

# BOTANIC NEWS

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, MELBOURNE INC.

## SUMMER 1994/1995

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

This spring has seen the Friends in full sail.

The Growing Friends had their most successful two-day sale yet, and made nearly \$25,000 from their produce – an all-time record. We all congratulate these skilled and devoted Friends who work essentially with discarded and surplus material from the Gardens, and by their efforts turn it into a productive source of income.

The Friends' Shop by the lake is also booming and with the summer season approaching – or is it with us already? – the Manager, Jill Swann, vitally assisted by volunteers from the Friends expect to be able to make an increased contribution to our funds.

Our programme of activities will ensure that the Friends will be able, under the guidance of our Projects Committee, to continue supporting important projects in the Gardens.

I want to make special mention of the magnificent exhibition put on by the Botanical Illustrators under Louise Coronel in the Herbarium. The high attendance and the sales generated reinforced the status of botanical illustration as a vital and active element in the arts scene, centred here in our Gardens under the auspices of the Friends.

We would like to keep on building our membership of the Friends, and I make the suggestion that the present of a year's subscription would make an admirable and welcome Christmas gift to a friend or member of the family.

On behalf of the Council, I wish all our members a very happy Christmas and prosperous and active 1995.

**Sir Rupert Hamer**  
President

### FROM THE BOARD

The Inaugural Sponsors' Dinner was held on 6 October to thank our many sponsors and supporters, including the Friends, for their assistance during the past year, and to mark the official opening of Gardens House after its refurbishment. The evening began at Gardens House, which looked splendid with its new paint, furnishings and floral displays. Mr John Gough, Chairman of Pacific Dunlop Limited, which sponsored the restoration, formally opened the building in its new role as a place for corporate and private functions.

Guests then strolled from Gardens House to the Herbarium Hall for dinner. RBG staff had skilfully transformed the hall into a spectacular indoor garden surrounding the tables, creating a wonderful atmosphere for our 150 guests.

Dr Roberto Bertini delivered an inspirational address about the importance of corporate philanthropy - his company, Bertolli of Australia, was principal sponsor of the dinner. We also appreciated the support of Peter Rowland Catering, Harry the Hirer and Katnook Estate wines.

During his speech at the dinner the Minister for Conservation and Environment, the Hon. Mark Birrell MP, announced a grant to the Gardens of \$200,000 from the Community Support Fund. This generous grant will provide a new sign system which will be gradually installed over the next 12 months, beginning with directional and information signs.

The Minister's announcement capped a wonderful evening. The Board greatly appreciates the support which the Friends and all our other donors have provided during the last year.



*Peg Jones and John Watkins at the presentation ceremony of their garden seat donated under the Friends' scheme. Its inscription reads 'For the joy we have shared together through our association with these Gardens'.*



Earlier in the week of the Sponsors' Dinner, we were notified of two other major grants. The Buckland Foundation has donated \$50,000 to support the educational programs of the Gardens, and Esso Australia will provide \$20,000 for further enhancement of the Fern Gully and educational material about its colony of flying foxes.

The Board and the Council of the Friends have recently established a liaison group which will review the present relationship between our two organisations, consider what changes may be necessary to maximise future benefits to both the RBG and the Friends, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board and Council.

W.R.M. Irvine, Chairman



## SUMMER ACTIVITIES



### FRIENDS' CHRISTMAS DINNER

Friday 16 December  
at  
7.00 for 7.30pm  
at the  
Naval and Military Club  
27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne  
Cost: \$40 per person

RSVP on enclosed booking form by 12 December

### CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT PICNIC IN THE GARDENS

For family and friends

Tuesday 20 December 6.00 to 9.00pm

Our first Twilight Picnic last Christmas was such a delightful occasion that we certainly want to repeat it. So please, join us for our second BYO picnic tea on the Eastern Lawn near the Tecoma shelter (enter Gate C in Anderson Street opposite Merton Hall and follow the signs). Relax amid the Christmas rush while enjoying views across the Ornamental Lake and Melbourne's cityscape at twilight.

