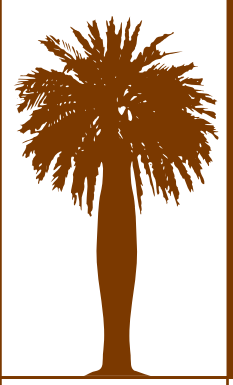


Jubaea



Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Inc Newsletter

Volume 13 Issue 4 September/October/November 2013

FRIENDS OF
GEELONG
BOTANIC
GARDENS

The Cocktail Cabinet



Over the winter months, the Curiosity Cabinet (also called the sunken or pit glasshouse) at the rear of the Geelong Botanic Gardens has been transformed into *The Cocktail Cabinet*, displaying plants and other accoutrements associated with the brewing, distilling and flavouring of alcoholic beverages.

Humans have been experimenting with and enjoying alcoholic drinks since before the invention of the wheel more than 9500 years ago.

All alcoholic drinks are derived by fermentation of plant sugars. At its simplest, this means the natural conversion of fruit sugars to produce 'wine' or cider. Beers are produced by fermentation of grains, and spirits by the distillation of an already alcoholic brew to increase the alcohol content. Additional flavours come from other plant materials including flavours imparted by oak wine barrels or various 'botanicals' used to enhance the flavour of both beers and spirits.

The Cocktail Cabinet displays the beginning and end of the story, barley for making beer, a still to distil the alcohol and an astonishing array of bottles which once contained various botanically derived drinks.

The display is temporary but many plants that contribute to this story are found in our Gardens.

The palms

Jubaea chilensis or Chilean wine palm is known to the Friends from our logo (shown at the top of this page). As its name implies, this palm can be used to make 'wine' – a fermented alcoholic beverage. Many palm species have a distinctly sweet sap. Harvested sap may be boiled to concentrate the sugars, resulting in palm honey or dried completely to produce palm sugar, however, if the fresh sap is left open to the air, wild yeasts quickly colonise the liquid resulting in 'wine'.

Our Gardens have a number of palms which can be used in this way including the date palm, jelly palm and of course the Chilean wine palm. Many of these palms are harvested either by cutting the flower stalk or making an incision into the trunk and tapping off the sap, however the sap from the Chilean wine palm is collected from trees which have been felled. The crowns are then cut and the sap allowed to drain out over a number of months producing several hundred litres of sap. That would be one heck of a party. Unfortunately, felling the tree also kills it and the species is now protected.

Our Chilean wine palm will never be used to make wine, but galahs and other parrots have discovered the secret of the sugary sap. Many of the holes you can see high up in the trunk are made by parrots 'tapping' the sap and feeding on the dried sugary residue.

The Mexican connection

The 21st Century Garden is home to two groups of plants, the prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp) and the *Agave* which have been used to make a range of alcoholic drinks from the simple to the distilled.

Tequila is the most widely known product of these succulents, being distilled spirit from the blue agave – and the base spirit for cocktails such as the margarita. As brandy is produced by distilling fermented grape juice, so tequila is the product of distilling fermented Agave hearts.

Pulque, an alcoholic beverage produced by fermentation of *Agave* sap, was associated with religious ritual in pre-conquest Mesoamerica. The sap of *Agave* becomes increasingly sweet as the flower stalk develops. The stalk is cut from the centre of the plant and the sap collected in the central hollow over several months. The resulting liquid is milky coloured, somewhat viscous and has a sour, yeasty flavour. Consumption of pulque was originally limited to certain classes of people, but became widespread under Spanish rule. Pulque contains a live culture, unlike beer or wine, and easily spoils when transported so has largely been replaced by beer as the drink of choice in Mexico.

Mezcal is the distilled product from any type of **Agave** and tequila the more widely known alcoholic product from the blue agave (*Agave tequiliana*). And the worm in tequila? Only certain mezcals are sold 'con gusano' ('with worm') – but never true tequila. And don't believe the marketing hype either – the worm comes from a moth larva and is actually the sign of an inferior product (or a clever marketing strategy).

