

**John Garner**

---

**From:** "Kerry J Robinson" <kerry.robinson@druids.com.au>  
**To:** "John Garner" <jfgarner@tpg.com.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 May 2009 11:47 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Ballarat's Druids Oaks

Hello James,

The following are extracts from various reports where the Oak trees at Ballarat are mentioned. To date no reports have surfaced on the original planting of the first oak tree; we can from details of reports assume that the tree was planted to celebrate the third anniversary of the Roy Oak No.10 lodge which opened in Ballarat in 1870.

Hope this helps, will pass on any other information if it comes to light.

*On the 14th July 1897, the Royal Oak Lodge No. 10, to commemorate their 30th anniversary, planted 16 oak trees in the Mount Xavier Reserve, Ballarat. The trees were planted along the boundary with Fussell-street and Strickland's parade. It was noted that an oak tree was planted by the Druids of Ballarat in 1870 and was now one of the finest specimens in the district.*

*On 29th November 1970, Grand Lodge Officers, members of the Board, and a large number of members journeyed to the Ballarat Gardeners. The occasion was to plant an Oak Tree to celebrate the planting of the original Oak Tree on the 27th December, 1870.*

Regards

Kerry J Robinson  
 Managing Director  
 Druids Friendly Society

Tel: 61 3 9322 3014  
 Fax: 61 3 9329 5043  
 Mobile 0407 354 330

This e-mail is intended only to be read or used by the addressee. It is confidential and may contain legally privileged information. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to such person), you may not copy or deliver this message to anyone, and you should destroy this message and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Confidentiality and legal privilege are not waived or lost by reason of mistaken delivery to you.

---

**From:** John Garner [mailto:jfgarner@tpg.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 May 2009 4:43 PM  
**To:** Kerry Robinson  
**Subject:** Ballarat's Druids Oaks

Dear Kerry. Thank you for taking the time to speak to me this a.m. The two Druids Oak trees in the Botanical Gardens are doing quite well considering the dreadful drought conditions we have had. Our guides are currently identifying areas of interest in the Gardens but there is a deal of ignorance concerning the Society and I have not known who to contact re. further information, particularly since the Society merged with Geelong. Hence my phone call. I think I can follow up on the names you have given me but further information would be appreciated if and when you have the time. Again, many thanks, yours sincerely John Garner, History Group, Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

19/02/2010