



#67  
June 2025

# FRIENDS

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA NEWSLETTER

## Chair's Note - Autumn 2025

### Greetings Friends

I am pleased to let you know that I have committed to another two-year term as the Chair of your Council, which oversees the Friends organisation on behalf of members and the wider community. The Council meets monthly to deliberate and decide on effective ways to support the Arboretum. In doing so, we work closely with Arboretum management to ensure that support is timely and aligned with their priorities.

Our May 2025 AGM did see some changes in the Council make-up however, the stepping down of our long-term secretary, Del, and three general Council members, Maggie, Ian and Hugh. On behalf of all our members, thank you each for your leadership role.

And, I am pleased to report that we welcome the appointment of 3 new general Council members, Alison, Carolyn and Wal. At this stage however we have not been able to appoint a replacement secretary.



Also, at the AGM it was my pleasure to provide a Friend's Life Membership to Joanne Maples – a very humble but worthy recipient.

Our guest speaker at the AGM, Steve Thomas (president of FACTT) provided a thought-provoking presentation titled 'Time and Trees Wait for No Man', a play on a Chaucer quote – time and tide wait for no man. The essence of Steve's presentation was that the Arboretum is moving from establishing forests to now managing some of those forests as the trees continue to grow, with a view to their long-term appeal and public enjoyment. Not surprisingly, this is well and truly on the Arboretum team radar with a recently completed, externally provided, forest review and the re-establishment of the Forest Management Advisory Group (FMAG).

continued...

▲ Friends Chair, Mike Woolley pictured with (top right) Del Da Costa and (above right) Maggie Hawes (top left) Ian Chambers and (left) Joanne Maples

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## Key Diary Dates

### 1 July - 10 August

Warm Trees

### 2 July

Warm Trees Launch

### 12 July

Market Stall

### 31 August

Wattle Walks

### 1 September

National Wattle Day

## Parking Pass Reminder



Please check the expiry date on your parking pass and renew your pass if needed.

Parking Operations have noted an increase in expired Friends' parking passes



## Chair's Note (continued)



▲ Celebration Morning Tea

In my last note I shared the news of the Friends picnic setting next to the POD Playground and that we applied for a grant from the Federal Government to allow us to provide some shade over the setting. Unfortunately, our grant proposal wasn't successful – but we will try again. I also mentioned that we were partnering with STEP to provide a picnic setting in Forest 20. This partnership has evolved into the migration of the current Friends setting down to STEP and another, wheelchair accessible setting, being installed in the original Friends position adjacent to the POD Playground.

I am also pleased to report that the Friends have supported a proposal from the Arboretum education team to provide an Education Trailer. This will be used to support education activities across the Arboretum for children of various age groups, and it can also be used as a mobile Arboretum resource, for example, visiting local schools.

Over the Autumn period there have been several Working Bees where planting of trees has occurred to fill gaps in some of the forests. These include the Wollemi, Euphrates Poplar, Golden Wattle and some Eastern Redbuds. The Wollemi were provided by Mt Annan as a part of their ongoing programme to introduce diversity into the Wollemi population around the world and in this case, Forest 32 at the Arboretum.

In March we were very proud to learn that the Arboretum gained significant recognition nationally by winning Gold in the Ecotourism category at the 2024 Australian Tourism Awards and Silver for Excellence in Accessible Tourism. In recognition of that result, the Arboretum hosted a morning tea inviting the wide range of the stakeholders in that outcome, staff, volunteers, commercial and other partners, ambassadors and of course, Friends. View [TA Celebration Morning Tea- National Arboretum](#) for more details and some images of the event.

Warm Trees is coming up so make sure that you visit the Arboretum this July to enjoy the 2025 installations inspired by our partner this year, the Republic of Korea. As a trial, this year's event will be extended for 2 weeks into August.

And don't forget, it is easy to share the benefits of being a Friend with your family and friends by purchasing them a gift membership.

Wishing you all the best ...

**Mike**

▼ Working Bees





## Artist in Residence Matt Sharp - Sandra C and Mike W

Matt Sharp is an experienced bonsai artist from Adelaide who runs a business, Sharp Bonsai, offering classes, maintenance advice and a hiring service. The National Bonsai & Penjing Collection Australia (NBPCA) has had several of his trees on display at various times – and a new one just arrived!

