



[www.friendsbgadelaide.com](http://www.friendsbgadelaide.com)

## APRIL 2025

### From the President, Greg Lane

The Committee is seeking volunteers to take on two key positions. **The Secretary**, not an onerous role but very fulfilling. You will become more involved in the planning and operational aspects of the Friends, while getting to know more of your fellow volunteers, a great way to contribute!

The position of **Junior Vice President**, vacant since the last AGM is an ideal path to the Friends Executive. It is a way to provide input into the Friends management, while involved in projects as part of the committee. Please discuss with any committee member and consider putting either yours or another name forward.

As we review and celebrate the valuable contributions that all volunteer groups have made during extremely active spring and summer periods, we have to accept that we are always striving to operate in the most efficient way possible. Staff and volunteers come and go, processes and procedure are reviewed and will need adjusting. One thing that we find is as we mature that our ability to accept change becomes more difficult. Please work with the managers of your groups to help make the best possible volunteer experience that translates to very good public visitor experience.

Thank you for your efforts.

### MEMBERS MEETING

Marg Davy, Vice-President

#### TUESDAY 6 MAY AT NOON

We are reverting to lunchtime meetings for the winter months

Our speaker is Stephen Zagala, curator at SA Museum

Over the last year, Stephen has been collaborating with colleagues at The National Museum of Scotland to bring the GALLOWAY HOARD to Adelaide. This is the first time it has left Scotland and Adelaide has it!

In about 1000AD the Vikings left Scandinavia and settled in West Scotland, and became Christians.

There were some troubles and they packed their treasures and buried them, only to wait until 2014 to be discovered.

Come and hear Stephen bring these treasures to light and how modern science helped uncover them.

Hear about and then experience the Museum exhibit whilst it is still here.



### North Lodge, Ed McAlister

#### NORTH LODGE

The 'Mah Jong' room at the back of North Lodge has been painted, the carpet shampooed, books put back on the shelves and looks really good.

It looks so much better than the Store Room, but that is a somewhat daunting task, so will have to be left for another day.



#### Gift Shop.

Despite having lost about ten days trading because of all the activity around WOMAdelaide, the Gift Shop did very well during March. We have of course benefitted from all the extra people in the Garden to view the 'Chihuly In The Garden' exhibition and it has been a pleasure to greet so many people from just about every corner of the globe. In addition to selling merchandise the volunteers have been a source of information for so many people.

I take this opportunity to thank all those members who volunteered their time and their knowledge to make the month the success it has been, it would not have been possible without you.

We frequently receive favourable comments about the appearance of the shop, the quality of merchandise and our prices. This is most heartening and a source of pride for all concerned. This level of customer satisfaction would not be possible without the input of the Shop Committee of Gill Muller, Margaret Davy, Gracie Scott, Sandra Johnston, Ann Matison and Helen Halley. They give many hours of their time but I am sure they wouldn't mind me giving an extra 'thank you' to our Volunteer Coordinator, Gill Muller. Gill, assisted at times by other committee members, has done a great deal to improve the efficient operation of the Shop, and, at times, looks as if she has moved in!

While I mentioned above that we have had a good month in March, we are hoping that Easter, Anzac Day holiday and School Holidays will give us a good month in April. There is no getting away from the fact that, after the Chihuly Exhibition closes, and we move towards winter, we will see a big drop in foot traffic, this will no doubt be reflected in our sales. We will have to get used to this reality again.

We look forward to welcoming many of you in the coming months to help us accept this reality.

## Hands on Hort Adelaide, Geoff Mower

The Hands-on Hort Team at Adelaide Botanic Garden meets every Tuesday morning from 9am to 11am, to assist ABG staff with general garden maintenance, including weeding, raking, pruning, tidying beds, and more.



For further information please contact the Friends Office.

## Hands on Hort Wittunga, Helena Jenkinson,



Photo: Eileen Harvey

Wittunga desperately needs some more willing helpers.

Tuesday from 9 to 12. Doesn't have to be a permanent commitment even a once-off visit would be very welcome. Cuppa is provided.

Contact Helena Jenkinson for further information 0412 781449 or [helenaj@esc.net.au](mailto:helenaj@esc.net.au).

## Hands on Hort Mt Lofty, Lyn Edwards

The 'Hands on Hort' group at Mt Lofty Botanic Garden has been working in the Rock Garden for more than 7 years.

Meeting on the first Thursday of each month.

If you would like to contribute a few hours of your time, once a month, to maintaining an interesting part of the Mt Lofty



Garden, please contact the Friends Office for details.

