptoides* growing on a Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) at Bay Road Heathland Sanctuary in Sandringham. Six months after distributing those seeds to a variety of potential hosts, only three had germinated. All three were on thin twigs in good sunlight, on the northern or western sides of their potential host trees. However, in each case that tree was a Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*), not a Snow Gum. Eighteen months after planting the seeds, none of these three mistletoes have flourished. Two have already died off and the third is failing to thrive, being still at the cotyledon stage.

Following Professor Watson's advice, in April last year 12 more berries were collected from a Creeping Mistletoe growing on a Black Wattle at Bay Road, and applied only to other Black Wattle trees. The good news is that one mistletoe appears to have established. It is fantastic to see it thriving after our previous disappointing efforts.

Although this is a very small sample, putting the seed on the same species as the host plant does seem to have helped. Perhaps mistletoe seeds contain some kind of biochemical signal that helps them to establish on the host plant they 'know'. We will continue our discussions with Professor Watson and consider doing more experiments.

We are looking to learn from the City of Melbourne's mistletoe trial where one kilo of berries have been wiped on to 50 London Plane trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*), and will be monitoring the outcomes in terms of biodiversity and mitigating the urban heat island effect.

Working bee on new site



(L-R) Val Stajsic, Elizabeth Walsh, Julie Valentine, Dave Rollo, Geoff Carr and Jo Hurse

By Pauline Reynolds

Friends of Highett Grassy Woodland

On a very foggy early August day, Friends of Highett Grassy Woodland joined Council officers and Citywide Bushland and Nursery experts, along with two noted botanists – Geoff Carr from Ecology Australia and Val Stajsic from the National Herbarium of Victoria – on a visit to the former CSIRO woodland site.

Accompanying the group were two CSIRO officers and a representative of the civil construction company responsible for the sensitive removal of the buildings.

Every time we visit we remember how lucky we are that Council has been able to acquire the four hectares of land through the dogged determination of many people.

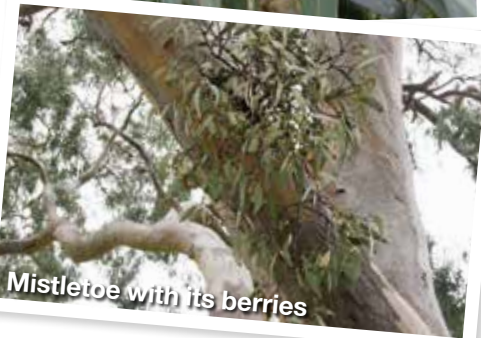
While it still a few months until Council takes ownership of the land, we were able to have our first working bee, which included weeding in a patch of Wallaby Grass.



(L-R) Michael Norris, Geoff Carr and Val Stajsic



Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) in full flower



Mistletoe with its berries

Spring Open Days

Experience some of the most beautiful heathland sanctuaries in Bayside during this year's annual Spring Open Days.

Visit a sanctuary on Sundays from 2-4pm:

- **Gramatan Avenue Heathland Sanctuary**
– Now until the 24 September
- **Bay Road Heathland Sanctuary on Sundays**
– Now until 29 October.

Join a guided tour:

- **Balcombe Park Reserve, Beaumaris**
10am to 12pm, Sunday 24 September
- **Long Hollow Heathland Sanctuary, Beaumaris**
1pm to 3pm, Sunday 24 September



Black-necked stork by Geoff Whalan



Cranes, storks, egrets and herons

Part 1

Sarus crane by Santanu Sen



Brolga by Ed Dunens



White-faced heron by Brian Ralphs

By Lewis Hiller

Bayside Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

Hérons and egrets are members of the Ardeidae family and there is no clear-cut differentiation between the two. The latter term is often used to denote species with white plumage that develop long plumes during the breeding season (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2015).

However, there is considerable regional variation in terms, for instance in New Zealand the white Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) is usually referred to as a White Heron (Adams 2013).

