



#69
December 2025

FRIENDS

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA NEWSLETTER

Chair's Note - Summer 2025



Greetings Friends.

Here are a few snippets since my last note to you.

Firstly, thank you to the National Arboretum Canberra for hosting the 2025 end of year celebration for Friends and Volunteers. It's a great opportunity to relax and reflect on the year that's been, with our colleagues and members of the Arboretum team. Thank you and congratulations also to this year's Volunteer Award winners – see more below in the newsletter.

The Arboretum and National Bonsai and Penjing Collection team have staged another great bonsai event. There were plenty of workshops available for the public that were led by the two visiting overseas artists, Heike and Sandra and by our own Marcela, a Victorian bonsai artist who specialises in Australian native trees as bonsai.

A variation on the Friday night event saw the three artists each working on a tree on a separate stage while attendees were able to sit and watch, chat with the artists or find a separate table to socialise with friends and colleagues, and enjoy the refreshments that were in regular supply.

continued...

Marcela Ferreira, Heike van Gunst and Sandra Grlica ►



Chair's Note (continued)

There was also the opportunity to view the bonsai collection under lights – an entirely different and enchanting perspective on the trees – which included a shohin bonsai display hosted by the Canberra Bonsai Society and the 2025 Pot Acquisition entries.



I mentioned in my Winter note that the Friends had sponsored an Education Trailer. Well, it has arrived and is awaiting registration papers and final preparation for use. The Education Team spent some time researching the trailer options that would suit the needs of the Arboretum's education activities and it seems from the image that they are quite pleased with the outcome – so many compartments to store stuff!

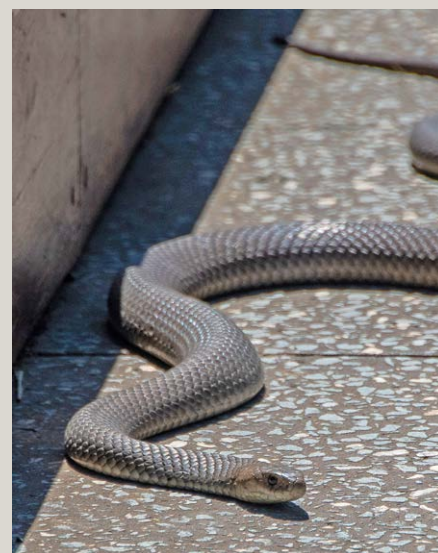


▲ Arboretum Educators admiring the new trailer and all of its possibilities!

Have you purchased your 2026 calendars yet?

You better *hop to it*, they are nearly sold out!

continued...



Again, with the camera at my side, I was able to capture an image that emphasises the reason that in the warmer months we see a number of reminder signs that there are likely to be a few snakes living at the Arboretum and possibly in close proximity to frequently visited areas.

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Chair's Note (continued)

On one of my frequent visits to the Arboretum, I stumbled across a promotional shoot being made by ANU Solar Racing with the Arboretum as a back drop. ANU Solar Racing is the Australian National University's official solar racing team. It is a 100% student-run team that designs and builds solar powered cars to compete in the biennial Bridgestone World Solar Challenge (BWSC). Luckily, I had my camera with me.



I hope that you are enjoying the pollen articles that Jenny has been providing for us. There's quite a lot to learn about that almost invisible part of our environment – and there is more to come.

Late in November I was contacted by Roger, our resident Wollemi pine expert. He is currently researching some characteristics of the Wollemi using trees propagated from Forest 32 seeds that have been provided to him by the Arboretum.

As his research progresses, the number of trees he needs reduces and the Arboretum allow him to donate those trees to the Friends as a fund-raising exercise.

The trees were made available for sale in conjunction with the December 6th Market Stall and as I write, nearly all have been sold – with about half through 'pre-order' by Friends and the remainder to the public on the day. The exercise has raised approximately \$3600 so far.

Warm Trees 2026 details have been finalised and are available below in the newsletter.

Enjoy the read below and what looks like a warm summer at the Arboretum...

Mike



Key Diary Dates

19 December - 2 February
ACT Public School Holidays

25 December
Village Centre Closed

24 & 25 January
Village Centre Closed for the Australian of the Year Awards

1 - 28 February
POD Playground Closed
for routine maintenance

**CLOSED
25 DEC**

"We rode the whole centennial trail on the weekend, camping the night on Saturday at the campground between Forde and Hall.

The trail passes right by this shelter which was lucky for us as we made it just as it started to bucket down. We made a cup of tea and waited out the rain." **Alison Purvis**



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.