## Garden Guides, Margaret Swincer, Guide Leader

**Guides meet monthly to schedule Free Walks at:**

**Adelaide**, Daily 10.30am, meet by the guided walk sign in front of the Schomburgk Pavilion

**Botanic Park**, Weekly Mondays 2.00pm, meet at Friends Gate North Lodge ABG.

**Mount Lofty**, Weekly Thursdays 10.30am, meet at the lower car park.

**Wittunga**, Weekly Tuesdays 10.30am, meet car park off Shepherds Hill Road.

**Booked walks** at a time / date negotiable for all Gardens and Botanic Park and bus tours of Mount Lofty. Booking information is through the Friends or ABG websites.

*Please note that all booked walks are to be prepaid*

## .MAY 2025 SA History Festival

### - 3 Botanic Gardens

#### Wittunga Botanic Garden Guided Tour Theme is Discovery-What's in a Name?



During a guided walk with a Garden Guide member of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, discover the fascinating stories behind botanical and common names of Australian and South African plants.

**Monday 19 May to Sunday 25 May 2025  
1:30pm - 3pm**

**Meet at the Car Park, Shepherds Hill Road  
Wittunga Botanic Garden, Blackwood**

Contact: **Helena Jenkinson**  
[friendsabg@internode.on.net](mailto:friendsabg@internode.on.net)

Price: Per person: \$5 *Bookings not required*

#### Adelaide Botanic Garden Guided Tour Botanical Decisions



Join a guided tour through the Adelaide Botanic Garden and gain a deeper understanding of how decisions have determined its founding

and development.

**Tuesday 13 - Sunday 18 May 2025**

**Meet 2pm** at Visitor Information Centre

Cost \$5 *per person*

Bookings (Groups only) [friendsabg@internode.on.net](mailto:friendsabg@internode.on.net)

#### Mt Lofty Botanic Garden Guided Tour Decisions from the Colonial Era

Head to the Adelaide Hills in May this year to the Mount Lofty Botanic Gardens and learn of decisions from the colonial era, and more recently, that have affected today's botanical inheritance.

**Wednesdays 7 & 14 May 2025, Friday 23 May 2025  
10:30am - 12:00pm**

Meet at the **Lower Car Park**,  
Mt Lofty Botanic Gardens

**16 Lampert Rd, Crafers, SA, 5152**

Contact: Paul Lindon, [friendsabg@internode.on.net](mailto:friendsabg@internode.on.net)

Price: **Per person: \$10.00**

*Bookings not required*

*Note: Wear sensible walking shoes, be sun smart and bring a water bottle.*



## Friends Secretary Position Vacant

The Secretary assists in ensuring the efficient running of the Friends.

The committee meet monthly, and the Secretary's role is to:

- prepare for meetings and record minutes of meetings
- receive, record and distribute regular correspondence, minutes, agenda and communication with subgroups and committee

Please contact me or a committee member, if you wish to volunteer, want to know more or can suggest someone that you think could take on the role.

Greg LANE  
President

## Tours- Judith Bail

### Lunch at Teatotaler Tea Rooms

on **Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> May - 12 to 3pm.**



Situated a short distance from the city the Tea Rooms.

We will enjoy Light Lunch, Scones, Jam & Cream, and a Dollop of History. We will be surrounded by SA history, pictures, documents & items from dating back to the 1800s.

Numbers limited so please **watch your emails for the Tour Booking sheet.**

Further information - Contact Judith Bail 0419 820310

## When the Friends are Travelling, Gillian Simons

Look on-line at the website for the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens, the umbrella body for all gardens and arboreta with Friends groups throughout



Australia. Here you will find an interactive map that shows all botanic gardens supported by Friends organizations.

<https://friendsbotanicgardens.org/>

If you are a grey nomad, or if you are enroute to a destination, or if you find yourself stopping for a break in a regional town, you might like to plan your trip so that you visit the local botanic gardens and find out what other gardens and Friends groups have achieved. Some specialise in Australian native plants; some in the plants specific to that region; some in exotica.

Try planning your trip to include visits to regional gardens and their supportive Friends groups.....and best wishes for interesting and exciting discoveries.

## Growing Group, Milton Bowman Convenor

The Growing Group is busy at Mt. Lofty Botanic Garden propagating plants.

Plant Sales are on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** on each month from March to November. Full List of Plants on FBGA Website

The next sale is on **Sunday 27 April 2025**

from 10.30am to 1.30 pm. at Mt. Lofty BG, in the Chris Steele-Scott Pavilion, just beyond the lower car park.

