

Jubaea



Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Inc. Newsletter

October 2021 Volume 21 Issue 3

FRIENDS OF
GEELONG
BOTANIC
GARDENS



Geranium maderense near the Customs House

SPRING IN OUR STEP

As it is with the end of each winter, spring returns with its bright flowers and dappled sunlight to invigorate us and remind us that long sunny days are just around the corner. I know after a winter of Covid-19 lockdowns the warming weather and splashes of colour are a welcome reprieve.

Spring is one of the busiest periods of the year for us because of course it is when the plants are at their busiest! The winter bulbs, camellias and rhododendrons give way to bright annual displays. Of all the annual displays we are most looking forward to is the experimental Western Australian Wildflower display being trialled in the centre of the 21st Century Gardens. Staff have had a very

successful germination rate after sowing *Rhodanthe chlorocephala* directly into garden beds of sandy loam. If the seedlings continue this strong growth, we will soon be rewarded with a carpet of colour. Then, we will be able to trial further native annual displays throughout the City of Greater Geelong - an exciting and innovative project.

It is not just the weather and the Gardens going through transformation; the Friends have farewelled Allison after six years as President. Allison will now step into the role of Vice President. From the restoration of the Furphy, the installation of the labelling and engraving machines and the beautification of the Hitchcock

fountain, Allison has led the Friends in projects that will be a part of the Geelong Botanic Gardens' legacy. Allison was able to achieve as much as she did through her perseverance and ability to bring people together, her big heart for the Gardens and her passion for horticulture.



Rhodanthe chlorocephala in the 21st Century Garden

Allison and the Friends have put great care and diligence into the nomination and appointment of President, Denise Feldman. Denise has taken up the presidency as a talented and capable leader. I know first-hand that she has many excellent skills to bring to this role and I look forward to partnering with her in this new season.



New vegetable garden with the Sunken Glass House and Pelargonium House in the background

Also entering a new season is the recently completed vegetable garden, located next to the Sunken Glass House. All the herbs, vegetables, berry bushes, hops and fruit trees have been planted. Many of these plants are so small they can hardly be seen but they will grow, rapidly filling out the space and becoming both an edible and educational feature. We look forward to running our Vegetable Garden workshops from here as soon as restrictions allow.

Another new feature in the Gardens are four new seats commissioned by the Friends with funds donated to the Friends by the Geelong Garden Club; the club disbanded earlier this year. The seats of varnished wood and cast iron complement our heritage aspects as well as demonstrating our shared passion for excellence.

These seats were cast and built in the Furphy Foundry in Shepparton – again a nice link to our history.



One of the new bench seats donated by Geelong Garden Club

Before putting my pen down to go and tackle spring, I would like to say another big thankyou to Peggy Muntz and Allison Martland for their appearance on the TV show, *Postcards*.



Peggy Muntz and Livinia Nixon

They did a very professional job promoting the gardens and made us all proud. We have had a great season of publicity with TV, social media, magazines and newspapers all shining a light on the great work that both the volunteers and staff have been achieving. Press on the link to see the postcards footage:

<https://www.9now.com.au/postcards/2021/clip-cksr5xehb002a0hnhz4eo1gzf>



Ashley Filipovski and Livinia Nixon

As always, I look forward to what we will continue to achieve together.

Ashley Filipovski, Coordinator Geelong Botanic Gardens

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was wonderful to welcome forty members, and Gardens Coordinator Ashley Filipovski, to the Friends' Annual General Meeting on Monday August 30. For a second year the Annual General Meeting was held online via Zoom. The meeting commenced with the re-presentation of a Special Resolution, to allow new memberships to be completed on-line; this was unanimously accepted.

As retiring President, it was my pleasure to present the Annual Report as a snapshot of the achievements of the Friends throughout the year. Retiring Treasurer, Jane Laidlaw, presented the comprehensive Financial Report. These reports summarised a very successful year, despite setbacks imposed by extensive Covid-19 related lockdowns.

