



FRIENDS OF THE CANBERRA INTERNATIONAL ARBORETUM AND GARDENS (CIAG) INC

D A T E F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 0 | V O L U M E 8

Dear Friends

Welcome to 2010 and a wonderful year of opportunities to really make our Arboretum shine.

Late last year, following the advice of one of our members, Max Bourke, I registered the Friends' activities, particularly hosting the Festival of the Forests ACT, with Countdown 2010 which is the secretariat for activities to promote the United Nation's International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). (Countdown 2010 is a partner of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the IYB).

Countdown 2010 has offered to use the Friends' activities at the Arboretum as the non-government organisation contribution, on its website during February 2010, as a featured partner on a rotating basis with a government and a private organisation. I hope you agree that it is thrilling that our work at the Arboretum can be known by others throughout the world who care about preserving biodiversity – after all this is a fundamental goal of the Arboretum. Please have a look on www.countdown2010.net

We are well into planning for the Festival of the forests on 14 March 2010 at the Arboretum in conjunction with the ACT Government and the Arboretum Project team. There will be opportunities for the community, visitors and you to learn about, and participate in, activities such as: fun walking, cycling and guided bus tours; listening to talented talkers tales about the trees; looking at the plans for the Arboretum's future; playing tree games and indigenous games including a wide variety of childrens' activities; participating in a range of interactive exhibits about biodiversity, sustainability and conservation, making and flying colourful kites and watching the kite sculptures flying in the wind, riding

on the little train; and enjoying your own picnic or food from the Scouts and concessions while taking in the wonderful views of Canberra.

The best way you can help with the Festival is as a volunteer, ambassador and/or visitor.

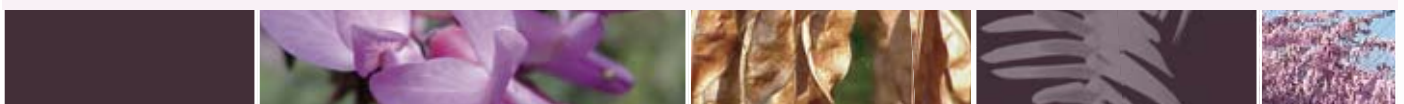
Volunteer Training will be held on 28 February 2010 at the Arboretum – gather at the gate at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. The training will provide up-to-date information for guides on buses, for people providing information and the logistics for the day. Please contact me on hackman@grapevine.com.au to book into the training.

As an ambassador or visitor please let other people know about the Festival and what a very interesting and fun day the Festival provides. Your recommendations will help as many people as possible to visit the site. We will be seeking gold coin donations to assist with the work of the Friends and to assist Carers ACT in their valuable work too.

I am also pleased to let you know that an initiative led by Council Member (Promotions), Sherry McArdle-English, has been successful and that Murrays Buses has agreed to sponsor a monthly tour of the Arboretum throughout the year. This is a significant investment by Murrays and we thank them for taking this step with us. Of course your training as a guide for the buses means you will be able to guide these bus tours too. I am always truly delighted to show people around the Arboretum – it always takes their breath away. These tours will start after the Festival and will be well-advertised.

See you at the Arboretum!

Jocelyn Plovits
Chair





By Linda Beveridge a Tree Monitor

WE TALKED TO THE TREES AND THEY GAVE THE INFO TO ...

the Friends tree monitoring work groups during the End of Year Working Bee and Party on 22 November and during tree monitoring 20 December 2009.

In the September 2009 newsletter, Jocelyn Plovits, Chair of the Council of the Friends summarised the importance of the collection of information that is systematic and verifiable. The Friends offered, on a voluntary basis, to compile tree information into a database and perhaps a handy booklet, both of which can easily be used and up-dated from time-to-time. This includes participation in a specific program of recording tree measurements, which is being led by Council Member Dan Payne and Deputy Chair Dr Roger Hnatiuk.

On 22 November Dan led us to Lot 18 where we learnt to measure the diameter and height of trees in designated sample plots by using a special caliper for the diameter, a post, with attached ruler for short trees (up to approx 130cm) and a Vertex which measures angles and distances, then calculates heights (a specialist mini-computer in my view) for taller trees.