Cranes belong to the Gruidae family and are represented in Australia by similar species such as the enigmatic Brolga (*Antigone rubicunda*), which is associated with crocodile habitat in northern Australia and heavily incorporated into Aboriginal dreamtime and famed for its elaborate courtship dances (International Crane Foundation 2017).

Once seasonally extending regularly into southern Australia, it has reduced in population over much of its former southern range as a result of wetland drainage and development; it is now regarded as being of 'vulnerable' status in Victoria (Birds in Backyards 2017).

Another species, the closely related Sarus Crane (*Antigone antigone*), is a recent coloniser of parts of north-eastern Australia, originating from south and south east Asia, particularly India where it is also venerated by some religious groups (International Crane Foundation 2017). It is reputedly the tallest flying bird species in the world (International Crane Foundation 2017), and may also be distinguished from the Brolga on account of the longer red collar extending down the neck (Pizzey & Knight 2012).

Despite technically being unrelated, the common White-faced Heron (*Egretta novaehollandiae*) is sometimes called a Blue Crane in some parts of Australia (Pizzey & Knight 2012). Unlike herons and egrets, cranes and storks generally fly with necks extended (Slater 2009).

The sole representative of around 20 species of storks worldwide that are found in Australia is the Black-necked Stork (*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*), a stately denizen of tropical northern Australian wetlands like the Brolga.

This species has been called the Jabiru for many decades, and the name persists in popular parlance, however this is actually representing confusion with a Brazilian stork by that name rather than being an indigenous term (Birds in Backyards 2017).

The current official name is questionable as the neck plumage is actually dark iridescent green under most lighting situations (Birds in Backyards 2017). This species feeds in a similar manner to Egrets and Herons by stalking and jabbing, the huge bill enabling it to take sizeable prey, including crabs, fish and even birds.

Unfortunately, much like the Brolga, the Black-necked Stork is now locally extinct across much of its former east coast as a result of human-induced changes to the landscape (Birds in Backyards 2017).

Only members of the heron/egret family are likely to be encountered in the Bayside region of Victoria.

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Microbat boxes in parks and gardens

By Elizabeth Walsh

Convenor - Bayside Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

Many thanks to Bayside City Council and arborist Grant Harris for dedicating time to improving wildlife habitat. Arborists recently spent a day attaching the first half of the microbat boxes to selected trees, all built by Friends of Native Wildlife (FONW) members and friends such as the 1st Brighton Joey Scouts.

At night, microbats spend time flying around tree tops or around bushes, wherever insects frequent. However, during the day they need a safe refuge to sleep and keep warm.

As Bayside becomes more developed, gardens with large trees are disappearing. Trees take around 100 years to develop hollows, depending on the species. Older trees containing hollows are becoming less common and many have been removed, leaving fewer

places for wildlife such as microbats, possums and parrots to rest and reproduce.

Bat boxes are artificial hollows, designed with a narrow entrance at the bottom to exclude predators.

There are a number of bat box designs on the internet, but Graham Lucas and Geoffrey Daniel put their heads together and designed our own local brand-sustainably built with recycled hardwood fence palings.

The lids and bottoms are removable. If ants set up home inside, the lid can be lifted to allow the ants to move on. The bottom can be removed to see if there are any bat scats, which can indicate microbat use.

As microbats vary their roosting places to stay healthy and prevent infections from lice, and for safety against predators, they may have used a box without being found during our visits. Scats are a valuable indicator

of use, and monitoring is mostly carried out using endoscopes with a Wi-Fi screen monitor to avoid climbing, except on occasions to rectify damage or ant invasion.

There are approximately 20 bat boxes now spread across Bayside in private gardens, 23 in parks and heathlands north of Sandringham and as far as Elsternwick Park. Around 20 more will soon be erected across Sandringham to Beaumaris. More volunteers are needed to support the monitoring program and to analyse microbat calls that have been recorded.

Bat boxes are available to purchase from FONW Inc. for \$10. Email info@bayfonw.org.au for more information. FONW will monitor the bat boxes at least twice a year in private gardens.