Celebrating 2025 with Friends and Volunteers

It was a wonderful end-of-year celebration at the Arboretum on Tuesday, 16 December. Volunteers, Friends, and Arboretum staff came together to mark the close of another successful year. During the evening, the Jake Keller Scholarship recipient, Kim Theobald, was announced.

Guests enjoyed beautiful live music by Jake Maloney and the always-delicious catering provided by The Ginger Group.

Volunteer Awards were presented across four categories:

NEW VOLUNTEER AWARDS:

Juliet Berry

Recognised for enthusiasm and commitment as a new Guide and for outstanding contributions to low-sensory kite workshops, creating a welcoming space for children with sensory needs.

Penny Campbell

Recognised for passion and dedication as one of the first credentialed Guides from the 2025 program and for broader involvement in a range of volunteer activities.

QUIET ACHIEVER AWARD:

Robyn Callaway

Acknowledged for tireless dedication, diverse contributions, and a lasting impact on the Arboretum community through years of generous service.



VOLUNTEER SPIRIT AWARD:

Sandra Linsley

Celebrated for revitalising the Volunteer Guide Training Program and fostering a supportive, collaborative environment that empowers volunteers and strengthens community connections.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:

Jan Morgan

Commended for excellent leadership, creativity, and generosity, creating experiences that inspire, educate, and leave a legacy for the Arboretum and its community.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION:

Del Da Costa

Recognised for outstanding organisational skills and effective collaboration while serving as Secretary and liaison between staff and the Friends Council.

Congratulations to all the Volunteer Award recipients and nominees, and a heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers and Friends of the Arboretum for your dedication and support in 2025.



Harvest Group - Update



Harvest Group Market Stall

We had a very successful Harvest Stall on Saturday 6 December despite being an extremely hot and windy day and a busy one for others leading up to Christmas. We had lots of beautiful wreaths that Ange made, and lots of plants which proved very popular. We almost sold out of all the preserves we had to offer.

We raised \$2,903 for the harvest Stall, \$2,805 from the Wollemi pines. A total of \$5,708.

I would like to thank the wonderful volunteers both new and experienced who are part of the Harvest group. Everyone has been supportive and helpful in my first year as Harvest Group Co-ordinator. I have been on a steep learning curve and am very grateful to Dianne Mutch and Carolyn Thomas who were particularly helpful during the harvesting of the figs and beyond.

As part of the Harvest group, we go on monthly walks which is a great way to get to know the Arboretum better as well as each other.



Wollemi Pines for Sale at the Arboretum in December

There were 41 Wollemi pines relinquished from Dr Roger Hnatiuk's latest project which studied the growth rates of some of the more slower growing specimens from Forest 32 seed propagation. These trees were potted up into two sized pots, 200mm and 180mm, labelled and offered for sale to the Friend's of the National Arboretum via email and to the public via the website. The take-up was extraordinary, with half the trees being ordered in the first week of advertising!

All the trees were made available for payment and pickup at the market stall held on 6 December at a separate table setup for this purpose with the Arboretum's Wollemi "guru", Dr Roger Hnatiuk, who kindly stayed until only four trees remained unsold. Thanks, Roger! The buyers were mesmerised by knowledge imparted by Dr Hnatiuk, who put them at their ease and allayed any reservations held about growing these special trees. Of special attraction to buyers were the Wollemi potted into three small and three large bonsai pots which were bought quickly.

In total, the sale of these Wollemi Pines provided over \$3,600 to go towards future Arboretum projects.



◀ Potted Wollemi ▲ Wollemi Bonsai

Discovery Kitchen Garden - Update



After the incredibly changeable and windy conditions of late spring, the hot weather finally arrived with a vengeance even though there was a frost on the first day of summer! Tomatoes have been growing well and in need of constant staking and retying to cope with wind and rapid growth. However, the eggplants and chillies were not liking the variable temperature fluctuations and have been tardy in making any significant growth by early December.

Seeds from sweet peas, nasturtiums, cornflowers and Warrigal greens are being collected for drying and saving for packaging and for future propagation. In mid to late January, the English Lavender will be harvested to supplement our dwindling stock of dried lavender.

The garden is well mulched to contend with the forecast hot dry summer, and the garden team will be kept busy with watering.

Best wishes for the festive season and a special thank you to the wonderfully dedicated garden team! Happy and productive gardening!

