### NEWSLETTER



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year we have seen the garden mature to a magnificent display of plants and flowers. Now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year since redevelopment, the unique design and iconic views continue to provide lots of pleasure to many people.

The 'Visitors Book' was introduced last year and is a huge success. The first book was full in three months, which gives you an idea of the number of people visiting the garden every day. The book also reveals that visitors not only come from all over Australia but from all around the world.

Weddings are a very popular event and are taking place in the garden nearly every weekend from spring through to late autumn.





The roster system is working well and the working bees are very successful. We now have a base of 23 dedicated gardeners

Council refused to give us a green bin as the garden is not a 'residential holding'. Instead we have an arrangement with the Green Waste Department to let them

know when we are having a working bee and they will collect the waste the following week

We have had two signs made stating that parking directly above the garden is only for 'Visitors to the Bible Garden' hopefully this will stop people parking for days at a time and blocking Wedding Parties.

In July I was invited to the Snowy Mountain Gardeners Club to give a talk on the Bible Garden. The event was held at the Wild Brumby Distillery on the Alpine Way between Jindabyne and Thredbo with 30 club members in attendance.

I spoke about the concept and history of the Bible Garden and spoke about the many biblical plants growing in the garden with accompanying photos.

There was a lot of interest from attendees who were very impressed with what we have achieved over the last six years

We held Christmas Drinks for gardeners on 15<sup>th</sup> December in the garden. Once again they were well attended and the usual happy affair.

Peter Kellaway & I have tried a number of times to arrange a meeting with Mark Ferguson (2 phone calls & a letter) who is the CEO of Pittwater Council to discuss the parking problems and the finances from the weddings that Council obtains. So far we have been unable to discuss these problems with Mark, we realize he is busy with the amalgamation proposals and wonder how this will affect our relationship/ ownership if amalgamation occurs. We will continue to seek a meeting and stay close to developments concerning the proposed amalgamation and implications for the Bible Garden.

The Playoust's property below the garden is for sale, the Playousts have been very supportive members of the Bible Garden, we will be sorry to see them go.

This will be my last Newsletter as President. Susie Holman our Secretary has kindly offered to take over from me. I have been on the Committee for many years and President for six and I think it is time to have some younger innovative person in the chair. Susie will be supported by her husband Trevor who is one of our gardeners

I wish her well and know you are in good hands. I intend to stay on the Committee for another twelve months. I would like to thank the committee for their work and support. It has been much appreciated.

It has been a pleasure and an honour to help guide the garden to its present beauty, continuing the wonderful gift that Gerald Hercules Robinson and his daughter Beatrice designed and wished to preserve and share.

Jill Taylor, President.

#### **BIBLE GARDEN COMMITTEE 2016**

President Susie Holman 99744986

Secretary & Margy Roberts 99743664

Council Liaison

Officer.

Treasurer & Peter Kellaway 9974197

Public Officer.

Garden & Roster Julie Bennett 99745393

Jill Taylor 99742889

Membership Robyn Mayman 99182941

Committee Margaret-Ann Calliard

Virginia Casey Stuart Spring.

## **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME**

We are seeking people to assist with the following

Gardening Newsletter publishing Mail outs

Previous experience not required. Contact Julie 9974 5393 or Jill 9974 2889



# You are invited to attend the Friends of the Bible Garden Inc.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held in the Garden

## SUNDAY 17th APRIL 2016

3p.m.

Followed by Afternoon Tea

