



FRIENDS of the National Arboretum Canberra Newsletter 27 / April 2015

Dear Friends

There have now been more than a million visitors since the opening—what a fabulous Arboretum we support and so many visitors are supporting it too!

In the early years, when we held the annual Festival of the Forests on a construction site, we had a vision of how it could be—and it is certainly delivering that now. Every time I go to the Arboretum I can see progress. I see increasing numbers of school students visiting the site, growth in the trees, and more trees flowering and bearing fruit. Our working bees are attracting many more volunteers and they get so much done in support of the broader work done by the Arboretum staff and Burhor (the maintenance contractor)—and they gain much satisfaction from being involved. There is also the absolutely marvellous Forest Audit completed by Roger Hnatiuk and his team (see article on page 2). All your volunteer contributions are amazing.

The role of the Friends is growing and consequently there are many more opportunities for volunteers. As we grow, so does the contribution we can make. Of course, we are still always on the lookout for new people wanting to become guides. Our new innovative and developing website includes an honour board for all the generous people who have made donations towards

the operation of the Friends and to particular projects at the Arboretum, from seat donations to the Centenary Gift. Now the Friends are fundraising to enable the Arboretum to glass-in the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (near the bonsai pavilion). This will make this space more usable through winter and inclement weather and also offers you a wonderful tax-deductible opportunity if you would like to donate.

Meanwhile we are moving through the guide training refresh-and-review process, making sure we continue to deliver our very professional support. Thanks to all the guides who are taking part—your smiling faces make visitors so welcome and your passionate presentations mean so much in both the general Arboretum site and within and the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia pavilion.

Congratulations to our collaborators in the Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park (STEP) in Forest 20, for a very successful opening of 'The Clearing'—an education space in the middle of the site that captures the atmosphere of the Southern Tablelands beautifully. This space also provides a resting place to stop and admire all the hard work of the STEP volunteers. We are pleased to have supported STEP in this achievement.

Thanks to Stephen Alegria, Executive Manager of the Arboretum, for his informative and exciting talk at our General Meeting on 10 March. He talked about developments at the Arboretum and we learned that much has been achieved and there are still many more projects in the pipeline. This was the first of our General Meetings to be held in the Arboretum's Margaret Whitlam Pavilion and we intend holding all future General Meetings in this very fitting venue.

Wonderful autumn colour is beginning to appear in many parts of the Arboretum. You'll need to visit several times to catch it all. The black tupelos in Forest 43, the trident maples in Forest 73, and the pin oaks in Forest 41 are developing their vibrant red colour right now!

Don't forget our Annual General Meeting on 12 May.

See you at the Arboretum!

Jocelyn Plovits
Chair

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First audit of the forests

BY ROGER HNATIUK

The Friends were asked, in January 2014, if they would help with carrying out a stocktake of the trees growing at the National Arboretum Canberra. Some 20 Friends' volunteers, plus several more from STEP who audited Forest 20, 6 Arboretum staff and Mark Richardson, Botanical Consultant, all worked to achieve the first assessment of nearly all the trees at the Arboretum.

Some 33,000 trees were individually assessed for their condition. Approximately 10,000 more trees were not assessed during this stocktake. These were trees marked as 'missing'; the cork oaks and Himalayan cedars (these were assessed during 2013); the radiata pines in Forest 76 were only estimated; the eucalypts in Forest 2 (not yet mapped); and the eucalypts in the ANU Research Forests which are being handled separately by ANU.

Over 1000 hours of volunteer time was used in this project, demonstrating the strong community support towards the operation and development of the National Arboretum Canberra.

The results provide the Arboretum with a very sound basis for current management planning and decisions, as well as a baseline for assessing changes in the future. Attention to the detail of the original design plans for each forest permits an assessment of how well those original ideas have been implemented. They will allow decisions to be focused on where upgrading is both needed and feasible.