Create a garden for wildlife

Gardens for Wildlife is a free program designed to inspire and encourage Bayside residents to create habitat in their gardens, patios or balconies that supports local native wildlife.

As Bayside's urban environment continues to grow, so do the pressures on many fragile native fauna species when seeking out suitable habitat, shelter and natural food sources.

Residents who join Gardens for Wildlife will receive practical advice and tips about how to create a habitat friendly garden that supports the unique native wildlife of Bayside.

Whether your backyard is large or small, there are plenty of ways you can help Bayside's local wildlife, many of which require no money at all.

The program is currently being piloted until June 2019. At the end of the pilot period, the program will be reviewed to determine if it has been successful and should be continued.

To participate in the Bayside Gardens for Wildlife Pilot Program, be one of 50 residents to complete the online registration form at bayside.vic.gov.au/gardensforwildlife.

Once you are accepted into the program, a garden guide will arrange a date and time for your free garden assessment, and you can start planning your habitat friendly garden.

For more information about the Our Gardens for Wildlife program, please email gardensforwildlife@bayside.vic.gov.au or call Jennifer Trucchi on 9599 4339.

Gardens for Wildlife participants receive:

- A garden habitat assessment, carried out by a local garden guide
- The second edition of *Live Bayside, Plant Bayside*, which contains an illustrated guide to indigenous flora and fauna of Bayside
- Habitat recipes tailored to the types of wildlife you would like to attract in your garden
- A \$20 voucher to purchase indigenous plants from the Bayside Community Nursery
- A letterbox sticker to help promote the program
- Opportunities to meet and connect with other residents that are interested in preserving Bayside's local biodiversity.

Liverwort from Cheltenham

Story and photos by John Eichler

In the reserve adjoining the Sandringham Family Leisure Centre, a small pond that attracts a diversity of insects, aquatic invertebrates, frogs and birds exists.

A visit there in early June, when the water level was low, revealed extensive mats of a liverwort growing on mud. I recognised this liverwort as a species of *Riccia*. Chris Cargill, an authority on *Riccia*, subsequently identified it as *Riccia duplex* variety *megasporea*.

Riccia duplex has two growth forms: one floating freely in water where it can form large, semi-submerged colonies,

and the other growing on mud. It will be interesting to check this wetland for the free-floating form when water levels are higher.

This healthy colony of *Riccia duplex* is of regional significance. In metropolitan Melbourne and surrounding regional areas, *Riccia duplex* has only been recorded from the Yarra and Plenty River valleys. The nearest record is a 1997 collection from Heidelberg.

It is understood that a proposed extension to the Sandringham Family Leisure Centre is being considered by council which is seeking independent advice regarding the proposed extension.



Acknowledgements

Thanks to Val Stajsic for collecting specimens and forwarding these to Chris Cargill for identification. Thanks also to Joanne Birch for providing details of specimens held at the University of Melbourne Herbarium.



Our Gardens: Our Refuge

Ken Rendell's magnificent garden featured in the *Our Garden: Our Refuge* exhibition

An exhibition showcasing 58 photographs of local gardens is touring Bayside libraries.

The *Our Gardens: Our Refuge* exhibition, which opened on 12 July at the ARTrium Exhibition Space, was attended by many of the photographers including Year 12 Environment and Sustainability leaders of Sandringham College Rory Hall and Katherine Ellison. Read the duo's opening speech from the launch event.

"We feel privileged to be here today, and to have the opportunity to speak to you about the importance behind private spaces, and the often-cherished relationship between garden and person.

Katherine: The Cambridge English Dictionary defines a garden as "a piece of land next to and belonging to a house, where flowers and other plants are grown, and often containing an area of grass".

Subsequently, it defines refuge as "a place that gives protection or shelter from danger, trouble, unhappiness etc."

And today, we are here to explore, appreciate and celebrate the people who have managed to make their garden not only a place where flowers and other plants are grown, but also a place that gives them protection and shelter from trouble and unhappiness.

