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Financial Statements [Trust website  
www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au)

## Letter to the Minister

The Hon. Bob Debus MP  
Minister for the Environment  
Parliament House, Sydney 2000

Dear Minister

I have great pleasure in presenting the 2005–06 Annual Report of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust for presentation to Parliament.

This Report covers in full the Trust's activities and Statement of Accounts in accordance with the *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act 1980*, the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act* and the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Regulations 2005*.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Martin', with a small horizontal line underneath the name.

Greg Martin  
Chairperson, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust

## YEAR IN REVIEW

From the commercial launch of the plant world's 'living dinosaur', the Wollemi Pine, through to less visible but equally important environmental initiatives on all estates, the Trust has continued to inspire the appreciation and conservation of plants. The renewal of the Royal Botanic Gardens estate has commenced, with the new Palace Rose Garden and Camellia Garden almost complete, and the Spring Walk enhanced for the 150th anniversary this September. The Garden Memorial Wall beside the Cahill Expressway brought a new tranquility to the Phillip Precinct of the Domain. Among many new projects, stage one of the Woodland Garden at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden and the Wollemi Pine Discovery Walk at Mount Annan Botanic Garden, have enhanced these younger estates.

This annual report details the major achievements of the Trust, articulated through the Trust's key results and services for 2005 – 2006. We would like to express our thanks to all staff, volunteers, associates and Friends for their support and commitment to the Trust. It's due to their remarkable efforts that we can report so favourably on the Trust's achievements.

A new Trust Corporate Plan has been developed, outlining the key results, services and major projects for the Trust from 2006 – 2010. The Corporate Plan combines planning for the 2016 bicentenary of the organisation, with the core activities of the Trust (as articulated in its annual Results and Services Plan) and the priorities of the Department of Environment and Conservation Corporate Plan.

### Board of Trustees

It is with great pleasure that the Trust welcomes a new Board member, Mr Tom Pinzone (appointed April 2006). Mr Pinzone brings to the Board over 30 years experience as a consulting civil engineer. A Director of Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey, Mr Pinzone's experience includes urban and regional development, water and wastewater and transportation projects. The Board looks forward to the valuable contribution Mr Pinzone will make to the Botanic Gardens Trust.

### Understanding, Protecting and Restoring Plant Diversity and Habitats

There is still much to learn about our native flora. Trust scientists continue to discover new species in New South Wales and other parts of Australia and the region. This year our scientists published 28 new species: eight plants, five fungi and 15 algae. To support this work and other research programs in conservation and botanical science, the Trust was awarded grants to the value of around \$1.2 million

from Australian and State governments and from private sector sources. Major scientific publications this year included the *Fusarium Laboratory Manual* and the *NSW Vegetation Classification and Assessment*: both are already in high demand and use.

Australia's Virtual Herbarium involves the databasing of all vascular plant specimens from New South Wales. During the five years of Stage One of the project, completed this year, over 370,000 specimens were databased. The number of records now databased to just over half of the 1.2 million specimens in the Herbarium. Further funding is being sought to complete the project.

Trust researchers' 'citation rates' were compared with researchers in comparable organisations for the first time. Peer-reviewed papers by Trust scientists were cited at a significantly higher rate than other researchers, reflecting the relevance and high quality of Trust research work. Trust staff's contribution to scientific publication was two volumes of each of the Trust's international journals, *Telopea* and *Cunninghamia*.

Postgraduate students continue to make significant contributions to the Trust's scientific program, with over 40 supervised by Trust scientists, representing a major contribution to the training of the country's scientists.

### Sustainably Managing our Botanic Gardens and Parklands for Visitors

A primary objective of the Trust is to promote public use and enjoyment of its lands. This year over four million people used the Domain, while over three and a half million visited the three botanic gardens. Mount Annan Botanic Garden had over 90,000 visitors. Mount Tomah attracted nearly 75,000 visitors.

The Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living is nearing completion. This partnership between the Botanic Gardens Trust and CERES Macarthur (community group) was funded from the Federal Department of Transport and Regional Services. A multi-purpose building, water treatment and recycling system, nursery, carpark and associated landscaping at Mount Annan Botanic Garden will be completed in August 2006.

Construction of noise protection walls along the Cahill Expressway was completed in March. The walls were constructed to mitigate traffic noise and visual impacts from the expressway, where increased traffic due to the construction of an additional road lane as part of the Cross City Tunnel resulted in noise levels exceeding the

guidelines set by the Environment Protection Authority. In April, the Garden Memorial Wall on the Domain side was dedicated to Australian Defence Forces personnel who have given their lives in non-operational overseas missions. A 'botanical walk' landscape, showcasing many rarely-grown species from north-eastern Australia, was planted adjacent to the wall.

While high-risk trees on the Trust estates are inspected annually, or more frequently if necessary, a complete safety audit of the 3,500 trees on the Sydney estates was commenced in 2006. Along with updated GIS mapping of all trees, the assessments will inform the Trust's ongoing tree management plan. There are over 500 mature trees of over 30 metres at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, and as with Sydney, trees in high-risk areas were inspected to identify and rectify dangerous faults. Selective sonic testing (tomography) of senescing and deteriorating trees at Mount Annan Botanic Garden has assisted with their management, particularly in public areas.

Water saving initiatives continue, with the collections of Mount Tomah Botanic Garden maintained using just over 21 megalitres of collected stormwater runoff — a reduction of 50% from last year. At Mount Annan Botanic Garden, most of the new gardens have an environmental message: the Bottlebrush Garden is being transformed into a garden of sustainable garden ideas using HSBC sponsorship to provide seats made from recycled milk bottles, garden beds bordered by railway sleepers, car tyres used as retaining walls and other resource saving ideas.

The Trust continues to investigate alternative water supplies to irrigate the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens. Initiatives include a partnership in the Busby's Bore water recycling project that has been coordinated by Clean Up Australia, and investigating the installation of rainwater tanks for buildings within the Royal Botanic Gardens to provide water to irrigate adjacent garden beds.

Planning was completed for the State Government-funded Central Depot redevelopment in the Royal Botanic Gardens and restoration works commenced on four heritage glasshouses. At Mount Annan, a review of the Site Master Plan commenced with input from neighbours, Council planners and other relevant organisations. At Mount Tomah, implementation of the revised Thematic Plan continued with the redevelopment of the Australian and African woodlands gardens, and the enhancement of the display at the entrance to the Garden.

Maintenance enhancement funding allowed for a one-kilometre section of Mrs Macquaries Road reconstruction to begin. Another 50 areas of road and path repairs were completed. Sports field use continues to be managed through field rotations and wet weather closures.

### Promoting the Importance of Plants in Natural and Cultural Landscapes

SeedQuest NSW is now two years' old and seed from 541 NSW species (including 49 threatened species) has been collected and stored. This six-year partnership with the Millennium Seedbank at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew will significantly boost seed conservation collections and research at Mount Annan. The key ecological factors controlling germination and seed longevity are a particular focus of the associated research program. SeedQuest NSW is working with other Divisions within the Department regarding implementation of ex-situ conservation strategies and seed research as outlined in the threatened species Priority Action Statement.

New gardens were designed and created on all sites. In the Royal Botanic Gardens, work commenced on the new Palace Rose Garden which will feature hardy, reliable and less chemically dependent roses and include a new pergola and event facilities. The redevelopment of this garden, funded by the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation, will be completed in November 2006. Many of the Trust's camellias were consolidated into a new garden around Rathborne Lodge. The first stages of this garden, generously funded by a donor, will be completed in August.

Stage 1 of the Wollemi Walk of Discovery at Mount Annan was launched in March. Ninety clonal collection trees have been planted, with a further 200 to be added by 2008. The Big Idea Garden project also began. Sponsored by HSBC, it will present rainwater collection technology and use, water-wise gardening, recycled materials and the latest Australian cultivars suitable for display purposes in the Macarthur region. A series of innovative sculptures made from recycled materials, a carved family of timber snails, new signage at the Callitris, Kurrajong and Mallee Arboreta and a dry-stone sculpture called the 'Wedding Knot' were installed. A sculpture donated by Jamie Durie, called 'Room with a View', and associated garden was opened in September.

At Mount Tomah, the Australian and African woodlands gardens were redeveloped and the display at the entrance to the Garden was enhanced. The Australian woodlands project

redeveloped a four-hectare area to focus on the grassy eucalypt woodlands which once were a feature of the Australian landscape.

Thanks to the financial support of the Friends of The Gardens, the first stage of a new exhibition in Sydney's Tropical Centre was created. 'Sex and Death: starring orchids and carnivorous plants' has already excited and inspired many visitors, as well as encouraging them to further explore the natural world. Guided tours are part of this and many other experiences on all our estates. Volunteer guides or rangers delivered free guided walks to visitors, as well as themed historical or Indigenous tours. This year volunteer guides developed and led walks and talks on conservation of the Wollemi Pine, sustainable practices and heritage features at the Royal Botanic Gardens. Over 22,000 school students attended lessons in the botanic gardens, and Trust researchers and their work has been explained for the first time to visitors through information panels installed in the Royal Botanic Gardens. Volunteer guides will interpret the scientists' work more fully to the public on guided walks. Special tours in the Gardens highlighted plants painted by Australian artist, Margaret Preston, as part of the collaboration between the Trust and Art Gallery of NSW.

The Community Greening program has continued to prosper with 128 community garden projects begun in public housing estates, on Council land and in school grounds. In partnership with NSW Department of Housing, the Trust worked with 66 community garden projects this year. Community Greening involves planning meetings, delivering resources, providing advice and conducting training sessions with Department of Housing residents and other disadvantaged communities.

The Wollemi Pine was released for commercial sale in October, after seven years of commercial propagation in collaboration with Wollemi Australia. An international auction of selected specimens generated significant buying interest from around the world. Royalties to the Trust from sales will be directed to further conservation research of the Pine and other endangered species.

The launch included a 10-day exhibition of one hundred Wollemi Pines in the Royal Botanic Gardens, a photographic exhibition highlighting Trust research and a series of hospitality events. The media launch was attended by the NSW Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Bob Debus MP.

The Botanists Way project was opened at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden in June by the Hon. Kerry Bartlett, Federal MP for Macquarie. A visitor display

at Mount Tomah explained the important plant species found along Bells Line of Road and featured Aboriginal and European history of botanic exploration for the region.

The Trust's website is an important window to the world, promoting the Trust's botanic gardens and research. This year 678,102 visitors (17,040,172 hits) came to this valuable resource, which now provides an improved events calendar and venue hire photographs and information.

Visitors to the Red Box Gallery in the National Herbarium were entertained and inspired by a range of works and also left better informed about the important role and functions of the National Herbarium of New South Wales. This year saw an exhibition of works by the Trust's inaugural artist-in-residence, Christopher Gentle. Also shown were works from the Margaret Flockton Award for excellence in botanical illustration and 'Botanic Gardens Treasures' showcased objects from the Herbarium and Trust library collections, including specimens collected by Banks and Solander in 1770.

The Trust maintained its high public profile in relation to tree and park management, topics of continuing interest to Sydneysiders. Expert opinion was offered on tree replacement, insect pests, wildlife management in gardens and many other topics. In addition, the Botanic Gardens continued to be a source of inspiring and intriguing stories about plants more generally.

### Protecting our Heritage

The Trust is fully committed to the government-wide reconciliation strategy 'Two Ways Together' in developing mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous communities (see Trust website). This year saw the completion of Stage 1 of the Stolen Generations Memorial at Mount Annan Botanic Garden and a sculptural centrepiece by Indigenous artist Badger Bates will be completed in 2006.

The colony of Grey-Headed Flying Foxes, a nationally endangered species, continued to roost in and damage the living collections within the Royal Botanic Gardens. A workshop involving representatives from animal welfare organizations and government agencies was held in August to discuss management strategies. The Trust is preparing a management plan with advice from the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne on their successful relocation program, and from animal welfare groups and relevant government agencies.

### Enjoying Trust Lands

The 2006 summer season of cultural events at the Royal Botanic Gardens continued to link the Trust in strategic partnerships with the City of Sydney, the NSW Office of Protocol and Special Events, Sydney Festival and Tropfest. Huge crowds enjoyed the New Year's Eve fireworks from the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain. The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain hosted some 500,000 patrons without incident. The Domain is also the venue of the popular Sydney Festival and Opera Domain concerts, OpenAir Cinema, Tropfest, Australia Day Wogga-Ma-Gule Ceremony and Gun Salute, Wind in the Willows, Sydney Harbour Swim Classic and BRW Corporate Triathlon.

The revenue raised from venue and events management was above target, with almost \$1,000,000 made available to support Trust programs in horticulture, science, education and conservation. The Trust's open space and venues were accessed by just over half a million people this year. Despite water constraints, the recreational areas are in the best condition for many years as a result of improved management practices.

The Trust has improved access for people with disabilities. Hand-rails were installed on most stairs within the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens, and access to these estates via the Woolloomooloo Gates was enhanced by improved disabled car parking, pedestrian access and lighting. At Mount Tomah the new Australian woodland development included provision of an 'accessible pathway' between display areas. The Visitor Centre and most sections of Mount Annan now provide full access for people with disabilities, and a people-mover vehicle with a wheelchair lift is available at all times.

### Efficient and Effective Organisation

The Trust has continued to improve its management systems this year, improving our financial and Budget accountability, as well as efficiencies in procurement and administration. We maintain a strong focus on occupational health and safety and were disappointed by the increase in the number of days lost to injury during the year. This is despite the re-launch of 'Take 5' (a campaign to get staff to stop and think before they start any new task), implementation of an OH&S self-assessment tool for directors and managers, creation of a new system for assessing and controlling hazards, and continuing support for preventative measures such as warm-up routines and general fitness training.

GardenSafe, the Trust's OH&S safety system, is being updated and will be re-launched later in 2006, along with campaigns to curtail the increased number of 'minor' injuries such as muscle strains.

### Community Support

While the NSW Government provides considerable annual funding to the Botanic Gardens Trust, the Trust relies on a range of supporters to maintain and renew aging infrastructure, develop new garden landscapes, employ skilled staff in key areas and expand on research projects of national and international significance.

The Trust values the support and investment of its stakeholder organisations, the Friends of The Gardens and the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation, our volunteers, and the generosity of our donors and sponsors. Hundreds of volunteers give their time generously every year, and the Trust wishes to thank them once again for their vital part in our performance.

### Looking Ahead

Where will the Botanic Gardens Trust be in a decade, and what will it look like? We already have a bold vision, and it takes us well beyond 2016. While we can't even begin to guess the answer to the question of what our 400-year-old institution might be like, our responsibility is to ensure that a framework for growth exists. To use a horticultural analogy, we can plant the trees and nurture their growth, but new generations will determine their ultimate form and enjoy their full maturity. In looking towards 2016, the Botanic Gardens is developing a vision for the future and the framework for how to get there. The new corporate plan sows some of the seeds, but there will be more to come and plenty of nurturing required.



Mr Greg Martin, Chairperson,  
Botanic Gardens Trust



Dr Tim Entwisle,  
Executive Director

## OUR ORGANISATION

The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust (Botanic Gardens Trust) is a statutory body which is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW).

### Our Vision

To be a world leader in:

- Management of public open space of high cultural, heritage and aesthetic significance
- Plant biodiversity and conservation programs and research
- Horticultural research
- Education, information and outreach programs for the wider community in botany and horticulture
- Horticultural practice, display and training.

### Our Business

The Trust is responsible for a multifaceted organisation situated on four separate estates: the Royal Botanic Gardens, the Domain, Mount Tomah Botanic Garden and Mount Annan Botanic Garden. Our estates are places of natural beauty where people can come for peace, relaxation, entertainment, recreation, education — and to discover more about plants and horticulture. The National Herbarium of New South Wales is renowned for excellence in plant science — with cutting-edge research programs in botany, ecology and horticulture of plants, especially those of New South Wales and Australia.