We labelled and measured the *Eucalyptus benthamii* (Camden white gum) in the Lot 18 sample plots. Mature *Eucalyptus benthamii* are described as large white-barked, fast growing eucalypts. They are in the Arboretum because only a few trees remain along the banks of the Nepean River near Camden NSW, and some more nearby on a tributary.

In the photo top right, a Friend (L) is trying out the Vertex after being shown by Dan (R) how to use it to measure the *Eucalyptus benthamii*



Photo: Jenniet Widdowson

The trees in Lot 18 were planted at different times before autumn 2008, as evident in plot C where they were mostly 9cm in diameter and about 2.5m tall. Our group also noted that a small number of these trees are being treated for a sooty scale, and that the trees in plot E were younger, many had 0.4 cm diameters and were about 0.7 m tall.

On 20 December The Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope MLA, visited us in Lot 18 as we were completing the measurements and was pleased with the volunteer work that was being done.



Checking the records made by a team on 20 Dec 09
Photo: Linda Muldoon



Volunteers watching the as one member learns to use the Vertex.
Photo: Linda Muldoon

Then Roger led the work groups, now in two teams, to Lots 9 and 17 where we set up monitoring plots and measured *Quercus engelmannii* (mesa oak) in Lot 9 and *Cercis siliquastrum* (Judas tree) in Lot 17.

Quercus engelmannii is a semi-deciduous medium sized tree up to about 10m. Leaf margins are distinctive among the oaks being entire with no lobes or serrations. It is an endangered species that naturally occurs in southern California and New Mexico.

The *Quercus engelmannii* in plot A were mostly about 0.8m high with diameters of 0.5cm and generally smaller than most of the trees in plot B, which were 1.24m high with a diameter of approximately 1.5cm. Three of the trees in plot B had multiple trunks, and three other trees had been chewed (probably by hares).

The *Cercis siliquastrum* (European redbud) is native to southern Europe and Asia Minor and also known as Judas tree. The trees in Lot 17 were planted during 2008-09, and the trees in the sample plot measured mostly about 1.3cm in diameter and almost 1.5m tall. They are likely to grow to about 10-15m tall, with a flat spreading head and magenta pink flowers appearing (some directly on its trunk) before the simple rounded or heart-shaped leaves in spring. The flowers and subsequent pods of this tree are often used as food; for example, in salads or fritters.



Photograph © Andrew Dunn, 08 May 2005

Photograph by Kurt Stueber
Source: <http://www.biolib.de/www.biolib.de/>

The last trees we measured on 20 December 2009 were three ceremonial trees just above the Central Valley terraces:

- The *Agathis australis* (kauri), which was planted by Jon Stanhope MLA, Chief Minister and the Honourable Mr John Key, Prime Minister of New Zealand on 20 August 2009. The diameter of 1.5cm was measured at 30cm height for this young tree which is currently just 1.3m tall. The New Zealand kauri is one of the world's most impressive evergreen conifers, reaching 50 metres with massive straight trunks, free of branches to a great height. Kauri trees once grew in vast forests said to have covered a million hectares of the North Island lowlands and Maori people carved the trunks of the kauri into canoes. During the 19th century much of the kauri forests was felled and sawn for its tough, durable timber.
- *Fraxinus ornus* (flowering ash) which was planted by Jon Stanhope MLA, Chief Minister, and His Excellency Mr László Sólyom, President of the Republic of Hungary on 30 September 2009. The flowering ash is a very attractive tree with dark green leaves and a compact, mop-shaped, round crown. The dark green leaves can show some colourful red/orange autumn tints before falling and in early spring it has attractive creamy white, scented flowers. A fully grown flowering ash can reach 16m in height with a 13m spread. This one is 3.8m tall with a diameter of 3.5cm.



- Pinus heldreichii* (whitebark pine) was planted by Speaker of the ACT Legislative Assembly, Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA and His Excellency Mr Georgi Parvanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria on 29 October 2009. This tree occurs naturally in south-western Bulgaria and in the mountains of south-eastern Europe. In Bulgaria, it is native to Mount Pirin, where the entire population is protected within Pirin National Park. This *Pinus heldreichii* is currently 2.5m tall, with a diameter of 4.2cm. It is likely to grow into the typical pyramidal to oval shape, up to about 20-35m high like the ones in Bulgaria.

Some birds, such as a sky lark, Australian magpie, and a kestrel flew over gracefully while we measured away in the various Lots.

