



FRIENDS OF
MYALL PARK
BOTANIC GARDEN

NEWSLETTER

Vol 16 No 1 Autumn 2007

We would be glad to receive your contributions to our newsletter.
Please note all views expressed are those of individual authors.



ANNUAL MEETING ELECTIONS

The 2006 Annual Meeting of Directors of MPBG Ltd resulted in few changes to the Executive.

Notably there is the absence of Donna O'Brien whose time is now occupied with baby Mitchell, born in late December. Donna you will remember as our first Administrative Assistant, then as our Visitor Services Manager.

In her place, caretaker Marion Firms agreed to act as Manager for Visitor Services—thank you Marion for this.

Sandra Neill resigned as Manager of Art in the Garden, and this position has been accepted by Sue Reilly. Sue has had a long association with Myall Park Botanic Garden and the Gordon family, having lived her childhood close by, and has returned to the district.

Lyn Reilly (no relation to Sue) agreed to look after Education and Research while Nita Lester continues her travels overseas.

Otherwise, things continue as in previous years.

ACCOMMODATION IMPROVEMENTS

We continually work towards upgrading our accommodation units, and with live-in caretakers, Directors are made aware of what more can be done.

First Aid materials have been purchased, and emergency numbers placed in both Avochie and The Quarters, as well as in the information baskets given to campers.

With fire exit signs, fire escape plans and new fire extinguishers The Quarters now measure up to backpacker style accommodation standards.

15 amp camper outlets on the exterior of The Quarters are now installed and functioning—we discovered most caravans require 15 amp points, not the 10 amp ones there previously.



During the quiet hot summer period, the necessary task of cleaning septic tanks has been completed.

If you have previously stayed in the Quarters you would have realized that the drainage system required attention. This work began before the rains came when the ground was like concrete! Much hand digging was involved but now the task is complete, with new pipes installed in re-directed trenches.

Above, caretaker, Warren, working in January to improve drainage at The Quarters, yet another example of his working well beyond expectations, so a huge thank you, Warren!

ASBESTOS REMOVAL

Those of you who grew up in the '50s will remember the copious amounts of asbestos that were used in Australia. The nursery area contained lots of it and it all had to be cleaned up. This was another very big task and also a very hot one, as full protection gear had to be worn. It was done during the quiet period in January.

The asbestos sheets and broken bits have been removed from this area. The sand and asbestos articles from the Hardening Bays have also been removed. The remaining asbestos inside the Glass House has been painted. Now that the area has been cleaned up our volunteers will be able to work safely, although we cannot guarantee that the area is completely asbestos free.

Warren and



Marion

(Warren on yet another hot day removing asbestos)

**SUBSCRIPTIONS TO FRIENDS OF
MPBG WERE DUE ON 01.10.06 -
IF YOU HAVE A RED MARK ON
YOUR ADDRESS LABEL, YOUR SUB-
SCRIPTION IS NOW OVERDUE.
See 9 for your renewal form. Thanks for
your support of the Garden.**

MPBG ANNUAL MEETING DEC 2006:

CHAIRMAN'S 2006 ANNUAL REPORT:

I present a brief annual report as Chairman of Myall Park Botanic Garden Ltd.

While our achievements continue, 2006 has been one of the most difficult years for the Garden's living collection, as well as for many directors who, while trying to keep their own family's dream alive during this prolonged drought, are also working to keep Dave Gordon's dream alive.