Ange

Vegetables

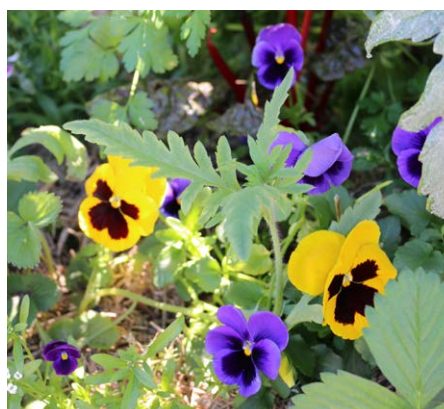
Broad Beans (crimson flowered)
Beans, Scarlet Runner
Chilli
Eggplants
Globe Artichoke
Rhubarb
Silverbeet
Silverbeet 'Red Cardinal'
Tomato
Warrigal Greens

Flowers

Amaranth
Alyssum
Calendula
Cornflowers
French Marigolds
Honesty
Nasturtiums
Sweet Peas
Sweet Williams
Violas



► Growing in the Kitchen Garden:

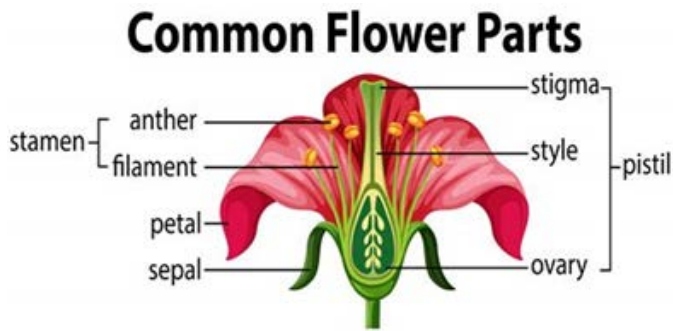


Herbs

Borage (Blue & White)
Chives
Fennel
Feverfew
Garlic Chives
Parsley Curly
Parsley Italian
French Sorrel
Strawberry

Mike and the Palynologist Part 2 - Dr J McEwen Mason

Flowering plants



Flowering plants have both male and female parts in their reproductive process, and their entire flower is essentially a reproductive structure. Generally, the female part of the flower is composed of the stigma, the style, the ovary, the carpels and the ovules. The male structures, the filaments, surround the style. Each filament culminates with an anther from which pollen is released. The male pollen attaches itself to the stigma and grows a pollen tube down the length of the style. The style in turn is attached at its base to the ovary. Within the ovary are the hollow structures of the carpels and each carpel contains several ovules. When pollen encounters each ovum, fertilization takes place and seeds are created. When the seeds are fully formed, they are released.

There are few examples of angiosperms in the bonsai collection at the Arboretum that spring to mind: banksias, callistemons, maples and azaleas. Once fertilized, the mature seeds are released in a variety of ways. For example, maple seeds are winged and when released in a breeze, display a spiral flight which enables them to be suspended on the breeze for a longer period, thereby increasing their dispersal distance from the parent plant. Banksias employ a different strategy. Their seeds are contained in a hard outer casing which, in order to open, need the aid of an external fire accompanied by smoke. In a natural setting, fire plays an important role in the life cycle of these plants. The smoke triggers the seeds to open, and the subsequent ash provides a nutrient bed for the seeds to grow.

Seeds also employ other methods of release. They can be dispersed through water (e.g. mangroves), the wind (e.g. paper daisies) and via animals like dogs, kangaroos or wombats which collect seeds as they pass through the undergrowth. Some seeds are catapulted into the surrounding environment by explosive mechanisms.

One of the most explosive seed fruits comes from the sandbox tree, which grows in tropical regions of the Americas. It is also known as the dynamite tree and seed dispersal can reach up to 330 metres from the parent plant. Luckily, we don't have any of these in our bonsai collection!

The science of palynology doesn't really cover the reproductive cycle of plants. It is more associated with where we find pollen and how we can use it to identify such things as paleoclimates, crime scenes, and the source of tree species relevant to the honey industry. But I'm getting ahead of myself and will address the uses of palynology in more depth in question 5.

Plant life has come up with many ingenious ways to reproduce - from pollen tubes and winged seeds to explosive fruits that can launch seeds over 300 metres!