Oak for long life

The simplest alcoholic products are the result of natural yeast fermentation of ripe fruits as the first step in the cycle of decomposition. Such fruits do not taste nice for long. There are two main solutions to saving the alcohol, one is to distil it, making mezcal, brandy and other spirits and the other is to store it in a way which prevents further deterioration. Both strategies eventually need durable storage solutions. Wooden barrels have been used for 4000 years and oak is perfect for making watertight barrels to store and age alcohol. Different oak species impart different flavours. *Quercus robur* or English oak, gives wine a certain roundness and full bodied quality.

The cork oak (*Quercus suber*) also has an important role in the story of alcohol: as the stopper for wine bottles. The bark of the cork oak is light, compressible and resistant to liquids and insects making it the ideal stopper for glass bottles. It takes 43 years to grow the cork used for wine bottles. The bark is first harvested when the tree is 25 years old. After that it can be harvested every 9 – 12 years however the bark is not good enough for a wine cork until the third harvest.

Adding flavour

Simple fermented fruits retain the flavour of the original fruit. Cider tastes distinctly of apples, young wines of grapes, and toddy made from coconut sap has a distinctly coconut flavour. Distilling frequently leads to a loss of distinctive aromatics, although other flavours may be intensified or added during the process. Many plants are used to flavour raw spirit to produce a range of liqueurs and flavoured spirits and these form the foundation of the cocktail cabinet.

Committee News

Membership Renewal

Annual membership subscriptions were due for renewal on 30 June 2013.

Thank you to all members who have taken the time to renew their membership. Your subscriptions help cover the costs of running the Friends, including the costs of circulating *Jubaea*. We were especially pleased to have an increased number of members indicate their willingness to receive *Jubaea* via email as this is a significant cost saving to our Association.

For those current members who have not renewed – it's not too late! However, this will be your last edition of *Jubaea* if a renewal for 2013/14 is not received.

Gift Vouchers

Gift Vouchers can be purchased from the FGBG office (expiry of 12 months).

Vouchers can be redeemed for the purchase of plants from the Growing Friends Nursery; a range of merchandise including botanic art cards and Friends' aprons from the Friends office; membership subscriptions or Friends events and tours.

Gin has its origins in the medicinal garden where therapeutic herbs were infused in grain spirit. The happy result was medicine that was not only good for you, but which tasted pleasant, and presumably was not too hard to get people to swallow.

Other plants in our Gardens are also used to flavour spirits. Wormwood (*Artimesia absinthium*) is a flavouring ingredient in absinth. Like many botanicals, wormwood is more than just a flavouring, containing the active neurotoxin thujone. No wonder it was banned for many years.

Other less familiar plants are also used to produce liqueurs. *Ugni mollinae*, a fairly undistinguished looking bush from Chile, produces small guava-flavoured berries which are conserved in sweetened aguardiente, a spirit made from whatever vegetable matter is at hand. In the same way cumquats (a small citrus fruit) can be preserved in brandy and sugar to produce a very acceptable conserve as well as citrus flavoured syrup.

Beer and Cider

The relationship between a Botanic Garden and beer production is not so obvious, although historically, Botanic Gardens were places to trial new plant varieties or to investigate the performance of plants brought in from elsewhere. Here in Geelong, our links with beer and cider lie in the past: parts of Eastern Park were once used to grow grain – though more likely for the use of the Gardens horse team than for beer production. Both Daniel Bunce and John Raddenberry had extensive orchards, and Bunce had an apple named for him, if not actually bred by him. Finally, the infamous free public picnic of 1867 to welcome Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, deteriorated as the result of imbibing an excess of wine and beer.

Stories from the cocktail cabinet are many and varied. For more stories of plants and alcohol see *The Roots of Civilisation: Plants that changed the world* (John Newton, 2009) and *The Drunken Botanist: The plants that create the world's great drinks* (Amy Stewart, 2013).

Jenny Possingham, with assistance and research from volunteer guides Jill McGuinness, and Dianne Crawford and the GBG horticultural team.

Donors

The following people are thanked for their recent donations to the Gift Fund: N Alexander, J Brockman, A Collier, W Cowdery, J Duncan, G Evans, J Evans, R Hill, A Hope, K Maloney, I Martlands, P McCann, J Mullaly, M Nall, E Pollock, I Schlotz, C Sivestroni, G Thomas, L Tunnell-Jones, J Venters, R Vernieux, R Weatherley, I Williams, Graeme Wood, and 12 anonymous donors.