Highlights from each Division are in each Manager's reports, but the following are some I've been aware of:

Living Collection: just keeping some of the Garden going, as well as GPS location of many plants

Visitor Services: for coping with the varied dramas as the year progressed—but the satisfactory conclusion to the Quarters accommodation is still an issue

Art in the Garden—highlights were the display of artwork involving Robyn Gordon Grevillea and the exhibition of work by Priscilla Mundell and Pat Hinz

Education and Research—the work on the Bed and Breakfast and Garden for all Seasons Trails

Friends—the Open Day

Marketing and Retail—with the bookmark, the brown tourism signs, the Memento Awards finals, and website upgrades

Again this year, Directors are extremely grateful to caretakers Marion and Warren—their untiring efforts go unnoticed for the most part by us all, and they perform well beyond what is expected of them. While directors have been unable to contribute all they would like, our caretakers continue to battle on with so much enthusiasm. The installation of air-conditioning in Terpersie should make their life a little more pleasant this coming summer.

Thanks too to Janine as Administrative Assistant who has continued working in the office, despite personal problems.

To the Tara Shire Council, our thanks for their support, to the volunteers who helped with Open Day, and in the Garden, to the various spouses for their patience and help, to Friends whose help comes in various forms from locating insulation at a good price to folding and posting newsletters, to those who have contributed often very generously to the Gift Fund.....

Thanks to all Directors for their support and work, especially Ted for diligently keeping our books—we're still afloat—and to Garth for taking on the role of secretary.

I must mention as well, Jan Shaw for library work, Mim Hirst for Open Day, Jennifer Schwennesen who managed to upgrade the website, and have a baby.

No doubt I have missed someone—to all who helped in whatever capacity, I thank you.

There are many challenges ahead—some immediate, some long term—so to the incoming committee, keep up the enthusiasm.

Betty Salter

(I gave notice to Directors that I will resign from this position as the next AGM—it's time for someone else to have a turn!)

Financial position: The Garden managed to "come out even" with income matching expenses for 2006. A small reserve is maintained for emergencies, such as the solar pump becoming ill. Our main income is accommodation, and retail from the Gallery, so visitors provide us with the means to attend to the living collection expenses.

VISITOR NUMBERS 2006

All tourism operators in this region reported reduced visitor numbers during 2006, due no doubt to the increased fuel prices.

However, MPBG recorded the following:

Day visitors –576

Overnight visitors—587, including volunteers

Our current caretakers were in residence during January 2007 so trialled opening the Garden during our normal "closed for maintenance" period. They felt that coming seven kilometres after seeing the brown tourist signs in Glenmorgan only to meet a "Closed" sign was not a good image. Among the overnights in January were some reptile fanatics—so glad we can cater for so many different interests!

HISTORICAL WORK

For a long time, Directors have seen the need to preserve the history of the Garden, and that of course, includes the nursery area.

Marion has begun collecting images of the nursery and seed room from our records, but should any Friend have any material which may be of interest to us, could you please contact Marion.

Also our caretakers have been sorting through various historical items. Several asbestos potting trays have been treated ready for future display. Warren has begun painting the 3 newer Hardening Bays, hopefully covering any asbestos fibres that may be embedded in the wood work, and also helping to preserve the timber. The old yellow bay will require repairs if it is to be retained. The really old bay is beyond repair.

On your next visit, if you have not already inspected the nursery

OPEN DAY 2007 Saturday August 25

Picnic in the Park

Plans are underway for our Annual Open Day

So mark the date in your diary for that visit you have been planning for some time.

2007 will probably be "things botanic" - assuming weather forecasters are correct in saying we have at least 50% chance of median rain.

Picnic in the Park—order one of our special luncheon hampers or bring your own.

Go on special guided tours, or do your own.

Try out one of the new walks

Birdwatch with the enthusiasts at dawn.....

and our plans are only starting.....

More details next edition of this newsletter.

LIVING COLLECTION NEWS

The Garden has suffered badly during this prolonged drought and heat, although January brought welcome storms (and importantly a full dam), and February some follow up rain though nowhere near normal totals.

The Garden certainly looks better now than it did for most of last year.

We can now see new growth, a few *eremophila* and *melaleuca* flowers, even a few seedlings, more grass and the ground covers are picking up. Warren has had to find the mower and whipper snipper again to clean up around the Gallery!