Detailed maps are now available in a readily viewable form for all the assessed forests. The many rich planting patterns found within the forests can now be used and presented by the Arboretum and Friends. These diverse designs are unique amongst forest gardens—a primary jewel of this Arboretum.

Future stocktakes will not be done in quite the same way as was necessary for this one. Developments in establishing a comprehensive database of Arboretum information took place during the period of this first stocktake. These have included the development of an app for use by field crews, based on tablet technology and GPS locating facilities. This should make future stocktakes much easier, and although there will undoubtedly be 'issues' with the new technology, it will be a welcome step forward made possible by the work of so many during this first stocktake.

The Friends' volunteers have been warmly acknowledged by the Executive Director of the Arboretum, Fay Steward. A copy of her letter is included here for all to see.

I'd like to personally thank the many Friends who worked tirelessly, or at least frequently and hard, with breaks to recover from well-earned 'tiredness'! Your efforts were outstanding, as was your patience when things didn't work out quite as expected. I include the volunteers from STEP for their much appreciated work to audit Forest 20. The Arboretum staff were wonderful in their support, giving their time and advice whenever needed. And to Mark Richardson, Botanical Consultant to the Arboretum, thanks for your constant support for a project that you foresaw as essential.

Dear Roger

FOREST STOCKTAKE 2014



On behalf of the Arboretum team and the ACT Government, I am writing to thank you for your tremendous efforts in leading and overseeing the Forest Stocktake. I am told that you personally invested literally hundreds of hours in this project over the past 12 months, in addition to the thousands of hours spent by Friends volunteers undertaking fieldwork and data entry. I have perused your comprehensive report and I am very impressed with its high quality.

I note that you have been working closely with our GIS and information management team to improve data collection and make best use of technology. This is a great example of innovation and collaboration and promises to make future stocktakes less time consuming and easier for volunteers and staff alike.

The result of the stocktake is an invaluable set of baseline data that will be used and built upon for the life of the Arboretum. I hope you and the Friends volunteers feel a sense of achievement and pride in providing an important and long-lasting legacy.

I know that Stephen Alegria and the Arboretum team will make the most of this data as they pursue the highest quality management for the Arboretum.

Thankyou to you, your team of volunteers and the Friends Council led by Jocelyn for supporting, driving and delivering the stocktake. The result is an outstanding example of what can be achieved with the co-operation and goodwill between Government and passionate volunteers.

Yours sincerely

Fay Steward

Executive Director, National Arboretum Canberra

26 February 2015



An Acacia in the Central Valley

BY LINDA MULDOON

On 18 March 2015, Mr Andrew Barr MLA, ACT Chief Minister, welcomed Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and his wife Madame Tran Thanh to plant a ceremonial tree in the Arboretum's Central Valley. The tree species chosen was *Acacia implexa* (Hickory wattle) which is native to the Canberra region but resembles the tropical *Acacia* species that are grown in abundance in Vietnam.

This tree highlights the special link between Canberra and the forestry industry in Vietnam. This link has

Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung (with the bright red tie) was greeted by Mr Andrew Barr MLA, ACT Chief Minister (on his right)

PHOTOS: LINDA MULDOON

developed over a 20-year period through support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and many Canberra-based scientists. Over 250,000 small holder farmers now grow *Acacia* species in Vietnam and each year, over 10 million cubic metres of logs are harvested and supplied to paper industries, furniture manufacturers and for the production of fibre board.

The aim of the project has been to overcome poverty and gain sustainability in Vietnam. Vietnamese and Australian scientists are working to improve the genetic quality of the planting stock available to growers.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister addressing the crowd



The Prime Minister and his wife planting the tree



Photo competition: the results

BY LINDA MULDOON AND JOCELYN PLOVITS

Entries closed on 31 January and the prizes were awarded at a well-attended ceremony held at the Margaret Whitlam Pavilion on 23 February. Most of the prize-winners were able to attend and all three judges (Martin Ollman, Richard Tuffin and Linda Muldoon) were there to give an appraisal of the entries from their point of view.