Ashley was invited to chair the election of the new Committee and the following positions were announced:

President: Denise Feldman
Vice Presidents: Jan Cheyne, Allison Martland
Secretary: Kate Kirkhope
Treasurer: Barrie Satchell
Members: Allan Brown, Tilly Brunton, Rosslyn Jablonsky, Peggy Muntz, Charles Pond.

Before Denise was invited to take the Chair, I was honoured to thank Jane and retiring Vice President Judy Lavery, both personally and from Committee, for their invaluable contributions after several years on Committee.

Flowers were sent to Judy and Jane in lieu of a presentation, to show the Friends' appreciation. After congratulating and thanking the new and past Committees, members and staff for their support and encouragement over the six years of my Presidency, I was delighted to wish Denise well in her new role.

Denise's first duty as President was to announce David Johnson as the Friends' newest Honorary Life Member, which brought delighted applause from the members. The award was made in recognition of his considerable contribution to the professional development of the Guides, the education of the public and publications for the Friends. David was most appreciative, giving a very warm response. A framed certificate will be presented when we are able to do so in person.

Unfortunately, at this point, Ashley lost internet connection and was unable to give his presentation and receive my thanks for his leadership and support. However, Friends' patron, Dr Philip Moors, stepped in to speak very sincerely about the value of our strong membership. Philip congratulated Committee on managing the affairs of the Friends so well, particularly through the last two difficult years. His words were appreciated by all and were such a positive way to end the evening.

Many thanks to all who attended. For Committee, it is gratifying to have such generous support and the confidence of our members.

Allison Martland, Retiring President FGBG

WELCOME FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

It is a great honour to be President of the Friends of the Geelong Botanic Gardens. My predecessors George Jones, Jayne Salmon, Helena Buxton, Jenny Possingham, Judith Trimble and Allison Martland are people of great wisdom and knowledge. I promise with small steps at first to attempt to fill the role as well as I can. Fortunately, Allison is my Vice President and she has offered to be there to help whenever I need it.

I grew up on a farm near Shepparton. My mother was a wonderful gardener and we had a very large garden. Mum had a section for Australian plants, a rose area, a bed with shrubs and annuals, a fishpond, a succulent bed and a sheltered garden with pink violets and hellebores. There was a wisteria on a pergola, and another pergola with a Virginia creeper. Also, an orchard and a large vegetable garden. I remember a large garden party; I think that must have been for the church guild that mum belonged to.

I went from there to La Trobe University, followed by a Dip Ed and Grad Dip of Special Education at Melbourne University. I had a stint as a Study Skills Adviser at Deakin and, as I have a special interest in supporting people who have a disability, became the Respite and Residential Services Manager at Gateways Support Services. Following this I became a disability advocate in Geelong then in Melbourne.

My mother was an artist so when my children had left home, I started to attend the Melbourne School of Botanic Art. After a couple of years I heard that the Friends had started a school in Geelong so I transferred there.

I have loved learning from John Pastoriza-Pinol, Rita Parkinson, Deb Chirnside, Amanda Ahmed, and Amanda Blake Sutterby. One of the joys of classes especially with John, is to walk in the Gardens listening to his comments as we go. John has a PhD in Botany so with every word, he drops gems about the plantings.

Geelong Botanic Gardens is a very special place where even in lockdown, we can explore the wandering pathways to the next delight.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 30 August. Thankyou to all those who joined us on Zoom. We have a wonderful committee with people you already know, as they volunteer in various types of Friends' activities. We welcome Rosslyn, Allan, and Charles to the committee. We also welcome members who have suggestions or projects they would like us to consider and I have already heard of one which we are taking on as a major project. Everything we can do as a voluntary organisation to benefit Geelong Botanic Gardens, and through it the community, we welcome. We might just need a little help from you too.