Marion has placed plant labels in the Garden and on the new walking trails with assistance by Carol. She has been mapping areas likely to be planted this season and recording dead plants—not a happy experience.

The Landcare grant for cactus removal and erosion control has been signed off on. Warren continues to spray Mother of Millions as they come up after the rain.

Marion spent much of summer photographing and updating the What's Flowering photos and collecting specimens for the Herbarium.

NEW PLANTINGS:

According to the Bureau of Meteorology "the current el Nino has ended and we can expect a general easing of dry conditions in drought affected areas". So we should feel more confident doing more plantings. However we are still awaiting a good soaking rain.

Last year our more recent plantings had serious losses. In some areas the subsoil is perhaps too dry and has become water repellent. The Gallery garden beds will have some timely renovations and reconstruction before being replanted during our annual working bees. Plantings will still occur elsewhere in autumn, our best time to plant.

Two working bees are already planned—any Friend can join in during the week 22/29 April—see next column—and the Caboolture SGAP group early May

NEW MULCHER

The research has been done, a generous donation received, and a new mulcher is coming.....

Those who have visited the Garden since our previous working bee will know that there is still a lot of cleared dead material lying about, due to the death of our old mulcher. Director, Peter Reilly, has been investigating a small number of affordable industrial mulchers to find a suitable replacement. That selected is a Negri R220. It is PTO mounted with Hydraulic feed rollers, which are speed controllable and reversible to allow chipping of larger and harder material by feeding in very slowly. The flail hammers in combination with the cutter blades should do a good job on any narrow leaf material like *Grevillea obliquistigma* or *Casuarina*.

This should be an easy machine for the caretakers to use frequently for small mulching jobs, as well as during annual working bees when it will do a large stockpile for our ongoing planting requirements.

PLANT LABELS

For \$40, you can sponsor a label for a Garden plant.

For \$100, you can sponsor a label for one of the special Dorothy Gordon Wildflowers. See Page 8

FRIENDS WORKING BEE

April 22-29 2007

The date is set, the work program is being developed, and there is a welcome mat in place for any Friend to come and join Peter and Lyn Reilly any time during that week to do your bit for the Garden—one day, or two, or more.....

These April working bees have become a wonderfully friendly and productive annual event, working in the Garden for however long you want during the day, mixing with like-minded folk, and if you like, staying on at the Garden's accommodation (or bring your own) for relaxed evenings.

Treat yourself—and the Garden.

Contact Peter by phone on (07)55373354 or via email at preilly@bigpond.net.au. to see what you can do. You will be very welcome!

EUCALYPTUS FORMANII

Even during the driest times the Garden produces its treasures. Just before the New Year, the *Eucalyptus formanii* flowered. These lovely mallees provide the backdrop at Honeyeater Walk. The buds are bright yellow and they are often mistaken for acacias. Manager of Living Collection, Gill Kidd, said she could only describe them as "stunning". There is a row of these plants and the canopies were covered with fluffy white flowers against the fine green leaves. This is another West Australian plant that grows very well here at MPBG.



Eucalyptus formanii in flower near the Honeyeater Walk, in December

Buy your own piece of Myall Park Botanic Garden - a real "Robyn Gordon" - propagated from descendants of the original, not one of the variations that a nursery might call "Robyn".....

Some are available from time to time, depending on our local supplier

If interested contact Ted Gibbons on 074621131

or email tedgibbons@bigpond.com

Ted will organise payment and transport with you directly.

MARKETING AND RETAIL UPDATES

Manager, Megan, led a productive Marketing/Retail meeting recently, when many decisions were made as to progress in 2007.

We are noticing an increase in visitor numbers as a result of the brown tourism signs on the road, but we feel that in the future the **website** will bring more and more visitors. Carol is continually working at updating the website to make it much more informative. Do keep checking it out. Carol would appreciate your comments –just email her as contact page.