Music will be provided by the Lyrebirds, a harp and flute duo.

Strawberries and cream will be served.

To continue the tradition, there will again be a competition for the most imaginative and enticing picnic setting, which will be judged by Paul Lynch, owner of the famous Lynch's Restaurant in South Yarra. Those wishing to enter this competition are asked to register by 6.15 pm.

We would particularly welcome new members to this event.

Cost: Adults \$5.00 Children (4-15 years) \$3.00  
Families \$15.00

RSVP by 16 December on enclosed booking form.



### WEEKEND IN THE NORTH EAST WITH KAY FAIRLEY

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 January 1995

Our staunch Friend Kay Fairley, from Benalla, has arranged two days of relaxation and fun for us. Leaving the National Gallery at 9am we will travel by bus to Benalla and have a picnic lunch on the banks of the Broken River before visiting two wineries in the Warby Range. We will spend the night at a Wangaratta motel. On Sunday we will walk in the Warby Range State Park with its lovely views, visit a native plant nursery, visit Hamilton Downs village set in old orchards and have the opportunity of bringing home freshly picked fruit of the area. We should be back in Melbourne by 6pm.

Cost all inclusive \$150 for twin share accommodation, \$20 extra for single supplement. This includes transport, accommodation and all meals.

RSVP on enclosed booking form by 6 January 1995

### MORNINGTON PENINSULA DAY TRIP

Friday 20 January 1995

We have again been invited by our very special Friend Dame Elisabeth Murdoch to join her at Cruden Farm on Friday 20 January 1995 to have our BYO picnic tea.

This year we will leave the National Gallery by bus at 11.30 and have a picnic lunch at Arthur's Seat while taking in the view. We will then move on to the very decorative garden, Heronswood, which is set high on a hill at Dromana. Owned by Clive and Penny Blazey, Heronswood has been changed considerably since our visit there two years ago. Plants and seeds can be purchased until 4pm. From there we will go to Cruden Farm to stroll, relax and enjoy the very beautiful garden of Dame Elisabeth. The coach will leave shortly before 7pm to be back at the National Gallery by 8pm.

Those people on holidays in the Mornington Peninsula area can join us by car if they wish for a cost of \$14.

Cost: By coach, \$25 includes lunch, entrance to Heronswood and transport. Drinks at Arthur's Seat can be obtained at the Kiosk. BYO picnic tea including drinks for Cruden Farm

RSVP by 16 January 1995 on enclosed booking form.



**FRIENDS' FILM LUNCHEON**

*The Secret Garden*

**Monday 23 January 1995 at 11.00am**  
**Trak Cinema, 445 Toorak Road, Toorak**

A classic family story written by Frances Hodgson Burnett, which has enchanted generations since its publication at the turn of the century. Now sensitively adapted for the screen, it deals with a family's dark secret and a beautiful hidden garden in which love and friendship can flower, and troubles of the mind and body can be healed.

Lunch (sandwiches, cake and tea/coffee/soft drinks) will follow the screening. Parking in Tintern Avenue or Safeway car park.

Admission: Adults \$11, Children 15 years & under \$8  
 RSVP by 16 January on enclosed booking form.

**CRANBOURNE  
 ACTIVITIES**

Our Cranbourne counterparts would welcome RBG Melbourne Friends to join them for any of the following activities:

**Christmas Party**

Sunday 11 December at noon. Meet at Stringybark Picnic Area. BYO lunch followed by walk. Barbecues available.

**Christmas Walk**

Tuesday 27 December at noon. Meet at Stringybark Picnic Area. BYO lunch followed by walk. Barbecues available. This is an informal social walk for members and their friends.

**Night Prowl for all the family**

Saturday 18 February at 6.00pm. Meet at Stringybark Picnic Area for barbecue dinner. Enter via rear gate (Stephenson/Ballarto Rd). (The main gate closes at 5.00pm for the public). Search for nightlife in the Cranbourne Garden. BYO food, drinks, insect repellent, torches, appropriate clothing and walking shoes. Please bring a plate for supper after the walk.