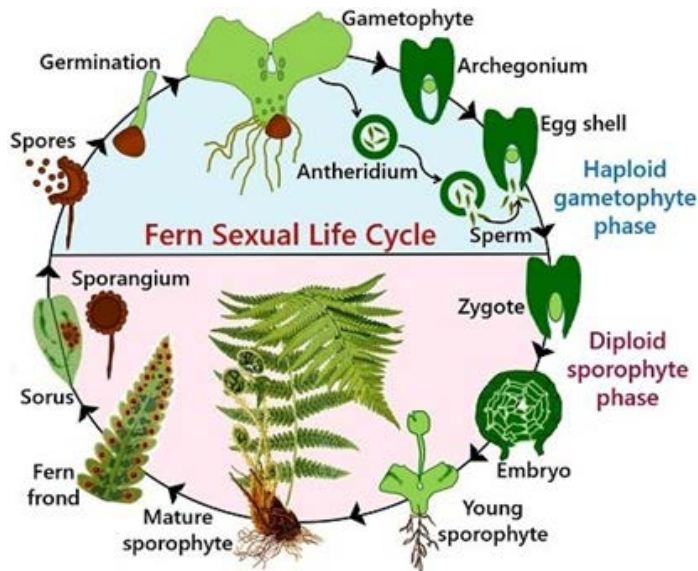
Question 1b

Mike, regarding pollen's role as part of plant reproduction- do all plants produce pollen? What about plants such as fungi, moss, ferns and algae?

Palynologist: The answer to this is quite diverse. The ferns for example create spores as part of their reproductive cycle. Many temperately diverse fern species occupy cool, damp and shady habitats. But there are many tropical fern species too, with some growing several metres tall and having enormous leaves. Spores are produced on the underside of the leaves in sporangia. These spores are haploid, which means they have a single set of chromosomes much like spermatozoa in humans.

At an appropriate time, these spores are released and fall to the ground. Here they develop into heart shaped, flat green gametophytes. The technical term for the gametophyte is a 'prothallus' and these grow absorbing water and salts through rhizoids- Diagram 2, next page.

Mike and the Palynologist Part 2 - Dr J McEwen Mason (continued)



▲ Diagram 2

The rhizoids are slender rootlike filaments that not only grow in the life cycle of ferns, but also in those of mosses, fungi, liverworts and algae. They also act as attachment points to the substrate they grow on.

The male and female sex organs develop on the underside of the prothallus. These structures are called the antheridia and the archegonia. The sperm from the former is spiral shaped and has many flagella attached to their undersides. This gives the sperm the ability to swim. The female part, located in the archegonia is called the archegonium. It is generally located at the notch of the heart shaped prothallus. The archegonia contain a single egg. During a rain event, the archegonia release a chemical substance that attracts the motile sperm, which can reach the egg/s via the passage of water. Fertilization can then take place and a zygote is created. This zygote develops its own root and leaf structure, so completing the life cycle of the plant.

I hope this answers your question, Mike. In short, the life cycle of these plants has an extra reproductive step to that of flowering plants. Plant life has come up with many ingenious ways to reproduce.

The pollen and spores that are deposited in the sediments surrounding plants can be preserved if the environmental conditions are right.

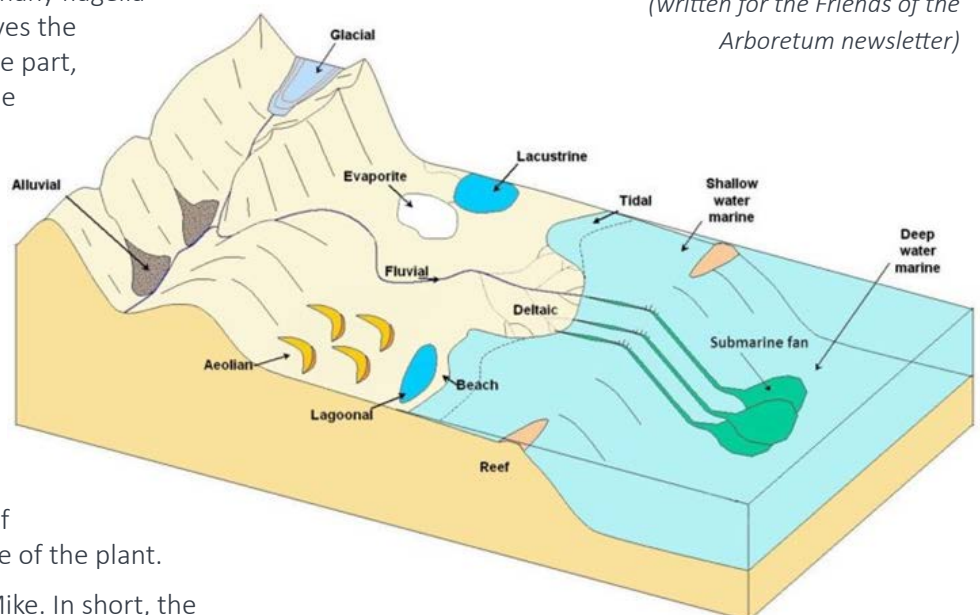
This brings us to your question of where palynomorphs (a technical name for pollen and spores) can be found. The palynomorphs are preserved in sediments deposited in areas such as rivers, swamps, peat bogs, billabongs, lakes, ponds and the sea. If the palynomorphs are buried in such sediment but especially if they are in an anaerobic situation, they can be preserved.