We received around 200 photos, though photos that did not meet the guidelines were not judged because they were of incorrect season, not located at our Arboretum or had undergone obvious manipulation of colours and/or subject matter.

The adult category received the most entries, followed by the 12 years and under category, with the high school/college student category receiving the least entries, though the judges considered their general standard to be quite high.

Winner: ADULT

Hannah Wardrobe

Runner-up: ADULT

Rob Davis

Winner: HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDENT

Jack Mohr

Runner-up: HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDENT

Radiylon Mina

Winner: 12 YEARS AND UNDER

Sol Mokany

Runner-up: 12 YEARS AND UNDER

Claire Heerdegen

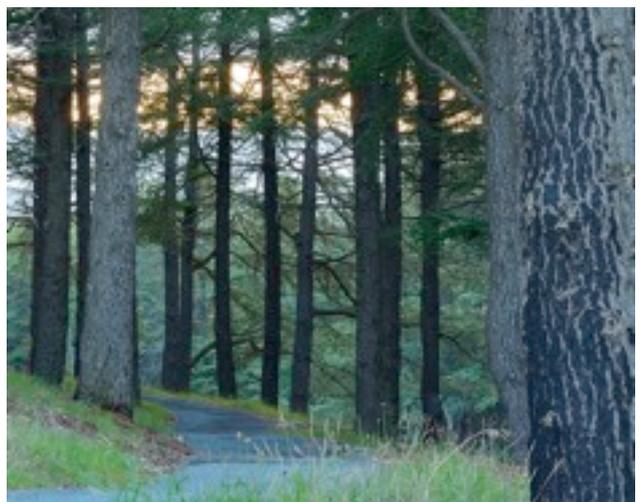


Celebrating
Summer at
the Arboretum



Top: Hannah Wardrobe, winner in the adult category, with her cheque, standing with Jocelyn Plovits, Chair of the friends, who sponsored and awarded the prizes.

Above: Hannah's understated photo of kite flying. The vast open space of the Arboretum's amphitheatre is ideal for this activity and what a kite it is!



Runner-up in the adult category was this photo by Rob Davis. Several entrants commented that in hot weather the Himalayan cedar forest is the coolest place in Canberra. In this photo the forest looks really cool. The charred bark on the tree in the foreground reminds us of the fires and why these trees came to be incorporated into the National Arboretum Canberra.



Top: Jack Mohr, winner, high school/college student category.
 Above: It seems that just about everyone is attracted to this exciting photo of the etched rail at Dairy Farmers Hill lookout. Full marks for creativity and a fresh approach!

Top: Radiylon Mina took this photo of his two sisters in the bonsai pavilion and this was runner-up in the high school/college student category.

Above: Radiylon was unable to attend this event because he is studying in the United States. However, his sisters who feature in the photo, were very happy to accept the prize on his behalf.

One of six commended photos in the adult category. This one by Carly Lusk features her beautiful spotty dog!



This photo by Naomi Woodley was also commended in the adult category.





Below: Nick Heerdegen's photo of a windswept Californian fan palm was commended in the 12 years and under category.



Top: Sol Mokany, seen here with Jocelyn, was the winner in the 12 years and under category.

Above: Sol's photo presented another cool view of the Himalayan cedars. We named this photo 'Stripes'!



Above: This photo of the 'parking area' in the Pod Playground offered a contrast to most others. It is by John Gierozynski and was another commended entry in the adult category.

Below: Claire Heerdegen's photo was runner-up in the 12 years and under category. It is a close-up of moss growing on a tree in the cork oak forest. The sharpest focus and brightest green are both found in the centre of the photo.



At the presentation, Jocelyn noted that the judges were diligent in applying the guidelines of the competition and thanked them for all their hard work, particularly Linda who undertook the very time-consuming work of receiving, sorting and verifying all the entries. Thanks too to Colette, our Secretary, for the time she was able to donate from her holidays to pass on entries as they were received via the website.