Research is being done on the best way to connect the office to **broadband** as we are in an area where mobile coverage is quite unpredictable.

The **Western Downs Tourism Advisory Group** meetings provide us with ideas, and access to knowing what is going on elsewhere, so we might be able to join in. Just last week, a coach load of visitors arrived unannounced, “on spec” - a group of delegates from a Lions Conference at Chinchilla.

Advertising continues in various magazines, and through DL flyers at as many Visitor Information Centres as we can find. We do find that word of mouth, friends telling friends, is an effective method of getting the word out about the Garden.

Ideas keep flowing for new items to **retail**. Since mugs are by far our biggest seller, more have been ordered. Some thought has gone into designs for a new plate.

Visitor Information Updates: The Accommodation and Camping Information Booklets have all been updated. Campers are also provided with a basket of ‘goodies’ to read, which includes the Interpretive Folder and Campers Information Sheets. If you as a visitor, feel there is something else we can do for you, or more information that can be supplied to make your visit as educational, interesting and pleasant, please contact us.

Director with special interest in retail, Priscilla, has just returned from England where she was moving her mother from her large house to a small cottage, and in the midst of persuading her mother to get rid of some of her many china sets, she turned to Priscilla and asked, “Why didn’t you bring me more of those MPBG plates as they are so useful?”

Priscilla has taken many many plates and mugs to England, with never a breakage. So keep our china range in mind for your gifts.



SHIRTS ON SPECIAL

We are offering the last of our Stewart Merrit T Shirts at the reduced price of \$35 (plus p and p) - they are navy with either white, pink or red floral embroidery (white illustrated). Different Australian native flowers each colour. There are 8 XL, 5 XXL and 1 L left.

Contact the office at MPBG for details.

DIRECTOR RECEIVES OAM

Congratulations to Director, **Megan McNicholl**, on receiving a well-earned, much deserved Medal of the Order of Australia in the recent Australia Day Awards—for service to education as an advocate for improved services in rural and remote areas and to the community by raising awareness of issues affecting women. Megan may be our Marketing/Retail Manager, but she is a woman of many skills and interests, and seemingly boundless energy.

Megan commenced work as the director of the Injilinj Preschool centre in Mt Isa before being appointed Regional Preschool Adviser for North West and Far North Queensland. Later, raising her family at Dulacca, Megan became active in the Isolated Children’s and Parents’ Association, rising to Federal President. Her outstanding leadership turned ICPA into one of Australia’s most effective educational advocacy groups.

In 2002, Megan was appointed to the Regional Women’s Advisory Council, a body that advises the Federal Govt on issues facing rural and remote communities.

On a less serious note we have received this beautiful tribute to Megan, written by daughter Kate.

Megan McNicholl’s list of admirable achievements is long and lengthy. If you were to ask her which were her greatest, my guess would be her family, her garden and Injilinj Preschool Centre. I would like to reflect on the first two achievements.

When I was young we lived in Mt Isa and had a swimming pool. Unfortunately, we lost one too many of Dad’s poddy calves in that pool, so Mum had it filled with soil and turned it into a rose garden. The best, she swears, she’s ever had. I remember that garden being beautifully green, bursting with roses, fruit trees, pepperina trees, oleanders and bougainvilleas. In a place like Mt Isa, her garden was an oasis, a sanctuary, and not just for her growing family. You could often find a wounded or orphaned animal taken in by her veterinarian husband, one or two of the young aboriginal children from the camp across the river, or one of the brumbies that lived along that river.

On moving to Dulacca, Mum has continued to ensure her family is surrounded by a beautiful garden, a beautiful oasis. Fortunately the lagoon on our property, ‘Arklow’, is too big to be a rose garden, but apart from that, nothing much has changed. Mum’s garden is still a sanctuary to many. There is still the odd poddy calf or horse roaming around, joined by one or two Raff Angus bulls, or a koala, or workman. What I love about Mum’s garden is that no matter how hot, dusty, dry or damned your day has been, the moment you walk through the garden gate, it all seems to magically disappear. It doesn’t matter how long you’ve been away, walking through that gate never fails to soothe your soul.

