

FRIENDS OF THE



WARRNAMBOOL
BOTANIC GARDENS

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NEWSLETTER. SUMMER, 1997

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Christmas Drinks

This Christmas celebration was held on a balmy evening in the gardens near the rotunda and it was lovely that so many Friends were able to come. The committee is looking seriously at restoring the rotunda for such functions and we are endeavouring to have substantial restoration work carried out during Warrnambool's 150th Anniversary year.

Music in the Gardens

Once again our Music in the Gardens program has begun and we are pleased to tell you that we are serving refreshments from the rotunda each Sunday, proceeds from which will go towards the restoration fund. Please come along and bring some friends, the program is enclosed listing details.

Planting of Commemorative Tree, 17th February

You will have received an invitation from the Mayor Cr. Gerald Shanley, to attend a tree planting ceremony on Monday, 17th February at 9:00am. Mrs. McGarvie, wife of the Governor of Victoria has graciously accepted the invitation to plant a tree in recognition of the City of Warrnambool's 150th Anniversary. We have chosen a Manna Gum (Eucalyptus pryoriana) to match the two old Manna Gums already there. These trees were originally growing in the gardens before William Guilfoyle's design was drawn up over a hundred years ago.

150th Celebrations Concert, 16th March

To mark the occasion we are organising a concert of local bands, choirs and soloists. Refreshments will again be served from the rotunda. Do come along and be part of this wonderful day.

Coffee at "Rosemount", 8th April

We have been asked by Grant and Beryl Warnock to see their lovely garden "Rosemount", at Southern Cross, on Tuesday, 8th April, at 10:30am.

Marigold Curtis
editor

Book Review (over)

6/2/97

Growing Roses for a Living

The Story of 'Tumbler's Green'

by Sue Ruchel

More has been written in praise of the rose than of any other flower. Its delicate beauty and its fragrance have intrigued poets, philosophers and writers from earliest times.

This book is a charming story of a retirement dream come true. It never occurred to Sue and Bill Ruchel that they could earn a living from what they liked doing best - until they found 'Tumbler's Green'.

In the introductory part of the book you will find valuable advice on creating a garden. With the aid of photographs you are shown how to position and group plants, how to use colour to the best advantage, how to provide for interest in your garden year-round.

Two inspiring chapters provides guidelines and tips for creating beautiful, thriving garden designs from a rosy woodland garden to a herb garden featuring old roses. Old-fashioned roses that add fragrance to a cottage garden, a red flowered climbing rose trained on a trellis, colourful shrub roses making a low maintenance hedge. The author writes with infectious enthusiasm on the choice of old roses for particular situations and styles of gardens.

Modern roses can also look spectacular, they are suitable for lining a driveway or for planting in formal beds. Because they are taller they have room for underplanting. The author particularly likes roses underplanted with lavender. Roses and lavender look wonderful together and the pungent oil distilled by the sun from the lavender acts as an insect deterrent for the roses.

The reader learns how, when and where to plant the roses, how to protect them against common garden pests and how to prune them.

There is also an interesting section on the building of the nursery and tearooms. Sue and Bill Ruchel were fortunate that people were beginning to appreciate their heritage, and restoring old houses and gardens became popular. They developed a good business advising on the restoration of old gardens.

The author writes about her white garden and her favourite roses. There is also a rose index.

Growing Roses for a Living, the Story of 'Tumbler's Green' is an enchanting success story. Published by Aird Books in 1996, it is available at Collins Book Shop.

Marie Johnstone



Music in the Gardens Summer 1997

*The Friends of Warrnambool Botanic Gardens
invite you to attend entertainment in the Gardens
near the Rotunda on the following Sundays:*

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| <i>February 9th</i> | <i>Warrnambool Salvation Army Band</i> |
| <i>February 23rd</i> | <i>Folk Music</i> |
| <i>March 16th</i> | <i>150th Celebrations Concert
Local bands, choirs and soloists</i> |
| <i>March 23rd</i> | <i>School Bands</i> |
| <i>March 30th</i> | <i>Holiday Actors - Childrens' Day</i> |

Performances start at 2.00 pm.

*Refreshments are available at the Rotunda,
proceeds to go to restoration fund.*

Bring your friends and chairs and enjoy a free musical afternoon.