Palynomorphs are not preserved in metamorphic and igneous rocks, because of the heat involved in the creation of these types of rocks.

Below in diagram 3, are situations where sediments can be deposited. Palynomorphs can be deposited in a variety of deposition sites where they can be preserved in anaerobic conditions (without oxygen). To extract the pollen from the sites of deposition, cores have to be drilled into the sediment, or spot samples are taken from sites of interest.

By **Dr McEwen Mason**

(written for the Friends of the Arboretum newsletter)



▲ Diagram 3

News from STEP - Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park, Forest 20

Hello all

The weather has been unpredictable in the last few weeks, and the drying winds a challenge for the welfare of our young plants. Much of our working bee activity has revolved around watering, weeding and mulching. Spring has been an excellent season for flowers and their pollinators, and we are seeing an increase in visitors coming to photograph plants and learn about local insect species.

Several pre-arranged tour groups have visited us over the last few months. These include the National Botanic Gardens' Plant Identification group and Plant Science group. Participants at both events were experienced "plants people" and were complimentary about the range and condition of the Southern Tablelands native species that are on display at Forest 20.

There has been a lot of thinning and cutting back of the lomandra and dianella patches in the Bush Tucker Garden. A dedicated team of pruners and mulchers have made a huge difference to the tidiness of this area. There have also been several snake sightings down in STEP, so our volunteers must be extra careful amongst long grass.

In early November we paid tribute to our STEP webmaster, Keith Pantlin, who sadly passed away last month. Keith was an intrinsic part of our team and will be greatly missed. It is thanks to his skills and dedication that STEP has had an informative and useful web page, and we are extremely grateful for the time that he volunteered in the service of our group. Vale Keith.

We have had several new people join our working bees this spring, and we welcome anyone who wants to come and see what we do on a Thursday morning each week. Our sessions start around 8.30 am and go until 11.00 am, with a break for a shared morning tea.

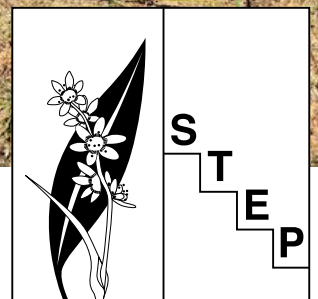
This will be the last STEP report that I will be writing, as I am standing down as President after three years in the position. I am pleased to announce that Bill Handke will be taking over my role. Bill has a wealth of knowledge about Forest 20 and has been involved in many significant projects like the tool shed construction, labelling and signage, path building and establishment of the Parade of Peas. Congratulations Bill.

With best wishes to all for the coming festive season,

Jane Cottee, President STEP (Outgoing)



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/STEP_Canberra



Warm Trees Update - Time to get knitting



It has been decided not to partner with an Embassy next year. Instead, the theme will be *'Getting to know your Arboretum'*, so the display will focus on the Australian native forests, as well as the birds and other creatures that are found in and around the trees and ponds.

There will not be a specific colour focus for the scarves, so you are free to knit or crochet scarves in one or more colours of your choice- the brighter the better. As in previous years, acrylic is preferable, although if you have any woollen items past their best that you can undo and reknit as a scarf, that is fine- just let us know when you deliver it that it is wool. And please continue to use garter stitch, that is, knitting every row, so that the edges stay flat. The size should still be one metre long and 25 cm wide, although we would like a few scarves that are longer- either 1¼ metres or 1½ metres, as some of the trees are getting wider trunks.

There has also been a change in the management arrangements. With very mixed emotions I have decided it is time, for health reasons, to step down as the coordinator. I've had four very interesting and enjoyable years, and have been overwhelmed by your creativity, and also your generosity in giving your time so willingly. I can't thank you all enough. From now on the role of coordinator will be taken by a coordination team of three people- Marelle Rawson, Lyn Rees and Sue Sheridan. And there is a new email for Warm Trees:

warmtrees.fnac@gmail.com

The coordination team will provide more details regarding workshop dates, items for the Gabion wall display, knitting patterns, etc in a newsletter to everyone early in 2026.

