



**Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens
Gardens Report from Helen Todd
24th September 1998**

Rosemary Alexander

Ticket sales for the forthcoming Garden Lecture Series in October are going well with 59 tickets sold to date from The Robert Clark Centre and 67 sold from Barbara, totally 126. A Press Release has been developed and sent to all local media. On air time on 3BA and promotion in various newsletters has also been obtained.

The Robert Clark Centre

Plans are well underway for the implementation of the revised Business Plan incorporating The Gardens & Coffee Shop and reception/information in the front area of The Conservatory. A trainee has been appointed and will start on October 5th to operate this area.

Helen will liaise with Lorraine in the near future regarding requirements and space available to the Growing Friends for plant sales.

As previously discussed at Tenant Groups meetings, additional lighting has been installed in the foyer of the Centre.

Back Walk Project

New plantings of 70 trees has now been completed. Irrigation requirements are currently being implemented.

A further open discussion meeting will take place in the near future to discuss perennial and shrub plantings with members of the Friends and Council Staff.

Carp - Lake Wendouree

In conjunction with Council and local fishing groups, Department of Natural Resources have conducted carp trapping in Lake Wendouree to analyse carp in terms on numbers, age, breeding patterns, etc. Trapping will again be held in warmer weather Oct/Nov. Central Highlands Region Waterwatch will be conducting a 'Catch a Carp' day on October 18th encouraging residents to be involved in eradicating this environmental hazard.

Gillies Street North Fencing

Stage 3 of the Gillies Street North fencing and lych gate will be completed by the end of November. Eureka Fencing are the successful company to complete project.

Promotional brochure for The Robert Clark Centre

To promote and advertise The Robert Clark Centre a DL brochure has been produced with hiring rates and details. This is essentially focussed at the Conference/Seminar market.

Rowing Course Extension

Proposed plans for the 20 metre extension to the Rowing Course are currently on display in The Robert Clark Centre for public viewing and comment. Written submissions will be received until the end of September.

Ian Rossiter's return

Ian will be back on deck from Tuesday, 29th September - no doubt enthused and revitalised.

Diary Dates

- Golden City Paddle Steamer Museum Opening - September 28th
- Society for Growing Australian Plants Flower Show - October 2nd, 3rd & 4th
- Rosemary Alexander - Garden Lecture Series - October 16th
- 'Catch a Carp' Day - Lake Wendouree - October 18th
- Springfest - November 1st
- Ballarat Horticultural Society Annual Show - November 14th & 15th
- Ballarat Begonia Festival - February 26th to March 8th 1999