

**Friends of Williamstown  
Botanic Gardens Inc.**

**NEWSLETTER No 17  
November 2013**

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**Membership renewals** have been coming in apace and our treasurer, Helen Tribe has been sending out receipts. So far we have received 42 renewals which include multiple people covered by the Household membership category. Thank you for the great support. If you have not yet renewed we hope you will do so soon. Memberships may be paid at our general meeting on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2013.

**1. Upcoming Events**

**Preps in the Gardens - Wednesday November the 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday November the 28<sup>th</sup> from 9.15am to 11.00am**

Once again Anja Lee of the Children's Activity/Education subcommittee will provide a delightful activity for the Prep grades of Williamstown Primary School based on the story Jack in the Beanstalk. After the story and activities in the Williamstown Botanic Gardens each student will take home a pot in which a bean has been planted – watch this space!! Anja has asked for two members of the Friends to assist at each session. If you can help please meet Anja under the Golden Elm at 9.00am for a briefing.

**General Meeting of the Friends – 7.30pm Monday 2 December 2013**

This meeting will be at the Williamstown Croquet Club 104 Victoria Street, Williamstown.

Helen Page, an expert on historic gardens and our committee member is the speaker. We will also have some general business to deal with. Supper will follow.

**Grade One in the Gardens - Wednesday December the 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December from 9.15am to 11.30am**

Grade One students from Williamstown Primary School will enjoy a new activity called the Alphabet Tree with Anja Lee and again Anja would appreciate it if two members of the Friends could help with each session. If you can help on either day would you email Anja at [patanja@yahoo.com](mailto:patanja@yahoo.com) or put your name down at our general meeting on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

**Storytime under the Golden Elm “Bush Christmas”– 13 December 2013  
10.15am – 11.00am in the Williamstown Botanic Gardens**

At this session the children will enjoy the stories, songs and activities run by Anja Lee of the Friends and Russell Barret of Hobsons Bay Libraries. As has happened each year Father Christmas will visit. Also, our propagating group will be selling plants there. You are invited to come along to enjoy the event and support them.

## **Book Corner January 2014**

Once again the book corner will appear in the Gardens and we will ask for volunteers to help set up and pack up on fine week days in the later weeks of January.

## **Storytime under the Golden Elm “Magical Creatures” - 17 January 2014 10.15am – 11.00am in the Williamstown Botanic Gardens**

Again two helpers are needed.

## **NEWS!!**

### **Grant Applications Successful**

Exciting news! The Friends have been awarded two Grants in the Hobsons Bay City Council – 2014 Community Grants Programme. We will receive \$550.00 from the New Equipment/ Resources Grant Category to purchase books for the Book Corner and \$3,500.00 towards an oral history project “Recollections of the Williamstown Botanic Gardens” from the Create Vibrant Community Project Category. If you have names of people we may contact to collect stories of the Gardens particularly from older residents please contact Lindy Wallace by email at [wallaclj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wallaclj@bigpond.net.au) or phone 9391 5387.

### **Change of Website**

Our current web site is hosted by the State Library of Victoria. However, the decision has been made to close their community web hosting effective from Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2014. This means that we will need to select a new provider for web hosting services and set things in place well before the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2014. Fortunately work has already been going on to develop a new web site - Barbara Sloan and Carol Challis are well on the way to setting up a new web site and a new address with a free hosting service.

### **Recent Activities:**

#### **AGM of Friends – 7.30pm Wednesday 30 October 2013**

This well attended meeting appointed the committee for 2013 – 2014. Our Secretary Geoff King and Treasurer Diane Robinson who have held these positions for four years stepped down from them but remain on committee. We thank them for their great contribution. The current committee of eight comprises Sue Murray, President, Kim Sawyer, Vice President, Lindy Wallace, Secretary, Helen Tribe, Treasurer, Barbara Sloan, Publicity, Alan Murray, Committee, Diane Robinson, Committee, Geoff King, Committee, and Helen Page, representing the Williamstown Botanic Gardens Advisory Group.

The meeting was advised that the Friends are adopting the new Model Rules for Incorporated Associations.

Diane Robinson was wished a speedy recovery after her recent accident and the Friends have sent a card and some comestibles to her.