There is one outstanding item from this year's Warm Trees- the wraps that some of you are making. Once you have finished them, can you please drop them off at the front desk at the Arboretum, and also let the coordination team know (using the new email address) that you have done so. If for any reason you can't drop off your finished wraps, please contact the coordination team and make alternative arrangements.

And finally, Jiyoan, our contact at the Korean Embassy, has just sent through a photo of their Christmas tree, together with the Korean tiger that Angela McNeilly created for the tiger and magpie story. Jiyoan said that it has already received several favourable comments.

So my thanks again to you all, and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cheers

Jan Morgan, Warm Trees Convenor (Outgoing)



Cork Oak factory visit in Portugal - Wendy Launder

I have recently returned from a holiday to Spain and Portugal. Our trip included hiking the last 100kms of the Portuguese Camino and a small group Backroads bus tour that took us from Madrid south through Toledo, Cordoba, Granada, Ronda, Seville and across into Portugal ending in Lisbon. Along the way we indulged in local wines, sherry and olives. Then as we turned westward towards Portugal through the Extremadura region the landscape gave way to acres and acres of *Quercus suber* and *Quercus ilex*, or Cork and Holm Oaks. Our first stop in this region was a farm where we were introduced to some beautiful black Iberian pigs who feast on Holm oak acorns following which we indulged, albeit a little bit reluctantly, in a tasting of jamon iberico. Did you know that this particular ham is considered 3rd only to champagne and caviar in the luxury food market. I do digress, however, because this is not meant to be an article about my travels and food, it's about cork!

On our final day our lovely Portuguese guide, Ana, said she had arranged a surprise additional visit. To be honest when I found out we were on our way to a cork oak factory my anticipation and excitement eclipsed all the previous stops.

The Corticarte factory in Portugal is located about 146kms east of Lisbon near the village of Azaruja. The company having been established in 2000 is relative newcomer to the industry but they take pride in running a competitive and innovative business. A quick google check has Portugal supplying around 50% of the world cork market.

Our tour with David started in the outside yard near a 90 year old cork oak. While it is fair to say it was a big tree, I was quietly chuffed thinking about our 100+ year old Forest 1.

We were told that the trees mature for 25 years before their first harvest which occurs in the months of May, June and July. A tree is then harvested every 9 to 10 years. They have a very simple but effective system of tracking a tree's harvest. After each harvest the tree trunk is painted with a number from 0 to 9. For example, trees that we saw from the side of the road with the number 8 would have last been harvested in 2018 or if they had a 4 they would have been harvested in 2024.



▲ Sculpture depicting Cork Oak being harvested at the entrance to the Corticarte factory and a 90 year old Cork Oak in the Corticarte factory yard

▼ Unprocessed cork oak stacked outside the factory



▲ The open plan factory floor

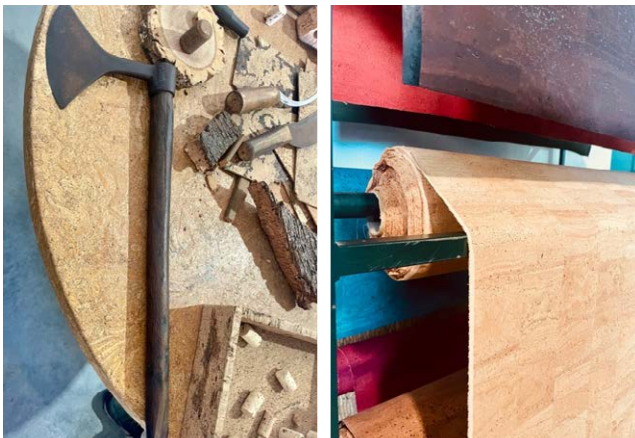
Our tour then took us inside the factory which was a very large open plan shed. There was a lot going on and it was steamy and noisy with workers and small tractors moving around.

Cork Oak factory visit in Portugal - Wendy Launder (continued)



▲ The cork oak boiler bubbling away in the corner of the factory and cork being removed from the boiler. 2nd photo courtesy of our tour guide, Ana Veran.

▼ Workers inspecting and grading the boiled and cooled cork and pallets of sorted cork planks.



▲ The tools of the trade include a Machado/axe.

▲ A roll of cork material.

The next key processing step is to boil the cork. The boiler was in one corner of the shed and contained around 7000 litres of water bubbling away at 100 degrees celcius. A pallet of untreated cork oak planks about 3 by 3 metres is boiled for 1 hour to soften and clean the planks making them flexible and malleable. If my memory is correct, our guide David told us they can boil up to 1,000 planks a day.