As part of the annual Artist-in Residence program, Matt spent a few days sharing his knowledge with the NBPCA volunteers and staff. CBS members who are also NBPCA volunteers attended a presentation from Matt, firstly, comparing our different climates and how they determined the suitability of some species we might choose. Matt then went on to describe the method of collection and aftercare of the old, large olives that the Bonsai Society of South Australia's members are able to collect from their local area.

We then had the opportunity to enjoy a hands-on session with Matt. During this session, Matt pruned and wired a very large olive that he had brought from Adelaide. It had been collected four or five years earlier and planted into the tub it currently calls home. Mike W and Gavin G were enlisted to help with the wiring.

One of Matt's key messages was to consider whether these old olives should be styled along the lines of traditional Japanese designs or styled more like the very old trees growing wild around the Mediterranean. He explained that, over time he has developed a preference for the latter, although he still appreciates the designs he created earlier in his bonsai journey. Matt shared with us a quote from the artist Janet Sabey, via Stephen Stills, that has relevance for us when working on a tree we desire in our collection that just doesn't suit the growing conditions in which we live, If you can't be with the one you love, love the one you're with. Perhaps choose a tree that grows happily in your location.

On the following day, Matt conducted two free workshops for NBPCA volunteers. Matt was accompanied on his journey to the nation's capital by Luke Parsons, well regarded bonsai ceramicist and the current president of the Bonsai Society of SA. Matt and Luke facilitated the swap of SA loan trees for the NBPCA after the Selection and Ambassadorial Committee (SAC) judged the loan submissions from SA, providing input for Leigh to choose up to eight suitable candidates.



▲ Bonsai Artist in Residence Matt Sharp presents to volunteers from the National Bonsai & Penjing Collection, followed by a bonsai pruning and wiring demonstration.



## Artist in Residence Matt Sharp (continued) - Sandra Corrigan & Mike Woolley

While at the NBPCA, Matt also helped to prune one of the two niwaki, the Japanese black pines that are growing on the south terrace of the Visitor Centre.

The Artist in Residence program is a great opportunity for the NBPCA and the artist to share their skills and knowledge, while also giving volunteers the opportunity to learn from the artist.

The image (right) is of a little olive tree in an old pot, brought to Canberra by Matt Sharp. The Adelaide hills are riddled with olives growing wild and hybridising. The National Park encourages the bonsai society to dig as many as possible. We asked Gavin, a volunteer at the NBPCA to tell the story of the tree:

*"This splendid yamadori has a wonderful craggy stump in the Chinese style, with the minimum of distractions, like leaves or branches. The stump is rich in detail, some of it natural, some carved – it all blends very well. Its story is ... being damn near impossible to kill."*



## AABC Convention - Congratulations Sam

The Australian Association of Bonsai Clubs (AABC) Convention was held in Canberra on 17–18 May, drawing bonsai enthusiasts from across the country.

Among the national demonstrators was Sam Thompson, Assistant Curator at the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia (NBPCA).

The convention featured an impressive exhibition of over 100 bonsai trees, celebrating the artistry and dedication of growers nationwide. Sam contributed several trees to the display, two of them winning awards:

◀ **Atlantic cedar** (*Cedrus atlantica*), aged 75 years, was awarded the World Bonsai Friendship Federation (WBFF) Award for Most Outstanding Bonsai.

**English elm** (*Ulmus minor*), aged 55 years, earned the title of Best Medium Tree.





## Vale Ted Poynton

Bonsai artist Ted Poynton passed away recently aged 92. Ted was a long-time nurseryman and horticulturist in Victoria, a founding member of Waverley Bonsai Group and a demonstrator at Australian bonsai conventions.



▲ Ted contributed this outstanding *Angophora costata* (Smooth barked apple gum) to the NBPCA in 2009

▲ Ted at the opening of the National Bonsai & Penjing Collection of Australia at the Arboretum in 2013





## The Araucaria Family at the Arboretum - By Roger Hnatiuk

### Background

The Araucaria family is well represented at the National Arboretum, with seven species covering all three genera of the family present (Table 1).

Scientific name	Common name	Forest
<i>Agathis australis</i>	Kauri	22
<i>Agathis robusta</i>	Queensland kauri	22
<i>Araucaria angustifolia</i>	Paraná pine	<b>23</b>
<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Monkey puzzle	<b>12</b>
<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>	Bunya pine	<b>71</b>
<i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i>	Hoop pine	22, 25
<i>Wollemia nobilis</i>	Wollemi	25, <b>32</b>

▲ Table 1. Araucariaceae at the National Arboretum. Numbers in bold are full Forest plantings, the others are single trees.