Perhaps it is this that has been my mother’s attraction to Myall Park Botanic Garden. It is a place that provides a sanctuary to many different beings. It is somewhere that both people and animals can find a little piece of quiet beauty in their day.

2008—20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MPBG

October 3 will be the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Myall Park Botanic Garden Committee. It was to assist Dave Gordon with the Garden. President, Nita Lester, Vice-President Sandra Neill, Secretary Joan Schwennesen, Treasurer Peter Gordon, committee of Jane Bridle, David Gordon, Keith Kerr, Robert Lethbridge, Carol McCormack, Dorinda Schwennesen and Merinda Warner, with a savings bank account of \$34 donated by David Gordon, proceeds of the sale of strayed stock.

FROM MARION AND WARREN

Thank you: On the eve of the last Directors' Meeting, here at Terpersie, we received wonderful news. Our new **air-conditioner** was to be installed. Our first reaction was, "oh yes, we've heard that before; maybe next week". Well, we had to eat our words because by lunchtime it was in.

We can't tell you all how wonderful it is. After we have been working most of the day outside in the heat, to come inside and enjoy some cool is bliss.

Warren and I would like to thank all the folk who had a hand in getting the air-conditioning and the insulation for Terpersie. Some of you donated money, others gave us hands on assistance and still more provided the insulation. A very big **THANK YOU** to everyone involved—especially those who proposed the idea in the first place.

The Garden: While the lack of rain last year caused us many anxious moments, we did experience some good times. I will always treasure the concern of our Friends. Thank you to all those who rang from time to time to see how the Garden was surviving.

THE FUTURE:

Directors of MPBG have been blessed to have had the company, enthusiasm, knowledge and abilities, and hard work of Marian and Warren for almost two years. When they arrived we knew their stay was not "forever".

Sometime later this year, they would like to move on, to spend more time with their families who live mainly interstate, which we can appreciate.

Thus we have time to look for new caretakers—not that we can ever replace these two.

So—if you as Friends can put on your thinking caps—do you know of someone who might like to spend sometime with us? Please contact Betty 0746695298 or glenfosslyn@bigpond.com We know each person comes with their special skills, abilities, interests.....

Caretakers can do as much or as little as they please, but mainly have to spend most of the year with us.

We supply a freshly painted airconditioned and insulated cottage, with new refrigerator and automatic washing machine, free electricity, a small remuneration—and the serenity of the Garden in your backyard every day—in return for looking after our visitors, and the living collection.



SNIPPETS:

The two MPBG **T Cosies** which gained places in the two Miles T Cosy competitions previously mentioned in this newsletter are apparently "on tour" with Qld Arts Council—watch out for them in your area.

Congratulations to Director, Ted Gibbons and his wife Ann, on being named Murilla Shire's Citizens of the Year in their Australia Day Awards.

It's been "baby time" for both Sandra Neill and Merinda Warner. Sandra welcomed her first grandchild, Curtis, a son for daughter Jenny and her husband Andy Cameron.

Merinda has two grandchildren with a boy, Coby and recently a little girl, Jewel, children of her daughter, Cassie, who lives in Sydney.

Dorinda Schwennesen recently came across the following, during her packing to move to her new home. I copy them for you to read, in the interest of the history of the Garden.

From Sunday Mail Color April 8, 1979

(Dr R F Langdon)

The *Grevillea* called Robyn Gordon is a very attractive, medium-sized shrub which has been on sale for the last three years or so. Its deeply cut, lacy foliage is attractive. The rosy-red flowers are in trusses 12 to 15 cm long, resembling the well-known *Grevillea banksii forsterii* but being somewhat larger and laxer.