### Our Values

In all that we do, the Botanic Gardens Trust values:

- Our natural and cultural environment
- Advancing, disseminating and using knowledge
- A safe, healthy and fulfilling workplace
- Excellence
- Innovation and initiative
- Achieving more through partnerships

### Trust Objectives

The *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act 1980* defines the Trust's objectives as:

- to maintain and improve Trust lands, the National Herbarium of New South Wales and the collections of living and preserved plant life owned by the Trust
- to increase and disseminate knowledge about the plant life of Australia, and of New South Wales in particular

- to encourage the public use and enjoyment of Trust lands by promoting and increasing the educational, historical, cultural and recreational value of these lands.

When acting in pursuance of its Objects, the Trust is required to give particular emphasis to encouraging and advancing the study of systematic botany, and to plant conservation.

### Our Estates

The Royal Botanic Gardens is an oasis in the heart of the city of Sydney, comprising 30 hectares of magnificent landscape adjacent to the Harbour, the Opera House and the central business district.

The Domain is a 28-hectare urban park situated on the eastern edge of the Sydney central business district. Its spectacular geographical setting offers extensive harbour and city views as well as recreation opportunities. The park is heavily used for leisure, sport, recreation and tourism as well as special events, and is endowed with significant natural and cultural heritage values.

Mount Annan Botanic Garden displays the enormous diversity of our Australian flora. Covering over 400 hectares on the south-western outskirts of Sydney between Camden and Campbelltown, it is Australia's largest botanic garden.

Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, in the beautiful Blue Mountains west of Sydney, displays one of the world's finest collections of cool-climate plants on a 28-hectare botanic garden adjacent to a 189 ha natural area.

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

## The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust

The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust is a statutory body established by the *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act 1980*. The legislation defines the objectives, powers and functions of the Trust and vests certain land and property in the Trust. It also governs the Regulations relating to all three botanic gardens and the Domain. The Trust is formally accountable to the Minister for the Environment for fulfilling the statutory requirements.

The non-executive Trust members are appointed by the Governor of NSW on the recommendation of the Minister for the Environment for a term of up to four years. The Trust's membership represents a diversity of expertise and experience in horticulture, plant sciences, business, industrial relations, education, and cultural and community affairs.

## Remuneration

Remuneration of Trustees is determined by the Premier under the guidelines for the Remuneration and Categorisation of Boards. The Trust is classified as an Advisory Committee which, under the terms of the Act, is '... subject to the control and direction of the Minister ...'. The Chairperson receives an annual fee of \$7,350 and the other Trustees each receive \$3,675 per annum.

## Trust Liability

Trustees and employees of the Trust are covered by the Treasury Managed Fund for any legal liability, as long as the action is not illegal or criminal and outside the scope of their duties.

## Best Practice

In meeting the Trust objectives and setting a clear strategic direction for the organisation, the Trustees are committed to best practice in corporate governance. In 2005–2006, the Trustees conducted their activities with reference to the Premier's Conduct Guidelines for Members of NSW Government Boards and Committees.

## Legislative Changes

In 2005–06 there were no changes to the *Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Act 1980*, the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act* or the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Regulations*.

## Trust Meeting Attendance

The Director, Finance and Business Services is Secretary to the Trust, and keeps the common seal. The Senior Executive Assistant records the minutes of the Trust. The Trust met six times.

Trustee	Meetings Attended
Dr Katrina Fairley-Grenot	6
Ms Tim Jackson	5
Mr Greg Martin	5
Mr Tom Pinzone	1 of 1
Mr Michael Samaras	5
Prof. Susan Serjeantson	6
Nigel Swinn	5

## Risk Management

Deloitte was engaged to provide the Trust with a business risk assessment and strategic audit plan. Twenty-one areas of risk were identified, risk been defined as those activities which impact adversely on the BGT achieving its objectives. Sections of the report are updated every second executive meeting and then approved by the Trust Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee. This results in the full report being reviewed annually.

The three-year internal audit plan has been developed to focus on areas of greatest risk and is directly linked to the risk assessment review undertaken by Deloitte. The internal audit plan is cyclical over the period to take into account finite Internal Audit resources. This approach is consistent with the approach advocated by the Institute of Internal Auditors and the plan is aligned to current Best Practice Statements on Internal Audit and Internal Controls.

The emphasis on risk has been focussed towards financial and operational risks. To date the focus of internal audit has been on financial compliance risks. Through the activity of Internal Audit within those areas of risk identified, the Trust will receive assurance that the systems within the organisation are operating in both an effective and efficient manner and providing quality information to management upon which decisions are made.

## Trust Committees

**Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee** Ensures the sound financial position of the Trust through regular reviews of financial position, budget, finance and business decisions, and policies which have an effect on these areas. The committee also has an important role in risk management and audit through endorsement of internal and external audit plans, review of audit reports and the review of risk assessment and management. The committee's name was changed from Finance and Audit Committee during the year to reflect its increasing focus on risk management, and following the recommendations of the Public Account Committee Review of Operations of Audit Committees, the Executive Director is no longer a Committee member.

**Scientific Committee** Oversees the scientific programs of the Trust and reviews and advises the Trust on research, scientific policy and the operations of the National Herbarium of New South Wales. The focus, directions and performance of the Sciences Branch and of individual programs are monitored through regular reporting. This year the committee provided advice on major funding bids and contributed to planning for new scientific programs.

**Botanic Gardens Committee** Advises the Trust on the operations, requirements and priorities of the Botanic Gardens Branch programs and reviews the objectives, progress and achievements of the Branch's goals. It also advises the Trust on risk management and ethics in collections curation and promotes interaction between the Trust and other collection-based cultural institutions in the areas of education, interpretation and exhibition design.

This year the committee reviewed major horticultural projects on all estates, including site visits of the proposed eco-playground at Mount Annan, the woodland area at Mount Tomah, the Rose Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens and the tree replacement plantings beside Hospital Road in the Domain.

**Marketing Committee** Assists in shaping and steering a clear strategic position for the Botanic Gardens Trust. This newly created committee will provide input into the Trust's long-term marketing strategy, and advice to the Trust on marketing plans and policies. The committee will review the ambition and overall performance measurement for the marketing of the Trust, including the key performance indicators.

## Trust Committee Composition

**Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee**  
Dr Kate Fairley-Grenot, Mr Greg Martin (Chair), Mr Tom Pinzone

**Scientific Committee** Assoc Prof Jeremy Bruhl, Dr Tim Entwisle, Dr Dan Faith, Ms Fleur Kreeel (until May 2006), Professor Sue Serjeantson (Chair), Dr Brett Summerell, Dr Jane Tarran, Dr Klaus Koop

**Botanic Gardens Committee** Ms Tim Jackson (Chair), Ms Robin Powell, Prof Richard Clough, Dr Tim Entwisle, Ms Judy Fakes, Ms Janelle Hatherly, Mr Mark Savio, Mr Simon Leake, Professor Peter Martin, Mr Wayne Tunnicliffe (resigned November 2005), Mr Michael Samaras, Mr Jeremy Winer (resigned November 2005), Mr Anton James (from February 2006).

**Marketing Committee** Dr Tim Entwisle, Mr Peter Hanlon, Ms Rose Herceg, Ms Pauline Markwell, Mr Nigel Swinn (Chair)

### Statement of Responsibility

The Trust's Board, Executive Director, senior management and other employees have effected a risk management and internal control process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of the agency's objectives. The internal audit function conducts a program of review to assess these controls.

To the best of our knowledge, this system of risk management and internal control operated satisfactorily during the year.

Significant improvements in risk management and internal control effected during the year, as well as those planned for the future, are included in this report.



Greg Martin  
Chairperson, Botanic Gardens Trust



Tim Entwisle,  
Executive Director

## OUR TRUSTEES



**Dr KATE FAIRLEY-GRENOT**  
BSc (Hons), PhD (Sydney), MSc  
Science & Technology Policy  
(Sussex), FAICD

(Appointed to Trust 11 November  
2004; present term expires  
10 November 2008)

Kate Grenot is a practitioner in the Australian life sciences industry, with interests in the role of plant science in society and in the domestic economy. Kate has a PhD in plant physiology and investigated signal transduction in plants as a research fellow at Harvard. She subsequently spent several years with Coopers & Lybrand and now works as a management consultant in Sydney. Kate is a Director of Wirra Wirra Vineyards and a reference committee member for the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies.



**Ms TIM JACKSON**  
Cert.Hort.UK, MAIH

(Appointed 29 May 2005; present  
term expires 28 May 2009)

Tim Jackson, former Vice President of the NSW Council of the Australian Institute of Horticulture, was President of the Friends of The Gardens from 2001 to 2003. A pioneer member of the Growing Friends, Tim was instrumental in establishing the Friends' Artisans Exhibition in 2000 and in implementing the garden-themed Literary Lunch in conjunction with the Sydney Writers Festival in 2004. Tim, a member of the Horticultural Media Association, writes a monthly gardening column for The Inner City Courier and is very involved in community-based gardening.



**Mr GREG MARTIN**  
BEc, LLB

(Appointed Chair 1 December 2003;  
appointed to Trust 1 July 2003;  
present term expires 30 June 2007)

Greg Martin joined Challenger Financial Services Group as Chief Executive, Challenger Infrastructure in May 2006 after a career spanning more than 25 years with The Australian Gas Light Company (AGL). While at AGL, Greg held a variety of senior management roles both in Australia and overseas and within a number of AGL's associated entities. Most recently, he headed the company for five years as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Greg is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, a member of the Australian Institute

of Company Directors and the Institute of Directors in New Zealand. He also serves as a non executive director on the board of Energy Developments Ltd.



**Mr TOM PINZONE**  
BE, FIEAust, MAICD

(Appointed 26 April 2006; present  
term expires 25 April 2010)

Tom Pinzone is a consulting civil engineer with over 30 years professional experience. He is a Director of Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey (GHD) and leads its Transportation Business Sector. His experience includes urban and regional development, water and wastewater and transportation projects. He is the co-author of a widely quoted series of Australian Infrastructure Report Cards. Tom has a long history of service with professional and industry associations at executive and committee level including Engineers Australia, ACEA and AusCID and has served on a number of government advisory groups.



**Mr MICHAEL SAMARAS**  
BA (Hons) MBA

(Reappointed 26 June 2006; present  
term expires 25 June 2010)

Michael Samaras is the Corporate Relations Manager for the Westlink M7. His communications experience covers the fields of media, marketing, community and government relations. A former Wollongong City Councillor, Michael is also a Director of the Auburn & Lidcombe United Friendly Society. He has experience in a number of infrastructure sectors.



**Prof. SUSAN SERJEANTSON**  
BSc (Hons), PhD

(Re-appointed 21 December 2004;  
present term expires 20 December  
2008)

Sue Serjeantson is the Executive Secretary of the Australian Academy of Science. Her research interests have focused on human genetics, at the University of Hawaii, where she obtained her PhD, and then at the Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research. Sue joined the Australian National University in Canberra in 1976, first at the John Curtin School of Medical Research and then, for four years from 1994, as Director of the Institute of Advanced Studies and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Her research in molecular genetics and in improving the outcome of organ transplantation has been recognised by the National Clunies-Ross

Award for Science and Technology, the Ruth Sanger Medal and by the Order of Australia.



**Mr NIGEL SWINN**  
(Appointed 11 November 2005;  
present term expires 10 November  
2008)

Nigel Swinn is a strategic consultant and principal in the brand consultancy Designworks

Enterprise IG. Working with corporate groups such as Westpac, Vodafone, Tabcorp and Rio Tinto, Nigel provides brand and communications advice on the positioning and alignment of business strategies and brands. Nigel also has a keen interest in destination and place branding, having worked with the New Zealand government on the Brand New Zealand program and more recently in Cape York with various Indigenous groups on Indigenous tourism ventures.

## OUR EXECUTIVE



**Dr TIM ENTWISLE**  
BSc (Hons), PhD  
Executive Director  
Accountable to the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust,  
Director-General Department of Environment and Conservation, and

the Minister for the Environment, for the efficient and effective management of the organisation, including its horticultural, scientific, educational, marketing, commercial and corporate support functions.



**Dr BRETT SUMMERELL**  
BScAgr (Hons), PhD  
Director, Science and Public Programs

Responsible for the leadership and management of the Plant Sciences Branch, including systematics, ecological and horticultural research, as well as the National Herbarium of NSW, library and laboratories, and for the community education program.



**CLARE HAMILTON**  
BBus (Accounting), CPA  
Director Finance and Business Services  
Responsible for the organisation's financial resource management and business services, including leasing

and Sydney Gardens retail.



**MARK SAVIO**  
Hort. Cert  
Director, Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens  
Responsible for the management of all services and operations at the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain.



**PAULINE MARKWELL**  
BA  
Director, Communications and Marketing  
Responsible for the leadership and management of the Communications and Marketing Branch, involving sponsorship and fundraising, marketing, public affairs and community relations, venue and events management and publishing.



**CAZ McCALLUM**  
MAg (Turf Mgt), BA, DipEd  
Managing Curator,  
Mount Annan Botanic Garden  
Responsible for the management of all services and operations at Mount Annan Botanic Garden.



**ROB SMITH**  
BA, NatHortCert, FRIH  
Managing Curator,  
Mount Tomah Botanic Garden  
Responsible for the management of all services and operations at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden.

Corporate Information at 30 June 2006

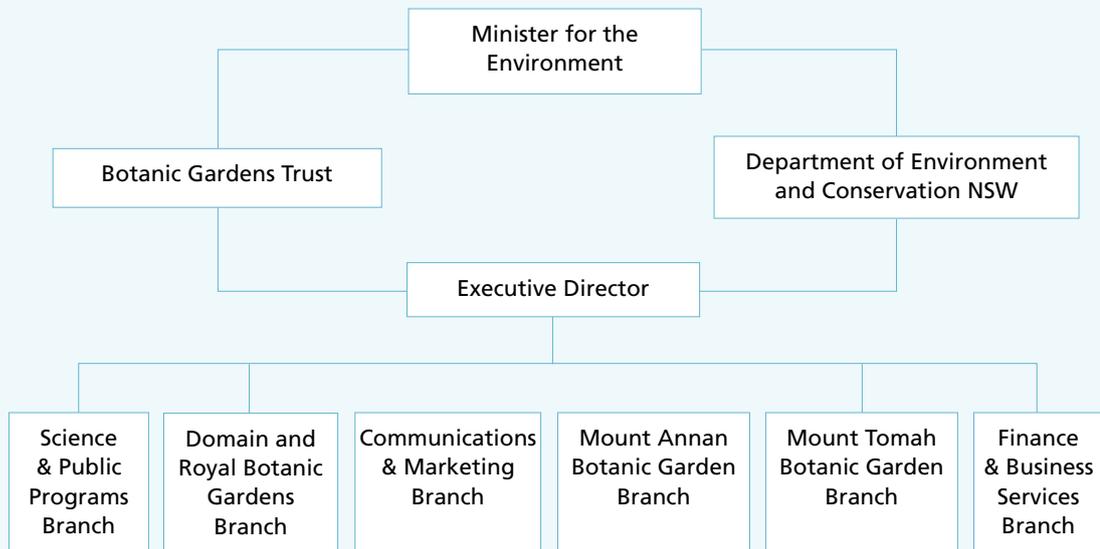
**Minister for the Environment** The Hon. Bob Debus MP

**Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trustees**

Mr Greg Martin (Chair), Dr Kate Fairley-Grenot, Ms Tim Jackson, Mr Tom Pinzone,  
Mr Michael Samaras, Professor Susan Serjeantson, Mr Nigel Swinn

**Executive Director** Dr Tim Entwisle

Botanic Gardens Trust Organisation Structure



## DELIVERING OUR SERVICES

There are five broad areas under which the Botanic Gardens Trust delivers its programs.

### Botanic Gardens and Parks Programs

- maintaining and developing the Domain for recreation, relaxation and celebrations.
- maintaining and improving significant living collections in the three botanic gardens.
- interpreting the living collections in the three botanic gardens for visitors.
- looking after the heritage items on each site.
- maintaining the facilities and open space of the three botanic gardens to accommodate a wide range of recreational and educational uses.

### Public Programs

- facilitating community and other events and activities on Trust lands.
- coordinating, facilitating and promoting plant conservation programs within and outside the Trust through the Centre for Plant Conservation.
- providing valuable scientific, Indigenous and environmental educational resources for individuals, other learning institutions and key communities.
- providing visitors with meaningful learning experiences as well as enjoyable outings, together with a statewide service of learning opportunities for those who don't or can't visit our sites.
- maintaining a program of activities and events for tourists to NSW.

