



EUROA ARBORETUM INC.

CHARTER

*as developed from community workshops conducted by the
Committee of Management*

1996-1997 President: Frank Pierce

ARBORETUM PURPOSE AND USE

- * *That the Arboretum conserves, restores and expands existing Wetlands and Grey Box Woodlands as the initial focus for development.*
- * *That the area around the car park, BBQ, compound and other suitable areas, be further developed to provide a showcase of the best/most spectacular of Australia's floral species with an emphasis on rare and endangered species where possible.*
- * *That the Arboretum be managed to provide a natural breeding environment for indigenous species of fauna with appropriate emphasis on endangered species.*
- * *That the Arboretum C.O.M. take steps to eliminate feral animals from the site.*
- * *That the Arboretum be developed as an educational facility to encourage appreciation, understanding and research into propagation/habitat protection/breeding programs with particular emphasis on indigenous flora and fauna.*
- * *That the educational facility at the Arboretum be developed with interaction from local groups in a pro-active way to stimulate involvement from the community.*
- * *That the Arboretum be pro-active in its educative roles by providing defined trails with information boards, signs, plant identification and interpretive information for self education, while positively encouraging involvement of research and study groups from schools and tertiary institutions.*
- * *That appropriate signage be installed to ensure that the public is aware of the purpose/role of the Arboretum.*
- * *That appropriate signage be installed to define passive rest and recreation zones to ensure behaviour is appropriate.*
- * *That individuals be allowed to continue to fish the dam. Group activity or fishing competitions will be held in accordance with the C.O.M. guidelines.*
- * *That a policy on fishing be developed to encourage fishermen/women and in particular the Strathbogie/Euroa Angling Club to participate in: -*
 - a) the re-vegetation of the wetlands zone and b) a fish breeding program in accordance with the Arboretum objective - to provide a natural breeding environment for indigenous species of fauna with appropriate emphasis on endangered species.*

That the Arboretum be developed as a unique rest stop - offering an environmental and educative experience in addition to the standard facilities and that visitors be encouraged to share in the "birth of an Arboretum".

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE ARBORETUM

- * That the Arboretum be run as a not-for-profit organisation*
- * That the C.O.M. be comprised of 13 representatives (11 community members plus 1 Shire rep and 1 D.N.R.E. rep).*
- * That Sub-Committees be established, with the power to co-opt, as the primary means for further developing and facilitating Arboretum policy.*
- * That meetings of the C.O.M. be open to members of the public, but that only C.O.M. members have voting rights at these meetings.*
- * That the Arboretum C.O.M. inform the community of its objective to encourage a large group of supporting members, encouraging and encompassing all levels of commitment and support, to join as "Friends of the Arboretum".*
- * That at this stage no charge be levied for admission, although facilities for donations should be available.*
- * That the Arboretum actively seek support and involvement from D.N.R.E., Vic Roads, Shire, service clubs and educational institutions.*
- * That a caretaker be appointed to handle the day-to-day operation of the Arboretum and that the person in this position be directly responsible to the C.O.M. That in the long term this position to be a curator, resident at the site.*
- * That operations and maintenance be the responsibility of sub-committees who will be directed by and report to the C.O.M.*
- * That the Arboretum not be open without supervision - at present Wednesdays and weekends - while at the same time encouraging increased participation and accessibility. (School holidays must also be catered for.) Opening times must be publicised at the Arboretum and in media publications.*
- * That each stage of development invite maximum community participation and that on completion of each stage the achievement be celebrated.*

ARBORETUM ENVIRONMENT

- * That, as a matter of priority a Master Plan, incorporating the aims and objectives of the Arboretum, be commissioned from a professional environmental/landscape consultant, and enhanced by local expertise. Depending on funding this Plan may have to be developed in stages and the C.O.M. should address this issue at an early stage.*
- * That local groups and others with potential to contribute be encouraged to assist in the implementation of the Master Plan.*

- * That the Arboretum C.O.M. investigate the possibility of including surrounding land in the long term.*
- * That self-funding in the form of Plant Sales be developed in both wholesale and retail outlets, as well as at the Arboretum site.*
- * That apart from catering for special functions, food sales are not seen as necessary at this stage.*
- * That, if not already available, a site survey be completed mapping land contours, water courses, soil types and existing vegetation to provide an accurate record for future reference.*
- * That the site be developed in harmony with existing soil and site features, rather than dramatically modifying to achieve goals. eg. incorporate low-lying areas into wetlands proposal rather than try to modify unsuitable soil.*

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- * That the C.O.M. communicate to the people of Euroa that they have stewardship over this land for the people of Victoria.*
- * That the marketing of the Arboretum as a tourism icon, environmental precinct, rest and recreation area, educational centre and community asset be undertaken.*
- * That the C.O.M. elect a P.R. officer who is answerable to the C.O.M.*
- * That the C.O.M. address the relationship with the Shire to ensure the relationship is in the best long term interests of the Arboretum.*
- * That all interest groups including travellers and locals be targeted as potential Arboretum supporters.*

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- * That a Business Plan be prepared as a matter of urgency. That financial assistance in the form of sponsorship, grant monies and donations to be sought from corporate bodies, government agencies and other supportive groups/individuals.*