Part Time Administrative Assistant needed

As our responsibilities have grown, the Friends seek a part time Administrative Assistant to work one day per week, day negotiable, 9.30am-3.00pm, and, occasionally, additional flexible hours. As you know, our office is a lively place, serving the needs of the Friends' members and the Committee of Management, in a co-operative atmosphere. Our Administration Manager, Tracey, employs up-to-date management systems, and will introduce her new assistant to our methods.

If you know a reliable, friendly person with an excellent manner, and experience in today's administrative systems, please refer them to our website for more information. An application form is available from the FGBG office. We hope to make the appointment as soon as possible.

From The New President



At our Annual General Meeting on August 26 the Friends elected the following Committee office-bearers: Judith Trimble as President, Helena Buxton and Anthea Williams as Vice-Presidents, Luanne Thornton as Secretary, Judy Fyfe as Treasurer, and Jayne Salmon, Helen Rodd, Don Spittle, Susanna Keith, and Allison Martland as Committee members. We warmly welcome our newest member, Allison.

At the same meeting the members also accepted our proposed new Constitution. The document will now be sent to the Consumer Affairs Victoria Registrar for approval before it becomes effective. It will then be available on our website.

The Friends' association is in a very sound state. Modern administration systems have been introduced into our office, streamlining its operations. Our funds—built gradually over a long period—have been carefully husbanded under our Treasurer's watchful eye. These situations enable us to manage our own affairs in a professional manner, and to contribute to projects for the GBG. We have spent several years adapting to changing legislative requirements concerning conditions for volunteers and finances, and will continue to meet our obligations. However, now, as funds allow, we also anticipate expanding our support of GBG projects, working with Director, Annette Zealley.

This is our association; it belongs to all of us, and we invite members to help guide our Committee to achieve our Purposes, and have fun doing so. We all enjoy working together to ensure the smooth running of Music in the Gardens on Sunday afternoons in February. And we know that the Growers have a ball. It would benefit us all if we, too, grow together, sharing knowledge and companionship. After breaking an ankle recently, I experienced extraordinary camaraderie and practical support from the Friends who made it possible to live 'independently' after hospitalisation. I know others amongst us have felt this close bond. Finding that our friendships are real is heart-warming and reassuring. The Friends are so much more than a gardening-loving association.

Our Committee is an intelligent, hard working group, which wants to reflect the members' interests in the service of our Purposes. We would like to hear about new events you might have in mind, and ideas you may have for increasing our revenue for GBG projects. Plant and merchandise sales, and Music in the Gardens provide our principle income. Subscriptions are almost exhausted by publishing and posting Jubaea. (We are very grateful to members who receive it by email.) Are there speakers you would especially like to have here for evening or daytime lectures? Many of our members travel within Australia and overseas, and most of us visit gardens while we are away. Would we like to have informal gatherings to hear what our colleagues have discovered? Perhaps there are particular gardens you would like to visit, locally by car, or further afield by train, or by tour bus? (Buses are very expensive.) Whilst we are excited by the latest scientific developments in horticulture, there is amazing knowledge amongst our members. Would you like to share it: to join small working groups responsible for particular tasks, for Jubaea, for example, and our website; write small articles (with or without help) in your special area of horticultural expertise and experience; take photographs for Jubaea, our website, and our advertising flyers? Perhaps you would like a 'helpful tips' column, a 'what's happening to our members' column, or 'reports on exhibitions and events'. Perhaps there is a cartoonist amongst us? And, we will always need help for Music in the Gardens to spread the load and turn out four excellent events.

Let's hear from all of us about what we would like our association to offer, and if and how each of us might contribute, in even the smallest ways. Your Committee will soon be in touch with members who have already indicated their enthusiasm.

We look forward to a very lively year ahead, working together.

Judith Trimble
President

Guides' Diary Note: A Significant Birthday

Birthday parties seem to be reserved for the young, or even the very young, and the very old – unless of course it's a significant one – with a "zero" ending. This year, the numbers came together for one of my favourite trees.