Grevillea Robyn Gordon is a hybrid which originated at Myall Park, a property about 400 km west of Brisbane. The original plant's parentage is uncertain, though it is believed that a chance crossing of the species *bipinnatifida* and *banksii* produced this welcome addition to our garden plants. No seeds are formed, so propagation is by cuttings. There may be shortages in supply from time to time.

Grevillea Robyn Gordon flowers for much of the year. It has proved hardy in Brisbane, withstanding dry and wet, hot and cold periods of weather very well indeed. When the shrub is on sale, and it is advertised from time to time, it is worth taking the opportunity to acquire it.

Extracts from "Your Garden" Sept 1975

From Tragedy Comes a Great New Hybrid

A painting by a young girl facing tragic death has led to the production of one of the finest Australian native hybrids.

It is *Grevillea Robyn Gordon*, named after a daughter of Mr and Mrs David Gordon of Myall Park, Glenmorgan, Queensland.....

Mr Gordon, a grazier, is a keen grower of natives at his property, but once disliked hybrids and would pull them out.

In 1965, a seedling *Grevillea* appeared in the Gordon's garden close to *Grevillea bipinnatifida* and *Grevillea banksii* and appeared to be a spontaneous hybrid of those two. It inherited the best characteristics of both assumed parents.

Robyn fell in love with it and this one was not pulled out. It grew into a dome-shaped plant, about a metre high by 3 metres wide, with rich green, deeply cut, lacy foliage. The terminal racemes mostly arched outwards and downwards with most of the rosy-red flowers on the upper side. The racemes were 13 cm to 16 cm long and contained about 100 flowers arranged in pairs.

It was one of the last plants that Robyn painted, so was treasured and the long, difficult task of propagating it began.

Unlike its assumed parents, which have ample viable pollen, *G. Robyn Gordon* has practically no pollen. Propagation had to be from partly-matured young shoots. It has taken years for nurserymen to master commercial production.

It grows best in full sun where there is not too much competition from nearby trees and large shrubs. It is frost hardy and drought hardy, yet has proved tolerant of Queensland's heavy monsoon rains and high humidity.

Where it first appeared the soil is light red laterite loam with some inter-mixed ironstone gravel and sand overlaying fine-grained sandstone rubble.

The flowers and foliage together give a tartan-like effect. It is a bird-attractor.

Robyn died in Brisbane in 1969.

TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK

Torres del Paine National Park in the southern section of Chilean Patagonia reflects in its topography and vegetation the extreme climatic condition of the region. The chain of hills punctuated by higher steep granite columns (Paine Grande 3050m) do little to protect the flora and fauna from the strong cold winds which blast from the Antarctic. The scenic lakes of the park display a variety of colours according to the suspended minerals. The colours displayed include aquamarine, emerald, turquoise and sapphire.

Renowned for extreme variations in its weather, we experienced calm sunny conditions on arrival which gave way, within an hour, to 30 knot winds, showers and a temperature below 10 degrees C.—this in the height of summer! True to form, half way though an 80 minute hike, the wind had ceased and winter gear was returned to back packs. Along with the sun there appeared a variety of bird species—long tailed green parakeet, rufus-collared sparrow, upland geese, steamer duck, black necked swan, lesser rhea, condor and greater grebe. Hoping to share our lunch, a family of patagonian sierra-finch dodged in and out amongst the thorny bushes.

With one exception, all of the lakes are freshwater. The single salt lake proves a habitat for flamingo, while fresh water lakes are home, in season, to upland geese, pin tail duck, teal and kelp gull. To add further variety, the highest lake, Lake Grey, is dotted with large icebergs which have broken from Grey Glacier. The surface of one such iceberg was approximately the size of a football field.