On a technical level, many people had difficulty sizing their photos to fall within the 5MB limit. Some photos were over 10MB and others were very low resolution. The Friends are reviewing the outcomes of this competition, together with suggestions contributed by some participants, ready to make improvements to the next competition that may be held in autumn 2016.

Linda found the competition enjoyable but very time-consuming. She said that the best part was one of her last duties—that of notifying the winners, runners up and commended entrants. She found their excited responses just wonderful!

Franklinia alatamaha

FRANKLIN TREE

BY LINDA MULDOON

Forest 93 is home to one of the Arboretum's rarest species. Although extinct in the wild since the early 1800s, the Franklin tree lives on as a very rare, cultivated, ornamental species.

Franklinia alatamaha (family Theaceae) was native to the Altamaha River valley on the coastal plains of Georgia in the United States' south, where it grew in a small area of acidic bogs in the sandhills. Philadelphia botanists, John Bartram and his son William, first observed this species in 1765. William returned to the location on a collecting expedition between 1773 and 1776 and brought seeds back to Philadelphia in 1777, though he was not able to produce flowering plants until 1781. All cultivated Franklin trees are descended from these plants. William Bartram named the genus *Franklinia* in honour of his father's friend, Benjamin Franklin.

This is a small deciduous tree: height 7 m, spread 4 m, usually with several vertical trunks and a spreading crown. The bark is grey-brown, mottled with light grey-green, and vertical fissures give it a striped appearance.

Franklin tree specimen, illustrated by William Bartram in 1782



A young tree in cultivation in Pennsylvania, United States

PHOTO: JIM & BETHANY PLYER

The deep green, laurel-like leaves appear in mid-spring. They are leathery with a glossy upper surface, up to 15 cm long, and in autumn they turn a spectacular orange-red.

The white flowers, up to 9 cm in diameter, have five rounded petals, bright orange-yellow stamens and a sweet honeysuckle fragrance. Flowers appear from February until the first heavy frosts, so the trees can carry flowers and autumn colour at the same time.

Flower



Fruit



Leaves

PHOTO: 2006 DEREK RAMSEY, WIKIMEDIA





Franklin tree autumn leaves



Bark

PHOTOS: DEREK RAMSEY, WIKIMEDIA

Round green fruits grow slowly over a 12–14 month period and are about 2 cm in diameter and brown when ripe. They develop five splits and release brown, wedge-shaped seeds.

A single row of saplings was planted on the edge of the *Carya illinoensis* (pecan) host forest in 2010. The Arboretum has successfully propagated 50 cuttings from these, 24 of which were planted out in Forest 93 on 5 March 2015.

REFERENCES

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franklinia>

<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/dmp/palette/090510.html>

The Arboretum Book: Forests of the National Arboretum Canberra, page 156

What a line-up of volunteers!

The pink tree guard contains one of the trees planted in 2010

PHOTOS: MIKE WOOLLEY



Vicky Woolley with precious cargo



Friends' bus trip to South Coast arboreta

All participants arrived on time for the planned 8:30 am getaway on Thursday, 27 November 2014. We left our cars at the Lindsay Pryor Arboretum carpark, boarded our small 20-seater bus and headed south towards Nimitabel, our scheduled morning tea stop. Expert guide, Max Bourke, began his ongoing commentary regarding many tree features in the various landscapes we passed through on the two-day trip.

After Nimitabel, we headed for Cobargo and the nearby Wandella Woods Arboretum, one of the main attractions of this trip. We were greeted by Brian Myers, the driving force behind this arboretum.

But the first thing on the agenda was lunch—enjoyed while sitting around tables set up under the front verandah of Brian and Shirleyanne Myers' beautiful country home, amidst delightful gardens.