► Figure 1. *Araucaria angustifolia* showing a large 'old' female cone that will shed seeds this coming summer, and a small, 'young', female cone from last spring which will shed its seeds in the summer of 2026/27.



The family is an old one, with the earliest fossils being found in the lower Jurassic, about 190 million years ago (mya) (Gymnosperm Database (<https://www.conifers.org/ar/Araucariaceae.php> : Arrondo and Petriella 1980 in Rothwell et al. 2012, accessed 20/05/2025). At the National Rock Garden, two rocks in the Federation Rock grouping, are also Jurassic in age, though slightly younger: the Mount Gibraltar Microsyenite (Jurassic, 178 mya) and the Tasmanian Dolerite (Jurassic, 175 mya). This is the middle of the Mesozoic era, which is time of the great conifer forests of the world, that began some 250 mya in the early Mesozoic. Members of the family were found on all continents, but as time passed, continents drifted, climates changed and living members of the family eventually became restricted mostly to the southern hemisphere (Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araucariaceae#Fossil\\_record](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araucariaceae#Fossil_record), accessed 20/05/2025).

There are long standing reports that cone production of some species follows a pattern of 2-3 years with relatively few cones produced, followed by a year with much larger numbers produced. The planting pattern of the bunyas references this pulsing of numbers of female cones, with two rows where trees were planted relatively widely, separated by a single row of more densely spaced trees.

### Coning Studies

At the Arboretum, we have been making records of when the first cones were produced in each member of the family, which were planted as Forests (Forest numbers 12, 23, 32, 71). We also recorded the numbers of cones and whether the trees are female or male. It appears that mature female and male cones will be at a high this coming spring/summer for both the bunyas and paranás. The monkey puzzles are under intensive care, being treated for a fungal infection, which has interrupted coning there. The cones on the *Araucaria angustifolia*, *A. araucana* and *A. bidwillii* trees are large and conspicuous (Figures 1, 2, 3 ), meaning that counting is feasible as long as one keeps a sharp eye out for them. It can be tricky to accurately spot the cones.

## The Araucaria Family at the Arboretum (continued) - By Roger Hnatiuk



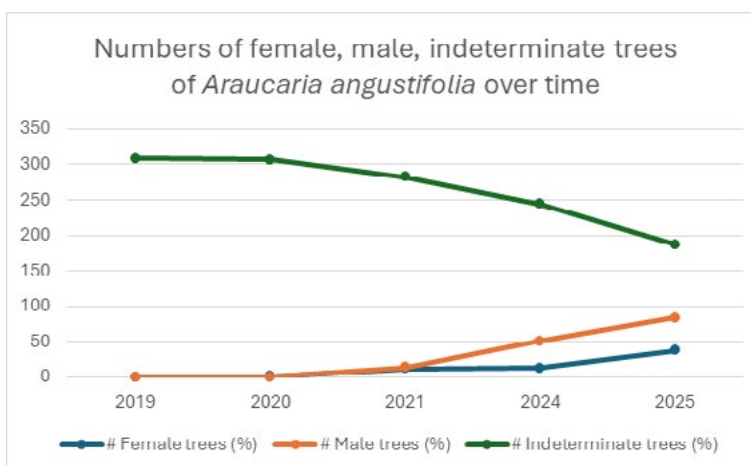
▲ Figure 2. *Araucaria angustifolia*, this year's 'new' male cones. Note that they point upwards.

A summary of our data for 2019-2025 shows how cone numbers can vary between years, for the paranás (Figure 4).

We were fortunate that the May 2025 counts could distinguish between numbers of male and female cones produced in 2024 and those produced this year, 2025, thus giving some idea of annual change.

The data show that the numbers of both female and male cones are increasing. This is most likely due to the progressive increase in the number of sexually mature trees, though there may be some unknown stimulus from the tendency for periodic pulses in numbers of cones.

▼ Figure 3. *Araucaria angustifolia* last year's male cones. Note that they hang downwards.



▲ Figure 4. Numbers of female, male and indeterminate trees of *Araucaria angustifolia* over time.