The Friends' tree monitoring work groups enjoyed contributing to the scientific records about these trees, which will be used as part of the historic and current data for scientific assessment, as well as general information and education in the future. Also, a school student found it so interesting that she was keen to join the Friends and continue to participate in the tree monitoring program.

We are looking forward to participating in more tree-measuring sessions during early 2010, and the schedule for the rest of year is being prepared. We are hoping that it will include not only Sundays but also week days from time to time.

FOREST TALK

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Looking forward to seeing you all in the Middle Hall, Reid Uniting Church, Corranderra St Reid on Tue 16 February commencing 5.30pm.

TREE MONITORING

Did you miss out on tree monitoring? You too can contribute to the research of the Arboretum in the project being run by Dan and Roger. Contact Roger on rjhnatiuk@yahoo.com.au

TEMPORARY VISITORS CENTRE MOVE

Just in case you think it is gone, the Temporary Visitors Centre is just moving further towards the middle of the Event Terrace to allow planning and ground works to commence.

CAR PARKING AREA

Works for the new car parking area on Block 13 location soon to commence. You can see the are on the map on page 4/5 of this newsletter.

DAIRY FARMERS HILL

Do you know why the highest point of the Arboretum is called Dairy Farmers Hill? One person has let me know that it used to be the vantage point from which local farmers could watch their dairy herd on the river flats. Do you have other information? Please let me know at hackman@grapevine.com.au



BONSAI SUMMER 2009

By Grant Bowie

The National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia has been open in Canberra, in its temporary site in Commonwealth Park, for one year now and we have now had our second Floriade experience.

In 2008 we had approximately 38,800 visitors to the collection over 23 days and in 2009 we had approximately 45,300 visitors over 30 days. None of this would have been possible without the help of almost 40 volunteers who gave generously of their time to the bonsai and the visiting public.

Due to the very cold weather and rain during the last three weeks of Floriade, numbers overall at Floriade were down this year but our number of visitors were consistent with last year.

After one full year on site we, the bonsai and the volunteers, have experienced almost the full range of weather that Canberra can visit upon us; from minus 6 degrees in the depths of winter, dust storms in spring and 40+ degrees at the height of summer for days in a row. We just don't want to experience the hail or snow.

Bonsai enthusiasts from all over Australia have come to view the collection and have been impressed with the bonsai pavilion and the bonsai on display, and are keenly awaiting the eventual move to our permanent home on the hill, which could be in about two years time.

This spring at Floriade we had 9 new bonsai on loan from Victoria including Ted Poynton's iconic *Angophora costata*. Other new bonsai included ash, black pine, olive, English hawthorn, English elm, Atlantic cedar, saw leaf banksia and coastal banksia. We were also very happy when Mary Wilkinson offered her Seiju elm for a second year with us.

We also now have our first bonsai from South Australia. This is a 50+ year old root over rock ash donated by Janet Saby. Janet bought this tree over 40 years ago upon the birth of her daughter.

The National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia is located in Commonwealth Park Canberra.