Ever since I first started assisting with the education program at the Geelong Botanic Gardens, I've been asking students to work out the age of our magnificent *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (Giant Redwood, formally called *Wellingtonia gigantea*). This is one of the few trees in the Gardens where visitors can actually determine the age themselves. A plaque at the base of the tree indicates that the tree was planted by Sir George Bowen, Governor of Victoria on July 2 1873.

The Argus reported his visit:

The first place visited was the beautifully situated Botanic gardens. The drive through the park was very pretty, and greatly enjoyed by the visitors. At the highest point a halt was made and descending from the carriage His Excellency visited the nurseries, flower beds and aviaries within the enclosure. Here His Excellency planted a young *Wellingtonia gigantea* in commemoration of his visit.

As I point out to the children, the tree must actually be a little older than calculated as the Governor planted a young tree and not a seed. Despite that, our tree is still a baby, being only about a third of the height of a mature tree in the forests of its native California.

Celebrating birthdays seems to be something you either do or don't do. My family were not big on adult birthdays but once had a picnic to celebrate the 100th birthday of a bridge, so the idea of doing the same thing for a tree had a certain appeal. This year, our Redwood turned 140 on the 2nd July – the

first day of the Crafty Creatures holiday program. It was an opportunity not to be missed. Each group of children who joined me in the Gardens to look for mini-beasts also joined together under the Redwood to sing *Happy Birthday*.

But what is a birthday without cake? And who better to eat birthday cake under the Redwood than the Gardens horticultural team who continue to keep our Gardens looking amazing? A deal was done: cupcakes for anyone who joins me under the Redwood to sing *Happy Birthday*.

Jenny Possingham
Volunteer Guide



Group hug for the birthday tree

High Tea at Truffle Duck with Professor Tim Entwisle

Professor Tim Entwisle was the Friends' special guest at our winter High Tea on Sunday June 23. Around a hundred members and Friends joined together for scrumptious sweet and savoury treats, to drink tea (and the odd glass of wine), to socialise and to hear what Professor Entwisle had to say about his time as Director of Conservation, Living Collections and Estates at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and his thoughts about the future of Botanic Gardens.

Botanic Gardens in the 21st Century

In the second half of the nineteenth century, Victorians were creating botanic gardens at the rate of one a year! More precisely, Gwen Pascoe in **Long Views and Short Vistas** (2012) describes how 45 botanic gardens were established in Victoria between 1846 and 1888.

That's a lot of botanic gardens and quite unusual in world history. One could compare it to the flourishing of botanic gardens in Italy in the middle of the sixteenth century, when the famous early gardens of Padua and Pisa were just two of many that sprung up in cities all around the country, and indeed the continent. Or perhaps modern China, where I'm told nearly 100 botanic gardens have been created in the last decade or so.

In my talk to the Friends of the Geelong Botanic Gardens in June I explained how botanic gardens had evolved from aesthetic gardens in Egypt, Mesopotamia and then Rome, through to medicinal gardens associated with monasteries and Royal households, then in physic gardens with an underlying scientific basis. From these mostly university-run botanic gardens, including those of Padua and Pisa, the great era of exploration and international trading in the eighteenth and nineteenth century led to the establishment of botanic gardens in nearly every European outpost. At first they displayed the orderliness of plant life as ordained by God, moving on to more secular pursuits such as economic botany and more recently conservation of the planet.

There are many botanic gardens, particularly here in Victoria, but what makes a good one? One of the earliest definitions of a botanic garden was a garden with labelled plants, open to the public. I'm sure you can think of examples where this is true but not enough to make it a good botanic garden. Other definitions include so many characteristics you wonder if any place could make the

grade. The best, I think, is from the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation (2000): "Botanic gardens are institutions holding documented collections of living plants for the purposes of scientific research, conservation, display and education". The key words here are 'purpose' and 'education'. Our plant collections must have a purpose and we should seek (in all we do) to educate – in the broadest sense of that word, including things like inspiration and fascination. In many cities the botanic gardens don't do as well as other gardens in inspiring an appreciation of how important and fascinating plants are. In many cases the plants and landscapes don't seem to have any obvious purpose.