The boiled pallet is then hoisted out of the boiler using a small forklift and ferried swinging in the air across to a free spot on the factory floor where it is left to cool. They allow a window of 2 weeks to commence the next phase of processing which is to inspect and grade each plank. This time frame also allows them to flatten the soften planks when they are restacked. This was being done in another corner of the shed and I noticed that as the planks were flung from the sorting table they were flexible like a very thick yoga mat and had a rubbery sound when they hit the ground.

We then moved to the 'show and tell' corner of the shed displaying tools of the trade and a diverse array of items made out of cork. David showed us the type of axe called a Machado that is used to make the initial vertical and then horizontal cut to the trunk. The shaped end of the axe handle is then used to peel the bark away. David knew Australians were in the group and he made much of the Australian wine industry moving away from cork stoppers. This was a repeating theme with Spanish and Portuguese guides where we were reminded that only cork allows a wine to mature in the bottle. We were also given an insight into the intricacies of making champagne corks.

It was the range of other products that really blew me away. There was various types of flooring and paper thin cork displayed on rolls like you would find in a material store. David described the latter as being like a leather and he flexed the material to demonstrate its robustness. They also produce cork pellets that are used for insulation, playground surfaces, chipboard and sound insulation. He proudly explained that cork has been used in space shuttle construction as it is lightweight and has a very high temperature tolerance. He then noted there was not so much demand in the submarine construction! Funny guy.

I came away feeling totally enlightened and thrilled at the opportunity to delve deeper into the story of cork and I appreciate even more that we really do have a very special forest right on our doorstep.

What's new - The Curatoreum



'Tis the season for mindful gifting.

Here at The Curatoreum, we find inspiration in good design, thought provoking reads and ethically made goods that support our homegrown artisans and designers.

With far too many to choose from we've narrowed down our gift guide to a few recent additions, but if you have the time, please pop into the store to see all the wonderful new treasures.

Thank you to the Friends for another wonderful year. We really value your ongoing support of our little business and the makers we represent.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season,

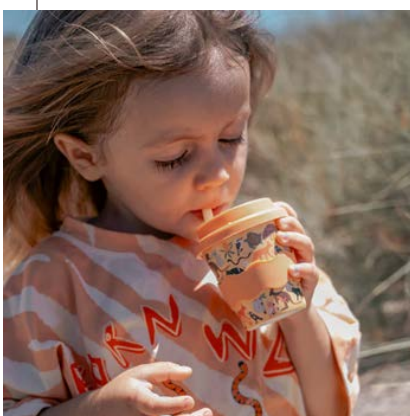
Mel, Pinal, Abbey & The Curatoreum team



Bushland Collection, by Angus and Celeste, from \$35

Crafted with intention and inspired by the beauty of Australian flora, the new Bushland Collection pairs mindful design with artisanal ceramic production. Exceptional details in this collection include raw clay rims that juxtapose the milky glaze, elevated foots on the bowls and smooth mug handles that are all decorated with a sprinkling of our signature dotted pattern.

This collection is crafted from high-fired Stoneware with a speckled glaze with an earthy eco appeal. Range includes Condiment Bowls, Bud Vases, Mug Sets and Salad Bowls in 4 Designs: Hakea, Wattle, Eucalypt and Desert Pea (only 2 shown).



BabyChino Cups, from \$15.95

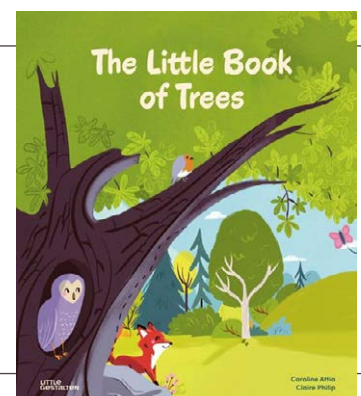
Perfect for little adventurers! These bamboo cups come in two sizes, with a snug silicone lid and grip band, packed in a cute gift box. An eco-friendly, spill-resistant choice for babychinos, water on-the-go, or even a piccolo for bigger kids. Various designs available in store.

Straws sold separately for smaller size.
Dishwasher safe and FDA/LFGB certified.

The Little Book of Trees \$35.95

Invites children to explore the amazing world of trees—how they grow, change through the seasons, and support life from roots to crown. Kids discover different tree species, the animals that live among them, and forests around the world.

The book also shows fun things to do with trees, from climbing to building treehouses, plus everyday items made from them. A final tree quiz lets children test what they've learned.