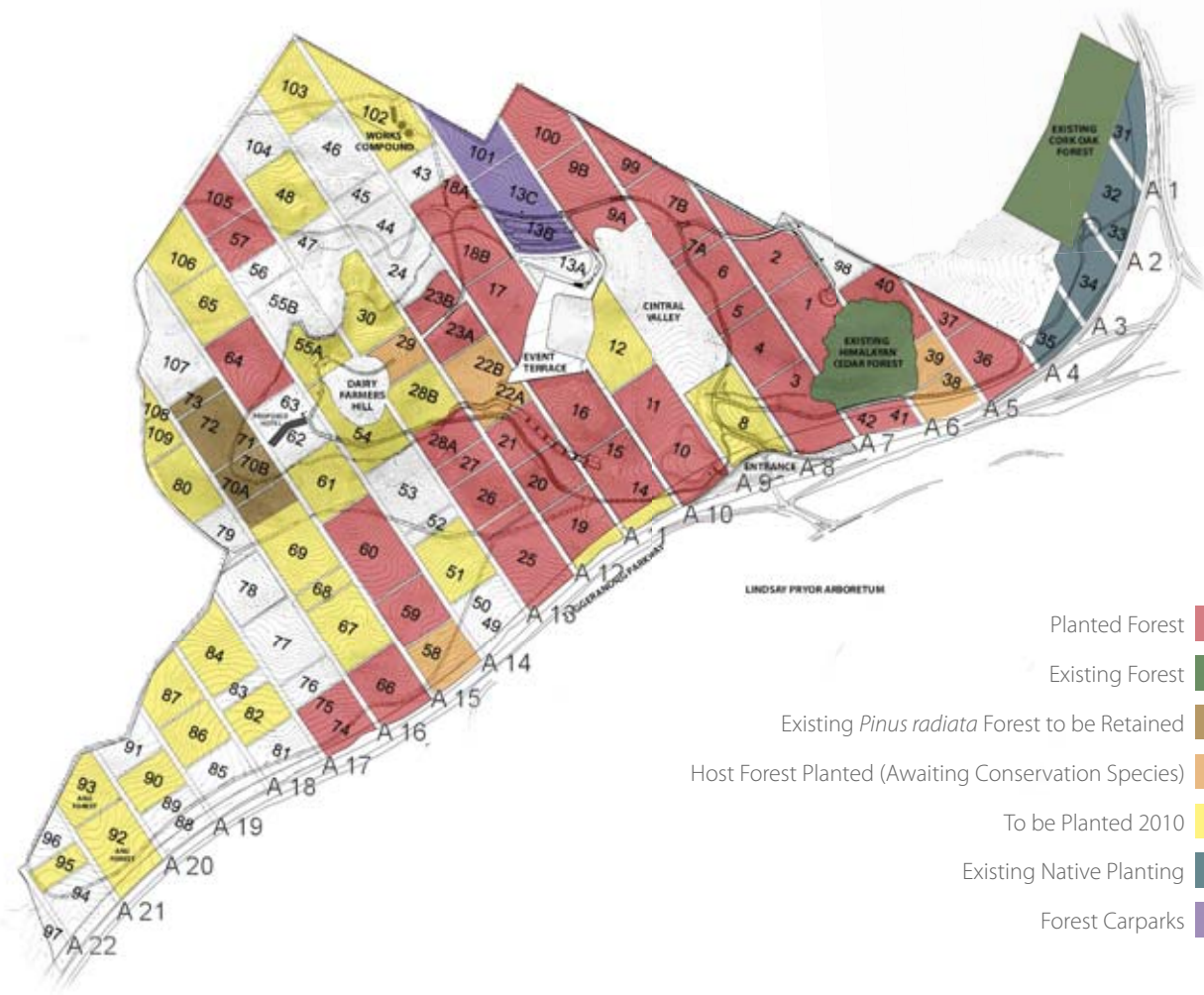
It is open daily from 10.00am 'til 3.00pm.

CONTACT DETAILS

Email: nbpca@bigpond.com
 Collection: 02 6262 9219
 Mobile : 0418 611 488
 Website: <http://www.cbs.org.au/NBPCA/Index.htm>

Photos by Grant Bowie





- Planted Forest
- Existing Forest
- Existing *Pinus radiata* Forest to be Retained
- Host Forest Planted (Awaiting Conservation Species)
- To be Planted 2010
- Existing Native Planting
- Forest Carparks

FORESTS:

01 A7	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	Californian fan palm
02 A7	<i>Liriodendron chinense</i>	Chinese tulip tree
03 A8	<i>Eucalyptus argophloia</i>	Queensland western white gum
04 A8	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	burr oak
05 A8	<i>Prunus x yedoensis</i>	Yoshino cherry
06 A8	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple
07 a A8	<i>Dracaena draco</i>	dragon tree
07 b A8	<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian ironwood
08 A9	<i>Cedrus libani subsp. libani</i>	Lebanese cedar
09 a/b A9	<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	mesa oak
10/11 A10	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	maidenhair tree
12 A10	<i>Jubaea chilensis</i>	Chilean wine palm
13a/b/c A10	<i>Quercus borealis</i>	red oak
14/15 A11	<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>	Giant sequoia
16 A11	<i>Wollemia nobilis</i>	Wollemi pine