***Botanical Embroiderers' Workshop***

The Botanical Embroiderers' monthly classes will continue next year under the tuition of Wanda McPherson. If interested, please contact the Friends' office for a list of dates.

**THE ART OF  
 BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION**

Congratulations to our exhibiting artists and everyone involved with this very successful October exhibition.

The Herbarium Hall was transformed into a most attractive exhibition space with new display panels and fittings especially commissioned for the event, and enhanced by spectacular floral arrangements generously provided once again by Kevin O'Neill.

More than 4000 visitors came to see the 151 selected works, of which 94 were sold - a wonderful outcome. Many more unframed originals, prints and cards were also sold, contributing to the overall profit of \$11,500.

Many hours of enthusiastic voluntary labour helped to achieve this outstanding result. In particular our special thanks go to Lois Brunt who, with Cheryl Martin and Bev Graham, worked almost full time to organise and run our efficient and profitable exhibition shop.

Thanks also go to the invaluable help of - Jo Brownell for rostering all the volunteers; Marina Albert and Julie Maddock for producing the catalogue; Bev Ednie, Caroline Cornish and Judy Jarman for publicity; Cathie Hossack and Terry Napier who with Buller Wines, the Big Group Pty Ltd and artists' family members provided and served refreshments for our opening night.

Thank you too to the management and staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens for their support and assistance.

The Plant Craft Cottage ran a small stall at the exhibition to raise funds for their activities and made a very satisfying \$927.

The enlarged Gardens' shop benefited from the extra visitors over the 19 days the exhibition was open with greatly enhanced sales.

At the close of the exhibition the display panels and service counter were purchased from the contractor and will now be available for use in future exhibitions in the Herbarium Hall.

We now look towards our next members' exhibition in 1996.

**Louise Coronel**  
**Convener**

**FRIENDS NEEDED: 5 MARCH 1995**

The Royal Botanic Gardens is holding a festival of entertainment and botanic discovery on Sunday 5 March 1995. It will be a day of music, picnics and rambling through the Gardens - perfect for introducing new visitors to the site. Musical entertainment from classical to jazz will be staged in the pavilions dotted around the lawns and brass bands will march the paths.

The Friends have offered to assist the Gardens wherever possible. We will be staffing an information marquee. Volunteers are needed to assist on the day as stage managers and marshals. Please contact the Friends' office to offer your services.



## GOLDA ISAAC HONOURED

**Golda Isaac was honoured with Life Membership at the Annual Meeting of the Friends on 7 November.**

Beth Higgs, foundation president of the Friends, spoke eloquently in proposing Golda's election. In the formal words of the resolution, Golda was nominated "as a person who has provided outstanding services to the Friends".

Beth began by recalling their first meeting more than 13 years ago.

"We were introduced by Sylvia Churchill, to discuss the proposed formation of the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens. I recall Sylvia's words prior to this meeting: 'She is a wise and thoughtful lady'. During the intervening years we have all greatly benefited from Golda's wisdom, her thoughtfulness and her enthusiasm.



Photo: I. Newton-John

*Golda Isaac (left) with Eve Brunner, also a Life Member*

"Golda was my first recruit. She became a foundation member, a member of the steering committee, and a member of the Friends committee before she joined the Council and served until 1993, including two years as vice president. The Activities Committee and many other sub-committees were all part of her commitment.

"Golda's activities have always been distinguished by great professionalism. Consider the tours – three, four or five days spent visiting lovely and often historic country gardens. They were always well researched, documented and planned during many prior visits and months of preparation. They are copybook examples for the future and were always a highlight of our programme, being unique in their content; they provided some of the special privileges we can offer to members.

"And then there were the exhibitions. I shall mention only two of the many exhibitions we have had. Firstly the Banksias. Who among us who saw it will ever forget the impact of 48 of Celia Rosser's original paintings appropriately hung in this auditorium. Generously lent by Monash University and on public display for two weeks, they received tremendous acclaim and stimulated an interest hitherto unknown in the field of botanical illustration. It marked the beginning of a growing interest in, and acknowledgement for, this art.