Denise Feldman, FGBG President

AGM ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

FGBG President's Annual Report: 2020-2021

Covid-19 had an even greater impact on the Friends than 2019-2020. Despite negative impacts, there have been unexpected positives, allowing the Friends to expand horizons, with new technologies aiding the Friends' administration and reach. The Annual Report is a snapshot of major achievements this financial year.

Geelong School of Botanical Art preparations for the seventh biennial art exhibition in late 2021 have been overseen by Convenor Judy Lavery. In 2020, tutors Dolores Malloni and Deb Chirnside were farewelled and Amanda Blake Sutterby and Craig Lidgerwood were welcomed in February. To mitigate Covid cancellations, new equipment was funded by a grant, enabling Zoom classes until in-person classes resumed in 2021.

The Friends sincerely thank all tutors for their commitment to the Art School.

Membership of the Friends had dropped to 278 members. By June 2021 membership had grown to 341, with 68 volunteer members. The Friends currently have three corporate members: Geelong Field Naturalists; Geelong Orchid and Indoor Plant Club; Geelong Organic Gardeners.

A review of Friends Policies, Responsibilities and Structure was undertaken by Committee and a Hierarchy of Roles was developed. Being responsible for the smooth governance of the Friends, Committee updated policies on: Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination, Role of the Executive, Website and Facebook.

Professional Development included First Aid update training for seven volunteers and the Guides continued their professional development.

New Initiatives and Promotion: I have put these into dot list

- On-line Gardens Guided walks,
- Friends' Gardeners' Calendar, on-line sales

- Event bookings and Meetings/Art classes held on-line, including AGM.
- The Friends catered for a High Tea to welcome new members as well as the International Dendrology Society's afternoon tea.
- A successful Plant Auction was held at Friends' Christmas Drinks.

Volunteering and Events in the Gardens ceased from March until late 2020, resuming in 2021. In Volunteer Week, Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Friends who have volunteered from one to thirty-six years, in recognition of their invaluable contributions.

Only three events brought in income, as the rest were free or cancelled. 2020 - Members' Christmas Drinks/Plant Auction with musical entertainment. 2021 - Alistair Watt's Pacific Rim talk and walk; Design Week Guided Walks; Self-drive Tour of Country Dahlias/ Drol Kar/ Nursery; Volunteers Week luncheon; Cancellations – Winter Lunch, Seniors' Week morning-tea/walk, Movie Night, Bus Trip, Christmas Art Fair, Nursery Sales, Self-drive Tour to Ballarat, Botanic Gardens Day, Cooking Demonstration. Despite the loss of events and activities, our Treasurer obtained grants to minimise the financial impact. Thanks to Jane and the Finance Subcommittee, and the Events team.

Special Acknowledgements to the Friends' dedicated members, staff and art tutors who have contributed so much in difficult times.

Sincere thanks to Tracey and Sally-Ann, our staff who worked alone and gained vital new skills.

Grateful thanks to Friends' Committee, and Management and staff of Geelong Botanic Gardens, for their supportive partnership.

I am honoured to be President of this vibrant organisation and give sincere thanks to all who have assisted and contributed to the success of the Friends.

Allison Martland, Retiring President FGBG

AGM FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

Financial Management

The Finance Committee (Ro Richards, Barrie Satchell, Judy Fyfe, Ian and Allison Martland, Denise Feldman, Allan Brown and Jane Laidlaw) make recommendations to the Committee of the Friends. Financial records are maintained by administration staff Tracy Tilbury and Sally-Ann Bird. Regional Payroll managed the payroll. Davidsons provides professional advice, lodges Activity Statements, PAYG returns, organises Job Keeper and audits finances. Audited reports are available to members from the Friends' office.

Revenue

Funds are raised by running events, tours, botanic art classes and workshops, selling plants, guiding activities and sale of merchandise. Revenue is down due to Covid-19 curtailing volunteer activities. Donations increased to \$6,003. Thank you to our donors including The Geelong Garden Club when they disbanded. Most of our income was from grants; the State and Federal Governments and also grants from The Greater City of Geelong. The COGG grants included funds for the printing of our first calendar, the purchase of camera equipment and the purchase of a laptop for zoom meetings and botanic art classes. A new initiative saw a nice profit from calendar sales.