### Research

- investigating the systematics, ecology, horticulture and pathology of plants and related organisms and disseminating the results.
- contributing to the development and implementation of State, national and international policies.
- maintaining and enhancing the collection of preserved plants in the National Herbarium of NSW, and making the information held in the collection readily accessible.
- providing botanical information and identifications.
- supporting science and related programs through provision of library, scientific illustration, research facilities and vehicles.

### Commercial Services

- enabling commercial operators to establish services and businesses for the public.
- maintaining pay parking operations to assist in revenue generation.
- maintaining retail outlets to support the Trust objectives and generate income.
- operating a quality commercial horticultural service.
- administering a system of licences and leases that balance the interests of all current and future users of Trust lands.

### Management of Resources

- complying with applicable legislation including the *State Records Act 1998*, the *Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998* and the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.
- implementing Government policy initiatives such as EEO, EAPS and the Disability Policy Framework to ensure that discrimination in access to employment, services and facilities is eradicated.
- taking a strategic approach to ensure that we provide clear and relevant information to the public about the activities and objectives of the Trust.
- developing sponsorship and other support for the activities of the Trust.

# MAJOR PROJECTS REVIEW

## Australia's Virtual Herbarium

Stage one of Australia's Virtual Herbarium, the databasing of all vascular plant specimens from New South Wales, was completed in January. During the five years of the project over 370,000 specimens were databased, bringing the number of records databased to over 600,000 of the approximately 1.2 million specimens in the Herbarium. This project also resulted in over 30,000 specimens being identified or confirmed and facilitated major updates to our internet botanical information services, PlantNET and NSW Flora Online. Australia's Virtual Herbarium website is available to everyone, and is regularly used by government agencies, researchers, consultants and students.

## Towards the Sustainable Organic Botanic Garden

The Trust's 'Towards Sustainable Horticulture' program incorporates organic gardening. Significant reductions in the use of 'high toxicity' chemicals have been achieved. Potable water consumption has been minimized through better horticultural practices such as mulching, installing improved irrigation systems, and by selecting more durable plant species.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies have resulted in low use of chemicals to control pests. At Mount Tomah this year, there was a 31 per cent reduction in use of 'schedule five' pesticides and no 'schedule seven' insecticides were used to control pest problems. The volume of chemical application was maintained at the low 2003–04 year result. Beneficial insects were used to control insect pest problems, including parasitic wasps to control aphids on roses, and nematodes and Neem oil to control African Black Beetle in turf.

The Trust is required to complete a water savings action plan. A management review of water use and management practices gave the Sydney estate a two-star rating for water use efficiency. A water audit in progress will determine what leaks there may be in the water delivery systems. The audit will also calculate what water is being used within the built environment and in horticultural areas. Further actions to be developed include overall cost (and/or volume) reduction targets that specifically incorporate water savings and assessing the potential for water supply disruptions to cause business loss.

At Mount Tomah Garden, water use for horticulture has continued to be a major focus. The collections of the 28-hectare garden were maintained using only 21 megalitres of collected stormwater runoff,

a reduction from the 32 megalitres used last year. With the region in the grip of a significant drought until April 2005, it was rewarding to continue to produce quality displays with minimal loss of plants. Re-use of garden maintenance green waste continued. Over 150 cubic metres of compost were produced and reused and all tree prunings were chipped and spread on the estate. No green waste was sent to landfill.

Mount Annan Botanic Garden continued to develop its sustainable horticultural practices with a range of initiatives including on-site production of compost, no green waste leaving the site, reduced water consumption and reduction of the more toxic herbicides and insecticides. Progress was made on integrated pest management and the use of 'recycled' mulch has increased by over 100 per cent. The Bottlebrush Garden has been redeveloped into a sustainable garden, incorporating ideas on recycling, reducing consumption and explaining appropriate selection of Australian plants to the home gardener.

## Alternative Irrigation Water for Sydney Estates

Opportunities to secure an alternative water supply for irrigation of the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens are under investigation. The Trust and Clean Up Australia continue to seek funding for the Busby's Bore water recycling project which would use part of the former naval oil storage tanks for the storage, treatment and distribution of recycled water. The use of rainwater tanks at a number of Royal Botanic Gardens' building locations for irrigating adjacent garden beds is also being investigated.

## Tropical Centre Exhibitions

The Friends of the Gardens' donation of \$70,000 for the development of an exhibition in Sydney's Tropical Centre created the first stage of 'Sex and Death: starring orchids and carnivorous plants'. The aim of the project was to deliver a visitor experience that satisfies, encourages further exploration of the natural world, and justifies repeat visitation to the Tropical Centre and to the Royal Botanic Gardens.

'Sex and Death' opened in December 2005. Visitation to the Tropical Centre has increased by 11 per cent and income more than doubled as a result of increased entry charges.

Public programs such as guided tours, propagation workshops and school lessons were conducted to complement 'Sex and Death' and members of the succulents, carnivorous and ikebana plant societies held weekend displays and sales in and around the

Tropical Centre. Over 1,700 school students enjoyed the additional educational experience as part of 'rainforest' lessons conducted at the Centre.

Feedback has been positive, including an analysis of questionnaire data kindly provided pro bono by Woolcott Research.

### Central Depot Redevelopment

Master planning was completed for the Central Depot redevelopment project and restoration works commenced on four heritage glasshouses. Relocation of materials, equipment and staff commenced as operations conducted from the depot will be interrupted during the construction program. The new masterplan includes improved materials and equipment storage, safer pedestrian and vehicular access, contemporary staff facilities, restoration of heritage buildings and glasshouses, new shade houses and glasshouses, a new plant pathology laboratory, improved public access and the return of green space to the Royal Botanic Gardens. The depot and nursery masterplan is based on environmentally sustainable development principles.

### Masterplanning

**Royal Botanic Gardens** The conservation management plan for the Gardens, awarded a commendation in the National Trust heritage awards, contains comprehensive information about the cultural, social, environmental and botanical history of the estate and is used to guide landscape and building programs. A review of the Thematic Plan for the Royal Botanic Gardens will be completed in late 2006.

**Mount Annan** The Site Master Plan was reviewed. Statistical analysis of the review questionnaire responses and a draft summary document addressing 11 key areas of recommendations in the masterplan were completed. The final document will be compiled following a series of meetings with neighbours, Council planners and relevant organizations. In line with the original masterplan goals published in 2000, capital projects have focused on the central precinct, including construction of a new education centre which commenced in June 2006, and an upgrade of parking facilities completed the same month.

**Mount Tomah** Implementation of the revised Thematic Plan (2003) continued. The Australian and African woodlands gardens were redeveloped and the display at the entrance to the Garden was enhanced. The Australian woodlands project redeveloped a four-hectare area to focus on

the grassy eucalypt woodlands which once were a feature of the Australian landscape. The redevelopment of the area, which will provide interpreted gateway landscaping to the Garden, will be supported by audio-guides through MP3 players for hire and tours will also be available as podcast on the Trust's website. The Garden entrance display highlights colour and texture with a display of herbaceous perennial plants in reds, greens, greys and blues. A colourful planting of spring bulbs was used this year to attract passing motorists on Bells Line of Road.

### Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living

This partnership between the Botanic Gardens Trust and CERES Macarthur (community group), was funded through the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services. A multi-purpose building, water treatment and recycling system, nursery, carpark and associated landscaping are to be installed on 5.3 hectares of Mount Annan Botanic Garden (corner of Mount Annan Drive and Narellan Road). The innovative, sustainable building will provide a venue for environmental education, training and an organic food outlet. The Trust applied for and was granted re-zoning of the site to allow commercial activities since the Centre will rely on generating revenue for its future sustainability. The Centre carpark was completed in February and the multi-purpose building is to be opened in September 2006.

### Towards 2016

With the Trust's bicentenary now only 10 years away, staff from across the organisation identified approximately 30 key projects, ranging from enhanced facilities and new programs to significant new infrastructure and special events, to be developed for the 200th year celebrations. Key projects have been incorporated into the Trust's Corporate Plan 2006–10, and the feasibility of all projects will be further investigated over the coming year. Each project will also be included in capital investment strategies to ensure that the Trust moves closer to realising its vision.

### Additional Accommodation for Friends

Refurbishment of the Anderson Building Level 1 (Administration Offices) was completed and the Trust's Business Services Section moved from Cottage 5 to that building, creating additional accommodation space for Friends in Cottage 5 which adjoins their current accommodation.

### Domain Noise Protection Walls

Construction of three noise protection walls was completed in March. The walls were constructed to mitigate traffic noise and visual impacts from the Cahill Expressway, where increased traffic due to the construction of an additional road lane as part of the Cross City Tunnel resulted in noise levels exceeding the guidelines set by the Environment Protection Authority.

The Garden Memorial wall constructed in the Domain is dedicated to Australian Defence Forces personnel who have given their lives in non-operational overseas missions. The elegant sandstone-faced wall is a maximum 2.5 metres in height and commences about 84 metres from the east side of the State Library (Mitchell wing) and extends to within approximately 28 metres of Art Gallery Road. A 'botanical walk' landscape was developed adjacent to the wall. The wall was dedicated in April by chaplains from the Returned Services League in the presence of the NSW Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Bob Debus MP, and members of families who had lost loved ones in non-operational missions.

A 4-metre-high timber fence replaced the existing timber fence along the Royal Botanic Gardens service road boundary. A 1.8-metre-high clear acrylic panel wall was attached to the existing steel picket fence that is along the northern boundary where it adjoins the Garden Palace Grounds precinct of the Gardens. The walls have substantially reduced traffic noise impacts and better defined the edges of the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens.

### Wollemi Pine Commercial Launch

The Wollemi Pine was released for commercial sale in October, 11 years after its discovery in a remote canyon north of Sydney, and after seven years of commercial propagation in collaboration with Wollemi Australia. An international auction of selected specimens was conducted by Sotheby's. The auction generated significant media attention and buying interest from around the world and yielded royalties to the Trust which will be directed to further conservation of this species.

The launch involved a 10-day exhibition of 100 Wollemi Pines in the Royal Botanic Gardens, a photographic exhibition highlighting Trust research, a series of hospitality events including a private Sotheby's luncheon party and an evening VIP cocktail event attended by approximately 170 guests for the media launch on 13 October, attended by the NSW Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Bob Debus MP.

### Tree Management

**Sydney** Stage 2 of the development of a tree management plan for the Sydney estates began with spatial survey and 'safe useful life expectancy' assessments of all 3,500 trees. This information will be used to develop tree replacement plans by November 2006.

**Mount Tomah** There are over 500 mature trees of over 30 metres in height in the Mount Tomah collection. To ensure public safety, all trees were inspected in areas where visitors congregate. Dangerous faults were identified and rectified where possible, or the areas were closed to the public. A two-year project was also commenced to mark the mature trees on the Garden's maps and record all maintenance actions on individual trees. All the material from pruned or removed trees was either chipped or cut up for use in the Garden.

**Mount Annan** Twice annual monitoring of trees, especially in the picnic areas and in the Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living carpark area will be more easily facilitated due to the purchase of an elevated work platform. Selective sonic testing (tomography) of senescing and deteriorating trees has assisted with their management, particularly in public areas.

## RESULTS AND SERVICES PRIORITIES

The Trust is accountable in the first instance to the Trustees for its performance. It is also accountable to a range of stakeholders, including the Director-General of the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Minister for the Environment, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust Foundation, the Friends of The Gardens, staff and the broader community.

The Trust now measures its performance through key indicators linked to its Results and Services Plan, a whole of Government initiative to better link corporate outcomes with Government. The Plan provides information to Treasury and to the Minister about the Trust's performance, particularly the results that the Trust is achieving with the funding it receives. This Plan also identifies the Trust's service delivery priorities. The Trust is required to submit a Results and Services Plan as part of the annual budget process. Like the rest of the Department, the Trust addresses the key Government environmental priorities and also contributes to key economic and health results for New South Wales.

The Government's major objective of a sustainable community is reported on below through Results and Services strategies designed to protect and restore biodiversity, to protect cultural heritage, to develop Sydney as a popular tourist destination, to work towards more liveable neighbourhoods, and to increase the number of people using sport and recreation to improve their wellbeing.

### Threatened Flora Identified, Assessed and Managed

Trust scientists published descriptions of 28 new species: eight new species of plants, five species of fungi and 15 new species of algae during the year. This figure was well above previous years and the set target. In addition, a large number of species had their taxonomic status re-assessed as the result of research, often based on DNA fingerprinting, that clarified the relationships and identification of these species.

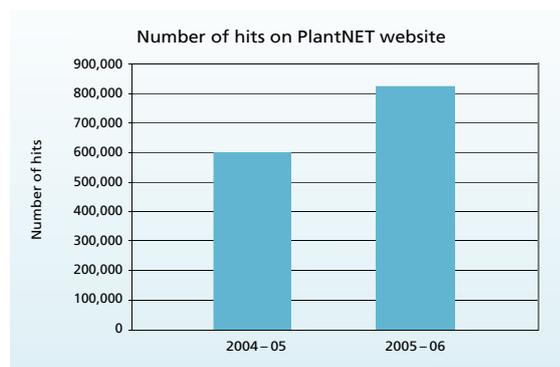
The identification service provided by the Trust regularly processed identifications of rare and threatened plants including new records for New South Wales and in some cases identification of species new to science. During the year, five species apparently new to science (still to be researched and described), 24 new records for New South Wales and 50 extensions of range were recorded by the Herbarium. New collections of 86 rare and threatened plants were added to the Herbarium. Information about Australian woodland as a threatened ecological community has been included in interpretive signage at Mount Tomah.

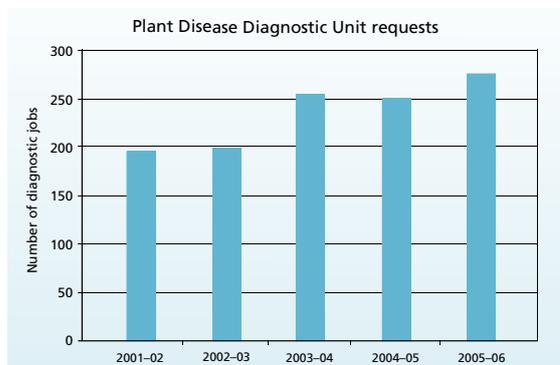
Trust scientists provided input to determinations of threatened species at a State and national level. This information is essential to the accurate identification and naming of the species, to mapping its distribution, and to managing its recovery. A total of 15 listings and 31 cited Trust publications were used in threatened species nominations by the NSW and Federal governments. This number of citations reflects the weight placed on the Trust's scientific expertise and its relevance as the primary source of data on NSW plant species. The Trust responded to eleven requests for information from the NSW Scientific Committee (established under the Threatened Species Conservation Act) and the Federal Department of Environment and Heritage.

### Appropriate, Accurate Botanic Information Used by Government and the Scientific Community

A Trust botanist serves on the New South Wales Scientific Committee, the group which makes recommendations on the listing of organisms as threatened species within the State. A Trust botanist also served on a number of international biodiversity committees including Species 2000 and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. These programs aim to ensure that biodiversity information is consistent between countries and is shared in an equitable fashion.

The target for botanical information service delivery was 70% of inquiries to be answered within 7 days. This target was exceeded this year with 87% of inquiries answered within 7 days. The number of requests for diagnosis at the Plant Disease Diagnostic Unit (PDDU) exceeded the high levels achieved in 2003–04 and 2004–05. Most diagnoses were for detection of soil-borne pathogens. PlantNET, including the NSW Flora Online website, is the Trust's online plant information service. Patronage continues to grow. It was available to a limited extent in previous years and was formally launched early in 2004–05.





### Leadership in establishing horticultural & environmental standards & practices

A major horticultural focus this year was the development of a number of landscape projects such as the Rose Garden and Camellia Garden, resulting in delays in the mulching program and subsequent increased weediness in many garden beds. As a result, not all indicator targets for the Royal Botanic Gardens were met. Mount Tomah's result indicator was also one per cent below target, a result of extended drought and a focus on developing the new displays in the Front Entrance and Australian Woodlands. Mount Annan maintained existing standards and improved overall interpretation scores.

