

Warm Trees 2026 Newsletter No 1

Thank you for your interest in the Warm Trees (WT) project for 2026: “Getting to Know Our National Arboretum.” Planning and knitting are underway!

Scarves

This year 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. However in keeping with the forests we are focussing on, yellow, orange, red, white and green colours would be appreciated as well as the colours used in the Friends logo (see below). Please only use acrylic yarn. Keep in mind that these scarves are going to be wrapped around trees, out in all weathers, machine washed at the end of each year and reused so acrylic works best. And... please use garter stitch, that is, knitting every row, stocking stitch tends to curl and makes the scarves unusable for wrapping. The size should be one metre to one and a half metres long and 25 cm wide (50 - 55 stitches x 360 rows knitted on 4mm needles).

We will let you know what the arrangements are for dropping off your scarves in the next newsletter.

Theme

Warm Trees is not partnering with an embassy this year. Instead we have decided on the broad theme of “Getting to Know Your Arboretum.” which could be used in subsequent years if we want to. This theme allows us to explore the forests of the Arboretum and also the gardens, the birds and animals and the insects that live in, or visit the forests and gardens.

Knitting Patterns

Lyn has created a scarf pattern for the Friends logo and is working on other patterns. If you are interested contact us through warmtrees.fnac@gmail.com



We would appreciate other WT enthusiasts creating and sharing patterns as well.

Gabion Wall Panels

As in previous years we will be making panels to display on the gabion wall leading into the Visitors Centre. The intention is to make panels depicting the following forests:

- Blue grass tree (forest 15) with yellow admiral butterfly
- Camden white gum (forest 30) with sugar gliders
- Drooping sheoak (forest 100) with glossy black cockatoos
- Silky oak (forest 51) with red wattle bird and noisy friar bird
- Golden wattle (forest 2)

There will be individual larger versions of the cockatoo, butterfly, glider and other birds to cut from corflute and cover, as in previous years.

We will also make a large panel depicting the Friends' logo, with the intention of re-using this panel in subsequent years.



Craft Workshops

These workshops will be a place for making the gabion wall display items, and for knitting & crocheting scarves.

We are hoping to hold these again in the Terrace Room from 9.30am - 12 noon on the following dates:

May 6, 13, 20, 27; June 3

All these dates are Wednesdays and we will confirm them as soon as we can.

We would appreciate some materials for the workshops, if you have any of the following in your stash:

black & brown fabric (textured or velvet) — for grass tree trunk

green, yellow, orange fabric — for leaves and flowers

black, brown, grey fabric — for birds & butterflies

fur fabric — for sugar gliders

yellow, orange pipe cleaners — for silky oak flowers

Warm regards

Lyn, Sue & Marelle

2026 Warm Trees Coordinators