After visiting lots of botanic and non-botanic gardens, my own (rather idiosyncratic) list of diagnostic features for a good botanic garden is:

- A collection of plants with good record keeping
- Mollycoddled interesting plants
- Education, interpretation and stories
- Visitors, and plenty of them
- Meaningful and inspiring landscapes
- Excellent horticulture
- Environmental responsibility and leadership
- Local relevance (whether linked to the local flora, to useful plants or simply community desires)

I might add to this list, that a really good botanic garden would also be creative, challenging, stimulating and fun.

I finished my talk with a potted (sorry) history of Royal Botanic Gardens Kew – perhaps the best known botanic garden in the world – and where I spent my last two years. Kew dates back to 1759, but the way it looks and works today was shaped very much by Victorian England. The late nineteenth century, when Melbourne's masterpiece and our flurry of regional gardens were created, was the heyday of botanic gardens. But has their day passed I asked? What relevance do botanic gardens have in the 21st century when our concerns are climate change, drought and a catastrophic loss of biodiversity? Kew Gardens embraced the new environmental challenges through its Breathing Planet Program, including the discovery of new plants, mapping their distribution, conserving them in nature, making them available for sustainable local use, seed banking, restoration and finally inspiration through its shop front – the garden. Not every botanic garden can do all this but every botanic garden can make a contribution.

If I had to pick three words to help guide a botanic gardens in the 21st century they would be curiosity, conservation, and communication.



Professor Tim Entwisle

Director and Chief Executive, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Inspired by Nature 3:

An Exhibition of Botanic Art from the Friends Botanic Art School

Our Botanic Artists have been busily preparing for our biennial exhibition, **Inspired by Nature 3**, which will open for viewing from 4 October to 4 November 2013, at the Wintergarden, 51 Mc Killop Street Geelong. The exhibition will be curated by Jill Shalless from **art@wintergarden**. The gallery is open seven days a week and offers an opportunity to reach a new audience with the added benefit of coffee or lunch during a visit.

As an incentive to participating artists Cavalier Arts is awarding a prize of a \$200 gift voucher for a selected work. This will be presented at the Official Opening.

A number of events are scheduled during the exhibition:

The Sogetsu Ikebana School with Christopher James, is installing regularly changing exhibits designed with specific botanical artworks in mind. The juxtaposition of these two art forms will delight visitors to the Wintergarden. The Friends are currently working with Christopher to schedule an Ikebana demonstration. Full details will be available when you visit the gallery **art@wintergarden**. Details will also be published on the FGBG website and inserted in the October edition of "What's On".

Each Wednesday during the exhibition the WAGtails will hold 'Meet the Artist' sessions in the gallery space 1.00 - 3.00 pm.

And the most exciting news.....Stephen Ryan of **Dicksonia Rare Plants** will launch the exhibition on Sunday 13 October, 3.00 to 5.00 pm. This event is open to all members; come celebrate with the artists. RSVP by 12 noon Friday 11 October, Friends office 5222 6053.

Helena Buxton
FGBG Co-ordinator
Inspired by Nature 3



Perennial Passions:

changing seasons in the Perennial Border

Late autumn and winter is a period of 'hard graft' in the Perennial Border as many plants require cutting back and division to encourage healthy growth for the coming season. Volunteers work hard during the winter period as a significant area of the border is cast in chilly shade. The smallest shaft of sun is a blessing to warm the back while weeding, digging and pruning. Winter maintenance is also an opportunity to send material down to the Growing Friends so that perennial plants can be propagated and offered for sale through the Growing Friends Nursery.

Change is afoot along the border. The loss of the large *Taxus sp.* on the northern edge and the implementation of the new irrigation system throughout the Gardens offers that chance to renew and alter some of the planting. Staff from the GBG are currently developing a new plan for the northern bed with the aim being to carry some of the existing formal aspects along the central axis down to the original Gardens entry at the Hitchcock Fountain. Installing the new irrigation system will also disturb edges along the border. While this may seem disruptive it offers design opportunities and will result in some exciting change over the coming two seasons.

The border will be coming out of its winter hibernation and will look its best from late October; come and visit.