## The Araucaria Family at the Arboretum (continued) - By Roger Hnatiuk

The development time for cones in this family appears to be long, around 18-24 months from initiation of cones to harvesting of mature seeds. The 'new' female cones we counted in 2025, were about the size of large cricket balls or soft balls. They were pollinated in spring 2024 but initiated many months before that and will mature next summer. 'Old' female cones (pollinated in spring 2023) can still be seen in these trees.

The 'old' males cones from 2024, which we saw in 2025, produced the pollen that fertilised the 'new' female cones, while the 'new' male cones, seen in 2025, will be producing pollen in spring 2025 that will fertilise a crop of female cones that cannot yet be seen, but which will shed seeds in 2026/27. As you can see, it is complicated, at least from our perspective – the trees seem to be managing OK.

The recording of these features involved a slow walk around each tree, while craning one's neck to look upwards and all the way down to the base of the crown. While female cones are mostly in the top part and male cones lower down, this is not always the case thus keeping a sharp focus is needed.

Our records haven't distinguished the location of the cones within the crown, but there are interesting differences between individual trees, that may be genetic or just chance. Next year, we will consider whether it is feasible to record where in the crown the cones are. It's not as easy as it seems.

One interesting observation is that trees that cone in one year, have not necessarily coned in the next. It is too early to detect any pattern, but long-term observations should help decipher this.

If you are able, take the time to visit the *Araucaria* Forests at the Arboretum. There is much of interest there. The trees are not all the same, even within a single Forest.

Look out for crown differences, such as the overall shape (wide versus narrow, conical versus rounded), crown density (can you look through the crown or not), the variation in height of the trees (Figure 5, Figure 6, Figure 7).



▲ Figure 5. *Araucaria bidwillii* with dense rounded crown.

▼ Figure 7. *Araucaria bidwillii* with open pointed crown.



▼ Figure 6. *Araucaria bidwillii* with pointed dense crown.

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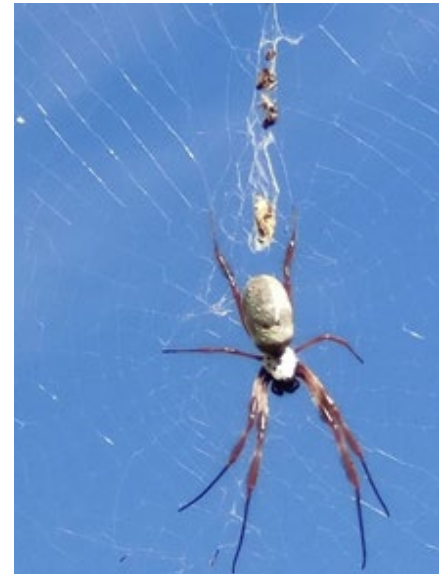
## The Araucaria Family at the Arboretum (continued) - By Roger Hnatiuk

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Lookout out for the wildlife. There is the occasional bird's nest, and the orb weaver spiders (Figure 8), *Trichonephila edulis*, golden orb weaver) are also up in the crown. A few years ago, they were mostly making webs between the crowns, making a clear and present surprise to walkers when you bumped into them. But this year they are making the webs within the crowns of individual trees. There are also egg cases of various kinds, made by species I don't know – spiders, butterflies/moths.

As an aside, scientific names are not random, nor designed to make your life difficult. The name of the golden orb weaver is fascinating. Take the genus name: *Trichonephila*. *Tricho* comes from Greek, meaning hair, while *nephila* is also from Greek, meaning white cloud or white spot. Then there is the species part of the name – *edulis*. This surprised me because it means 'edible'. Really. Is this a mistake? But the females are large creatures. The Western Australian Museum web site explains it this way: "...Thus, when the French biologist Jacques Labillardière travelled to New Caledonia in 1799, he applied the name *edulis*, which means 'edible', to the Australian golden orb-weaving spider after he observed native people eating this spider!" [<https://museum.wa.gov.au/explore/articles/spider-weaves-gold> accessed 5 June 2025].

This all translates to the hairy white cloud-like edible spider.



▲ Figure 8. A female, *Trichonephila edulis*, golden orb weaver. Identification thanks to Nate Kingford of NatureMapr.

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## Palynology: Part 1 - Dr J McEwen Mason

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People are often asked what they do for a living. In my case I said that I was a palynologist. This was either met with what's that? or is that part of palaeontology? I would then have to explain that a palynologist studies pollen and spores from plants currently living or in the fossil record.