Turf standards in Sydney exceeded the result indicator by one per cent. Mount Tomah's result indicator was two per cent below target, a result of the focus on new display development. Mount Annan's turf result was five per cent lower, — due predominantly to the continuation of dry conditions.

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The design of the Sydney nursery facilities incorporates environmentally sustainable design principles. Rainwater tanks and pot benches will be installed to reduce potable water consumption. Underground fuel tanks will be removed and replaced with overhead fuel tanks which will eliminate the potential for soil and groundwater contamination and negate the need for expensive monitoring programs.

**Mount Tomah** All green material at Tomah continued to be recycled on site, producing about 150 cubic metres of compost for use in the Garden. A demonstration worm farm is interpreted to show visitors how to recycle green waste in their home garden.

Mount Tomah Garden was irrigated without using potable water. Only 21 megalitres of collected

rainwater run-off was used to maintain the 28 hectares of plants. Most of the water supplied for human consumption was collected on site and all effluent treated on site. Further development of the collection and storage of rainwater at Mount Tomah aims to meet all the potable water needs for the estate.

**Mount Annan** Mount Annan Garden has achieved an increase of over 100% in the use of 'recycled' mulch sourced locally. Re-development of the Bottlebrush Garden into a garden of sustainable garden ideas called 'What's the Big Idea' is scheduled to open in October 2006. The garden is effectively an evolution of the previous display to incorporate ideas on recycling, reducing consumption and explaining appropriate selection of Australian plants to the home gardener. HSBC sponsorship of \$30,000 funded the installation of seating made from recycled milk bottles, garden beds bordered by railway sleepers, car tyres used as retaining walls and other resource saving ideas. An additional 90 metres of dry stone walling has been built using 'recycled' local sandstone.

Of a total 108 hectares of primary weed control required on site, 11 hectares were cleared of African Olive this year. This resulted from bush regeneration work by two staff, 17 volunteers and contractors funded by the Friends of The Gardens.

Advice was provided to the Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living about noxious weed control. Wollongong Botanic Garden, Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum and National Parks also sought advice on a range of environmental standards and management practices during the year. Advice was also provided to WSN (ex-Waste Services New South Wales) about seed collection and species choice, for future rehabilitation works in Jacks Gully. Garden staff have also advised Roads and Traffic Authority managers about rehabilitation work and supplied specially propagated plant material following road work on Mount Annan Drive and Narellan Road.

The Managing Curator of the Garden was appointed as an ex-officio trustee for another three-year term to the Burrendong Arboretum Trust and will assist with all facets of planning and operational standards for the regional botanic garden. Meetings with neighbours and representatives of Landcom and local Councils to discuss the importance of green corridor links to the Nepean River and future regional development were held.

## Greater Public Understanding of Environmental Issues and Human Impacts

The Trust continues to engage visitors about environmental issues and human impact on the environment. At Mount Annan, Stage 1 of the Wollemi Walk of Discovery was completed, providing visitors with the opportunity to see 90 Wollemi Pines growing in a natural area, with understorey species similar to the original Wollemi Pine location. This new Garden feature will be a long-lived, conservation and educational resource to be enjoyed by all. Other projects in progress include the Connections Garden (Stage 1 of the Terrace Garden) redevelopment, a planting of bush and Aboriginal foods for display near completion in the Central Precinct's Fruit Loop Garden; and the Big Idea Garden. A dead tree, painted blue to highlight the importance of habitat in natural ecosystems, was well received by visitors. Volunteer guides continue to promote both the built and natural environments through free tours.

At Mount Tomah, the Australian woodlands project focuses on threats to this ecosystem and ways the woodlands can be conserved. The display will also feature rare plant species threatened by clearing of these ecosystems or intensive agricultural practices. Similarly, signage explaining the breakdown of organic material in the worm farm is an important tool for educating and inspiring visitors to consider their use of green waste. The management of water consumption is profiled through handouts and posters to show water-wise practices that avoid the purchase of potable water.

The Trust's public program 'Big Answers to Big Questions' (BABQ) aimed to encourage public debate around contentious environmental issues. Community involvement and sustainability were emphasised in all BABQ activities as initiatives owned and driven by communities are seen as most effective in modifying attitudes and behaviours in favour of the environment.

As part of the BABQ program, the Trust staged an education provider's workshop entitled 'Innovations in water, flora and fauna management'. Local Councils and staff from other government agencies had the opportunity to discuss strategies to develop community gardens and nurseries, community involvement in local street-tree maintenance, native fauna and flora programs, and promote stormwater treatment and water-wise plants.

## Representative & Well Managed Ex-situ Collections & Herbarium

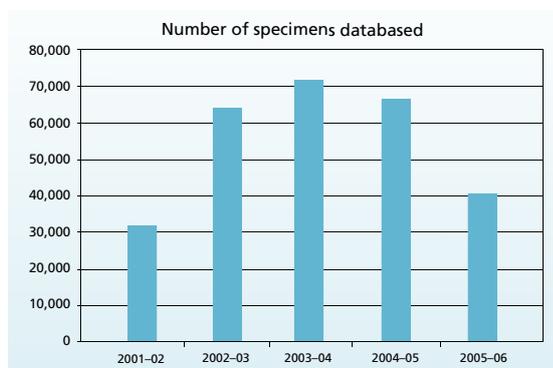
A major re-assessment of the herbarium collection has shown that the size of the collection was previously underestimated. A statistically based method showed that the collection consists of an estimated 1.195 million specimens of which 679,000 are databased; 939,705 are vascular plants, 51,900 bryophytes (mosses and liverworts), 174,900 algae, and 30,370 lichens.

Duplicate specimens are exchanged with other herbaria, and this added 3,175 specimens to the herbarium while 3,356 duplicates in exchange were sent. Specimens added from other sources totalled 1,800. Incoming specimens are mounted on sheets of thin card to preserve them, along with outgoing loans of older specimens that have not previously been mounted. This year, around 21,000 specimens were mounted, compared to 22,000 last year.

Curation of herbarium specimens in the National Herbarium of NSW in most cases met or exceeded the national benchmark for Australian herbaria. The large number of unmounted specimens is being addressed through the specimen mounting program, staffed by volunteers, which continues to make significant inroads into mounting the collection, especially new accessions.

There were a total of 4,975 standard new accessions added to the Herbarium, 522 more than last year.

The level of databasing, as shown by the accompanying graph, was considerably lower than the previous year due to the completion of stage one of Australia's Virtual Herbarium project. A number of funding proposals are being developed to continue databasing the herbarium collection.



The SeedQuest NSW partnership with the Millennium Seedbank (U.K.) is now a major focus for seedbank activities. This year 250 NSW seed collections (accessions) were made and duplicated at

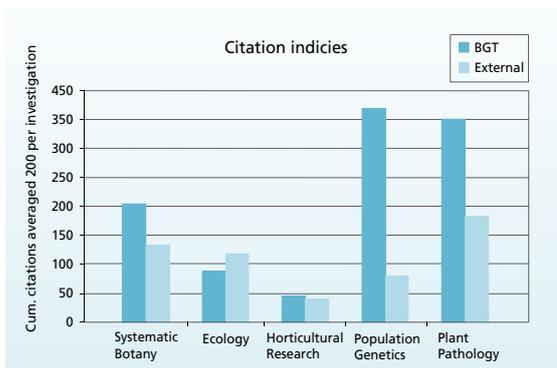
the NSW Seedbank (Mount Annan) and Millennium Seedbank. Despite drought conditions the SeedQuest project is ahead of collecting targets.

### Peer-reviewed Research into Systematics, Ecology, Horticulture & Pathology of Plants

The Trust's aim is to publish a mix of papers for general and scientific audiences each year. Eighty scientific publications were produced by Trust staff in a range of international journals, exceeding the target of 70. Eighteen general interest articles were published, just under the target of 20. Two volumes of each of the Trust's journals *Telopea* and *Cunninghamia* were published and included a range of scientific papers not only from staff of the Trust but also scientists from Australian and State government agencies and a number of universities.

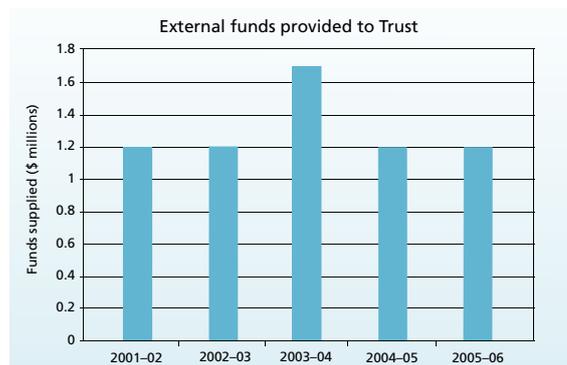
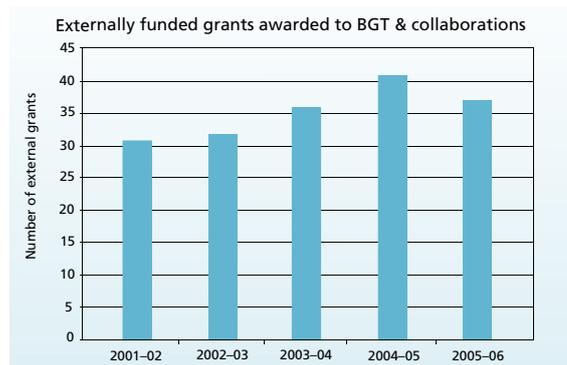
Research by Trust ecologists on the NSW Vegetation Classification and Assessment was published in the Trust's journal *Cunninghamia*. These first two papers, which provide an introduction to the classification system and a vegetation classification for the Western Plains of New South Wales, will play an important role in conservation planning in New South Wales.

A major new book on the handling and identification of fungi in the genus *Fusarium* was published by Blackwell Scientific Press (USA). The *Fusarium Laboratory Manual* was written by Honorary Research Associate, Professor John Leslie (Kansas State University) and Director of Science and Public Programs, Dr Brett Summerell.



This graph compares the number of times scientific papers by groups of our researchers are cited in international journals with a comparative group of researchers from other Australian institutions. Note that this is not the complete number of times papers have been cited as the International Scientific Index does not collate information from all journals.

The total value of grants was maintained at the same level as last year and the number of grants was maintained at a similar level to that of the past three years. Note that this includes grants awarded directly to the Trust as well as those awarded to other institutions where Trust staff are co-investigators. A detailed list of grants awarded to the Trust can be found at Appendix C.



### Sound Environmental Practices Used by Government, Professionals and Community

The Trust is committed to the use and promotion of environmentally sustainable products and practices, and environmental standards have been incorporated into operational plans and safety systems. The HSBC supported program, Towards Sustainable Horticulture, will be expanded in future years. A review of this program will form part of an Environmental Statement to be issued in spring 2006. Other initiatives within and outside the Garden walls are reported elsewhere.

### Quality education in plant science, environment & sustainability

**Plant science** Scientific staff made significant contributions to the teaching programs of several universities either by presenting lectures or through the supervision of post-graduate students.

Invitations from the University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Technology Sydney, University of Newcastle and the University of New England were made to various members of the scientific staff and several Trust scientists hold adjunct positions at these universities. The Trust continued its partnership arrangement with the University of New England and Australian Museum to deliver specialist biosystematics units.

Postgraduate students continue to make significant contributions to the Trust's scientific program, with over 40 supervised by Trust scientists and 12 based full-time with the Trust. This is close to capacity for supervision with existing staff levels.

The Director Science and Public Programs helped to present two workshops to over 90 participants on the identification of the fungal genus *Fusarium*, in the USA and in Italy. *Fusarium* species cause a number of devastating diseases of plants, produce an array of toxins and can act as human pathogens.

Eight information signs relating Trust research to relevant plants growing in the Royal Botanic Gardens were installed and volunteer guides will interpret the scientists' work more fully to the public.

**Environment and sustainability** Botanic gardens worldwide are committed to education for sustainability. The Trust's diverse collections and cultural landscapes provide a unique opportunity to influence public attitudes towards plant conservation and the environment. Education about sustainable gardening and public programs linking humans to the natural world equip the community to become environmentally responsible citizens.

Volunteer guides developed and led walks and talks on conservation of the Wollemi Pine, sustainable practices and heritage features at the Royal Botanic Gardens. School excursion lessons align with key learning areas in the NSW school curriculum and several new lessons were written this year. Over 22,000 students attended lessons in the Gardens across all three estates.

A successful education partnership between the Australian Museum, Taronga Zoo and the Trust continued with significant numbers of senior secondary students attending 'Australian biota' lessons at all three estates as well as Dubbo Zoo. Lessons for upper primary and junior secondary students were developed and delivered to complement the Margaret Preston exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW. Tours for the general public and Galley Society members, led by volunteer guides, were complemented by 80,000 self-guiding trail colour brochures.

School holiday activities, as well as regular daily and themed guided walks and community programs such as basketry and botanical illustration, were conducted. Holiday activities included 'The Magic Raindrop' with Captain Splash, and Little Garden Boats (Petites Bateaux Botanical), a children's activity developed to support celebrations of the contribution to botany of early French explorers. Over 36,000 visitors participated in community and holiday programs across the three estates.

Mount Annan Botanic Garden's community education officer partnered Campbelltown TAFE and the Art Centre in a Christmas project based on native plant images. A professional development in-service for 15 teacher trainees on Aboriginal culture was provided. Development of joint environmental education programs with staff from Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living commenced in May 2006 and will be implemented in the new financial year.

### Community Greening Programs

In August 2000 the Botanic Gardens Trust and the NSW Department of Housing established Community Greening as a partnership program. The goal of the partnership was to turn unused and neglected vacant public land into community gardens by involving and skilling social housing residents across NSW.

Since its establishment, the Community Greening program has provided assistance to over 128 community garden projects in public housing estates, on Council land and in school grounds. Eight-three of these projects are progressing or have been established as community-sustained gardens. This year, 66 community garden projects were begun under the auspices of the program. Trust involvement included planning meetings, delivering resources, providing advice and conducting training sessions with Department of Housing residents and other disadvantaged communities.

Funding for Community Greening has always come from sources external to the Trust and the NSW Department of Housing again provided funds this year. In addition, Eden Gardens and Garden Centre has become a major supporter of the program. Local councils also assist by identifying and advising on suitable locations and financing significant hard landscaping elements in community gardens in their local areas.

Arbor Week was celebrated this year at Auburn North Public School. A produce garden consisting of an orchard, herb garden, communal vegetable plots, native garden and a rainforest were developed. The school is comprised of 630 students

who were all involved either by having lessons and/or participating in the planting of the gardens.

Mount Annan education staff helped 30 students at Minto Public School with Arbor Week plantings for a shelter belt. Mount Tomah education staff visited two local schools to conduct plantings and lessons at a later date due to poor weather.

### Partnership Programs

**Margaret Preston Retrospective** The Trust collaborated with the Art Gallery of NSW for its major retrospective exhibition on Australian artist Margaret Preston. Guided tours led in the Royal Botanic Gardens highlighted plants and landscapes painted by Preston. Self-guided walks were also offered. An exhibition of selected Preston works with replicated live floral arrangements was held in the Red Box Gallery within the National Herbarium building.

**Eureka Prize** The Botanic Gardens Trust Eureka Prize for Biodiversity Research is awarded to an Australian individual, team or organisation for innovative scientific research that makes an outstanding contribution to the conservation of Australia's biodiversity. It is Australia's most important award for biodiversity research. This year's winner was Professor Mark Burgman from the School of Botany, University of Melbourne. His research led to the development of innovative techniques and statistical methods for modeling and monitoring species habitat and populations so that conservation decisions based on the collected data are more reliable.

**Eden Alliance** The Eden Education alliance between the Trust and Eden Gardens and Garden Centre, a horticultural and retail facility in North Ryde, continues to develop and deliver educational initiatives to target the needs of the home gardener. This year 77 'garden skills' and other educational activities were run at the Centre. Of the 668 participants, 273 were children.