"Secondly, the exhibition *Our Botanical Heritage*, a collection chosen and prepared by the Herbarium staff from the vast and important resources of the National Herbarium. Staged by the Friends with the help of a generous sponsor and directed by Golda, it ran for three weeks with the standard of presentation befitting the importance of the collection. It was a milestone in the public perception and appreciation of the role of the Herbarium.

"There is a motto well known in our family which, translated, reads 'Do what you do, well'. Golda excels in doing well. Her scholarship, her outstanding ability to organise with minute attention to detail, together with a warm and winning personality, make hers a unique contribution to the Friends.

"I believe it is most fitting that Golda Isaac should be elected a Life Member of the Friends, and I have great pleasure in proposing this Resolution. She has been a great 'friend' in every sense of the word."

## FRIENDS GREW \$25,000

The Growing Friends' Spring Plant Sale once again drew a large crowd, particularly on Saturday 8 October when 196 early birds were waiting for the gate to open. Even on Sunday there were 34 keen gardeners lined up.

Many of our customers heard Lucille Strachan interviewed on 3CR Garden session and also on Clive Stark's 3LO Sunday program. The very interesting article in *The Melbourne Weekly* drew much favourable comment.

The final result was a thrilling \$25,000, the most we have raised from any plant sale. It will be some time before a visit to our nursery on Friday morning is worthwhile.

Special thanks to the Gardens' staff for their untiring efforts and also to the Friends who staffed the checkout points. We are also very grateful to Lundstrom Dickson and Associates, Chartered Accountants, for providing three marquees.

## FRIENDS' SHOP

This dear little shop is now operating on daylight saving summer hours, 9.30-5.00pm daily. As always we look forward to seeing your smiling faces come through the door.

We have a good collection of Australian-made things most suitable for overseas Christmas gifts, which means not too heavy and not too expensive. I have made a list on the enclosed card for your perusal.

Happy Christmas, enjoy your summer. All the best for 1995 and don't forget to wear a hat when you're outside gardening.

From the staff and 50 volunteers who run your Friends' Shop.

**Jill Swann**  
Retail Manager



## BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATORS

### CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

An end of year celebration and social occasion for all our artist members.

**Tuesday 13 December** from 12 noon on the lawn adjacent to the Observatory (Weights and Measures) Conference Room (inside if the weather is inclement). Please bring a plate of food to share and a drinking glass.

Enquiries, Pat Brass 817 4467.

### NEW COMMITTEE

A committee of members has now been formed to co-ordinate all activities of the Botanical Illustrators leading up to our 1996 exhibition. A separate committee to manage the exhibition will be formed later. Cheryl Martin has volunteered to be co-ordinator under Louise Coronel as convenor. Please contact Cheryl to offer assistance or to make enquiries on 755 1467.

### BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATORS FEBRUARY MEETING

#### *Selection Criteria for Exhibiting Botanical Art*

A talk and discussion with **ANITA BARLEY**, **IAN CLARKE** and **CELIA ROSSER** – our selection panel for The Art of Botanical Illustration.

**Tuesday 21 February 1995**  
National Herbarium Hall  
Morning tea 10am Discussion 10.30-12.30  
Members \$5 Non-members \$10  
**RSVP 14 February** on enclosed booking form

### MONTHLY WORKSHOPS WITH ANITA BARLEY

On the second Tuesday of each month from 14 February to 13 December 1995 inclusive.

Observatory Conference Room  
10am-3pm

We're delighted to have Anita return to this group, which has continued during her absence following Georgina's birth. As this is an on-going activity, only a very limited number of new places is available for 1995. Please ring the Friends' Office to register your interest in joining this group.

Cost: \$120 for 11 workshops to be paid with booking on enclosed form (for continuing members).

### NEW MONTHLY PAINTING GROUP

If you are interested in joining a second informal group which would meet once a month to paint and draw together, discuss the world of botanical art and prepare for our next exhibition, please telephone Beryl Black for information and bookings on 509 3780 by 31 January 1995. The cost would be approximately \$66 for 11 sessions, depending on numbers.