17 A11	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	European redbud
18a/b A11	<i>Eucalyptus benthamii</i>	Camden white gum
19 A12	<i>c Betula pendula ssp pendula subsp. fontqueri</i>	silver birch
19 A12	<i>Betula pendula ssp fontqueri subsp. pendula</i>	Spanish silver birch
20 A12	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	black tupelo
21 A12	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	Chinese rubber tree
22 A12	<i>h Quercus palustris 'Freefall'</i>	pin oak
23a/b A12	<i>h Cupressus atlantica var. atlantica</i>	Moroccan cypress
23a/b A12	<i>c Cupressus dupreziana var. Dupreziana</i>	Saharan cypress
24 A12	<i>Araucaria angustifolia</i>	Parana pine
25 13	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	dawn redwood
26 A13	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	oriental plane
27 A13	<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway spruce
28a A13	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	silky oak
28b A13	<i>Arbutus canariensis</i>	Canary madrona
29 A13	<i>h Cotinus 'Grace'</i>	purple-leafed smokebush
29 A13	<i>c Cotinus obovatus</i>	American smoke tree



30 A13	<i>Callitris oblonga</i>	South Esk pine
31 A1	restored native vegetation	
32 A2	restored native vegetation	
33 A2	restored native vegetation	
34 A3	restored native vegetation	
35 A4	restored native vegetation	
36 A5	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	horse chestnut
37 A5	<i>Ficus carica</i>	fig
38 A6	<i>c Cornus monbeigii</i>	Chinese dogwood
38 A6	<i>h Cornus kousa</i>	Japanese flowering dogwood
39 A6	<i>h Magnolia grandiflora</i>	southern magnolia
40 A6	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Persian silk tree
41/42 A7	<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	monkey puzzle
43 A11	<i>Podocarpus latifolius</i>	broad leaved yellowwood
44 A12	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	linden tree
45 A12, 52 A14	<i>Tabebuia chrysostricha</i>	lpe
46 A12	<i>Pterocarya fraxinifolia</i>	Caucasian wingnut
47 A13	<i>Brahea edulis</i>	Guadalupe palm
48 A13	<i>Pinus radiata ssp. cedrosensis subsp. cedrosensis</i>	Cedros island pine
49/50 A14	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	Lawson's cypress
51 A14	<i>c Podocarpus totara</i>	totara
51 A14	<i>h Sophora microphylla</i>	kowhai
53 A14	<i>Davidia involucrata</i>	dove tree
54 A14	<i>Pinus brutia</i>	lone pine
55a A14	<i>Butia capitata</i>	jelly palm
55b A14	<i>Ceiba speciosa</i>	white silk floss tree
56 A14	<i>Austrocedrus chilensis</i>	Chilean cedar
57 A14	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	stone pine
58 A15	<i>h Acer buergerianum subsp. buergerianum</i>	trident maple
58 A15	<i>c Acer buergerianum subsp. formosanum</i>	Taiwan trident maple
59 A15	<i>Liquidambar orientalis</i>	oriental sweetgum
60 A15	<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>	bunya pine
61 A15	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern red bud
62/63 A15	<i>Diospyros lotus</i>	persimmon
64 A15	<i>Eucalyptus lacrimans</i>	weeping snow gum
65 A15	<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	Japanese snowbell
66 A16	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	European beech
67 A16	<i>h Brachychiton populneus</i>	kurrajong
67 A16	<i>c Brachychiton rupestris</i>	Queensland bottle tree
68 A16	<i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	oriental hornbeam
69 A16	<i>c Sophora toromiro</i>	toromiro
69 A16	<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	Japanese pagoda tree
	<i>Pinus radiata subsp. radiata</i>	Monterey pine
74/75 A17	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery pear
76 A17	<i>Pseudolarix amabilis</i>	golden larch
77 A17	<i>Eucalyptus morrisbyi</i>	Morrisby's gum
78 A17	<i>Juniperus cedrus</i>	Canary Islands juniper