Positive course evaluation, word-of-mouth recommendations and targeted joint promotion of programs is responsible for the steady increase in both participant numbers and revenue generated since Eden education courses and workshops began in early 2005.

**Seedbank** The NSW Seedbank at Mount Annan Botanic Garden completed the second year of SeedQuest NSW — a partnership between the Trust and the Millennium Seedbank at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, London. This six-year agreement has significantly boosted seed conservation collections

and research at Mount Annan. A total of 541 NSW species (including 49 threatened species) have been collected with duplicate high standard seed collections and herbarium specimens now held by the Trust and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. Seed research activities are now focussed on key areas of ecological factors controlling germination, and comparative seed longevity. SeedQuest NSW is now engaging with other sections within the Department regarding implementation of ex-situ conservation strategies and seed research as outlined in the threatened species priority action statement.

Continuing partnerships include Landcom's sponsorship of Carols in the Garden and Mothers Day 2006, the M5 Motorway's sponsorship of Fathers Day in 2006 and the Grevillea study group's autumn plant sale partnership. Cross-promotional partnerships with other Macarthur region tourist destinations and local Councils continue.

The Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living has three Trust staff directors on the board of the company (see report on Centre development on Page 15).

### Maintenance & Protection of Natural & Built Heritage in Gardens, Parks & Natural Areas

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The second year of a three-year heritage building maintenance program was completed. Works included repairs to the Anderson Building, the Northern Depot and a number of public pavilions. Heritage studies and approvals were done for a number of other projects to be completed next year, including the Palm Grove Centre and Domain toilets, Palm House and Macquarie Lodge. The Woolloomooloo Bay bushland maintenance program included weed management and the removal of poor-growing plants. A plant propagation program is underway for plantings in autumn 2007.

**Mount Tomah** An area was chosen to safely process green waste on site and which can also be used for overflow car parking during peak seasons. Also completed was the redevelopment of the visitor centre displays which showcased the regional links to botanists who had collected plants in the Blue Mountains.

**Mount Annan** Pumps which supply unfiltered water for irrigation from the canal which bisects the estate and the radio telemetry system to control storage tank water loss were replaced. The Friends of The Gardens funded works to remove more African Olive, a weedy species. Basal spraying and mechanical removal accounted for primary weed

control of 11 hectares on the estate. The central carpark redevelopment completed in June doubled available carpark spaces, simplified access and exits, and improved drainage and display plantings.

#### Develop Gardens, Parks & Natural Areas for Educational, Historical & Recreational Purposes

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The Camellia Garden redevelopment commenced with existing garden beds stripped of most plantings and a new path constructed. Plant stock has been either secured or propagation programs initiated. Due for completion in late 2006, the new Garden will visually improve the eastern boundary of Rathborne Lodge and link with public access to the Fernery and the nursery.

The Palace Rose Garden, Wollemi Walk of Discovery, Big Idea Garden, Woodland Garden and other garden developments at Mount Annan, Mount Tomah and Sydney are reported elsewhere.

#### Park Use, Including for Events, Managed for Long-term Sustainability

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** Reconstruction of a one-kilometre section of Mrs Macquaries Road commenced. Another 50 areas of road and path repairs were completed. Sports field use continues to be managed through field rotations and wet weather closures.

**Mount Annan** The objective to increase the number of events this year was achieved with the sponsorship of Fathers Day by M5 Motorway (Interlink) and Landcom's agreement to continue to sponsor Mothers Day and Carols in the Garden. Cinema Under the Stars was sponsored by Camden Council. Trust collaboration with the Macarthur Tourism group is targeting the growth of wedding bookings, bus tour numbers and venue hire. Walking trail brochures were reviewed and cross country events proved very popular.

**Mount Tomah** The events program attracted over 6,000 additional visitors and helped to ameliorate the fall in visitor numbers resulting from high fuel prices. Events included the Hawkesbury Waratah Festival, the Autumn Harvest Festival and Jazz in the Garden. A major art exhibition exhibited over 30 artists who produced their works in the Garden.

#### Good Quality Visitor Facilities, Services & Programs

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The 2005 Margaret Flockton Award, sponsored by the Friends of The Gardens, attracted over 1,000 visitors to the exhibition of selected works in the Red Box Gallery in the National Herbarium.

An exhibition of works by the Trust's inaugural artist-in-residence, Christopher Gentle, was held in the Red Box Gallery. The exhibition, which attracted over 450 people, was held in association with the Drawing Connections Festival, and represented the first presentation of works by the artist. The Trust's second artist-in-residence, Gaye Chapman, who commenced her residency in January 2006, is developing a body of work titled 'The Secret Garden'.

**Mount Tomah** Visitor experience was monitored through surveys and a complaints and comments register. Over 96 per cent of visitors rated the horticulture as good or very good with ninety per cent rating the facilities as good or very good. The highest unprompted response (30%) for the element most valued was the variety of plants, followed by beauty and tranquillity. Requested changes included more interpretation (21 per cent), with 17 per cent of respondents wanting toilet facilities in the Lower Garden.

**Mount Annan** Wet weekends in the latter part of the financial year reduced the expected growth in visitor numbers. Over 90,000 visitors represented a 1,500 increase this year. Both regular surveys and a questionnaire distributed to assist with the masterplan review indicated that visitors enjoy the ambience, fresh air, feeling of space, natural areas and cultivated gardens.

Visitor surveys indicate continued high levels of satisfaction (greater than 90%). Standards of on-site facilities were endorsed (95 per cent score). Consistent requests were for larger trees and more floral displays, such as the spring wildflowers, at other times of the year. Recurring areas of dissatisfaction (less than 10 per cent) related to restaurant pricing, walking trails and directional signage to the Wollemi Walk of Discovery. Tour bus numbers increased by over 20 per cent. Community events such Carols in the Garden, Cinema under the Stars and Mothers Day all prompted very positive comments and a desire for their continuation. A lack of display facilities at the Garden reduces the Trust's capacity to offer a full range of exhibitions for which visitors also expressed a desire.

#### Aboriginal Communities Partnered & Their Knowledge and Values Recognised

The Trust's Aboriginal Education Officer, with help from casual Aboriginal education assistants, conducts Aboriginal heritage tours of the Royal Botanic Gardens and delivers Aboriginal themed lessons for school students at all three estates.

Approximately 15 per cent of all students come to the Gardens for lessons with an Aboriginal theme. Lessons included Aboriginal People and Plants, Contact and Bush Foods for upper primary students, Changing Rights and Freedoms of Aboriginal People in the 20th Century and a Bush Foods Heritage/Food Technology lesson for junior secondary students.

The Woggan-Ma-Gule morning ceremony took place at the Royal Botanic Gardens on Survival Day/Australia Day. The ceremony, hosted by the Australia Day Council, involved Indigenous dancers and singers performing to an audience of over one thousand people, including the Governor of NSW and the NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. Milton Orkopoulos MP.

Plans for the Stolen Generations Memorial at Mount Annan Botanic Garden were launched on Sorry Day, 26 May 2003 and Sorry Day celebrations have been held on site at Mount Annan Botanic Garden every subsequent year. The Stolen Generation Memorial is an evolving site situated in Mount Annan's conservation woodland area (see below). This year's Sorry Day event attracted over 100 Aboriginal community and Stolen Generation members who shared their stories with local school children, Trust staff and other participants.

The Aboriginal Education Officer represented the Trust at community and government functions: launches and openings, official welcomes, workshops and conferences, school presentations, bush tucker garden consultations and tours for VIPs. He also represented at school lessons, the school holiday program (Mount Tomah), heritage tours (Royal Botanic Gardens) and Sorry Day function (Mount Annan). The Trust conducted 190 lessons with an Indigenous theme involving 4,527 students. Forty-nine Indigenous tours were offered, attracting 570 participants. The Trust consulted four Indigenous communities for advice on Indigenous matters.

### Cultural Values and Heritage Objects, Sites and Places

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The Department of Commerce commenced repairs to the Farm Cove seawall following damage caused by a commercial vessel. Restoration of four heritage glasshouses was partly completed. Repairs to the Northern Depot storage and staff facilities were completed. An audit and condition assessment of moveable heritage items will guide repairs to a number of damaged statues within the Royal Botanic Gardens.

**Mount Annan** Work on the Stolen Generations Memorial produced a new section of boardwalk and decomposed granite paths built by Aboriginal

trainees. A 5.5 tonne sandstone block, donated by the New South Wales Department of Commerce, was craned into position in June. This work was generously supported by the Stratti family. Badger Bates, the Aboriginal artist, has been engaged to commence the sculpture in July 2006. Free entry and organized transport by Liverpool Council on Sorry Day facilitated a large Indigenous presence at the celebration of Stage 2 of the project.

**Mount Tomah** The Garden is listed as a heritage asset on the Blue Mountains Environmental Plan. All management and development activities considered heritage impacts on the site. All Tomah heritage assets are listed on the Trust's heritage register.

### Accessible Open Space Provided for a Variety of Sport, Recreation and Relaxation Activities

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The 2006 summer season of cultural events at the Royal Botanic Gardens continued to link the Trust in strategic partnerships with the City of Sydney, the NSW Office of Protocol and Special Events, Sydney Festival and Tropfest. Huge crowds enjoyed the New Year's Eve fireworks from the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain from both the free public areas and ticketed events such as 'Midnight at the Oasis' and 'Lawn with the View'. Public safety is a key focus of the Trust at these large events. The Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens hosted some 500,000 patrons without incident.

Venue and events management at the Royal Botanic Gardens resulted in revenue of nearly \$1,000,000 to the Trust. The Trust's open space and venues were accessed by just over half a million people this year. Recreational areas are in the best condition for many years as a result of improved management practices, despite water restrictions.

Revenue from private outdoor bookings (seasonal sport, picnics, marquees, weddings, photography) in the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain increased. Marquee site revenue was down slightly.

The event and venue management section of the Trust's website was improved, providing improved user information and direct access to booking forms and venue images.

**Mount Annan** Two major recreational sporting activities that continue to grow are walking groups and cross-country running. The Mount Annan Wanderers walking group, funded by the New South Wales Department of Sport and Recreation, caters for all ages and levels of fitness and accounts for approximately 800 visitors annually. The Campbelltown City Council Challenge

Walk in March attracted over 2,500 competitors, representing an eight per cent increase on 2005.

**Mount Tomah** The Garden attracted 78,575 visitors, a fall compared to the previous year, due mainly to the increased cost of fuel. Visitor numbers were still better than the low of 74,492 in 2002–03. Mount Tomah visitor numbers were in contrast to the regional tourist trend which saw the low 2003–04 day visitation trend to the Blue Mountains continue.

### Tourists & Tourist Operators Visit & Enjoy the Gardens

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** Over 11,000 buses brought more than 330,000 tourists to Mrs Macquaries Point to see Mrs Macquaries Chair and enjoy the view of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Harbour and Opera House. Free guided tours, led by volunteer guides, were provided to 3,500 visitors, while over 1000 took themed tours in the Royal Botanic Gardens. Approximately 60 per cent of visitors to the 'Sex and Death' exhibition in the Tropical Centre were overseas visitors; 77 per cent of all visitors rated the exhibition positively or very positively.

**Mount Annan** Tour bus numbers increased by over 20 per cent this year.

**Mount Tomah** The Garden continued to participate in the Tourism NSW visiting journalist program. Familiarisation visits were organised for 12 groups of travel writers and inbound tour operators, resulting in stable visitor numbers in a shrinking tourism market for the region. Visitor experience was monitored through surveys and a complaints and comments register (see page 24).

### Development of Urban Green Spaces

The Trust membership of the Sydney Urban Parks Education and Research (SUPER) Group provides valuable access to the research and educational work of the group. Two pieces of research were scoped for implementation next year: a study on the economic, social and environmental benefits of open space; and a mental health project testing separate effects of active and passive recreational activities in urban parks against an active recreation activity program conducted in an indoor facility. The project, a two-year study involving 366 people aged 55 years and older, is a joint proposal with the Centre for Physical Activity and Health at University of Sydney and will be submitted to the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

The first stage of international visitor research was conducted by a PhD student. The objectives of this

study are to measure tourist use, awareness and satisfaction for selected urban parks and other types of urban attractions; understand decision-making by tourists; and identify similarities and differences between park visitors and non-park visitors in terms of their behaviour, decision-making, information use and satisfaction. Visitor appreciation of and intention to visit the Royal Botanic Gardens rated very well in the first stage. Second stage of data collection and analysis will happen next year.

Healthy Parks Healthy People, an initiative of the SUPER Group, delivered a three-part program to the community. In July, 'Art in the Park' was an umbrella title for individual art-related activities in member parks and gardens. The Trust program included a 'Draw the Gardens' workshop (which was also part of the Drawing Connections Festival), a self-guided sculpture walk featuring over 30 works of public art in the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Domain, the Margaret Flockton Award exhibition of botanical illustration in the Red Box Gallery in the Herbarium; and Winter Madness Sculpture Display – a drive-through series of installations in an 80-metre-long garden bed and sculpture workshop at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden.

Parks Week held in October featured events at each estate. In Sydney there was the Wollemi Pine exhibition and the Margaret Preston self-guided walk and floral arrangement exhibition. Mount Annan Botanic Garden held Nocturnal Natters, night tours revealing creatures found in the Garden after dark, and the spring wildflower display. Mount Tomah Botanic Garden held the Waratah Festival and waratah school art display.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

For over 20 years, volunteers have worked with visitors and staff to enrich the programs and services provided at the Trust's three botanic estates. Twenty-one volunteers programs currently exist across the Branches of the Trust and in support of the Friends' organisation. There are over 250 volunteers working in science, horticulture and education areas at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Mount Annan and Mount Tomah Botanic Gardens, and approximately 300 volunteers working for the Friends' organisation.

Volunteerism across the organisation is coordinated through the Trust's Volunteer Programs Committee, made up of representatives of management, staff and volunteer supervisors and the Public Service Association of NSW. This group reports to the Executive, and meets regularly to consider strategic directions for new volunteering initiatives and to review existing programs.

This year the Trust's Volunteer Policy and Volunteer Reference Manual were reviewed, updated and approved by the Trust's Executive, after consultation organised by the Volunteer Program Committee. A section called 'The Spirit of Volunteering' was added to the policy to ensure that the welfare and needs of staff are protected and the benefits of volunteers to the workplace are understood.

New policies addressing work experience for students and corporate employee opportunities for corporate sponsors were also established this year to facilitate new unpaid opportunities with the Trust and to further clarify the relationship between paid staff and volunteers.

The volunteers 'thankyou' event was held at the Art Gallery of NSW with over 220 volunteers attending. As well as presenting certificates for long service, the Executive Director announced that the Royal Botanic Gardens volunteer guides were the recipients of a NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Award.

Volunteer recruitment and training took place at Mount Annan and Mount Tomah Gardens and at the Royal Botanic Gardens. This process takes place approximately every two years and this year an information day was held for potential volunteers to the Herbarium mounting program and volunteer guiding programs. Over 80 attended and of these 30 were interviewed and selected for ongoing training.

### Friends of The Gardens

The Friends has continued its very active support of the Botanic Gardens Trust throughout the year. This

support is both financial and practical. The Friends act as a link with the community, informing them of the scientific, educational, historical, cultural and recreational importance of the Trust.

The Friends published its quarterly magazine *The Gardens*, including the 4 additional pages reporting only Botanic Gardens Trust information. The magazine provided information about Friends' events and articles of interest, as well as details of tours and benefits available to members.

This year the Friends raised over \$500,000. After expenses, the net surplus was \$171,330. In addition, the Friends' Trust Fund accepted donations of over \$67,000.