### INFORMAL WEEKLY WEDNESDAY PAINTING GROUP

Some vacancies for this informal painting group are available for 1995. If you would like to paint and draw in the company of other artists, once a week on Wednesdays, please contact Mary Gregory on 836 8587 for details.

Cost: \$50, paid in advance for each quarter of 12 weeks.



Photo: J. Newton-John

Artist Judy Roberts at the opening of the Botanical Illustrators' exhibition

### BOTANICAL ARTISTS' CLASSES WITH JENNY PHILLIPS

**Classes commence 7 February 1995**

In the Observatory Building, at the rear of the Astronomer's Residence, Birdwood Ave, South Yarra. Anybody interested in attending should contact Jenny on (054) 22 6490, or (015) 511 410.

### CELIA ROSSER ACHIEVEMENT

Renowned botanic artist Celia Rosser has won the 1994 **Avon Spirit of Achievement Award**. The award recognises the outstanding achievements of women in Australia. To quote from Avon:

*"The winner is chosen from among the finalists in each of six categories: The Arts, Business, Environment, Government, Science or Sport. She is a woman who is the most outstanding in her field; who unselfishly encourages and nurtures the talents of the people around her; whose achievements are making a strong contribution to the future of Australia."*

Celia was awarded a sculpture and \$15,000 to donate to the cause of her choice, which was cancer research.



## NEWZEALAND TOUR NORTH ISLAND

4 - 19 November 1995

A two week tour of New Zealand's lovely North Island is planned for spring 1995 to be led by naturalist Rosalind Harker of New Zealand Nature Expeditions Ltd. Flying to Auckland, the group will enjoy a relaxed visit in comfortable circumstances, visiting the highlights of this fascinating island. Travelling through the orchard area to the Bay of Islands, the group will stay two nights, viewing the famous Puketi Kauri Forest en route, returning south to Rotorua with its local culture and gardens. Then on to Gisborne, Havelock North, past Lake Taupo to New Plymouth, Masterton and Wellington. There will be many beautiful private and public gardens included in the itinerary as well as the natural scenic beauty.

This tour is being shared with the Friends of the Tasmanian Botanic Gardens and will cost approximately \$3,000 twin share plus \$598 single supplement.

This includes the naturalist guide, return airfare, all accommodation, transport and most meals, all entry fees and a launch trip around the islands at the Bay of Islands.

A 1996 tour of the South Island is being planned for autumn, when the weather is at its best and the colours are breathtaking.

For further details contact Lesley Clark on 807 3984 or the Friends' Office on 650 6398.

## FREE GUIDED WALKS

The Voluntary Guides wish to announce new times for the guided walks which leave the Herbarium every day except Monday and Thursday. As from 1 January 1995 these will begin at 11am and 1pm, the former 10am walk being deleted from that date. For the month of December 1994 only we will take three walks daily, at 10am, 11am and 1pm in order to avoid confusion from overlap of old and new publicity.

## THE GARDENS' SHOP

The former Visitor Centre and Shop in the Herbarium building at the corner of Birdwood Avenue and Dallas Brooks Drive has been transformed into the Gardens' Shop. The additional space has enabled manager Jenny Yungmanns to greatly expand the range of gardening, horticultural and technical books for sale. There are also many articles with a botanical theme, such as umbrellas/sunshades, prints, clothing (aprons, hats, hemp vests etc), pot pourri and dried herbs. Custom has increased markedly since the new shop was established, and Friends are invited to take advantage of the 10 per cent discount offered to them. Maps, brochures and information are available as before. The shop is open daily between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Phone (03) 655 2341.

### SPECIAL OFFER

**FLORA OF VICTORIA  
VOLUME 2. RRP \$195**

Order before 31 December 1994 for discount prices. Over the counter at Gardens shop - \$140; mailed within Australia - \$150; mailed overseas - \$170



*Robyn Tymms, who arranged the Artists Garden tour in October, with Friedl Gardner, owner of Cherrygarth at Mt Evelyn. PHOTO: C. TAVARY*

## SPECIAL BENEFITS TO FRIENDS

**Remember that your Friends' membership entitles you to some very worthwhile discounts.**

At the Friends' shop adjoining the Gardens' Tea Rooms you receive a 10 per cent discount on purchases exceeding \$20. The Gardens' Shop in the Herbarium also encourages your custom by offering a 10 per cent discount.