79 A17	<i>Nothofagus obliqua var. macrocarpa</i>	Roble
80 A17	<i>Quercus robur</i>	English oak
81 A18	<i>Taxodium distichum var. mexicanum</i>	Montezuma cypress
82 A18	<i>Pinus radiata var. binata</i>	Guadalupe pine
83 A18	TBC	
84 A18	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Persian walnut
85 A19	<i>Corylus chinensis</i>	Chinese hazel
86 A19	<i>h Corya illinoensis</i>	pecan
86 A19	<i>c Franklinia alatamaha</i>	Franklin tree
87 A19	<i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i>	Wallangarra white gum
88/89 A20	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	American yellowwood
90 A20	<i>c Catalpa brevipes</i>	
90 A20	<i>h Catalpa bignonioides</i>	southern catalpa
91 A20	<i>Cupressus cashmeriana</i>	Bhutan cypress
92 A21	<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	spotted gum (ANU Forest Lot)
93 A21	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	red ironbark
94 A22	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	Osage orange
95 A22	<i>Picea omorika</i>	Serbian spruce
96 A22	TBC	
97 A23	TBC	
98 A6	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	Indian gooseberry
99 A8	<i>Acacia caeruleascens</i>	Buchan blue
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>	Blakely's gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus dalrympleana</i>	mountain gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus delegatensis</i>	alpine ash
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus dives</i>	broad leaved peppermint
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus macrorhyncha</i>	red gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus mannifera</i>	brittle gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	yellow box
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus nortonii</i>	large flowered bundy
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	snow gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemus</i>	red box
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	ribbon gum
100 A9	<i>Eucalyptus rossii</i>	scribbly gum
101 A10	<i>Allocauarina verticillata</i>	drooping she oak
102 A11	<i>Schotia brachypetala</i>	weeping Schotia
103 A12	<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch
104 A13	TBC	
105 A14	<i>Eucalyptus michaeliana</i>	Hillgrove spotted gum
106 A15	<i>Platycladus orientalis</i>	Chinese arborvitae
107 A16	<i>Populus diversifolia</i>	
108/109 A17	<i>Eucalyptus parvula</i>	small-leaved gum
110 A3	<i>Quercus suber</i>	cork oak
111 A7	<i>Cedrus deodar</i>	Himalayan cedar
112 A11	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian cypress
114 A14	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey pine (top of Dairy Farmer's Hill)

Source: Project web site



MEMBERSHIP IS DUE

Have you remembered that membership fees are due on 1 December each year?

Please forward your payment as outlined on the application page.

Your fees are used to run the administration of the Friends (including matters such as insurance and contact with members) - all fees and donations are very welcome!

TREES IN FOCUS – EUROPEAN REDBUD

by Jocelyn Plovits

The European Redbud is featured in this newsletter's banner.

On Block 17 (above the Event Terrace), in about 2.85 hectares, are planted around 428 *Cercis siliquastrum*, also known as the Judas tree or European redbud. The trees were planted in August 08 and some of the trees had flowers last spring.

Although there is a wide-spread myth that this is the tree in which Judas Iscariot hanged himself, the name is more likely a corruption from the French common name *Arbe de Judee* meaning *tree of Judea* referring to the region where the tree occurs.

The tree can grow from 10 to 15m tall and have up to a 10m wide canopy. It is deciduous and produces many purple to deep pink flowers in spring from year old (or more) bare wood and even the trunk. The flowers are on display before the new leaves grow. The leaves are heart-shaped with a blunt apex, which occasionally has a shallow notch at the tip. The fruits are long flat pods (*siliqua* is pod in Latin) that hang vertically. Both the flowers and pods can be used in food.

The species is native to western Asia and southern Europe.

There is more information about this fascinating tree in the Tree Monitoring article on page 3.

Thanks to the Project Team and Volunteer Notes for this information.



Photograph by Kurt Stueber
Source: <http://www.biolib.de/www/biolib.de/>

Photograph © Andrew Dunn, 08 May 2005

Photograph: Jean-Pol GRANDMONT



FRIENDS of the CANBERRA INTERNATIONAL ARBORETUM and GARDENS Inc.

Membership Application Form

Yes, I/we wish to become a Friend(s) of the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens Inc.

1. Title..... First Name..... Last Name

2. Title..... First Name..... Last Name

Address.....

.....Postcode

Tel (h)(w).....

e-mail.....

Membership arrangements (please indicate)

Contributing Friend.....Single \$25

Household\$30

Contributing Concession\$10

Association or Club.....\$50

Corporate Friend\$2000

..... not registered for GST

Payment details for contributing members:

Cash Cheque

Cheques payable to the Friends of the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens Inc.

\$.....

For any enquiries contact

Collette Mackay

Secretary

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