The Friends (including the Friends' Trust Fund) made the following donations to the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust:

Annual Horticulture Scholarship	\$5,000
Annual Staff Scholarship	\$10,000
Margaret Flockton Award	\$8,800
Contribution to fixed costs	\$45,000
Donation to three nurseries	\$7,000
Botanic Gardens of Sydney Guidebook	\$40,000
Garden Wedding Knot, Mount Annan	\$40,000
Contribution for Business Services relocation from Cottage 5	\$50,000
Banks & Solander at Botany Bay web page	\$10,000
Weather station at Mount Annan	\$20,000
Thermal Transfer printer for nursery	\$5,800
Garden lighting at Lion Gate Lodge	\$4,289
Various Library projects	\$32,879
Support for Trust staff to attend BGANZ	\$5,000
Sydney Tree Survey & Assessment	\$51,800
Disability Access in Sydney Gardens	\$60,000
Underwater communication system	\$5,084
Refurbishment of Cottage 5	\$28,772
Seedbank	\$1,000
RBG Heritage Trees	\$1,200
Signage Mount Annan	\$1,000
African Olive control, Mount Annan	\$30,000
Sundry items	\$400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$408,079</b>
Funds committed to projects and which are still in progress total	\$132,838

At 30 June 2006 the Friends committed to fund the following:

Horticultural, Staff & Science Scholarships	\$30,000
Margaret Flockton Award	\$7,500
Contribution to direct costs	\$45,000
Re-furbishment of Cottage 5	\$20,000
Contribution to Nurseries	\$6,000
Heritage Trees, Sydney Gardens	\$75,000
Student internships	\$14,000
African Olive Control, Mount Annan	\$20,000
Install low water turf, Mount Tomah	\$20,000
Library projects	\$7,800
Tree charter development	\$10,000
Site identification banners, Sydney	\$8,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$229,550</b>

Donations of books and magazines were made to Community Greening, following the second-hand book sale. Donations of plants propagated by Growing Friends were made to: Community Greening (634), Education (21), Mount Annan Botanic Garden (229), Mount Tomah Botanic Garden (160), Royal Botanic Gardens (150); and to the Botanic Garden shops (468) for them to sell.

The Friends is totally dependent on contributions from volunteers. Over 200 volunteers not only give their time, but also bring many talents and skills to the organization and enable the Friends to undertake a wide variety of activities. Many volunteers serve on committees or subcommittees which oversee the many interests of the Friends and many more coordinate and work at the various events.

Volunteers plan and present activities at the three Gardens; others assisted Trust staff this year to hand-water the valuable plant collections during water restrictions.

Major exhibitions held by the Friends are organised and run by Friends' volunteers, as is the annual second-hand book sale. Volunteers represent the Friends of The Gardens at outside events and support Trust events. They also promote membership of the Friends and give presentations to other organisations. A volunteer subcommittee plans local and overseas tours and office staff are assisted by volunteers on a regular basis.

The Friends' Speakers Bureau is gaining strength, taking information about the Botanic Gardens Trust, the four estates and the Friends to Proboscis Clubs, Garden Clubs, Rotary groups and many other community organisations. Information booth volunteers continue to welcome visitors at the Woolloomooloo Gates of the Royal Botanic Gardens. Catering volunteers provide refreshments

for Friends' activities in Sydney, Mount Annan and Mount Tomah Gardens, and are more frequently being approached to cater for many other groups, including the Botanic Gardens Trust and the Department of Environment & Conservation for a variety of functions. They are now a revenue earning group within their own right.

This year over 19,000 hours of volunteer work supported the following Friends' activities: literary lunch, information booth, catering (over 50 functions), Growing Friends, artisans exhibition, Botanica exhibition, New Years Eve event, plant watering, book sale, membership promotion, art master classes, Speakers Bureau and administration.

### Friends Volunteers

Margaret Alexander, Judith Anderson, Roslyn Andrews, Caroline Arnott, Anne Arnott, Peter Ayres, Pat Baker, Victoria Bannon, Linda Barnes, Jan Beardmore, Cheryl Beverley, Prunella Booth, Noel Boreham, Julie Boreham, Heather Branch, Mary Bray, Sunday Brent, Helen Brockhoff, Chris Browne, Rodney Browne, Rebecca Browning, Margaret Buckland, James Buckland, Jean-Louis Buhagiar, Lynne Cairncross, Rosemary Calder, Libby Cameron, Lois Catchlove, Barry Catchlove, Margaret Chambers, Linda Chan, Margot Child, Susan Cohen, Julia Collingwood, Marie-Claire Comline, Gillian Cook, Eleanor Cornish, Wendy Cottee, Margaret Coyle, Barry Cresswell, Prue Davenport, Heather Davidson, Catherine Davies, Michael Davies, Carolyn Davis, Rachel Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Susanne de Ferranti, Elizabeth Dent, Des Dent, Reg Dibley, Marian Diesner, M. Pat Duncan, Christine Dunstan, Chris Elliott, Gordon Featherstone, Bruce Fergus, Beryl Ferguson, Annie Fergusson, Jan Fish, Suzanne Fitzhardinge, Deirdre Fleeting, Beryl Flint, Maureen Foord, Lesley Foster, Ruth Foster, Ruth Fowler, Wayne Gardner, Julia Gardoll, Susan Gazal, Eileen Gemmell-Smith, Deborah Green, Carola Griesser, Dallas Griffin, Leanne Grimstone, Anne Grose, Robin Guthrie, Margaret Hanks, Philip Hannaford, Sandra Hannaford, Lynne Harlow, Ray Harrington, Joanna Harrop, Anne Hawker, Alistair Hay, Helen Hemphill, Kim Hines, John Hinson, Isobel Holthouse, Libby Horrobin, Terry Howard, Joan Humphreys, Suzanne Isherwood, Tim Jackson, Jeanie Jagelman, Nicky Joffe, Winsome Johnstone, Beverley Kable, Helen Keene, Rosemary Kenney-Herbert, Susan Khouri, Peter Kijurina, Suzanne Kijurina, Gabrielle King, Kate King, Lynne King, Diana Kingston, Suzanne Knowles, Mel Kovacs, Barbara Lane, Alan Leishman, Robin Leonard, Annette Lindsay, Janette Lomas, Dulcie Lovibond, Robyn Macintosh, Judith MacIntyre, Christa Magee, Marlene Marks,

Carolle Marquard, Tony Martin, Rae Mashford, Deryl Mason, Jill Matthews, Elizabeth McCabe, Ann McCauley, John McDermott, Jenifer McDermott, Stan McDonald, Janette McDonald, Alison McInnes, Robin McIntyre, Ann McIntyre, Lee McMahon, Janet McMahon, Elizabeth McNaughton, Anne McNeill, Susan Meares, John Meikle, Jann Meikle, Beth Michie, Margaret Mills, Patrick Mills, Judith Mitchell, Manja Morey, Jan Morgan, Sarah Muston, Carole Nearn, Anne Neild, Roslyn O’Gorman, Freda O’Malley, John O’Neill, Esme Parker, Mary Parkinson, Rosemarie Pettit, Elisabeth Pidd, Sandy Pratten, Jill Prior, Liz Purchas, Elizabeth Rabbitts, Ann Rasmussen, Annabel Rattray, Peta Rattray, Suzanne Richards, Geoffrey Richards, Gillian Richmond, Ken Rinkel, Alexander Robertson, Bruce Robertson, Beverley Robson, Beverley Roden, Jane Rodgers, Enid Ross, Joyce Roy, Paul Roy, Annie Rufo, Anne Rutter, Carmen Sablatnig, Ingrid Sands, Joan Scott, Elizabeth Shaw, Doris Shearman, Graham Shields, Patricia Shields, Bettine Silver, Ecila Simpson, Janine Smith, Colin Snodgrass, Janet Snodgrass, Prue Socha, Mavis Sourry, Ann Spight, Hugh Springford, Annette Springford, Robyn Stafford, Margaret Stewart, Diana Storer, Lindy Stuart, Annie Sutherland, Eleanor Sydney-Jones, Sandy Symons, Elfriede Taylor, Ailsa Thompson, Jennifer Thompson, Frieda Thornhill, Peter Thornhill, Stefani Thornthwaite, Mary Threlfall, Judith Tiley, Margaret Titterton, John Tunbridge, Margaret Turner, Paul Urquhart, Peter Valder, Anne van Roekel, Jackie Wall, Angela Webb, Caroline Webster, Roberta Wells, Sally Wheatley, Robert Wheeler, Roslyn Wheeler, Elizabeth Wilkes, Jill Wilkins, Karen Wilson, Jennifer Wilson, Margaret Young,

#### Herbarium Volunteers

Mike Atkinson, Lydia Bell, Margaret Bell, Christine Belshaw, Carol Bentley, Wayne Brailey, Harry Brian, Ellen Brien, Louise Broadhead, Kathryn Brown, Dawn Bunce, Lynette Burns, Mary Cail, Margaret Carrigg, Kathryn Chapman, Anne Collins, Barbara Darmanin, Mien De Hass, Jane D’Olier, David Drage, Helen Flinn, Gladys Foster, Pat Harris, Jane Helsham, Rachel Hill, Peta Hinton, Alick Hobbes, Beverley Honey, Mike Isbell, Trevor Kruger, Fred Langshaw, Marie Lovett, Anne Lucas, Anne McCallum, Lorraine McCarthy, Malcolm McDonald, Ena Middleton, Jenna Nielsen, Barbara Page, Jill Pain, Sally Paton, Duc Phan, Aileen Phipps, Dorothy Pye, Beth Radford, Ann Rahaley, John Richards, Betty Ruthven, Theresa Sergeant, Graham Shields, Lucas Shuttleworth, Carol Sinclair, Julie Taylor, Betty Thurley, Ruth Toop, Shelagh Trengove, Valerie Trigg, Sybil Unsworth, Rosemary Varley, Anne Wilcher, Jean Williams, Lisa Woods.

#### Scientific Volunteers

Irene Bodell, Gaye Chapman, Chris Gentle, Carol Griesser, Peter Mylrea, Roslyn O’Gorman, Fresa Poot, Melanie Sifton, Deidre Tronson, Kim Tronson.

#### Horticultural Volunteers

Margaret Chedra, Gordon Chivers, Raoul de Ferranti, Bruce Fergus, Lee Kass, Peter Sharp.

#### Library Volunteers

Beverley Allen, Pamela Bell, Rosemary Blakeney, Diane Calder, Judy Calder, Margot Child, Linda Chu, Silas Clifford-Smith, Janet Heywood, Lesia Hrubyj, Zia Khan, Gwenda Levy, David Mackay, Nicole Mason, Matthew Nash, John Pearce, Cecilia Raffaella, Ben Ross, Evelyn Shervington, Lois Stewart, Xiaojie Yuan.

#### Volunteer Guides Royal Botanic Gardens

Adrienne Alexander, Denise Allan, Elizabeth Anderson, Maria Arimon, Phillip Armstrong, Carole Beales, Janet Bennett, Rosemary Blakeney, Heather Branch, Caroline Bray, Joan Bryant, Marie Caldecott, Joy Cabbage, David Chandler, Lesley Clarke, Julie Collins, Leonie Cooper, Allan Correy, Margaret (Peta) Coyle, Lynne Cusack, Emma Daniell, Eric Darley, Gillian Davies, Elizabeth Davis OAM, Sharon De Souza, Flora Deverall, Gillian Dodd, Barbara Dunne, Helen Ephraums, Noel Elliot, Beryl Ferguson, Sue Gazal (on leave 2006), Jan Gibson, Rosemary Gleeson, Jan Gluskie, Helen Gray, Thelma Griffiths, Susanne Giuffre, Jill Hankinson, Olivia Harris, Anne Heasman, Helen Hemphill, Jean Hobbs, Dorothy Holland, Daphne Howie, Glenn Johnson, Marion Lean, Graeme Lees, Gabrielle Loneragan, Jeannette Manyweathers, John Mathews, Toni McDowell, Lyn McGrath, Julia McGill, Judith Maynard, Judith Mitro, Sandeep Mittal, Lynda Newnam, Jim Nicol, Susan North Ash, Bob O’Brien, Erol Omar, John Page, Jill Paterson, Jenny Pattison, Dianne Peters, Roger Pittaway, Marian Plaude, Rowan Poten, Sandy Pratten, Wendy Pratten, Helen Rann, Rosemary Roberts, Yvonne Roberts, Sally Rutherford, Ginny Sadubin, Brian Sewell, Frank Sharples, Christina Simpson, Margaret Ann Smith, Margaret Spinak, Mavis Sourry, Morris Stocker, Carol Style, Kate Symons, Mary Threlfall, Hilary Vallance, Berenice Walker, Fay Warren, Helen Williams.

#### Volunteer Guides Mount Tomah

Frank Allatt, Ros Allatt, Bill Avery, Suzanne Bassett, Tina Boyd, Barry Bradley, Annette Bryant, Sandra Curry, Dawne Dunlop, Margaret Esson, Isabel Johnston, Airdrie Martin, Kathleen Oakes, Ailsa

Thompson, Tony Tree, Shirlee Tree, Jackie Wall, Heather Weir, Carol Whyte.

### Volunteer Guides Mount Annan

Peter Andrews, Denis Astill, Margaret Beal, Lynne Cairncross, Danka Ciric, Jim Colvin, Shane Culbert, Robin Davies, Lesley Foster, Gail Grace, Nola Jay, Phyllis Jupe, Gwenda Levy, Marcia Majorich, Mario Majorich, Maureen Naccachian, Barry Penprase, Mary Raftery, Joan Scott, John Shanks, Margaret Shanks.

### Bush Regeneration Volunteers Mount Annan

Richard Austin, Pam Browne, Laura Chappell, Jim Coumo, Joel Daniels, Robyn Davies, Ron Davies, David Eden, Louise Helby, Shirley Henderson, Lesley Hook, Janine Jones, Leonie Kelly, Bronwyn Kery, Jamie McMahan, Nikki Oram, Barry Penprase, Alex Stengl, Duncan Stewart, Kris Stolzenhein, Doreen Ward, Rod Ward.

## Financial Support

### Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation

The Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation is a charitable Trust endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

The purpose of the Foundation is to support the development of the Botanic Gardens Trust through securing private sector gifts, individual donations and corporate philanthropy for specific projects, capital development and general work of the Trust.

The Foundation is governed by (Acting) Chair, Mr Greg Martin and Board of Councillors, Mr Ian Conley; Mr Jamie Durie; Mrs Sue Gazal; Mr Don Morris; Ms Gretel Packer and Mrs Caroline Webster.

During 2005–06 the Foundation funded the redevelopment of the Palace Rose Garden; the replacement of the interpretative signage at the Cadi Jam Ora: First Encounters Garden; and a heritage statue restoration assessment and scope of work for the redevelopment of the Australian Rockery.

In 2005 the Foundation approved a three-year business plan setting out a strategy to secure support for the Trust's forthcoming significant projects — a Children's Garden, Community Greening, redevelopment of the Australian Rockery — and continued support of the Trust's general work.

During the year the Foundation raised over \$250,000. The Trust would like to thank all supporters — individual benefactors and corporate philanthropists — for their valuable contributions.

### Corporate Sponsorships

The Trust continued to develop corporate partnerships through sponsorship of specific horticultural and educational programs and events.

In this third year of our partnership program Towards Sustainable Horticulture, sponsored by HSBC Bank Australia Ltd, the Trust continued to demonstrate and communicate to our visitors sustainable horticultural practice across each estate. Partnerships with Eden Gardens & Garden Centre, Fujitsu General, ME lighting, Landcom and Fujifilm Australia Pty Ltd have further supported the Trust's programs in horticulture, education and recreation. The Trust would like thank all sponsors listed below for their commitment and support.