Brian Myers worked for CSIRO Forestry and Forest Products (and its predecessors) from 1977 to 2003



Brian and Shirleyanne's country home

PHOTOS: LINDA MULDOON

where he conducted research into water stress physiology and how it impacts on the long-term growth of trees. He is also a member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia and in 2011 was elected Australian Vice President on the World Council of the International Dendrology Society, a five-year appointment. Brian has established this arboretum since his retirement in 2003, and as he showed us around we quickly became aware that this was someone with enormous energy and enthusiasm that definitely knows his trees. He has achieved a great deal in just a few years.

As with the National Arboretum Canberra, there was a mix of native and exotic species and we were particularly interested in seeing more



Above: One of the many clear labels

Below: Brian Myers addressing the Friends



Above: One of several rare maples at Wandella Woods Arboretum

Below: In November, the young trees presented a beautiful blend of fresh greens



advanced specimens of species that the two arboreta have in common. Brian is from Canada so he is very fond of maples and apparently his collection of these and other exotics means that this arboretum has spectacular colour in autumn. All of the trees at Wandella are very clearly labelled and this was very helpful for those of us prone to straying from the pack.

Next, we were on our way to Max and Margie Bourke's arboretum on the coast at Tilba. This occupies part of the farmland which once belonged to Jeff Bates (second husband of Dame Zara Holt). This arboretum is the co-



Some of our party of Friends enjoying the coastal walk



Max (third from the right) guiding us around the Tilba arboretum



operative project of several owners striving to rehabilitate degraded farmland where hardly a tree had been left standing. Most of the planted trees are native to the area except for one species, planted for timber production, so that the arboretum will have the ability to be economically sustainable for future generations.

After afternoon tea/coffee supplied by our hosts, Max showed us around the property, including a coastal walk around the outer edge. Walking along the coastline was most enjoyable and must surely have been a 'first' for a Friends' outing!

Later, we headed for Narooma to our shared accommodation in caravan park cabins and then most of us moved on to one of the local restaurants where we enjoyed a wonderful meal in good company.

The following morning, most of us went for a walk to explore the bay before breakfast. Then we were off to the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, about 5 km south of Batemans Bay, where we enjoyed an introductory talk and morning tea (both supplied by the Friends of the ERBG). This botanic garden contains many of the 2000 plant species native to the local region.

We split into two groups for guided walks, with each group led by a Friends of ERGB guide, and later we joined up again for a leisurely sandwich lunch at the garden's barbeque spot.

Then we were on our way back to Canberra but stopped for a while in Braidwood where many of us visited a cafe to savour a wonderful array of ice creams!

Many thanks to Del Da Costa who organised the trip. It is a pity that we were not able to fill the 48-seater bus originally planned and it may be more practical for us to pool cars for future outings. We welcome members' feedback and ideas on how future trips could be organised. Email: friends@arboretumcanberra.org.au

Del (back to camera) talking to the group after lunch



From sunshades to umbrellas

VOICES IN THE FOREST 2014

BY LINDA MULDOON



Although the weather forecast had been a little threatening for 30 November 2014, people arriving early were enjoying the warmth and blue skies as they sheltered under their sunshades on the now lush turf of the Amphitheatre.

By 4:30 pm most of the seats had filled, despite the weather warnings, and once again Canberra's excellent MC, Alex Sloan, was there to introduce Act 1. This featured two Canberra talents: Mezzo-soprano Christina Wilson (who also performed in the first Voices in the Forest concert in 2011) and rising star, Tim Dal Corvito. They performed 12 famous love songs from musicals: four solos each and four duets, combining their voices

Christina Wilson singing a duet with Tim Dal Corvito



very successfully to deliver *Anything You Can Do* from 'Annie Get Your Gun', *Tonight* from 'Westside Story', *Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?* from 'High Society', and *All I Ask of You* from 'Phantom of the Opera'.