Palynology is a scientific field encompassing a broad range of potential disciplines including some aspects of the geological sciences including stratigraphy, palaeontology, archaeology, allergenic studies and forensic applications for helping solve crime scenes.

Pollen and spores are produced in large numbers. One day when standing at the Arboretum on a light windy day, I saw a yellow cloud emerge and envelope the pine forest in the distance. This brought home the vast quantities of pollen being dispersed from the pine plantation in a single moment of time.

Pollen and spores are dispersed by wind and water and given the right conditions of deposition can be recovered in significant assemblages giving an accurate picture of the plants around the deposition site at the time of release. These deposition sites can be current or extend way back into geologic time.

Suitable deposition sites are lakes, ponds, billabongs and peats. Pollen and spores are blown in and fall through the water column eventually being deposited in the sediment at the bottom of a lake etc. Over time this sediment builds up and the highly resistant pollen is preserved in the anaerobic conditions. Anaerobic being without oxygen. Over long periods of time as sediments accumulate, pollen and spores are preserved and when those sediments are studied, can provide a detailed record of the plant communities that surrounded the lake.

Through a series of articles for the Friends of the Arboretum, I will endeavour to introduce you to the fascinating world of palynology and its application to understanding the microscopic world that is all around us.

**Dr J McEwen Mason** (Your resident Palynologist)



## News from STEP - Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park, Forest 20

Hello all

This week's welcome rain has come at an ideal time for the gardens down at Forest 20. We have planted new shrubs and trees in the Ephemeral Wetland, which has also had a major tidy up.

Our team has been relocating logs and rocks into the run-off channels to create habitat for frogs, reptiles and insects. The Thursday volunteers have been steadily cleaning out weeds and removing excess biomass from the grasses and sedges, so we can now sit back and watch the Wetland 'spring into action'! Other plantings have been taking place up in the Parade of Peas near the main entrance to STEP and through out some of the Central Gardens. The Eucalypt Walk has been a focus also, with the grassy understorey having been mown recently and new Eucalypt plantings being weeded and hand watered. We welcomed two groups of walkers down to the precinct on 10th May, for ACT Tree Week. There was a lot of interest not only in our 17 Eucalypt species but also the Wattles, Casuarinas and Kurrajongs.

It was also a sad time for us, as our long-serving Newsletter editor, Andy Russell, has moved to Adelaide. We farewelled and thanked him with a special morning tea in April and wish him and Janet well in their new pursuits. Andy has been with STEP since its very beginnings and is a font of knowledge regarding Southern Tablelands flora and fauna. His photographs will be known to many, as he created the monthly 'of Interest at STEP' photo sheet for us, plus many posters used in our displays at community events.

We will be distributing our newsletter quarterly still, with Jennie Widdowson being the editor and compiler- the monthly photo sheet will now be included in the newsletter so there will still be a fascinating array of images for STEP members to enjoy. We also welcome Yvonne, who is taking over Andy's role as STEP Membership Secretary and Wal Kelman who will be replacing Hugh Milloy as the STEP representative on NAC Friends' Council.

Our new Wattle Walk sign is in place and provides an informative welcome point for those visitors taking a walk through the Acacias.

Our next publicly advertised Wattle Walk will be on Sunday 31 August to celebrate Wattle Day. Bookings will be available soon through the Arboretum website.

▼ Ephemeral Wetland, STEP



We encourage people to come down to Forest 20 through winter, even though Canberra can appear stark and grey over the cold months, in an Australian native landscape such as those created at STEP, there is a lot of winter colour. In flower now are *Acacia lanigera* Woolly Wattle: *Correa reflexa* (Native Fuchsia) *Crowea exalata* 'Ginninderra Falls' and *Bossiaea heterophylla* to name just a few! We hope to see you there!

Our working bees are on Thursday mornings each week, usually between 8.30am and 11.30am, and we are always delighted to see new volunteers. More information can be found at [step.asn.au](http://step.asn.au)

**Jane Cottee**  
President STEP



## National Wattle Day at the Arboretum

Put it in your diary! Sunday 31 August will be a great chance to warm up before the first day of spring and Australia's National Wattle Day (Monday 1 September).

Wattle Day badges and Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) seedlings will be for sale at 'Wattle Corner' in the Visitors Centre (10am- 3pm).

Organised annually by the Wattle Day Association, the association members will also be highlighting the benefits of planting wattles including their useful and beautiful wood.