## Botanical Photography Group, Anna Lester and Geoff Mower, Convenors

The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide are wonderful places to lose oneself and become immersed in the beauty of nature and the outdoors. If only there was some way that you could keep those feelings and take them home with you... But wait, there *is* a way!

The Photo Group is an enthusiastic group of keen photographers whose interests lie in photographing not only plants and flowers, but also the wider aspects of garden photography, including wildlife, scenics, architecture, macro, etc. We welcome all skill levels and have members who use all types of equipment from smartphones to DSLRs and mirrorless cameras



The Group meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Friday mornings. We welcome anyone keen to capture the beauty of our Gardens photographically to join our friendly and relaxed group.

Please contact the Friends Office for further details on 8222 9367, or [friendsabg@internode.on.net](mailto:friendsabg@internode.on.net)

Beauty in unexpected places! Soursob (*Oxalis pes-caprae*). G Mower

## Visitor Information Centre, Angela Toone



The ABG continues to attract large numbers of visitors: local, interstate and overseas travellers.

The Visitor Information Centre (VIC) can be found just inside the Diggers shop, on the Schomburgk Pavilion.

Volunteers can assist with directions, give historical information about the ABG and help to locate a particular plant of interest. Brochures on events and exhibitions around Adelaide can also be found at the Visitor Information Centre “

**Botanical Art Group**, Silja Zarins, Convenor  
Our beautiful cards and artworks are always for sale at the Friends North Lodge Gift Shop.

Preparation has started for our 2025 biennial major exhibition in the National Wine Centre during Nov 2025.



If you are interested in joining us, join the Friends and visit us on any Saturday between 12 and 4pm in the Goodman Lecture room.

*E. youngiana tryptich\_in* coloured pencil by Sandra Johnston

There will be a **2-day workshop** on **May 24/25** from 10am-4pm.  
The topic is on 'Using metal-point and coloured pencil to render plants'.  
The fee is \$100. If you are interested, please phone Anne Bishop on 0409 814 030 or email [annebishop70@gmail.com](mailto:annebishop70@gmail.com).

## MahJong In North Lodge

Have you ever thought about learning to play Mah Jong.

Come and join us in North Lodge in the beautiful Adelaide Botanic Garden

**Every Monday, from 10am – 1pm**  
Learn to play with Friends Club members



Ring June on 0438 220043 or come along any Monday

**In Memoriam**, Silja Zarins, Convenor Botanical Art  
It is with sadness we inform you of the death of our valued Art Group member **Kathryn Hourigan**.

Kathryn acted as secretary to the Exhibition committee over a number of years and always did a considered and meticulous job.

She ably assisted as co-librarian of the Art Group library. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family. She will be very much missed by the members of the Botanical Art Group.

## Request for photographs of birds observed at Mt Lofty Botanic Garden for the new Mt Lofty Botanic Garden Bird Brochure

Marg Davy, Vice- Pres, Anna Lester Photo Group

After successfully completing Bird Brochures for both the Adelaide and also the Wittunga Gardens, The Friends Committee is keen to also produce a bird brochure for the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden.

This would be a longer process, as we are keen to involve all who might be interested.



The first phase is to encourage all who frequent Mount Lofty, either as volunteers or just for pleasure, to observe and take photos of the birds they see there.

We think this project should encompass all seasons so that we have a reasonable census.

We would then be in a position to have up to date information of the current status of bird species and seasonal variations before collaborating with production of the brochure.

Please start taking photos, **and submit thumbnail photos no larger than 2MB to Anna Lester** (co-convenor of the FBGA Botanical Photography Group) at [anom@ozemail.com.au](mailto:anom@ozemail.com.au) with the following information in the accompanying email:

- species of bird (if known)
- date, time of day,
- where in the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden the photo was taken, and
- the name of the contributor/photographer.

High resolution versions of photos selected for inclusion in the brochure will be requested later in the process as we get closer to printing.

All are welcome to help with this census.

## Key Dates for 2025

- **27 April** Plant Sale Mt Lofty Botanic Garden
- **May** History Festival Guided Walks in all 3 Gardens ABG, MLBG & WBG
- **6 May** Lunchtime Talk
- **14 May** Lunch -Teatotalter Tea Rooms
- **24 & 25 May** Botanical Art Workshop
- **25 May** Plant Sale Mt Lofty Botanic Garden
- **20 June** Soup Lunch & Library visit
- **23 June** Plant Sale Mt Lofty Botanic Garden
- **27 July** Plant Sale Mt Lofty Botanic Garden