



Operculum

The Southern Highlands Botanic
Gardens Inc

Newsletter No. 4

November 2010

Where To Now?

The official launch on 28 September 2010 of the Botanic Gardens was a most memorable and enjoyable event—if a little chilly in the spring wind. We now commence a very exciting phase with detailed planning underway to create a world-class botanic garden.

This planning begins with the Plan of Management (POM), which is currently being finalised. The Council anticipates the POM will be placed on public display for four weeks early in the New Year. The final revised version will be considered for adoption as early as March 2011. As soon as Council formally adopts the POM, another important stage will commence when we start the site development for the Botanic Gardens.

In the meantime we will be preparing the Design Master Plan for the Botanic Gardens, the business plan and undertaking more fundraising so we can finance the physical works early next year.

Our first project will be to erect a fence along Old South and Kangaloon Roads. Hopefully planting will commence in earnest as the weather cools for autumn.

Charlotte Webb
President SHBG Inc

Photos from the Launch



Morning preparation for the tree planting (photo Charlotte Webb)



Professor Marie Bashir launches the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens Project (photo Benoit Trudeau)

Launch Report

As noted in the President's report above, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales, officially launched the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens project on 28 September 2010. Sir Nicholas Shehadie AC OBE accompanied his wife. The State MP for Goulburn, Ms Pru Goward, and the Mayor of Wingecarribee Shire Council, Ken Halstead, joined the Governor on the dais and following the speeches each of them planted a tree.

The Foundation Avenue has now become a reality as various community members from the Garden Clubs in the Southern Highlands also planted trees. The garden clubs involved on the day included the Highlands Garden Society, Mittagong Garden Club, Bowral Garden Club, Moss Vale Garden Club, Bundanoon Garden Club, Robertson Garden Club, Australian Plant Society Southern Highlands and the Australian Garden History Society

Classic Southern Highlands Town and Country Garden Ramble 16 - 17 April 2011
Venue: Bowral, Burradoo, Moss Vale, Wildes Meadow

Maureen Purtell is coordinating a plant stall for the Town and Country Garden Ramble weekend next April. She would be delighted if you would start to pot some plants for the stall. All proceeds will go to the Botanic Gardens.

Please contact her on 4861 4493.



Judy Keast presenting the Governor with a bouquet of waratahs (grown by our members Helen and David Tranter)



Professor Marie Bashir and Ms Charlotte Webb



Afternoon refreshments post the planting (all photos above by Benoit Trudeau)

Swing Supper Club ***Saturday 13 November 2010***

We hope you haven't forgotten to book your ticket for the major fundraising event for this year. The Swing Supper Club will be held on Saturday 13 November 2010 at the Centennial Vineyards Restaurant, Bowral.

It promises to be a memorable event with a delicious supper and a 1940's style jazz band. There will be fortune-tellers, caricature artists and a ballroom dancing demonstration, in addition to the auctions, raffles and lucky door prizes. Where else would you find such entertainment in Bowral?

Prizes for the auctions include dinner for eight cooked in your home by Robin Murray, Centennial Vineyard, with all ingredients supplied, dinner for four at Parliament House with Pru Goward, voucher to Carlie Jean beautician, Virginia Ransom Jewellery, Scarecrow by Penny Hoskins, a weekend at Camden Valley Inn, voucher to Browns Bookshop, Elaine Musgrave Botanical art, Beverley Allen Botanical Art, Fashion Hat by Peggy Stone, Garden Gate by Heidi Art, plus many more.

Bring some friends and have a great night out. Bookings can be made directly through Centennial Vineyard by calling them on 4861 8701.

Cost for this Black Tie event is \$95 per head.

Changes to the Committee

With great regret we have to announce that **Jim Osborne** has stepped down from his role on the committee. He provided enormous support for the committee for many years, serving as Secretary/Treasurer and more recently as the chairman of the Friends of The SHBG. We owe him a large debt of gratitude and all our best wishes go with him.

The new Chair of the Arts Committee is **Marika Schmidhoffer**. She comes with a wealth of experience and we are very pleased that she accepted this new role. Warm welcome also to Jacqui Page, our new secretary.

The Committee now comprises:

President:	Charlotte Webb
Vice-President:	Ross Stone
Secretary:	Jacqui Page
Treasurer:	Jan Edwards
Members:	David Cummins Martin Laverty Geoff MacBean David Ross Chris Webb

Invitation: Stephen Jones Tree Planting

Due to Parliamentary duties, Stephen Jones, Federal MP for Throsby, was unable to be present on 28 September for the launch but he will be at the site at 2pm on 4 November 2010 to plant his tree.

All the Friends are invited to this occasion.

First Working Bee Saturday 9 October 2010

Charlotte and Chris Webb looked mightily relieved when Nick and Christine Campbell-Jones, Ian Roxby, Ron Murray, Ted Duncan, Clive and Meg Probyn, Les Musgrave and Judy Keast turned up at the site with their wheelbarrows and spades.

Many hands make light work and the job of mulching all the trees planted the previous week was completed in half an hour. And then the volunteers were provided with morning tea (including delicious scones) kindly brought to the site by Jacqui Page and Ros Craig.



Operculum: A rose by any other name . . .

A number of people have asked us recently why this Newsletter is called *Operculum*. The explanation for the title was originally given in volume 1, issue 1 (December 2006).

An operculum is the little covering flap or cap in a Eucalypt flower bud, which is formed from the fused petals and sepals. When the cap comes off the 'flower' appears with the unfurling of the stamen. Just like that little cap in a Eucalypt flower bud, this newsletter will reveal the latest news and activities of the Botanic Gardens as they unfurl.

The new logo for the SHBG was designed by Lyn Hall, Graphic Designer, whom we thank for her beautiful artwork. The new editor of *Operculum* is Meg Probyn (probyn44@bigpond.com).

Update your details

If you have changed your contact details or now have an email address, please let us know so we can update our database.

The SHBG Contact details are as follows:

The Secretary (Jacqui Page)
PO Box 707 Moss Vale, NSW 2577
Phone: (02) 4862 1115
Email: secretary@shbg.com.au

Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens Incorporated

ABN 68 635 660 218

Incorporated in NSW under the
Associations Incorporation Act, 1984
No. INC 9879536 (7 April 2003)