### Major Supporters

Australia Flora Foundation  
Australian Biological Resources Study  
Australian Research Council - Discovery Grant  
Australian Systematic Botany Society  
Department of Environment and Conservation -  
Parks and Wildlife Division, Northern Directorate  
Department of Environment and Heritage - Natural  
Heritage Trust  
Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney  
FUJIFILM Australia Pty Ltd  
Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)  
Hermon Slade Foundation  
Hermon Slade Orchid Fund  
HSBC Bank Australia Ltd  
Janet Cosh Fund  
Land and Water Australia  
Landcom  
ME Lighting  
Mr Simon & Mrs Anna Ainsworth of Eden Gardens &  
Garden Centre  
Murray Irrigation Ltd  
NSW Department of Housing  
Pacific Biological Foundation  
Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation  
The Australia & Pacific Science Foundation  
UK Millennium Commission

### Foundation Donors

Beswick Family Fund  
Mr Greg & Mrs Georgia McCafferty  
Mrs Jennifer Crivelli  
Mr Bruce Arnott  
Mr David & Mrs Kathryn Groves

Mr Geoffrey & Mrs Rachel O'Connor  
Mr Ian Conley  
Mr Peter Sharp  
Mr Raymond Burrell  
Mrs Dianne Gallagher  
Mrs Isa Jones  
Mrs Mary Whitton  
Mrs Sue Walsh  
Ms Carolyn McDonald  
Ms Elizabeth Thio  
Ms Lee-Anne Reid & Mr Andrew MacPherson  
Ms Megan Young  
Ms Nancy Malfanti  
Ms Pauline Markwell  
Ms Penny Doherty  
Ms Sue Gazal

#### Supporters

Australian Orchid Foundation  
British Ecological Society & International Bracken Group  
Carlton United Breweries  
Department of Education, Science & Training (DEST)  
DesignWorks Enterprise IG Pty Ltd  
Freehills  
Fujitsu General (Aust.) Pty Ltd  
Harvey Norman Campbelltown  
Hawkesbury City Council  
Hawkesbury Excavations  
Interlink - M5 South-West Motorway  
Italian Embassy in Australia  
Korn Ferry International  
Narellan Town Centre  
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service  
Oasis Horticulture  
Paradise Plants  
Proteaflora

#### Friends Waratah Members

Friends who have given extra financial support through their Waratah membership during the year include:

#### Gold Waratahs

Dr Charles S Barnes, Dr Gillian Davies, Mr Warren & Mrs Nancy Boyd, Mrs Zeny & Mr Bruce Edwards, Lady Vincent Fairfax OBE, Mr John Flint & Mrs Nora Hinchin, Mr Graham & Mrs Virginia Froebel, Mr Neville H Grace, Dr John & Mrs Mary Holt, Dr Max & Mrs Tess Hooper, Mr Gilles & Mrs Susan Kryger, Mr Andrew Lishmund, Mrs Judith MacIntyre, Mrs Susan Maple-Brown, Dr William & Dr Sarah Nelson, Mr Geoff & Mrs Rachel O'Connor, Mr David & Mrs Patricia Pulsford, Dr Alex & Mrs Dorothy Robertson, Mrs Susan Rothwell, Mr Bill & Mrs Maureen Ryan, Mr Mark & Mrs Ruth Sampson, Mrs Caroline & Mr Robert Webster.

#### Silver Waratahs

Mr Ross & Mrs Lenore Adamson, Mrs Geraldine & Mr Christopher Arnott, Ms Shane Bedford & Ms Linda Hunt, Mr Donald & Mrs Sally Bradford, Mr Robert & Mrs Janet Constable, Dr Michelle Cotton, Mrs Elizabeth Davis OAM, Ms Anne De Salis, Dr Roderick & Mrs Gillian Deane, Mr Bruce Flood & Ms Kathy Olsen, Mr David Fuller, Mr John Gale, Mrs Annemarie Geckeler, Mr Warren Green, Mr Alan & Mrs Marion Grundy, Dr Catherine & Mr Desmond Guy, Mrs Eleanor Herriott & Mr John Lee, Mr Gordon & Mrs Jeanette King, Hon. Justice Mary J M Lawrie, Mrs Nina Loder, Mrs Mary Rose & Dr Colin McDonald, Mr John & Mrs Judith McKernan, Dr David & Mrs Barbara Millons, Mrs Patricia Reid, Dr Mary & Dr Nancy Rickard, Mrs Prue Socha, Mr John C Southwell OAM, Ms Eleanor Sydney-Jones, Mr ER & Mrs ME Vellacott, Ms Robyn Winton, Mrs Jill Wran.

#### Bronze Waratahs

Mrs Beryl Adamson, Mr Geoffrey Ainsworth & Ms Laura Olsson, Mrs Nancy Anderson, Ms Gillian Appleton, Mrs Chris Armour, Henry & Mrs Peta Badgery, Mrs Minnie Biggs, Dr Barbara & Dr Margaret Booth, Dr Barbara Briggs, Mr Edmund Burgess, Mr Geoffrey & Mrs Sarah Cains, Mrs Adrienne Campbell, Dr Donald & Mrs Margot Child, Mrs Ronda Chisholm, Ms Diane Clarke, Mrs Patricia Copes, Dr Gillian Davies, Ms Roslyn Espie, Ms Annie Fergusson, Mrs Nancy Fox & Mr Bruce Arnold, Mr Ian Fraser, Mr Allan Gilden & Mr Tony Barnett, Mr Paul Gray & Mr Andrew Moate, Mrs Dallas & Mr Brian Griffin, Mr Jim & Mrs Ruth Hallmark, Mr Owen Haviland & Ms Susan Hope, Ms Anne Hawker, Ms Janita & Mr Philip Hercus, Mr John Hinson, Mr William Hodgson, Prof. Cliff & Mrs Elizabeth Hughes, Mrs Sheila & Mr Philip Jacobson, Mrs Christina Kennedy, Mrs Christine Kenworthy, Mrs Denise & Mr Wal King, Prof Michael & Mrs Sarah Lawrence, Ms Robin Low, Dr David & Mrs Judith Maynard, Mrs Judith & Mr John McKernan, Mr Andrew Mitchell & Mr Brendan Hartnett, Dr Kenneth & Mrs Helen Neale, Mr Robert & Mr Derek Paisley, Mrs Barbara Palfreeman, Ms Frances Peterson, Rev John Price, Mrs Louise & Mr Donald Rowston, Dr Diana & Dr Peter Sainsbury, Mr Garry Scarf & Ms Maureen Blaxill, Mrs Edith Schothorst-Kaspers, Mr Colin Simson, Miss Kathryn Stoddart, Mrs Aline & Mr Peter Ter Horst, Mr Graham & Mrs Beverley Thompson, Mr Richard & Mrs Anna Walker, Mrs Francis Walsh, Mr Dean White & Mrs Sophie Polednik, Mr John & Mrs Irene Willimott, Mrs J O & Dr W H Wolfenden.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix A Statutory Information

### Human Resource Information

The Botanic Gardens Trust is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation NSW. Statutory reporting requirements concerning ethnic affairs priorities (EAPS), number of chief and senior executive officers, staff numbers, trends in the representation of EEO groups, and numbers of female officers in Senior Executive Service (SES) positions, are reported in the annual report of the Department.

**Occupational Health and Safety** The Botanic Gardens Trust is committed to providing a safe workplace for its staff and visitors. This year, risk minimisation continued to focus on:

- Safe Work Methods Statements — forms which are completed when a risk is identified: 26 prepared and 78 reviewed.
- Toolbox Talks – one-on-one safety discussions based on the risks identified in Safe Work Methods Statements conducted prior to staff undertaking any major task: 1094 completed throughout the year.
- Take-5 system – an abbreviated version of the Toolbox Talk where staff take time prior to undertaking any task, even minor ones, to identify any potential risks

- OHS Self Assessment tool – a self audit mechanism for members of the Executive: completed for all executive and all but one scoring at above 95%.
- Improved safety checklists and risk assessment tools
- Prompt investigation of all incidents, including key management staff.
- Support for preventative measures such as warm-up routines and general fitness training
- Monthly safety advisory group meetings including OH&S site committee chairs and senior management.

**Safety Statistics** There has been another increase in the lost time injury frequency rate, as shown in the Treasury Managed Fund figures below, as well as in the monthly average number of days lost. Although most injuries occurring are 'minor', these statistics are of great concern to the Trust. The Trust's goal continues to be zero injuries.

### Provision of Information Services

**Gardens Shop and Visitor Centre** The Trust operates four combined visitor centre/shops at Mount Annan and Mount Tomah Gardens, the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Sydney Tropical Centre. These services provide information about Trust services and facilities, and sell a comprehensive range of botanical and horticultural books, souvenirs and gifts.

### Treasury Management Fund Statistics

Year	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
Number of Workers Compensation Claims	46	38	17	25	25	38
Cost per claim per employee	\$550	\$399	\$228	\$550	\$437	\$873
Ranking of organisation against all government agencies in Number of Claims per Employee	102/118	79/111	81/111	93/110	119/130	NA

### Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate

Year	97–98	98–99	99–00	00–01	01–02	02–03	03–04	04–05	05–06
LTIFR	56.6	65.7	41.8	26.9	28.01	25.04	24.72	35.66	35.91

### Monthly average of the days lost from work through injury

Year	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
Average days lost per month	97.32	62.18	29.77	22.88	11.42	48.69

## Botanical Information Service

Inquiry Statistics	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
Inquiries in person	299	303	286
Inquiries by mail	1683	2008	1270
Inquiries by telephone	289	558	776
Inquiries by internet	686	936	761
Requests for e-data	50	36	16
Specimens identified	5919	4906	4765
Revenue	\$24,158*	\$25,065*	\$22,086*

\*(ex GST)

## Consumer Response

Visitors provide feedback on Trust activities to all three estates via feedback forms, letters, email, website, phone, and in 'comments' books.

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** Feedback from visitors totalled 49 items including three complimentary letters. Subjects of concern were garden maintenance, event noise and fencing, homeless people, signposting, personal trainers, cyclists, Ibis and toilets. The Trust made personal responses to each person. The reasons for mowing, mulching, pruning and selective watering were clarified. Event noise levels were checked in response to complaints and the need for safety fencing around event sites was explained. Ranger patrols sought to minimise the impact of activities by cyclists and homeless people on other Gardens' users. Measures to make restaurant areas less attractive to Ibis continue. It is planned to introduce a program to license Personal Fitness Trainers using Trust land in the next financial year.

**Mount Annan Botanic Garden** Six complaints about They related to entry fees, the need for better signage and walking trail maps, service by the Gardens Restaurant, and the need for greater emphasis in bus tours on traditional Dharawal links. To encourage constructive feedback, the survey now includes 'What would you change about the Garden?' Responses focused on three areas: Expensive food at the restaurant; a confusing visitor map; and more activities for children. Survey results indicate visitors are very impressed with the high standards of the Garden.

**Mount Tomah Botanic Garden** Mount Tomah continued to collect visitor feedback in a number of ways. A visitors book collected 1004 comments. Of these 44 provided suggestions for improvement: 21 of these were about the Restaurant. The comments varied from cost of food, service standards, child

friendliness and noise levels. A number also suggested a strong need for installation of RTA tourism signage to Bells Line of Road on the new M7 and other major distributor roads. Five formal complaints were received. These were all about service in the Restaurant. All correspondents were replied to within seven days. The regular customer surveys continued to be collected. Over 500 customers were surveyed with 94 per cent being satisfied with the facilities and 96 per cent satisfied with the standard of horticulture. Data was also collected as part of an international survey of visitors to botanic gardens. Of the 221 who responded to this survey, 98 per cent intended to visit again.

## Consultants

### Consultancies equal to or more than \$30,000

There were no consultancies equal to or more than \$30,000

### Consultancies less than \$30,000

Total amount (unaudited) for consultancies less than \$30,000 was \$21,230

## Corporate Credit Card Use

Use of corporate credit cards was in accordance with Treasury Directions.

## Freedom of Information

The Botanic Gardens Trust is committed to the principle of transparency of decision making and public access to its documents. Key documents are available to the public through the Trust's website.

Four FOI requests for documents were received  
FIN910 - 98% of the documents released  
FIN950 - All documents released  
FIN951 - 85% of the documents released  
FIN984 - Not completed yet

## Appendix B Publications

Most publications listed are available from the Gardens Shops.

### Science

*Telopea* (a journal of systematic research) and *Cunninghamia* (a journal of plant ecology for eastern Australia) are published twice each year. They are available from the Gardens Shops or by subscription, or on exchange to other organisations. Copies of most back issues are still available for sale from the Gardens Shop in Sydney.

*Setting the Scene: the Native Vegetation of NSW* (1999) by J.S. Benson, published by the Native Vegetation Advisory Council. \$8.75

*The nature of pre-European native vegetation in south-eastern Australia: a critique of Ryan, D.G., J.R. and Starr, B.J. (1995) The Australian Landscape — Observations of Explorers and Early Settlers* (1997) by J.S. Benson & P.A. Redpath, offprint from *Cunninghamia* 5(2): 285-329, \$5.50

*Collection, Preparation and Preservation of Plant Specimens* (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney 2nd edition, 1995) \$6.85

*Riverside Plants of the Hawkesbury–Nepean* by J. Howell, L. McDougall & D. Benson (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, 1995) \$10.95

Rare Bushland Plants of Western Sydney (1999) Revised edition, by Teresa James, Lyn McDougall and Doug Benson (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney) \$13.15

*Sydney's Bushland: More than meets the eye* by J. Howell & D. Benson (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, 2000) \$27.95

*Mountain Devil to Mangrove: a Guide to Natural Vegetation of the Hawkesbury–Nepean Catchment* by D. Benson, J. Howell and L. McDougall (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, 1996) \$21.95

*Missing Jigsaw Pieces: the Bushland Plants of the Cooks River Valley* by D. Benson, D. Ondinea & V. Bear (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, 1999) \$13.15.

## Education

*Bush Foods of New South Wales* by Kathy Stewart and Bob Percival. Aboriginal use of plants (Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, 1996) \$10.95

## General

*Botanic Gardens of Sydney Guidebook* (2005) A new, exciting publication with over 100 pages of ideas and information for all our visitors.

*Mount Annan Botanic Garden* (1998) A souvenir guide (Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens) \$5.95

*Mount Tomah Botanic Garden* (1997) A souvenir guide (Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens) \$7.95

*Mount Annan Botanic Garden Visitor Guide* (given on entry to Garden)

*Mount Tomah Botanic Garden Visitor Guide* (given on entry to Garden)

Plant Disease Diagnostic Unit Fact Sheets: Fire Blight, *Armillaria* Root Rot, *Fusarium* Wilt of Palms,

Fig Psyllids, *Phytophthora*, Thrips, Azalea Lace Bug, Scale Insects, Rose Aphids, Azaleas

## Appendix C Grant Funding to the Trust

### Research Grants

#### The Australia & Pacific Science Foundation

Dr Adam Marchant and Dr George Orel – Genetic and horticultural assessment of the Australian native 'bush potato' (*Ipomoea costata*). \$11,000 (3rd year of a 3-year \$42,000 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

#### Australia Flora Foundation

Dr Adam Marchant, Dr George Orel, Gillian Towler, Andrew Perkins – Exploring the horticultural potential of native Australian flowering shrubs in the *Solanum brownii* Group \$3,500 (3rd year of a 3-year \$11,000 grant)

#### Australian Biological Resources Study

Bob Makinson - *Grevillea* Project \$31,000

Dr Tim Entwisle and Dr Stephen Skinner – A Guide to Identification of benthic non-marine Cyanobacteria of Australia \$26,400 (3rd year of a 3-year \$74,000 grant)

Dr Peter Wilson and Dr Chris Quinn – Generic position of the non persistent-fruited species of *Leptospermum* (Myrtaceae) \$22,000 (2nd year of a 2-year \$44,000 grant)

#### Australian Research Council – Discovery Grant

Dr Maurizio Rossetto, Dr Darren Crayn with Dr M.S. Pole & Dr A. Lowe – Developing biogeographical know-how: improving species divergence and dispersal estimations to examine geological and climatic evolutionary drivers \$282,000 shared with the University of Queensland. \$35,695 to BGT (1st year of a 3 year \$58,609 grant)

#### Department of Education, Science & Training (DEST)

Dr Brett Summerell – Australia-Europe Symposium in Mycotoxins and Food Safety, 15-17th February 2006 \$5,000

#### Department of Environment and Conservation, Parks and Wildlife Division, Northern Directorate

Dr Maurizio Rossetto – Border Ranges multi-species Recovery Plans \$22,000

#### Department of Environment and Heritage – Natural Heritage Trust & National Action Plan on Salinity

John Benson and Bob Makinson NSW Native Vegetation Classification and Assessment \$200,000 (1st year of a 2-year \$400,000 grant)

**Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)**

Dr Barry Conn – Repatriation of electronic data to the Papua New Guinea National Herbarium (Lae) \$36,454 (2nd part of a 12 month \$75,751 grant)

