



Your Garden



## MEDIA RELEASE SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

Under the Chairmanship of the renowned Landscape Architect and presenter of ABC Television's Gardening Australia, John Patrick, the Rotary Club of Kew (Inc.), in association with some of Melbourne's most notable garden designers, is pleased to announce the third Garden DesignFest weekend on Saturday and Sunday November 15 and 16, 2008, proudly sponsored by Your Garden Magazine.

The first two Garden DesignFests held in 2004 and 2006 were remarkable successes, raising over \$100,000 for distribution to selected charities. The gardening public from Melbourne, rural Victoria, Interstate and N.Z. turned out in large numbers to enjoy a wide range of professionally designed privately owned gardens. With the experience of the past two events, 2008 promises to be even better with over 20 professionally designed gardens in the Melbourne area open to the public. For gardeners, this represents a unique opportunity to view first hand the work of many notable designers including the work of radio and TV presenter John Patrick, well known garden designer and author Rick Eckersley, soulful and sustainable designer Georgina Martyn and an exclusive opportunity to visit the private garden of Paul Bangay, (separate pre-booked entry ticket required via website) - plus the work of many new and exciting upcoming designers. Unique to Garden DesignFest, all designers will be on hand in their gardens to talk with visitors, explain design processes and give advice about garden design issues.

All gardens, apart from the Paul Bangay garden (see website for special entry details) will be open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm daily. Entry to all gardens (excluding the Paul Bangay garden) will be available for \$25 which includes a full colour booklet featuring all display gardens and designers. Tickets are available via the website from 1 October 2008 or at any of the garden gates on the open days. Single garden entry is also available for \$5 per garden, available at garden gates only. Bus tours to a selection of the gardens are offered subject to availability via website pre-bookings or by contacting Beverley Read at [ggsense@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ggsense@bigpond.net.au) or PH: 0418 766 905.

All funds raised will be donated directly to selected local and international charities as follows:

- **Polio Plus**, the most ambitious program in Rotary's history, is the volunteer arm of the global partnership dedicated to eradicating polio. Today, PolioPlus and its role in the initiative is recognized worldwide as a model of public-private cooperation in pursuit of a humanitarian goal.
- **Interplast Australia & New Zealand** is a charity that provides teams of medical volunteers to undertake programs of plastic and reconstructive surgery and training in neighbouring Asian Pacific countries.
- **The Aloia Foundation** was established in 2001 to raise awareness of and campaign against the sexual and gender-based violence inflicted on women in East Timor. Today the Foundation has grown to respond to many other needs of East Timorese women such as advocacy, economic

empowerment, education and literacy, maternal and child health and humanitarian assistance.

- **Boroondara Family Network** works towards enhancing the potential of children in families experiencing stress within the Boroondara Municipality, comprising Camberwell, Hawthorn and Kew.

A raffle, featuring an exquisite diamond necklace donated by Holloway Diamonds as first prize, is also associated with the event with tickets available at all gardens on the open weekend.

The Rotary Club of Kew (Inc.) is the proud organiser of the event with its members volunteering their time and energy to ensure its success. The costs associated with running this event are generously donated by our sponsors and supporters.

For more information about the weekend of garden openings, please visit our website at [www.gardendesignfest.com](http://www.gardendesignfest.com). Come back regularly as the site will be constantly updated with details as the organisation of the event progresses.

For further details of the event or supply of high res images please contact:

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