Rory: Gardens have been a part of our culture and life for hundreds of years. They hold a place in the heart of communities and families, in fiction

and non-fiction, in reality and in fantasy. Lewis Carroll wrote a garden of Cheshire cats and wise caterpillars into his story of Alice in 1865. Frances Hodgson Burnett created a secret garden, the epitome of a refuge, for her characters to escape to and find peace within an

enchanted area. Claude Monet made his garden eternal through his intricate paintings, and invited the rest of the world to see its beauty and complete serenity.

Katherine: However, not only do gardens have an impact on the greater community and society as a whole – they have an enormous impact on us as individuals. At home, my parents have an unspoken ritual of spending almost every Sunday in the garden. We have three vegetable gardens from which we use food from almost every single night, olive trees, pear trees, an orange and a lemon tree, flowers growing under my windowsill, pot plants littered everywhere. From the time we moved into this house, I can remember walking around with a shovel in my gloved hands, the smell of soil rich in the air, and feeling safe and comforted by the environment around me.

Rory: Gardens provide people with a sense of purpose – they allow them to create something personal that has



(L-R) Michael Norris, Pauline Reynolds and Cr Alex del Porto



Jo Bisset and Marion Trevelyan



Lindy Fagan in her beautiful garden



(L-R) Katherine Ellison and Rory Hall

an incredibly positive effect on their health, wellbeing and mindset. Gardens are educational, vital for people of all ages, and have a private secluded feeling about them that tells the story of their creators. Lastly, however, and potentially most importantly, gardens are a safe haven – a haven that provides rest and peace, and tranquility, and a place to simply breathe.

Katherine: So without further ado, we'd like to thank you all for being here today and for celebrating the way people have decided to show their relationship with their gardens. We hope you enjoy yourselves and take a moment to consider the role that gardens have played in your life, and to always remember the importance of protecting these spaces as you don't know what you've lost until it's gone.

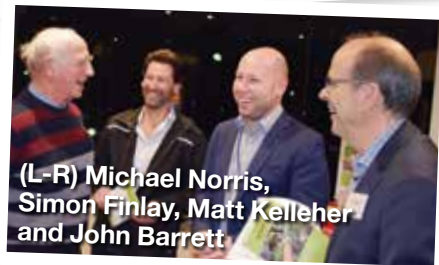
To finish, a quote from Victor Hugo, "A garden to walk in and immensity to dream in—what more could he ask? A few flowers at his feet and above him the stars."



(L-R) Peter and Caroline Shepard



Local children enjoy the exhibition opening night



(L-R) Michael Norris, Simon Finlay, Matt Kelleher and John Barrett



The exhibition is perfect for a family day out

Our Gardens: Our Refuge exhibition

Brighton Library

Address: 14 Wilson St, Brighton

Dates: 20 Sept - 18 Oct

**Meet the gardeners and share stories at an information session on 26 September from 6-7.45pm*

Sandringham Library

Address: 2-8 Waltham St, Sandringham

Dates: 25 Oct - 22 Nov

**For more information about the information session please visit www.bayside.vic.gov.au/news-events/our-gardens-our-refuge-information-session*

Pauline Reynolds, Jo Bisset and John Barrett initiated the *Our Gardens: Our Refuge* photographic exhibition, pulling in support from friends to form a committee and bring her project to life.

At the opening event, Pauline spoke about how the project came about and paid tribute to Council and a number of other supporters.

"We must be honest and admit that (Committee member) Jo Bisset and I saw an exhibition last year in a neighbouring municipality about gardens, which resonated with us both and inspired us to do something here.

But we wanted to extend it, to add something else.

Jo and I worked together for many years helping to organise the Family Life Open garden days.

We realised that if we were going to have a go, we'd need more than the two of us so we enlisted the help of John Barrett who I got to know while selling them plants at Bayside's Community Nursery.