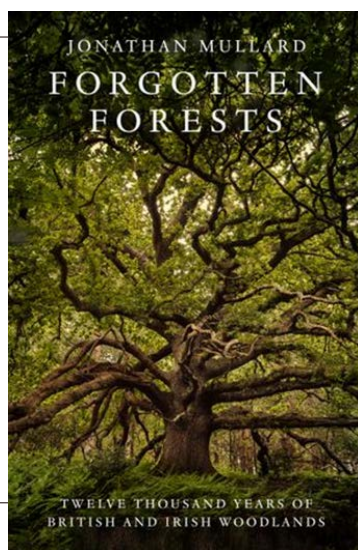
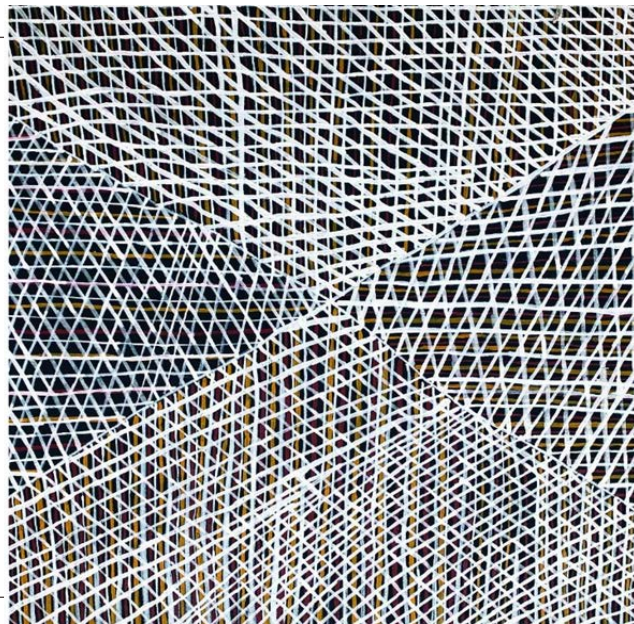
What's new - The Curatoreum

Tiwi Design Large Organic Cotton Tablecloth, \$99.95

Elevate your Christmas table with this gorgeous organic cotton tablecloth. Measuring 150 x 230cm, this generous size fits most standard tables.

About the Design: During ceremony on the Tiwi Islands a series of 'yoi' (dances), are performed; some are totemic and show a narrative of newly composed songs. Participants in these ceremonies are painted with turtiyanigari (the different natural ochre colours), transforming the dancers and, in some cases, provide protection against mapurtiti (spirits). These significant artistic designs collectively are called 'Jilamara'.

Other designs available in store and online.

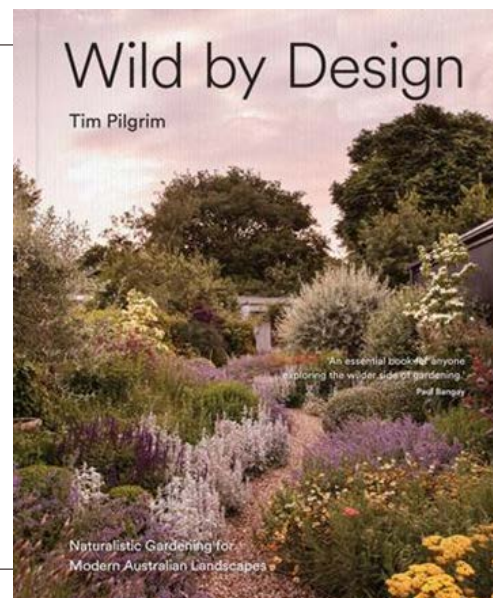


Forgotten Forests, by Jonathan Mullard \$52.99

Discover the forgotten forests of Britain and Ireland. From ancient trees over a thousand years old to fossilised woodlands and early human artifacts, this captivating book uncovers the deep history of our landscapes. Biologist Jonathan Mullard traces how forests evolved—from Mesolithic hunter-gatherers to farming, metalworking and modern civilisation—revealing the science, stories and secrets hidden in Britain's ancient trees. A fascinating journey through nature, time and human history.

Wild by Design, by Tim Pilgrim \$59.99

This gorgeous book shows you how to create a climate-resilient, biodiverse, naturalistic garden inspired by Australia's unique landscapes. With stunning photography and practical guidance on soil, materials, planting, propagation and maintenance—plus a pictorial guide to 100 trusted plants—this book is both inspiration and instruction. Perfect for home gardeners and designers looking to embrace the beauty and freedom of wilder, plant-driven gardens.



Friends Council Members

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▲ Mature smoke tree in Dargo Victoria. Photo by L Lowe



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

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.



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