The weather was still being kind during the first interval and the beginning of Act 2, though storm clouds were gathering. This act began dramatically with the Voices in the Forest choir (drawn from some of Canberra's best singers within the Oriana Chorale and the Woden Valley Youth Choir) forming a procession to arrive on stage. Christina Wilson and Louise Page joined them to deliver Handel's Coronation Anthem *Zadok the Priest*.

Then came one of the concert's star attractions, the Latvian soprano Inessa Galante, who demonstrated her beautiful resonant voice in two songs from Handel's opera 'Rinaldo'.



Inessa Galante in Act 2

Inessa was followed by the renowned New Zealand tenor, Simon O'Neill, who sang *Ombra mai fu* from Handel's opera 'Serse'. The third international star, Australian-born baritone Peter Coleman-Wright, then delivered two solos: one from Mozart's 'The Marriage of Figaro' and one from Massenet's 'Thais'. These performances were interspersed with Peter and Inessa singing a duet from Mozarts 'Don Giovanni'. Then came an important part of the program featuring the major stars performing part of Puccini's opera 'Madama Butterfly' but steady rain set in and the audience donned the plastic ponchos provided. The performers were in the best place,

The audience began to don their plastic ponchos



undercover on the stage, but, as they say, the show must go on! There were some brilliant performances during this segment but the rain got heavier and heavier and when the second interval arrived many people left their seats and didn't return. ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher addressed the crowd, warning that there was a risk of a thunder storm, so the interval



Part of the wet crowd during the second interval

was extended. When the concert resumed it was apparent that, for some, every cloud has a silver lining because the vacant seats at the front were taken by people who'd been sitting further back but had decided to weather the storm.

The rain eased as darkness fell and then Act 3 began. This consisted of a mixture of songs from opera and

musicals, beginning with a solo by Simon O'Neill from Wagner's 'Die Walküre'. Next Simon performed a duet with Peter Coleman-Wright from Bizet's 'The Pearl Fishers', and this was followed by Inessa Galante singing *Io son l'umile ancella* from Cilea's 'Adriana Lecouvreur'. The three singers performed two more solos each until the program drew to a close. Inessa Galante then gave a faultless performance of *Ave Maria* and this was followed by a stirring performance of *Nessun Dorma*, led by Simon O'Neill, with the choir and all the other performers joining in.

The crowd was ecstatic and no one was complaining about the late finish. We were all so glad we had stayed and weathered the storm. The third act had been superb and the stage, performers and general presentation were visually exciting at night, under artificial lighting which changed colour. Just look at Inessa's dress in the photo below. It subtly changed colour as she moved and as the performances progressed.

This was the first of the Voices in the Forest concerts to have rain during the event, though there have been other times when rain has occurred in the days leading up to the concerts. On this occasion, the rain made things difficult, but a wonderful show went on.



The star performers in Act 3, from left: Simon O'Neill, Inessa Galante and Peter Coleman-Wright

PHOTOS: LINDA MULDOON

The finale with all performers and the Voices of the Forest Choir on stage



FOREST TALK



AUTUMN HAS ARRIVED

This was one of the black tupelos in Forest 43 on 1 April. With this species, autumn colour begins early, though there is variation in the timing of colour change between different trees in the forest. Their colour is amazingly bright.



MR & MRS GOLDEN ORB

It's rare that we can spot male spiders but we saw this male and female together while we were tree measuring in Forest 102 (Osage orange). The male did survive this encounter, at least while we were watching!

SUSTAINABLE FOOD FUTURES

This event, held at the Village Centre on 23 March, was well attended, informative and entertaining. Indira Naidoo spoke about her balcony garden, involvement with the Wayside Chapel and rooftop gardens. Clive

Blazey talked about artistic gardens in France, growing heritage vegetables and other plants by working with nature and growing the right thing at the right time. John Champagne shared his knowledge on permaculture in a fun and practical way, suggesting that lawn areas could be turned into productive gardens (avoiding the mowing). Graham 'Willow' Williams asked if we knew where our food came from and encouraged people to redesign their gardens to grow fruit and vegetables.

