

OR, please find enclosed my cheque, made payable to the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria.

The Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria is a not-for-profit organisation and all donations are tax deductible.

Thank you.

All information you provide will be treated in strict confidence, in accordance with privacy legislation.

Please return/mail this form to:

The Bequest Officer
Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria
Private Bag 2000
South Yarra Victoria 3141 Australia
Fax: 03 9252 2413

For further information:

Tel.: 03 9252 2493
Email: development@rbg.vic.gov.au

Other ways to contribute to the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens

- ~ Make a bequest to the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria.
- ~ Join the Director's Circle, and assist in ensuring the continuing success of the Gardens.
- ~ Make an In Memoriam Gift – a thoughtful way to acknowledge the life of a deceased relative or friend.
- ~ Sponsor a tree or collection.

For information on these programs, please contact the Royal Botanic Gardens on

Tel.: 03 9252 2303
Fax: 03 9252 2413
Email: development@rbg.vic.gov.au
Website: www.rbg.vic.gov.au

Did you know?

- ~ Each year, close to 2 million people visit the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, and approximately 60,000 people visit the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne.
- ~ More than 50,000 individual plants, representing over 10,000 different species from every part of the globe, are displayed in carefully crafted collections and picturesque landscapes at RBG Melbourne.
- ~ RBG Cranbourne covers 363 hectares, including some of the most important remnant bushland and wetland areas of the Melbourne and Westernport regions.
- ~ There are 25 rare and endangered plant and animal species at RBG Cranbourne.
- ~ Approximately 25,000 children annually participate in education programs run by RBG Melbourne, and some 8000 children take part in education programs at RBG Cranbourne.
- ~ The Royal Botanic Gardens employs a total of 212 full-time, part-time and casual staff.

How do I make a pledge?

A pledge is a promise of a staged donation that you intend to make to the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria over the next two to five years. You can choose how much you want to pledge, for how long, and when you want to make your donations.

The Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria is a charitable trust. It was established by the Royal Botanic Gardens Board in 2001 to receive gifts from the public and to ensure that they are used to build a secure financial base for the Gardens. All donations made to the Foundation are invested, and the income generated is made available to the Royal Botanic Gardens to utilise wherever the funds can be most usefully applied. The Foundation has been endorsed as an income tax exempt charitable entity under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

How will my pledge be used?

Your pledge will help to build a secure financial base for the Gardens.

Making a pledge is also a practical way of contributing to the important scientific work being undertaken by the National Herbarium of Victoria and by ARCUE, and of helping to preserve the precious holdings of the State Botanical Collection. In addition, donations from our supporters are an invaluable resource as we continue to develop our popular conservation and environmental education programs for thousands of students of all ages.

If you have a particular commitment to conserving biodiversity, be assured that your pledge to the Gardens is a pledge to the continuation of key research projects and education programs in this critical area.

Whatever your reasons for making a donation to the Royal Botanic Gardens – and whatever your level of participation – a pledge of financial support gives every donor a personal stake in the future of one of Victoria's best-loved natural icons.

*Your pledge of support
can make all the difference*



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS FOUNDATION VICTORIA



The Royal Botanic Gardens

The **Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**, situated in South Yarra, is a treasured icon of Melbourne life – much loved by generations of Victorians, as well as by many visitors from interstate and from overseas. Established in 1846, RBG Melbourne is an oasis of breathtaking horticultural beauty and biodiversity, close to the heart of the city.

The **Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne** offers visitors a different but equally rich and absorbing experience. Encompassing 363 hectares, RBG Cranbourne's stunning landscapes include some of the most important remnant bushland and wetlands of the Melbourne and Westernport regions, and are a site of state conservation significance for plants and animals.

In addition to its magnificent landscapes, RBG Melbourne has for more than 150 years been home to one of the most distinguished botanical institutions in Australia. Founded by the famous nineteenth-century botanist Ferdinand von Mueller, the **National Herbarium of Victoria** is renowned both nationally and internationally for its research into plant relationships and biodiversity, horticulture, and conservation.

Housed in the National Herbarium, the **State Botanical Collection** contains an irreplaceable botanical resource of over one million preserved specimens of plants, mosses, algae and fungi from Australia and many other countries, and is the repository for a rich and diverse collection of botanical books, manuscripts and works of botanical art.

Located at The University of Melbourne, the **Australian Research Centre for Urban Ecology** (ARCUE) was established by the Royal Botanic Gardens in 1998 as a research institute dedicated to advancing our knowledge and understanding of the impact of urbanisation on the natural environment.

The Royal Botanic Gardens needs your help now

While the Victorian Government provides considerable annual funding to the Royal Botanic Gardens, this support does not cover all of the costs associated with:

- ~ maintaining, and where necessary renewing, the basic infrastructure of RBG Melbourne (much of which is well over one hundred years old)
- ~ maintaining and developing RBG Cranbourne's landscapes
- ~ conserving and enhancing the State Botanical Collection, which is one of the most historically significant collections of its kind in the world today
- ~ providing research grants to postgraduate students engaged in critical biodiversity projects at the National Herbarium of Victoria or the Australian Research Centre for Urban Ecology
- ~ employing an adequate number of skilled staff in key areas
- ~ undertaking important new conservation projects
- ~ expanding the range of educational opportunities available to members of the public, students, and children of all ages, with respect to plants and key environmental issues such as water conservation
- ~ coping with unexpected needs – eventualities that can threaten the assets of the Royal Botanic Gardens and seriously constrain priority activities

As a not-for-profit organisation, we also rely on the financial assistance of the community we have been serving for more than 150 years. Without this generous and significant support, we simply could not continue with some of our valued programs and initiatives.



A special place

RBG Melbourne and RBG Cranbourne are places in which many Victorians spend countless happy hours, whether observing important family occasions and milestones, enjoying relaxing walks or picnics with friends, children or grandchildren, participating in education or leisure programs, or just experiencing a sense of peacefulness and calm, far from the stresses of daily life.

A pledge of support to the Royal Botanic Gardens is a practical way of ensuring that future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy the Gardens just as we do today.

Response form

*Yes, I would like to help the Royal Botanic Gardens.
(Please print all information required below)*

Title (please circle) Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr

First name

Surname

Address

State

Postcode

Tel. (home)

(business)

Mobile

Email

I/We intend to make a contribution by pledge to the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation Victoria, and pledge as follows:

(Please tick to indicate the appropriate amount)

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

to be paid as follows *(please tick, as appropriate)*

Monthly

Quarterly, payable in the months of _____

Twice a year, payable in the months of _____

over _____ years *(please indicate whether your pledge is for 2, 3, 4 or 5 years) or*

\$ _____ per year over _____ years, payable in the month of _____

Signed _____

Dated _____

I/We are unable to make a pledge at this time, but enclose a donation for the amount of \$ _____

Please charge my credit card (please tick)

Bankcard MasterCard Visa Amex Diners Club

Name of cardholder *(please print)*

Card no.

Expiry date

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