



# SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS BOTANIC GARDENS INC

ABN 68 635 660 218

## BOTANIC GARDENS UPDATE, MARCH 2010

# SUCCESS!!

At the Wingecarribee Shire Council Meeting last Wednesday night the Council approved the location of our Botanic Garden on the Old Skin Shed site at the corner of Old South Rd and Kangaloon Rd East Bowral. The decision was well supported by 8 of the 9 councilors with many taking the opportunity to express their support for the project.

This decision is the result of 10 years of determination by the Committee of the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens Inc (SHBG) who have ironically returned to one of the first sites identified all those years ago.

### **Where to now?**

Work must now begin in earnest to make the Botanic Garden a reality. A working committee is to be established to include members of the SHBG Inc and the Council to map out the way forward. The Plan of Management and entry access to the site are the first tasks to be commenced and Council has announced it will be setting aside funding for this in next year's budget.

The SHBG will proceed to develop the comprehensive Master Plan for the site to guide the ongoing development of the garden. Once completed work can commence on earth works, planting and construction.

### **Inaugural Tree Planting**

We anticipate launching the Botanic Gardens through a tree planting ceremony on 7<sup>th</sup> August at which a number of dignitaries will plant the 'Foundation Avenue'. Further updates will be provided closer to the time.

The planting will be followed in the evening by a celebratory fundraising event to be held at Centennial Vineyard.

### **Friends News**

At the last Committee meeting of the SHBG Inc Jim Osborne was duly nominated and elected as the Chairman of the Friends of the SHBG.

We are all well aware of the enthusiasm Jim has shown for the Friends of the SHBG since their establishment and we anticipate the Friends will now grow significantly in both numbers and activity.

### **How can you help?**

Fund raising and support from our Friends of the SHBG will be crucial to the success of the SHBG. We would be pleased to hear any suggestions you may have to raise funds for the gardens.

Our first fund raising activity is planned for 7<sup>th</sup> August at Centennial Vineyards. Again we are looking for volunteers to help organize this event.

If you can help please contact

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*'No doubt a garden is a pleasure - on high authority it is the purest of pleasures'*

*Lord Evershed, Master of the Rolls 1956*