#### **Plant Sale – 12.00pm to 2.00pm Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2013**

Floyd Lodge, 63 Hanmer Street, Williamstown

On a cold and sometimes wet day the propagating group set up and sold over \$200.00 worth of plants. Thanks to everybody who assisted with this activity.

**Storytime under the Golden Elm “Where the Wild Bugs Are” – 15 November 2013  
10.15am – 11.00am in the Williamstown Botanic Gardens**

Despite a coolish day with occasional showers this first story time of the season was held literally under the Golden Elm. In fact the weather cleared and quite a number of families came and thoroughly enjoyed Anja and Russell’s lively presentation. The children then took magnifying glasses to find bugs in the Gardens before making their own butterflies to take home. Flyers with the timetable for all outdoor story times were distributed. We thank Hobsons Bay Libraries for producing all the posters and the timetable and Ian Brown and Andrea Ellis of HBCC Parks department for providing printed copies for publicity around town and distribution at the sessions.

**Mini Beasts Activity a Great Success**

We have received the following letter of appreciation from Williamstown Primary School following the Mini Beasts Activity for Grade 2 run on 27 August and 29 August 2013.

*12<sup>th</sup>September, 2013*

*The Grade Two teachers from Williamstown Primary School would like to extend a big “Thank you” to Anja, her helpers and the “Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens”, for hosting and organising a wonderful local excursion for our grade two students. The excursion was held over two days – on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August. The children had a fabulous time exploring the beautiful Williamstown Botanic Gardens, whilst learning about minibeasts.*

*Here are a few of the students’ comments:*

*“We had a great time at the Williamstown Botanic Gardens and learnt a lot about minibeasts.” (Bridgette)*

*“It was fun doing the activities outdoors. I liked making the spider web with string.” (Miriam)*

*“It was great to go on an excursion that we could walk to, that was so close to us, to learn about minibeasts”. (Hugo)*

*“I liked searching through pond water for tadpoles and mosquito fish”. (Jonah)*

*The students participated in five different activities and also made badges containing their own minibeast illustration. Anja, and her band of merry helpers, helped to make the excursion an extremely worthwhile and memorable experience for all! Thanks to the following helpers for their time, efforts and contribution:*

*Anja – for the creative spider web activity and for organising and managing the excursion!*

*Melanie – for the interesting Minibeast Alphabet Challenge.*

*Jenny – for encouraging the children to embrace worms and for teaching them about the important role worms play in our gardens and ecosystem.*

*Katrina – for enabling the children to search for harlequin beetles and draw them.*

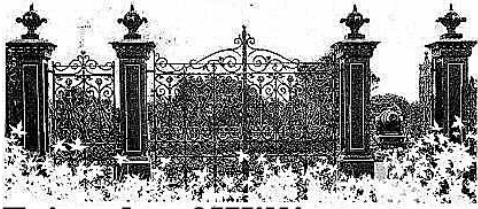
*Ranger Libby & Ben – for allowing the students to explore pond water and search, identify and discover pond life.*

*Carol – for showing the children how to make their very own “Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens” badges.*

*We are so fortunate to have the beautiful Williamstown Botanic Gardens on our doorstep and such supportive, generous assistance on offer! We could not have run this excursion without the help of Anja and her helpers or the “Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens”.*

***Many thanks and regards,***

***Rochelle White (on behalf of the Grade 2 teachers and students)***



**Friends of Williamstown  
Botanic Gardens Inc.**

# Membership Form 2013 - 2014

Postal address P.O. Box 826, Williamstown 3016  
email [williebotgardens@gmail.com](mailto:williebotgardens@gmail.com)  
website [www.friendsofwilliamstownbotanicgardens.net](http://www.friendsofwilliamstownbotanicgardens.net)

I would like to  become a member of Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens Inc  
 renew my membership

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick if you would prefer to receive newsletters by email

Membership fee  \$20 individual  \$30 household\*  \$15 concession

\*Household member names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a completed form and payment (cheques made payable to *Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens Inc*)

**OR**

Enclosed is a completed form and payment has been made directly into the Bendigo Bank account of Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens Inc  
**BSB 633-000 and Account No 138141809**

I am interested in the following area/s of the Friends' activities:

Art  Committees  Education  Guiding  History

Promotion & Publicity  Propagation  Research

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail completed form to Friends of Williamstown Botanic Gardens PO Box 826, Williamstown 3016**