

## **The 19th Century Garden Project at Tuggeranong**

In 2001 MOTH received a grant of \$1000 from Australia's Open Garden Scheme Community Grants. The focus of the planned project was to be the restoration of the landscape along the entrance pathway to the homestead, with the creation of attractive traditional plantings as an understorey to the historic elms.

A busy few weeks in April 2002 saw MOTH members, with the assistance of a Conservation Volunteers team, planted a range of shrubs in the colours of pink, purple, yellow and red (the suggested colours for this heritage site). The shrubs were crepe myrtle, jasmine, lilacs, spiraeas and japonica, with purple iris bordering the path. As well, 2000 bulbs were planted along the borders of the pathway. A handcrafted bench made from local ironbark timber was installed, commissioned from funds donated by Mrs Anne Carroll and Mr Edward Bean le Couteur, grandchildren of CEW Bean, to honour his work at the homestead and his involvement with the Parks and Playgrounds Movement of NSW. Colin French, MOTH treasurer, was responsible for installing a drip watering system beneath the garden.

Since the establishment of the garden, MOTH members continue to maintain and care for the site. In May 2009, a special ceremony saw the planting and dedication within the garden of a young Wollemi Pine to honour the late Dr Robert Boden, who gave much valuable help to MOTH when the group identified all the heritage trees on the property. A small plaque set in stone next to the garden acknowledges the work of Dr Boden.