The idea, of course, was to draw attention to the importance of private open space. (These are) refuges of peace, beauty and greenery, somewhere to grow all sorts of plants and trees, to grow veggies, to play, to provide habitat for creatures, somewhere to have pets, and, in your front gardens, somewhere to meet your neighbours and socialise with passersby.

We understand about increasing population to a degree, but don't appreciate the apparent need to have bigger dwellings at the expense of private open space whether it's a single house or more on the block. We hope that this exhibition will reassure Council that there are still many people who would like to retain the leafiness of Bayside for all the reasons previously mentioned and many more.

I've had the absolute pleasure of corresponding and meeting with many of the entrants and even photographed some of their gardens.

Jo and I also visited the three schools represented and met some of the talented young artists. I feel that gardeners, generally speaking, are lovely people and we'd like very much to thank you, young and not so young, for being part of this show."

Kids' Corner



A-Z of spring

Kids, tap mum or dad on the shoulder and ask them to help you plant a spring vegetable garden, a pot of herbs, a flowerbed or even a tree!

Here's an alphabetical guide for you to pick and choose your favourites this spring.

*Happy
planting!*



Asparagus



Basil



Cabbage



Disphyma crassifolium



Edible flower collection



Fennel



Goodenia ovata



Hibbertia sericea



Italian vegetable
collection



Japanese pumpkin



Kale



Lettuce



Marigold



Native everlasting daisy



Onion



Parsley



Quince



Radish



Sage



Tomato



Umbrella fern



Viola hederacea



Watermelon



Xanthorrhoea minor




Yukina Savoy




Zucchini

Friends Groups

Friends of Balcombe Park

Convenor: Ian O'Loughlin
Mobile: 0412 432 618 **Email:** ianoloughlin@optusnet.com.au
Melway Ref: 86 C4
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 29 Oct, 26 Nov, **Time:** 10am-12pm


Friends of Bay Road Heathland Sanctuary

Convenor: Michael Norris
Phone: (03) 9521 6879 **Email:** menorris@ozemail.com.au
Melway Ref: 77 B11
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 14 Oct, 11 Nov, 9 Dec **Time:** 10am-12pm


Bayside Environmental Friends Network

Convenor: Jill Robinson
Phone: 9583 8408 **Email:** friends@bayside.vic.gov.au


Friends of Brighton Dunes

Convenor: Jenny Talbot
Phone: (03) 9592 2109
Melway Ref: 76 C2
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: Every Tuesday (except Boxing Day) **Time:** 8am-10am


Friends of Cheltenham Park

Convenor: Valerie Tyers
Phone: (03) 9588 0107 **Email:** valerietyers@hotmail.com
Melway Ref: 86 G1
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 1 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec **Time:** 10am-12pm


Friends of Donald MacDonald Reserve

Convenor: Kim Croker
Phone: (03) 9589 2443 **Email:** kcroker@bigpond.net.au
Melway Ref: 86 B6
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 4 Oct, 1 Nov, 6 Dec **Time:** 10am-12pm


Friends of George Street Reserve

Convenors: Val Tarrant, Pauline Reynolds
Phone: (03) 9598 0554 **Email:** vtarrant@ozemail.com.au
Phone: (03) 9598 6368 **Email:** pauline.reynolds.au@gmail.com
Melway Ref: 86 B1
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 15 Oct, 19 Nov **Time:** 10am-12pm


Friends of Gramatan Avenue Heathland

Convenor: Ken Rendell
Phone: (03) 9589 4452
Melway Ref: 86 C6
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 1 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec **Time:** 1pm-3pm

Friends of Long Hollow Heathland

Convenor: Rob Saunders
Phone: (03) 9515 3383 **Email:** sredhuas@hotmail.com
Melway Ref: 86 D5
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 29 Oct, 26 Nov **Time:** 1pm-3pm

Friends of Merindah Park & Urban Forest

Convenor: John de Cruz Douglas
Phone: 0417 386 408 **Email:** jdec Douglas@internode.on.net
Melway Ref: 77 B12
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 8 Oct, 12 Nov, 10 Dec **Time:** 9am-11am