The following businesses also very kindly offer special discounts to Friends.

Current membership cards must be shown in order for you to receive these discounts.

- Fryers' Nursery**  
589 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn  
5% off plants only
- Idaho Nurseries**  
410 Waverley Rd, E. Malvern  
10% off plants only
- The Gardener's Bulleen Nursery**  
105 Bridge St, Bulleen  
5% off seedlings  
10% off potted plants
- Town and Country Gardens**  
1280 Malvern Rd, Malvern  
10% off everything
- The Arts Bookshop**  
1067 High St, Armadale
- Holmesglen College of TAFE**  
inc. the Victorian Schools Nursery  
585 Waverley Rd, Glen Waverley  
10% off everything
- Canterbury Species Garden**  
7 Byron St, Canterbury  
10% off everything
- The Gardeners Corner Store**  
190-192 New St, Brighton  
10% off everything
- Collectors Corner**  
Springvale Rd, Keysborough  
10% off all plants
- Kew Nursery**  
Cnr High & Gladstone Sts, Kew  
10% off all plants
- Wolf Tools**  
675 Canterbury Rd, Surrey Hills  
10% discount
- Burwood Garden Patch**  
1418 Toorak Rd, Burwood  
10% discount





*The Friends' group who visited Broken Hill and Sunraysia in September.*

**SPRING ACTIVITIES**

*Broken Hill & Sunraysia trip - 3/9/94 to 9/9/94*

*Cranbourne Botanic Garden, Day Trip - 10/9/94*

*Spring Stroll in the Grounds of Government House & Afternoon Tea at the Mews - 21/9/94*

*A Celebration of Auriculas & Paper for the Botanical Artist with Penny Dunn, Gwenda McDougall and Marc Mamet - 27/9/94*

*Floral Demonstration & Basket Lunch with Christine Ireland - 28/9/94*

*Growing Friends' Plant Sales - 8/10/94 & 9/10/94*

*The Gardens of the Artists - A bus day trip to the gardens of Freidl & Godfrey Gardner and Judy & John Roberts - 11/10/94*

*Launch of Botanic Art Exhibition with Celia Rosser - 12/10/94*

*The Art of Botanical Illustration Exhibition - 13/10/94 to 30/10/94*

*Reunion for the Broken Hill & Sunraysia Trip at home of Yvonne Troedel - 16/10/94*

*Morning Coffee at Gardens House and the Botanical Illustrators' Exhibition - 18/10/94*

*Official Opening of the repaired and refurbished Rose Pavilion - 26/10/94*

*Reunion for 2nd China trip at home of Joyce and Stevan Krstic - 29/10/94*

*London's Royal Parks Today with Tom Wright - 3/11/94*

*Annual General Meeting with Frank Phillips - 7/11/94*

*China Tour - Yunnan Province with Sue Keon-Cohen, Geoff Cleary and Neil Thomas - 17/11/94*

*Friends' Family Day in the Gardens - 27/11/94*

**THE PERSONAL TOUCH**

The Membership Sub-Committee, while delighted at the steady stream of new members, is disappointed that a considerable number do not renew their Friends' membership.

It has been suggested that some members might be prepared to take six or so names from this list and make telephone calls to seek renewals.

This personal approach might also elicit reasons for non-renewal – information that could be useful for us in planning our programme of activities.

If you would like to volunteer for this task please telephone the office on 650 6398, of course you will be reimbursed for your calls.

**FRIENDS' SEATS**

The number of seats donated through the Friends' Memorial Seats Program continues to grow and there are now 14 seats located in various parts of the Gardens, with another two on order. The seats are certainly a welcome addition to the Gardens. Recent donations have been made by the Wilkinsons in memory of Sir Keith and Lady Aickin, the Trustees of the Bird Family Bequests and also Ms Maureen Orchard and her sister in memory of their parents. Donors are able to choose the location of their seats and anyone wishing for more information should contact Margaret Howes on 650 6398.