From left: Indira Naidoo, Shane Rattenbury MLA, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, and Clive Blazey



PHOTO: JENNY CANTLON

FIRST WALNUT IN FOREST 88

Thanks to Jenny Cantlon for sending in this photo of one little walnut found while on the Friends' Third Sunday Forest Walk on 15 March.



A BENEFICIAL WASP

Many of these wasps were seen drinking nectar from the flowers of the *Eucalyptus pulverulenta* (silver-leaved mountain gums, native to New South Wales) growing outside the bonsai



pavilion. The wasps have a brilliant blue/purple sheen which doesn't show up in this photo. This is *Scolia soror*, the hairy flower wasp, which at 3 cm in length is quite large when compared to other native wasps. The females visit compost heaps, dead tree stumps or wood piles, looking for scarab beetle grubs in the ground. The wasp paralyses a grub with its sting (but doesn't kill it) and then lays an egg inside it. The egg hatches in living tissue and the developing wasp larva eats but avoids killing its host until the larva is well developed. So the wasp is considered beneficial because it controls scarab beetle numbers. It is non-aggressive but can sting, causing temporary pain without lasting ill-effects.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please complete this form, **OR** go to www.arboretumcanberra.org.au where you can join online and make a secure payment.

Yes. I/we wish to join the Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Inc.

1. Title First name

Last name

2. Title First name

Last name

Postal address

.....

..... Postcode

Email address

I agree to receiving notices by email YES/NO

Telephone (h) (w)

Please remember to tell us about changes to your contact details

Date

Please circle your relevant membership category/parking voucher request:

Single	1 year \$35	3 years \$95	5 years \$155
Household	1 year \$40	3 years \$110	5 years \$180
Concession	1 year \$20	3 years \$55	5 years \$90
Association or club	1 year \$60	3 years \$160	5 years \$270
Corporate Friend	1 year \$2000	3 years \$5400	5 years \$9000

Friends' annual parking voucher \$25 Reg. No.

Total payment Please circle your method of payment

Cash Cheque Direct deposit

(cheques must be made payable to Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Inc.)

Post membership applications to:

The Secretary, Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Inc.
PO Box 48, Campbell, ACT 2612

Direct deposit details are:

WESTPAC, Petrie Plaza, Canberra, ACT
 Account—Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Inc.
 BSB No. 032719 Account No. 375379

(when making a direct deposit, please record your name so that your membership can be verified)

Friends of the National Arboretum Canberra Inc.

Contact

You can contact us via email at friends@arboretumcanberra.org.au or visit our website at www.aboretumcanberra.org.au or by phone during business hours on **0406 376 711**

Office bearers

Jocelyn Plovits (Chair)
 Trish Keller OAM (Deputy Chair)
 Colette Mackay (Secretary)
 Richard Bear (Treasurer)
 Spero Cassidy (Web Manager)

Council members

Max Bourke AM
 Kathryn Cole (Guides Co-ordinator)
 Bek Hyland (Social Media)
 Tony Lawson (STEP Representative)
 Linda Muldoon (Publications Editor)
 Mike Woolley (Bonsai Representative)

The Council (all of the above) meet on the second Tuesday of each month

Life members

Max and Margie Bourke
 Roger Hnatiuk
 Sherry McArdle-English
 Linda Muldoon

Honorary member

Jon Stanhope OA

Patron

John Mackay AM

Newsletter

The newsletter is published quarterly. Please contact Linda Muldoon, the editor, by email on lindaon@grapevine.com.au if you would like to contribute an article, news or photos. Decisions regarding what content is published are determined by the Chair.

The Friends thank the ACT Government, ActewAGL, Yarralumla Nursery, Murrays Coaches, Supabarn and Ginger Catering for their support

Please note that all membership renewals are due in December