Friends of Native Wildlife

Convenors: Anne Jessel, Elizabeth Walsh
Phone: (03) 9585 6788 **Phone:** (03) 9598 9009
Email: info@bayfonw.org.au


Friend of Picnic Point Sandringham

Convenor: Terry Reynolds
Phone: (03) 9598 2978 **Email:** reynolds_family@hotmail.com


Friends of Ricketts Point

Convenor: Ross Longden
Phone: (03) 9589 2725
Melway Ref: 86 D9
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 25 Oct, 29 Nov, 27 Dec **Time:** 9.30am-11.30am


Friends of Ricketts Point Landside

Convenor: Sue Raverty
Phone: (03) 9589 2103 **Email:** sraverty@westnet.com.au
Melway Ref: 86 C9
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 17 Oct, 21 Nov **Time:** 1pm-3pm

Friends of Table Rock

Convenor: Ken Rendell
Phone: (03) 9589 4452
Melway Ref: 86 E10
 **Upcoming working bees:**
Dates: 31 Oct, 28 Nov **Time:** 10am-12pm

Friends of Elster Creek

Convenor: Gio Fitzpatrick
Phone: 0432 045 303 **Email:** gio@ecocentre.com
Meeting point: Elwood Canal, Glen Huntly Road Bridge
 **Upcoming Event:**
www.facebook.com/friendsofelstercreek/events

Save The Date

Celebrating
Summer By
The Sea

A Dog's Breakfast
Saturday 13 January
10am-12pm
Sandown Spit, Brighton

This event is part of the
annual Summer By The Sea.

Look out for more details
in the Summer edition of
Banksia Bulletin.



Environment Groups

Friends of Bayside Roads

Contact: Derek Jones

Phone: 0417 360 747 **Email:** derekhjones@gmail.com

Bayside Bushwalking Club (Charman to Cromer Roads, Beaumaris)

Contact: Jo Hurse

Phone: (Citywide Park Care) 9283 2052

Beaumaris Conservation Society


President: Greg Mier

Contact: PO Box 7016, Beaumaris 3193 **Email:** info@bcs.asn.au

Black Rock and Sandringham Conservation Association

Convenor: John Neve

Phone: 0479 196 260 **Email:** jneve@ozemail.com.au

 **Upcoming working bees:**

Dates: 3 & 17 Oct, 7 & 21 Nov, 5 & 19 Dec

Time: 10am-12pm

Marine Care Ricketts Point Inc

Website: www.marinecare.org.au

Melway Ref: 86 C9

Sandringham Foreshore Association

President: Dr Vicki Karalis

Contact: PO Box 52, Sandringham, 3191

Email: sandyforeshore@optusnet.com.au

Website: sandringhamforeshore.tumblr.com

School Groups

Firbank Girls Grammar

Contact: Mary-Ellen Johnson

Phone: (03) 9591 5188 **Email:** mjohnson@firbank.vic.edu.au

St Leonard's College Conservation Group

Contact: Simon Daniels

Phone: (03) 9909 9300 **Email:** simon.daniels@stleonards.vic.edu.au



banksia

bulletin

Editorial Policy

The purpose of publishing the Banksia Bulletin is to circulate information, report on events, and to profile relevant environmental issues important to our community. The Bulletin is also published to support the network of people involved in enjoying and protecting our local environment.

Bayside City Council encourages people from our local community groups to submit articles of interest, share experiences and news about any upcoming events. All articles are reviewed prior to publication and Council reserves the right to omit or edit submissions.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the people who have contributed to this issue of Banksia Bulletin.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in the Banksia Bulletin are not necessarily those of Bayside City Council nor its representatives.

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If you would like to be added to the Banksia Bulletin mailing list, please contact Bayside City Council on 9599 4444 or email: banksia@bayside.vic.gov.au
Please indicate whether you would prefer to receive your Banksia Bulletin by email or via post.

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