If you want to wear or grow Australia's national floral emblem, visit the Curatoreum to buy Golden Wattle lapel pins and packaged *Acacia pycnantha* seed, collected from the Arboretum's very own Golden Wattle Garden (at the end of Cork Oak Road).

The Ginger Group's wattle-themed delights will be at the cafe to tempt you too.



◀ *Acacia paradox*  
Kangaroo Thorn, STEP



▲ *Acacia pycnantha*  
Golden Wattle, STEP



◀ Wattle Corner

Or if you seek ideas for local wattles to plant in your garden or backyard, join one of the two 1-hour guided tours on Sunday 31 August through the STEP Wattle Walk. This special planting represents a large selection of wattles native to the Southern Tablelands.

Keep an eye on the Arboretum website to book your place as these popular tours are limited to 15 people. Meet either Jane Cottee (11am) or Jennie Widdowson (2pm) at the STEP flag at the lower car park.

**Dr Suzette Searle**

President of the Wattle Day Association Inc.



## Harvest Group - Update

The Harvest Group had another successful market stall on May 3 (that coincided with the federal election) with takings of \$2,361.

Being the weekend before Mothers' Day, visitors to the Arboretum had the opportunity to buy unique locally made items and the delicious much loved fig preserves both sweet and savoury, such as the very popular fig jams and Lorraine's delicious whole figs in port!

There were also the usual vegetable preserves following an abundant harvest of tomatoes and eggplants as well as the popular basil pesto and Warrigal greens pesto, which sold very quickly.

Sincere thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who assisted with the stall, including new volunteer, Fleur.

continued...



Saving seeds has been an important, ongoing task to top up our popular but dwindling stocks of packaged seeds.



### Market Stall Dates

12 July

20 September

6 December

▲ Tralie, Ange and Fleur happily selling plants, wreath, seeds etc.

▲ Fleur, Lyn, Janet, Susan, and Lorraine (seated front). Photos of the May 3 market stall taken by Rosy.



## Discovery Kitchen Garden - Update

The mild weather produced a bumper harvest, which started at the end of January and continued through until mid-May when the last of the tomatoes and eggplants were processed. We did not get the usual frosts around ANZAC Day and the tender plants in the garden even survived the frosts of late May and the first week of June!

A new plant trialled successfully as an ornamental this year is the annual Amaranth, *Amaranthus caudatus*, or Love-Lies-Bleeding with its tall pink sturdy stems of bright green leaves and evocative crimson catkin-like dangling cymes. Information on the internet states that the ancient Aztecs used amaranth as a food for centuries and that it is a protein-rich food source in many parts of the world today. The seed is considered a gluten-free 'whole grain' superfood. It is full of fiber, antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals. The plant contains oxalates so it is better eaten cooked than raw. It is a plant well worth growing both in the flower and vegetable gardens.

The dedicated garden team continues to maintain the kitchen garden although there are fewer tasks to do now that the weather is colder, when watering is generally reduced, and especially recently as there has been enough intermittent rain to keep the plants flourishing.

Removal of dead or frosted vegetation and the usual pest controls to remove any caterpillars, snails, or slugs that dare to make an appearance in the garden are some of the tasks.

Winter brassicas planted out in early April have made good growth, as have the recently planted seedlings of crimson flowered broad beans, cornflowers and more sweet peas.

### Currently growing in the Discovery Kitchen Garden:

#### Vegetables

Broad Beans (white and crimson flowered)
Chilli (various) – will be affected by frost
Climbing Spinach – leaves frost affected
Eggplant (various) – will be affected by frost
Globe Artichoke
Candy Crush Kale
Tuscan Kale
Russian Kale
Green Cauliflower
Sicilian Purple Cauliflower
Rhubarb
Scarlet Runner Beans – cut to ground level
Silver Beet
Silver Beet 'Red Cardinal'
Warrigal Greens

#### Flowers

Alyssum
Amaranth
Calendula
Cornflowers
Iceland Poppy
French Marigolds
Nasturtium
Ornamental Kale
Sweet Peas
Sweet William
Violas