Helena Buxton
Co-ordinator Perennial Border



Director's Report

Cocktails, Craftiness and Creativity

Inspiring people to engage in the world of plants is our gift to the community. Our 'Crafty Creatures' school holiday program gave children the opportunity to discover how insects and other mini-beasts live in the Geelong Botanic Garden. Displays of giant butterflies, caterpillars and spiders throughout the Garden helped highlight a discovery trail of 'insect facts'. Children were delighted to see the giant dragonfly in the soak in the 21st Century Garden and pretended to be scared of the giant spiders!

The program focused on children creating their own 'creature' with hands-on craft in the GBG meeting room and a 'bug walk' to see real insects in the Garden. Each session was fully booked and feedback from participants was really positive. This success confirms that school holiday programs are well worth our investment. Our horticulture staff got in touch with their creative side making giant creatures and installing them in the Gardens. Some Friends volunteers supported staff in preparing craft activities and helping deliver the program.

The latest display in the Pit-Glasshouse (Curiosity Cabinet) is the 'Cocktail Cabinet' showcasing plants used for in the production and flavouring of alcohol. Our horticultural team have collected stories about bootlegging, tequila, absinthe and developed a great display- all while stone cold sober! Our brainstorming for plant and alcohol stories revealed just how many plants in the Garden have a role in the making of alcohol and so we made an interpretive trail through the Gardens. In turn these stories have inspired the Volunteer Guides to develop a themed walk, and now some of these stories have been translated into an article in this edition of Jubaea.

Recent visitors to the Garden will have observed a lot of projects happening to improve the garden. The crazy paving in the rose garden has been repointed giving this beautiful path a fresh look. Many brides choose this area to have their photos taken as the rose garden as it is such a pretty setting. The rejuvenation of the Pelargonium collection has been positively received and new plantings of species *Pelargoniums* are growing away nicely. You can't miss the recycled timber gates that our horticultural team made which provide a great backdrop to the new plantings.

Lastly, the repair of our irrigation system continues with our contractors now working in the Garden proper. New pipework and sprinklers are being installed into garden beds which will enable us to apply recycled water to our plant collections. Our irrigation water will be sourced from the Eastern Park stormwater harvest dam. This is an exciting water management project which is well worth the short term disruption to the Garden to enable us to water efficiently predominantly with recycled water.

Annette Zealley
Director Geelong Botanic Gardens



Congratulations to our new Honorary Life Members: Irene Scholtz and Robert Kontjonis.

The Growing Friends

Spring Plant Sale

10 am - 4 pm

Sat 26 & Sun 27 October

Showcasing a wide selection of Australian plants, colourful perennials, hardy shrubs, pelargoniums and succulents, sourced from the Geelong Botanic Gardens

Growing Friends' Nursery entrance at rear of
Geelong Botanic Gardens



Ph: (03) 5222 6053

Email: info@friendsgbg.org.au

www.friendsgbg.org.au

FGBG activities @GBG and beyond

This page lists planned Friends activities and other events for the coming season. To get the latest information from our monthly *What's On* email please register your address with the Friends office and a detailed bulletin will be sent to you at the beginning of each month. Those members without email can pick up their copy directly from the FGBG Office during normal opening hours.

SEPTEMBER 2013

Sunday September 15

Discovery Walk – **A Burst of Spring:** Spring is a time for new growth, perfume and flowers throughout the Garden. Australian plants in the 21st Century Garden are at their peak while exotic plants from around the world also display their magnificent spring blooms at this time of the year.

Monday September 30

Jayne Salmon leads a visit to the **University of Melbourne Systems Garden** and **Carlton Garden's Parterre**. There is no cost for this activity but transport is at your own expense. Register with the Friends office by September 23.

School Holidays @GBG

Up In The Air: activities for families in the GBG

See September's edition of *What's On* or The Friends' (www.friendsgbg.org.au) or Gardens' website (www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/) for more details.

Bookings essential through the GBG office 5272 4379

OCTOBER 2013

Inspired by Nature 3: an exhibition of Botanic Art by members of our Geelong School of Botanical Art featuring changing exhibits from Sogestu Ikebana.

