

FRIENDS *of* GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS INC.

ABN: 21 699 253 561 INC NO. A13509G



Conserving our Heritage, Thursday 2 June 2022:

The Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens have a proud record of contributing to the conservation of the many historic structures housed within the Gardens.

The Hitchcock family's lasting legacy to the City of Geelong, and the restoration of the elegant Hansen Gates within the Gardens, were celebrated recently by the Friends, guests and representatives of the City and Geelong Botanic Gardens.

With the completion of the restoration of the magnificent Hitchcock Fountain, located in the centre of Geelong Botanic Gardens, the Friends held a morning tea and luncheon in honour of the occasion. The extensive restoration to the fountain's original grandeur, by Catherine Millikan Conservation Services, was funded by the Friends Gift Fund. Members and guests were privileged to a fascinating talk by historian Norman Houghton, who has extensively researched and published a book about the Hitchcock family, and their contribution to the city and wider region in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many thanks to Norman for his generosity in participating in this special event.

After the luncheon, a cutting of the ribbon by Councillor Jim Mason was held, much to the delight of those present. The Hansen Gates were a donation to the Gardens by Evald Borge Hansen and have also recently been restored, with funds from the Friends Gift fund. On the day we were delighted to have the maker of the gates, Tom Malthouse in attendance.

Ashley Filipovski's Farewell

On Wednesday 22 June approximately 60 GBG staff, Friends Members, and associates of Ashley during his career, assembled in the Meeting Room. A warming lunch followed by the cutting of the Farewell cake was held. Speeches were made by David Feldman, Ashley's Covenant College Horticulture Teacher, Alistair Watt and Friends President, Denise Feldman. Ashley responded with his speech and modelled his gift, a Thomas Cook waxed fabric coat.

Ashley appreciated the convivial atmosphere and the bond between GBG staff and the Friends.

The 2022 Winter Lunch

On Thursday 23 June at 12 noon 78 members and their friends and GBG staff gathered at Truffleduck for a delicious 2 course lunch. The room looked spectacular, everyone dressed for the occasion and the mood was cheerful and it was apparent that everyone much appreciated opportunity to gather.

Lynsey Poore kept us absorbed with her dissertation on the Chelsea Physic Garden and there was much hilarity over the outcome of the raffle.

We were delighted to have GBG staff Tristan Krepp and Sharon Parker dine with us.