**FRIENDS' OFFICE**

A two-day position is available in the Friends' Office as Anne Scott Wilson has left to find full-time employment. We need someone who is proficient in Microsoft Word for Windows, Pagemaker 5.0 and Database management, as well as having general secretarial skills. Previous experience in producing publicity material would be an advantage. If you are interested please send in a written application to Margaret Howes, Friends' Office, National Herbarium, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, 3141 by 9 December.





*Botanic News is printed quarterly for the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne Inc.*

The Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne Incorporated has been formed to stimulate further interest in the Gardens and National Herbarium and to support and assist them whenever possible

**Patron:**  
His Excellency the Hon. Richard E. McGarvie  
**President of the Council of the Friends:**  
Sir Rupert Hamer  
**Vice Presidents:**  
Eve Brunner,  
Durham Smith  
**Secretary:**  
Lawrence Cohn  
**Treasurer:**  
David Baumgartner  
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## FROM THE GARDENS AND HERBARIUM

The delightful restoration of the Rose Pavilion is now finished. The shelter has been returned to its 1890s glory, including the beautiful pine panelling on the ceiling and internal walls. Installation of this panelling - the original details of which were fortunately discovered at the last minute by Nigel Lewis, the project's conservation architect - was made possible by a generous grant of \$16,000 from the Friends. This support supplemented major sponsorship from 12 corporate associates of Pacific Dunlop Limited in recognition of Pacific Dunlop's centenary last year.

The Pavilion was officially re-opened by Mr Keith Skinner, chairman of the corporate advisory group, on 26 October at a ceremony attended by representatives from the advisory group, Pacific Dunlop, the Friends' Council and RBG Board and staff. Before too long, roses will once again adorn the Pavilion - we have planted Alister Clark roses in the garden around the shelter!

Dr Tim Entwisle has been appointed to the new senior position of Research Manager in the Research and Herbarium Division. Tim will manage botanical and horticultural research in the institution, and the development of major new areas of research work.

The vacancies created recently by Tim's promotion and by Stephen Forbes' departure to a senior appointment at King's Park and Gardens in Perth will enable us to broaden our scientific expertise, particularly in the newer areas of molecular systematics and conservation botany. We are strengthening our links with other research institutions, and seeking outside funding to support an expanded program of scientific works. In 1996 we will be hosting two major international scientific meetings at the RBG.

We welcome Dr Andrew Douglas, our inaugural Pacific Dunlop Research Fellow, who has settled quickly into Melbourne life with his family after their arrival from the United States in August. Andrew is already deep into his studies of the evolutionary relationships of the Proteaceae. He has been on several collecting trips already in Victoria and NSW, and will shortly be going to the Atherton Tableland to undertake collaborative work there with CSIRO botanists.

Final page proofs of Volume 2 of the *Flora of Victoria* have been checked and returned to the publisher. The volume will run to about 1000 pages and publication is expected in December. The book will be printed and bound in Melbourne, and production costs have been subsidised by a generous grant of \$10,000 from the Friends. It is the first of the three taxonomic volumes and will deal with the grasses, lilies, orchids, ferns and conifers. The RRP will be \$195 from 1 January 1995, but copies will be available at the special discount price of \$140 until the end of December from the RBG Shop in the National Herbarium Building in Birdwood Avenue.

Text and illustrations for Volume I of the *Horticultural Flora of South-eastern Australia* by Roger Spencer are with the publisher and final proofs are awaited. The book should be published in March 1995. Work on Volume 2 is well advanced including the illustrations of Cactaceae being funded by a grant of \$6,000 from the Friends.

**Philip Moors, Director**

### GIFT MEMBERSHIP

A gift of Friends' membership would make an ideal Christmas present for someone on your list! Phone the office on 650 6398 and we'll arrange to send a membership card with your greeting.