**Hermon Slade Foundation**

Dr Elizabeth Brown – Relationships of the Austral family Lepidoziaceae \$18,767 (delayed start – 3rd year of 3-year \$56,000 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

Edwin Wilson and Phil Spence – Establishment of a breeding and propagation program of *Latouria* type high-altitude hybrids of New Guinea dendrobiums \$20,000 (3rd year of 3-year \$61,550 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

Dr Darren Crayn & Dr Maurizio Rossetto – Evolution and conservation genetics of Australasian Eleocarpaceae \$29,490 (3rd year of 3-year \$90,000 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

Dr Cathy Offord – Storage of NSW rare and threatened NSW orchid species and their associated mycorrhizae \$30,000 (3rd year of a 3-year \$90,000 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

**Italian Embassy in Australia**

Dr Brett Summerell – Australia-Europe Symposium in Mycotoxins and Food Safety, 15-17th February 2006 \$10,000

**Land and Water Australia**

Prof. B. Downes, Prof. I Rutherford, J. Catford (Uni Melb), Dr Tim Entwisle, L. Nairn (BGT) Flows and aquatic plants: an historical and experimental approach. \$355,624 in total, \$59,120 to BGT. (1st year of a 2-year \$118,240 grant)

**Linnean Society of NSW – Joyce W. Vickery Scientific Research Fund**

Prof. John Thomson – Microsatellite genome markers for evolutionary studies of bracken fern (Genus *Pteridium*) \$700

**Murray Irrigation Ltd – Murray Land & Water Mgt Plan (LWMP) Research and Development Program**

Assoc Prof Brett Neilan (UNSW), Dr Brett Summerell & Will Cuddy – Amelioration of soil salinity for crop cultivation using cyanobacteria and mycorrhizal fungi \$25,000

**Pacific Biological Foundation**

Dr Barry Conn – Interactive identification keys to the common trees of PNG \$15,000 (3rd year of 3-year \$45,000 grant) (extended beyond 30 June 2006)

**UK Millennium Commission**

Seed Quest NSW partnership to supply 250 seedbank collections per year of threatened species of NSW \$240,000 (3rd year of 3-year \$730,000 grant)

**Grants from the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney Inc.****Research Grants**

Dr Alan Millar – Underwater Communication System \$5,000

BGT NSW Herbarium Internship Program \$14,000

Karen Wilson – Botany Bay Website [PlantNET] \$10,000

Mount Annan Botanic Garden – Weather Station \$31,000

**Travel Grants**

Dr Barry Conn – ‘Wallace in Sarawak – 150 Years Later’ Conference \$5,000

Dr Darren Crayn – 2005 International Botanical Congress \$5,000

**Scholarships**

Hannah McPherson – Understanding past climate change: implications for the Australian flora. Laboratory technique training in Italy \$2,000

Donna Osland – To attend and present at The 6th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens (Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) in association with the University of Oxford Botanic Gardens: Oxford UK, 10–14 September 2006) More than a Plant Label: Creatively Engaging the Public \$7,000

**Funding to Partner Organisations****Australian Biological Resources Study**

A/Prof Paul Gadek, Dr Chris Quinn & Dr Judy West – Evolution and radiation of Australian hobbushes and allied genera. (3rd year of a 3-year grant to James Cook University).

**Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)**

Dr Brett Summerell (with The University of Sydney) – Diagnosis and control of soil borne diseases in Indonesia. Extension of existing grant above \$150,000 (2nd year of 2-year \$300,000 grant to The University of Sydney)

Dr Brett Summerell (with The University of Sydney and Hanoi Agricultural University) – Development of provincial and district level diagnosis and control of crop fungal diseases in Vietnam \$166,000 (2nd year of a 3-year \$500,000 grant to The University of Sydney)

**Australian Research Council – Linkage**

Dr Brett Summerell (with The University of Sydney) – Why does phosphite protect some plants against *Phytophthora* but not others? \$29,665 (delayed start

3rd year of a 3-year \$88,604 grant to The University of Sydney, plus shared \$136,928)

**Australian Research Council – Research Networks**  
Macquarie University (administrative body) along with RBGT [B. Summerell, T. Entwisle, D. Crayn, P. Weston, M. Rossetto] and 40 other partners.

Australian – New Zealand Research Network for vegetation function (2nd year of sharing in \$2,500,000 over 5 years)

**Grains Research & Development Corporation**  
Dr Brett Summerell (with Department Primary Industries, Qld); University of Sydney and EnTox – Managing Mycotoxin Contamination of Maize (3rd year of a 3-year \$226,000 grant to Department of Primary Industries, Qld)

**European Commission**  
(Institute of Sciences of Food Production CNR, Cranfield University, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, Kansas State University, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, The National University of Rio Cuarto, International Crops Research Institute for the semi-arid Tropics).

Integration of Mycotoxin and Toxigenic Fungi Research for Food Safety in Global System (euros\$300,000 in total, c. euros\$8,000 to Dr Brett Summerell for travel)

**UNESCO; International Basic Sciences Programme**  
Dr Juli Hadiah (Centre for Plant Conservation, Bogor Botanic Gardens) & Dr Barry Conn (BGT) Diversity and Phylogeny of *Elatostema* (Urticaceae) of Thailand and Peninsula Malaysia. (2nd year of a 2-year \$US70,000 = \$AUD91,525 grant, around \$20,000 to BGT)

## Appendix D Environmental Management Report

### Statement of Environmental Commitment

The Trust has developed a Statement of Environmental Commitment, underpinning our philosophy to:

- display a clear commitment to environmental best practice
- apply environmental guidelines to all decision making

- establish environmental best practice criteria and benchmarking when negotiating partnerships and contracts
- be as environmentally sustainable as possible in all our operations.

### Sustainability

The Towards Sustainable Horticulture program, initiated in 2002 and supported in recent years by HSBC, has had a major positive impact on our local environment, as well as our visitors. The following Environmental Statement will be released in spring 2006, summarising our achievements over the last five years and foreshadowing our goals for the next 10 years.

In the last five years we have:

- Halved potable water consumption in the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens
- Used 100% dam and rainwater at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden
- Used 90 to 100% of mulch and other organic matter from recycled green waste at the three Botanic Gardens
- Recycled every year over 25 tonnes of general waste (e.g. bottles, cans, paper and cardboard)
- Reduced electricity use by almost 40% and gas consumption by over 80% in the Herbarium building
- Significantly reduced our use of toxic chemicals for pest control, and continue to trial and use non-toxic alternatives such as biological controls
- Selected plant species that are less susceptible to pests and diseases and do not require high pesticide treatments
- Sourced garden materials from sustainable sources — and not used peat moss and arsenic-chrome treated timber
- Implemented a national botanic gardens weed policy, including the assessment of all new plant collections and potential weed species
- Used environmentally sustainable design principles for all new buildings, depots and nurseries.

Leading up to our bicentenary in 2016, we will:

- Use 100% non-potable water for irrigating the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens
- Develop garden themes that promote sustainable gardening practices, selecting plant species which require low maintenance and using recycled landscape materials
- Remove and control problem weeds from Mount Annan Botanic Garden

- Reinstated turf demonstration plots which will display and trial new turf grass varieties that have less dependence on water, chemicals and fertilisers
- Review Trust retail products and packaging to minimise the environmental footprint and to promote environmental responsibility
- Install rainwater tanks in the Sydney estates and Mount Annan Botanic Garden and increase water recycling in all estates
- Set new challenging targets for all energy use.

### Energy

The energy savings for the year were far higher than for 2004–05 (see table), mainly due to the finalisation of the upgrades under Phase 2 of the Energy Performance Contract. The savings are calculated against base readings in 2001–02 (electricity) and 2003–04 (gas). Further minor modifications to the Brown Building to improve air conditioning next year will result in further savings.

Year	Electricity (kWh)	Gas (mj)	Co2 (tonnes)	\$
04/05	496,045	998,332	>300	>30,000
05/06	703,445	4,580,397	>850	>64,000

### Fauna

Research opportunities on both the Brush-tail Possum and Grey-headed Flying Fox populations in the Royal Botanic Gardens have continued.

The Common Brush-tail Possum is in plague proportions, with high densities compared to those in bushland habitats. Large possum numbers have caused defoliation of trees and stress within the possum population, with injured or dead possums exhibiting stress-linked disease.

The ongoing significant damage by the Grey-headed Flying Fox to the heritage tree collection is evident particularly in the Palm Grove area. Because of this damage, research into the age structure of the population is continuing and results will become available next year.

### Water

**Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain** The Trust was required to complete a Water Savings Action Plan as mandated by the Department of Sustainability, Energy and Utilities (DEUS). It comprised a 'Management Review' of water use and management practices, which gave the Sydney estate a two-star rating for water use efficiency. A 'Technical Review' or a water audit determined

where we had leaks in the water delivery systems. The audit also calculated what water is being used within our built environment and in horticultural areas. The Water Savings Action Plan (currently being assessed by DEUS staff) list of actions include overall cost (and/or volume) reduction targets (from the base year of in excess of 200ML in 2001–02 to 129ML for the 2005–06) that specifically incorporate water savings and assessing the potential for water supply disruptions to cause business loss.

**Mount Annan Botanic Garden** Total water use decreased by 9% for the estate. Potable water use totalled 48,971L and non-potable water used for irrigation 14,005L. Non-potable water use was reduced by 45% due to unfiltered canal water for outdoor irrigation being unavailable for 11 months of the year as a result of maintenance closures and pump failure.

**Mount Tomah Botanic Garden** Water usage for horticulture has continued to be a major focus. The collections of the 28-hectare garden were maintained using only 21 megalitres of collected stormwater runoff – a reduction from the 32 megalitres used last year. With the region in the grip of a significant drought until April 2005, it was rewarding to continue to produce quality displays with minimal loss of plants.

### Waste Reduction and Purchasing

Trust initiatives are reported within the annual report of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

## Appendix E Overseas Travel

Name & Position	Countries / Cities visited	Purpose of visit	Duration	Total Cost	Cost to Trust	Source of Other Funds
Dr Maurizio Rossetto, Senior Research Scientist	Florence Italy Montpellier and Grenoble France Vienna Austria	Collaborate on data analysis with Dr G. Vendramin and CNR Florence  Collaborate with Dr I. Olivieri University of Montpellier  Participate in IBC, presenting talk  Collaborate with Dr P. Taberlet University of Grenoble	5 – 28 July 2005	\$6,400	\$6,400	N/A
Mr Bernard Proctor, Project Officer	Llandudno Wales Kew England	To attend the 10th International Turfgrass Conference and to visit Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew	7 – 20 July 2005	\$5,300	No cost	HSBC sponsorship of Sustainable Horticulture program
Dr Darren Crayn, Research Scientist	Oxford and Kew England Vienna Austria	Collaborate on data analysis and manuscript preparation with Dr M. Coode (Kew Gardens) and Prof A Smith (Oxford University)  Participate in IBC, presenting two talks  Research at the Herbarium at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	10 – 29 July 2005	\$6,400	\$1,400	Friends of the Gardens scholarship
Dr Peter Wilson, Research Scientist	Vienna Austria	Participate in Nomenclature sessions of the IBC  Present poster on ETS sequence polymorphism in the tribe Chamelaucieae (Myrtaceae)	12 – 23 July 2005	\$5,450	\$5,450	N/A
Mrs Karen Wilson, Acting Manager Plant Diversity	Vienna Austria	Participate in Nomenclature sessions of the IBC  Present three talks in symposia on Floras and Cyperaceae	13 – 23 July 2005	\$5,200	\$2,200	Australian Biological Resources Study

<b>Name &amp; Position</b>	<b>Countries / Cities visited</b>	<b>Purpose of visit</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Cost to Trust</b>	<b>Source of Other Funds</b>
Dr Peter Weston, Principal Research Scientist	Vienna Austria Kew England	Participate in IBC, presenting one talk and co-authoring two talks  Research at the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	15 July – 4 Aug 2005	\$6,700	No cost	Slade Orchid Fund
Dr Alan Millar, Principal Research Scientist	Washington DC United States of America	International workshop on global key biodiversity areas	30 July – 5 Aug 2005	\$2,500	No cost	Conservation International, Washington DC
Dr Alan Millar, Principal Research Scientist	Durban South Africa	Participate in 8th International Phycological Congress	12 – 21 Aug 2005	\$3,500	\$3,500	N/A
Dr Tim Entwisle, Executive Director	Durban and Cape Town South Africa	To attend the 8th International Phycological Congress and associated workshop and to visit botanic gardens in the Cape Town region	12 – 26 Aug 2005	\$6,700	\$2,700	Research grants, lecture and magazine article payments
Dr Barry Conn, Senior Research Scientist	Papua New Guinea	To conduct field research for the Interactive Tools to Timber trees of Papua New Guinea  Evaluation of Data Repatriation Project	15 – 27 Aug 2005	\$4,800	No cost	Pacific Biological Foundation  Global Biodiversity Information Facility
Mr Adrian Bligh, Horticulturist	South Africa Kenya	Study South African and Kenyan flora including Proteaceae propagation and cultivation	2 Sept – 4 Nov 2005	\$5,000	No cost	Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Scholarship
Mr John Benson, Senior Plant Ecologist	Selfoss Iceland	Attend Soil Conservation and Protection for Europe giving paper and meeting with 20 global experts	5 – 26 Sept 2005	\$3,200	\$1,700	Soil Conservation & Protection for Europe
Dr Maurizio Rossetto, Research Scientist	Pune India	Teach and participate in International Rare Plant Translocation workshop	16 – 24 Sept 2005	\$3,500	No cost	Botanic Gardens Conservation International
Dr Alan Millar, Principal Research Scientist	Lawrence Kansas United States of America	Visit Allen Press	19 – 23 Sept 2005	\$2,800	No cost	Allen Press, International Phycological Society
Mrs Karen Wilson, Special Botanist	Taiwan Kew England Stockholm Sweden	Participate in biodiversity meeting and visit herbaria	30 Sept – 18 Oct 2005	\$6,300	\$3,700	Species 2000 Asia-Oceania; Species 2000; personal contribution

Name & Position	Countries / Cities visited	Purpose of visit	Duration	Total Cost	Cost to Trust	Source of Other Funds
Dr Barry Conn, Senior Research Scientist	Myanmar	Visit Department of Nature and Wildlife and National Kandawgyi Gardens	18 – 21 Oct 2005	\$1,500	No cost	Private
Dr Elizabeth Brown, Systematic Bryologist	New Caledonia	Survey bryophytes associated with Amborella	20 Oct – 11 Nov 2005	\$5,500	No cost	Grant funds of USA researchers at Indiana University
Dr Alan Millar, Principal Research Scientist	Lord Howe Island	Research collecting and fieldwork	24 – 29 Oct 2005	\$4,000	No cost	Botanic Gardens Conservation International (China Program, Singapore)
Mr Daniel Bishop, Manager Horticulture Mount Annan Botanic Garden	Guiyang City and Guangzhou China	To participate in conservation and horticultural development program with Guizhou Botanical Garden, China	15 – 25 Nov 2005	\$4,096	\$975	Guizhou Botanical Garden
Mr Peter Weston, Principal Research Scientist	Grahamstown South Africa	Teach in the Botany Department, Rhodes University, present public lecture, conduct field work	20 Feb – 31 Mar 2006	\$9,164	No cost	Rhodes University
Dr Adam Marchant, DNA Project Officer	Japan	To participate in Australian Academy of Science / Japan Society for the Promotion of Science bilateral exchange program	29 Mar – 5 May 2006	\$8,600	No cost	Australian Academy of Science and Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
Dr Elizabeth Brown, Systematic Bryologist	New Caledonia	Survey bryophytes associated with high altitude vegetation on Kouakoué	25 April – 15 May 2006	\$5,500	No cost	National Geographic Society grant funds to ORSTOM
Mrs Karen Wilson, Specialist Botanist	France	Participate in Species 2000 and Catalogue of Life partnership meetings	21 – 28 May 2006	\$4,000	No cost	Species 2000 and CODATA; personal contribution Mrs Wilson
Dr Brett Summerell, Director Science and Public Programs	Bari Italy	Teach and participate in International <i>Fusarium</i> Training workshop	2 – 13 June 2006	\$5,000	No cost	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Bari, Italy

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