Daily 10 am - 4 pm at art@wintergarden, 51 McKillop Street Geelong, 4 October - 4 November. For a full listing of events surrounding *Inspired by Nature 3* please check our website or refer to the October edition of *What's On*

Sunday October 13

Official Opening Sunday October 13

You are invited to join the Friends and our special guest Stephen Ryan to celebrate *Inspired by Nature 3* and recognise the achievements of our artists at their third biennial Botanic Art Exhibition.

3 pm - 5 pm at the Wintergarden, 51 McKillop Street, Geelong. RSVP 12 noon 11 October, Friends Office

Monday October 21

Flora of the Otway Ranges: a Picture of a Book – How does a book like this come about? Join with Friends to hear our very own Enid Mayfield talk about the processes involved in producing *Flora of the Otway Ranges*, from collecting plants to finalising layout.
6 pm Geelong Botanic Gardens meeting room

Wednesday October 23

Discovery Walk – **Featuring Plants from Inspired by Nature 3.** You will have seen the glorious art work in *Inspired by Nature 3*, so come and see some of those plants as they grow in our Gardens. Special time: 11 am

Sunday October 27

Discovery Walk – **Featuring Plants from Inspired by Nature 3.** A repeat of the Wednesday Discovery walk at the regular time of 2 pm

Spring Plant Sale Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October: 10 am – 4 pm. Spring is with us and flowers are becoming abundant in our gardens. Be inspired to add to your own collection. Drop in to the Growing Friends Nursery to add new life to your garden.

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday November 3:

Discovery Walk – **Silver can be Gold:** Discover the interest and value of silver plants in garden design.

Monday November 25: Through the Garden Gates: a self drive tour of four gardens along the Surfcoast.

The day commences at 12.30 pm with a bring your own picnic lunch. Tea, coffee and treats will be provided at selected gardens.

\$25 for members (\$35 for non - members)

Booking essential, RSVP Wednesday 20 November, 1 pm, contact FGBG office for tickets.

Monday November 25: Christmas Drinks

A Friends plant stall will form part of the celebration when we join for Christmas drinks after our garden tour. Those unable to make the tour can join us on the lawns at Arundel to mark the end of another successful year of volunteering.

Christmas Drinks commence, 4.30 pm, Arundel, 478 Ryrie Street East Geelong.

Booking Essential, RSVP Wednesday 20 November, 1 pm, FGBG Office

Coming up this summer:

Our December Discovery walk features the Gardens' **pelargonium collection**

Music In The Gardens: every Sunday in February. Have you ever volunteered for this event? The Friends need volunteers to deliver this wonderful annual concert series and we are seeking more volunteers to help the team. One Sunday evening in February would be a small contribution of your time and will help us deliver another successful month of music. In return you will receive a free ticket to an alternate concert. Help us deliver this wonderful event to our community, register at the FGBG Office.

Discovery Walks all start at 2 pm on the front steps of the Geelong Botanic Gardens, unless otherwise indicated.

Free guided walks are offered every Sunday at 2 pm when there is no Discovery walk. Join a volunteer guide for a spring afternoon stroll around the Gardens.

The **Discovery Table** provides further information about the Gardens and a selection of plants from the Growing Friends Nursery. First and third Sundays of the month near the Bunce bollard.

Jubaea is published by the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens, Inc. Eastern Park, Geelong. PO Box 325, Geelong 3220.

Email: info@friendsgbg.org.au **Website:** www.friendsgbg.org.au **Friends' office hours:** 10am-1 pm weekdays

Friends' phone: (03)5222 6053 **Geelong Botanic Gardens Office:** (03)52724379

President: Judith Trimble **Vice Presidents:** Anthea Williams and Helena Buxton **Secretary:** Luanne Thornton

Treasurer: Judy Fyfe **Committee Members:** Susanna Keith, Helen Rodd, Jayne Salmon, Don Spittle and Allison Martland.

Winter Postcards from Crafty Creatures

*The Geelong Botanic Gardens winter school holiday program
was supported by volunteers from the Friends.*

*Photographs in this edition of Jubaea have been provided by
Jenny and Graham Possingham, Judith Kennedy, Helena Buxton and the GBG staff.*

