

Final Reminder!
AGM 2008 7.30 pm
5th December, 2008
Church Meeting Rooms.
This organization doesn't
run on steam.
Please consider nominating
for a position.
NOMINATION FORM ON
PAGE 2!

Friends of The McKay Gardens

President's Report

Well Ladies and Gentlemen, we achieved quite a lot in the McKay Gardens this year. Stage One of the Council redevelopment is now complete. The old bowling greens have been removed and reclaimed as part of the gardens. Garden beds created, planted and drip irrigation installed. Some of the large Date Palms originally located next to the bowling green have been relocated in a separate garden bed and the new lawn area has been seeded (although there isn't much to show for that yet). New heritage style seats have also been installed in the new area. Despite our lack of rain and the occasional plant theft, the new development is now

looking good. The rows of flowering Lambs Ear are particularly attractive. Well worth a look.

The second stage of the Council redevelopment is now in process and we hope to have commencement early in the new year. At this stage the proposal is for Stage two to replace the current path between the footbridge and Anderson Road, restore some of the internal path system and improve lighting. The Friends are also lobbying the Council to develop long-term plans for improving the watering and irrigation to the gardens: the current system outside the new development continues to be inadequate and unreliable. No joy on this

matter yet, but we will keep at them. If anyone has any great ideas in this regard we would love to hear from you.

The Friends also held a fund-raising stall this year. Alas to no great success. It was a bitterly cold day and it seems we chose the coldest site available. Even so, the experience was worthwhile – if just to gain experience in what not to do. Many thanks to Helen and Yvonne in particular for helping out. True stalwarts in a storm. And thanks to everyone who helped or donated material.

Planting and weeding conducted the Friends along the “straight six” garden bed has now ceased for this year.

Planting and weeding conducted the Friends along the “straight six” garden bed has now ceased for this year. Progress has been made and many of the plants we put in are still going strong. We hope to do more planting next season. Many thanks to everyone who helped out and in particular to Bill for the donated plants.

Finally, the friends have been contacted by Sunshine and District Historical Society and there are plans afoot to hold a joint event early next year (probably February) in the gardens. For those who don't know, the Historical Society has some early film footage of the gardens and we hope to show this then.

C. McDonald.

**The Friends of the McKay Gardens have a website at <http://www.mckaygardens.org/>
and can be contacted via contact@mckaygardens.org
Usually we hold our meeting on the last Saturday of each month in the McKay Gardens.
Contact us to join the mailing list.**

Nomination Form

I would like to nominate [insert name].....

For the position of [please tick one or more]:

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Officer, Committee Member

Signed.Date .../.../....



This issue of the newsletter has been made by ShedPlus, a free service to collate and publish regular or ad hoc newsletters for Schools and Community Groups in St Albans and surrounding areas as a means of providing work experience and training opportunities for eligible unemployed participants.

Djerriwarrh Employment & Education Services receives funding from the Commonwealth Government to run Work For The Dole (WFD) Activities in the West Melbourne Employment Services Area (ESA) and takes responsibility for the operation of the Activities.

Participating groups will supply the content for their newsletter by an agreed deadline in draft form. The activity participants will prepare and collate the material into an agreed format, seek clarification on content and layout as required, and produce a draft publication for proof reading by the editorial group which submits it for approval by the School or Community Group. Final editing will then be completed, the newsletter published and duplicated to the agreed number of copies, and the final product returned for distribution.

Schools and Community Groups can contact the WFD Activity Supervisor, John Egan on 90269606 Tuesday - Friday during business hours.



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