Our path between two of the region's lakes brought us close to some higher cliffs where condors were soaring effortlessly, taking full advantage of the uplift. Due to wide variation in temperature, precipitation, drainage and soil type, there are clear vegetation patterns. Flat bog areas were adjacent to several lakes. Dwarf shrubs, reed and mats of grasses defined these areas providing shelter, food and nesting grounds for the many lake bird species. In sheltered areas higher up the slopes but well below the ice cap, mixed evergreen temperate rain forest flourished (*Nothofagus betuloides*, *Nothofagus pumilio*, *Berberis* and *Gunnera magellanica*). Grasslands supported the tough *Festuca* tussock-grasses which are favoured by the family groups of guanaco (related to the llama). Very apparent in the park (and for hundreds of kilometres further north) is the calafate bush (*Berberis buxifolia*) It is easily recognized by copious quantities of green berries which turn purple on maturity. It is

considered the symbol of Patagonia, and the berries are used to make a popular jam. Local legend informs that eating the berry makes people certain to return to Patagonia.



Left, *Berberis buxifolia*
In South America

(Thanks to **Phillip and Nita Lester** for sending this item, one of the many places visited during their sojourn in South America.

We will bring you more as the year progresses and the Lesters move on from South America via Mexico to NE USA, England, Europe and India)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome as Friends of MPBG Ltd:
Kevin Melmuth, Highfields
Murilla Community Centre, Miles

THANKS

Howard Hobbs, National Party MLA for the Warrego Electorate continues to support us by photocopying this newsletter in his St George electoral office. Thanks Howard.

CAN YOU HELP?

Caretaker Warren has compiled a list of equipment that would be very useful at the Garden—if we had it!

Are there any Friends who may have the following, excess to their requirements? We have ample gardening tools—it is the “maintenance gear” that we need, as we have been using the personal supplies of caretakers, or Directors, in the past.

If you can help please contact Warren, 07 46656855 or email mfirms@mac.com.

Handtools

Phillips head screw drivers	stanley knife
Flat blade screw driver	square
Pliers	hacksaw
Long nose pliers	handsaw
Side cutters	bolt cutter
Flat files	shifting wrench
Round files	multigrips
Jemmy bar	metric sockets
Claw hammer	cold chisel
Ball peen hammer	vice grips
Chisels	G clamps
Tyre levers	bead breaker
Hydraulic jack	plumbing tools

Other:

Compressor	Angle grinder
12v drill	Electric planer
Flow jet pump and sprayer	hand held radios
GPS	multi meter
Electric handtools (eg jigsaw, sander etc.)	
Colour printer	
Safety equipment	

WHAT DO YOU GET FROM BEING A FRIEND OF MPBG?

- 3 newsletters per year keeping you in touch
- 10% discount on Garden accommodation
- 10% discount on retail items
- Free entry to the Garden
- The knowledge that you are contributing to keeping alive ‘Dave’s Dream’
- The opportunity to be part of a team working on many different things—art, the living collection, tourism, visitor services, website.....
- Invitations to workshops and art openings at the Garden

INFORMATION PAGES

Garden closed for maintenance 20 Dec—20 Jan each year
VISITORS WELCOME AT ALL OTHER TIMES

MYALL PARK BOTANIC GARDEN FEES 2007

A - GARDEN ENTRANCE FEES

Organised working parties—Free of charge (by prior arrangement)

Gallery Open \$5.50

Garden Only \$3.50

FRIENDS and under 14 *FREE*

Official Guide \$50 plus Garden entry fees

Coach tours \$5.50 pp, tour operator free Ph 4626 5969

MPBG Friends Group Membership—each visit, one free entry, other members visiting same time 10% discount

B - ACCOMMODATION

For bookings, contact Caretaker Ph/Fax 07 4665 6855

May—October, advance bookings advisable

Friends Members 10% discount.

Garden Entry Inclusive

Tour organisers Free

Children u 14 half price, u 6 free.