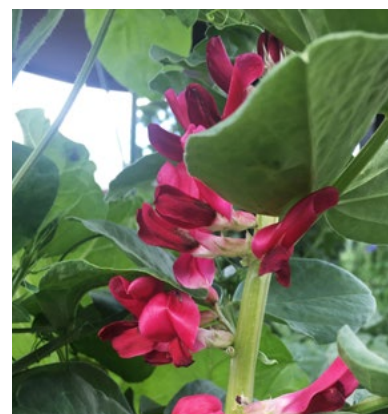
#### Herbs

Basil Purple
Borage (Blue & White)
Chives
Fennel
Garlic Chives
Parsley Curly
Parsley Italian
French Sorrel
Salad Beets
Strawberry



◀ *Amaranthus caudatus*

▼ Nikki working in the garden



▲ Crimson flowered broad beans



## Surviving Winter edition - The Curatoreum

Do you suffer through winter, desperately waiting for those first blossoms to herald a change in season? Or do you feel energised by the bracing cold and crunch of frost underfoot? Here at the Curatoreum we love the hibernation season- with cozy knits, cups of tea and beautiful books to pass the time. Here's a selection of our favourites to see you through.

### Pinal & Mel – The Curatoreum

#### Self-Care for Winter: Seven steps to thriving in the colder months, by Suzy Reading. \$39.99

Self-care expert Suzy Reading has devised 7 steps to not only survive the winter months but to thrive in them. By embracing the lessons from the natural world- from regulating light activity to warming body movements - you will learn how to alter your daily rhythms so that you can embrace winter. Through honouring lower energy levels and listening to what your body needs in the colder months, this can be an opportunity to rekindle joy and find fulfillment in every season of life.



#### Beanies, Fingerless Gloves and Sloves from \$60

Made by the lovely Penelope Durston in her Melbourne Studio, these Lambswool and Angora cozies are small-batch made and hand dyed in a gorgeous range of colours. A wonderful way to stay warm and add a pop of colour to these grey days.

More colours available in store.

#### The New Romantic Garden, by Jo Thompson. \$120

Over her thirty-year career, decorated designer Jo Thompson has become recognized as master of creating decadently planted, well-proportioned, English-style gardens rendered modern by a staunch commitment to biodiversity—to the eye this translates as a looser formality than English gardens of the past, though they are still every bit as luscious. Hundreds of beautiful colour photos and chapter-by-chapter case studies of individual gardens designed around various themes provide inspiration for all gardeners who want their gardens to feel not merely well planted, but truly alive.



## What's new - The Curatoreum



### **Birds of the Arboretum & Birds of the Arboretum in Flight, by Eggpicnic**

We're thrilled to announce our collaboration with local Canberra studio Eggpicnic. The Arboretum exclusive prints feature a lineup of regular visitors from our bold magpies to the more elusive double-barred finch. Available as framed, ready to hang prints for \$575 or unframed at \$300.

These beautiful, bright prints are a wonderful reminder that Spring is just around the corner.

### **Our Frozen Planet: Photographic Journey, by Michael Hambrey & Jürg Alean. \$90**

We live on a planet where up to a third of the land area is covered by snow and ice during the winter. This frozen world, known as the cryosphere, is captured in all its remarkable beauty by breathtaking photography ranging from the tiniest icicle to the most mammoth glacier. A celebration of this fascinating and breathtaking world.

Our Frozen Planet serves as a reminder of what we are at risk of losing, and, in doing so, gives us the courage to tackle the global climate emergency.





## Friends Council Members

**Chair:** Mike Woolley  
**Deputy Chair:** Fran Hinton  
**Treasurer:** Lynley Rees  
**Secretary:**  
**Publications Officer:** Nicole Pietrucha  
**STEP representative:** Walter Kelman  
**NBPCA representative:** Sandra Corrigan

**Members:** Alison Purvis  
Barry Langshaw  
Carolyn Thomas  
Marelle Rawson  
Mark Lodder

**Donations and Sponsorship Manager:**  
Trish Keller OAM (not a Council position)



▲ *Lagerstroemia fauriei* 'Fantasy' - the Japanese crepe myrtles



We ask all Friends to check your membership card for your renewal/expiry date!

And if you haven't joined already, then the time is right to become a Friend!

**Renew or join now**

## Thank you to all our Sponsors and Contributors

If you have ideas for articles, or items that might be of interest to the Friends such as stories or photos from the Arboretum or further afield, please contact me Nicole Pietrucha on: [pietruchanac1@gmail.com](mailto:pietruchanac1@gmail.com)

Many thanks to the people who have contributed articles and photos for this and previous issues of the Newsletter, and given generously of your time to write, read and proofread. I could not do it without your help.