Linen \$5 per person (bed linen, towels)

Avochie Cottage:

1 night - 1/2 people \$60 - each extra person \$20/ night

2 nights - 1/2 people \$120 -each extra person \$20 /night

3 nights - 1/2 people \$160 - each extra person \$18/night

For above packages, a cleaning fee of \$20 will be added if necessary

5 nights - 1/2 people \$270 - each extra person \$18/night

1 week - 1/2 people \$ 360 - each extra person \$15/night

Cleaning included for 5 nights or longer.

Quarters: “backpacker” style—guests share kitchen and bathroom facilities)

per person: 1 night \$20 2 nights \$40 3 nights \$55

5 nights \$90 1 week \$120

Cleaning NOT included in Quarters packages, \$20 fee added if necessary.

Sole Use of Quarters—p.o.a.

Tents & Vans: \$16.50 per unpowered site—\$20 powered site per night incl Garden Entry for 2 people.

C - CATERING

Meals available **Bottle Tree Inn, Glenmorgan**

D—GALLERY HIRE

\$50 per day, \$25 each extra day (includes cleaning)

\$10 per day for local groups (Tara, Warroo, Murilla Shires) without grant or government funding—leave clean or pay \$15 cleaning fee.

Includes use of furniture, urn, powerpoints for equipment, fridge and Garden entry. Tea and coffee not provided.

Please discuss all arrangements when you book. Information in log box at Visitor Centre, or see on-site caretaker. No provisions or fuel in Glenmorgan.

NEAREST FUEL 70 km—Surat, The Gums, Condamine

ABOUT OUR ACCOMMODATION:

Avochie Cottage -Renovated 3 bedroom cottage with 1 double and 4 single beds. Bath/shower and toilet. Electric hot water system. Open fireplace in sitting room. New electric stove, microwave oven, crockery, cutlery, electric jug, fridge, frypan and toaster. Washing up and cleaning utensils supplied. Fan, heater, basic furnishings.

The Quarters: Renovated inside and out. 2 verandahs, 5 small bedrooms (8 single beds) 1 large bedroom with 1 double bed). Electric hot water. 2 bathrooms each with bath / shower, 2 toilets. Open fireplace in living area. New electric stove, microwave oven, crockery and cutlery, fridge, electric jug, frypan and toaster. Washing up and cleaning utensils supplied. Fan, heater, basic furnishings.

Caravans/Tents: Connect to the power at The Quarters, and use Toilet/ Shower facilities at the Quarters. Unpowered sites available.

Linen is not included. Ask about our linen service when you book.

For bookings, phone caretaker on 07 4665 6855.

We ask you to leave the accommodation clean when you depart, and to take all rubbish with you.

CONTACTS FOR MPBG PERSONNEL

Office

07 4665 6705 (2 days per week)
Janine Pechey mpbglimited@itconnect.net.au

Caretakers

Ph/fax 07 4665 6855
Marion Firms, Warren Crispin mfirms@mac.com

Directors/Managers

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MPBG WEB SITE—

www.myallparkbotanicgarden.org.au

Current Directors & Managers
Myall Park Botanic Garden Ltd

DIRECTORS:

Chairman: Betty Salter
Vice-Chairmen: Carol McCormack, Peter Reilly
Secretary: Garth Shaw
Treasurer: Ted Gibbons
 Gill Kidd, Nita Lester, Megan McNicholl, Priscilla Mundell,
 Lynette Reilly, Sue Reilly, Dorinda Schwennesen, Peter Voller

MANAGERS:

Living Collection	Gill Kidd
Art in the Garden	Sue Reilly
Education /Research	Lyn Reilly
Friends	Betty Salter
Marketing & Retail	Megan McNicholl
Visitor Services	Marion Firms

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DOROTHY GORDON WILDFLOWER SPONSORS**

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Your articles, photos, advertisements.....are welcome for inclusion in this newsletter.
 Contact the Editor, Betty Salter, Ph 07 4669 5298
 or email glenfosslyn@bigpond.com

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