Expenses

Our expenses have declined. Costs incurred by events, tours, workshops and Botanic Art were less, as activities were limited. Marketing was less due to fewer activities being advertised. Operating costs remained about the same. Administration expenses increased due to website, computer upgrades and extra accounting costs related to Job Keeper.

We have modernized some of our financial methods. Cheques have been replaced by on-line banking. A debit card is used for small purchases and completing online orders. The dated desktop version of MYOB was updated to cloud-based XERO enabling Sally-Ann to work remotely. XERO has a Payroll component to process and keep records of wages, tax and superannuation. By doing our own payroll we will save over \$2000 annually. Try Booking was added to our website for online purchases.

We remain in a healthy financial position, increasing total equity to \$399,972.

Gift Fund

The Gift Fund is reported separately. Revenue is raised from donations and interest on investments. We are required to disperse 4% of the Gift Fund to the Geelong Botanic Gardens annually. Donations and bequests totalled \$4,665. Interest totalled \$4,437. Overall revenue was \$9,102. Thank you to all donors. We contributed \$17,370 to The Geelong Botanic Gardens to complete the conservation of the Hitchcock fountain and surrounding paving. Two new bronze sculptures by local artist William Wilson were also purchased.

Most funds remain in fixed deposit for supporting future projects. Total Equity is \$418,742.

Thank you to the finance committee and to Tracey and Sally-Ann for all their hard work and understanding in the office.

Jane Laidlaw, Retiring Treasurer FGBG

***Complete Annual Reports are available on the Friends Website**

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER 2021

David Johnson has made a tremendous contribution to the Geelong Botanic Gardens and to the Friends who volunteer as Guides in the Gardens. David undertook Guide Training in 2013 and since then has made at least 200 train trips to Geelong from Melbourne, which demonstrates his passion and commitment. David frequently leaves home before 6 am to travel to Geelong and spends many hours in guiding activities. His contributions to the Guides and the Gardens stem from the botanical expertise he has developed and from his intimate knowledge of our plant collection.



David Johnson during an enthusiastic talk



David facilitating a Guides information session

- David has contributed to the professional development of all Guides and assisted with Guide training and U3A courses. He regularly attends conferences and brings knowledge and guiding strategies back to Geelong.
- Every month, he organizes a “Discovery Table” in the Gardens, presenting interesting plant specimens and explaining their characteristics to the visiting public. David is able to capture the interest of all visitors, from young children to inexperienced gardeners to academic botanists.
- He produces the Garden Highlights pamphlet which is available at the Gardens’ gate. Each month, this features a different plant or tree, with photos and facts to interest visitors, as well as a map indicating its location in the Gardens. It also promotes other Friends’ activities: talks, tours and nursery sales.
- David has also contributed to the professional development of the horticultural staff at the Gardens and often assists with the Education Program. His knowledge, computer skills and collection of photos are always available to the Guides and the Gardens, enhancing publications and promotion.

On a personal level David is a humble and cheerful colleague. He is interested and supportive of all Guides and enjoys getting together, including at our monthly lunches.

David is at the core of all that the Guides currently know and do. He thoroughly deserves Life Membership of the Friends for his enormous contribution to both the Guides and the Gardens.

Gwen Anderson, Guide Coordinator

THE WADAWURRUNG CONNECTION



Geelong Botanic Gardens is on Wadawurrung land. Nearby middens indicate that Eastern Hill was an important gathering place for many years, with access to food from both sea and

land. Daniel Bunce, our first Curator, was very interested in aboriginal culture. His book, *Australasiatic Reminiscences*, includes descriptions of time spent with the Bunurong people in Western Port as early as 1839:

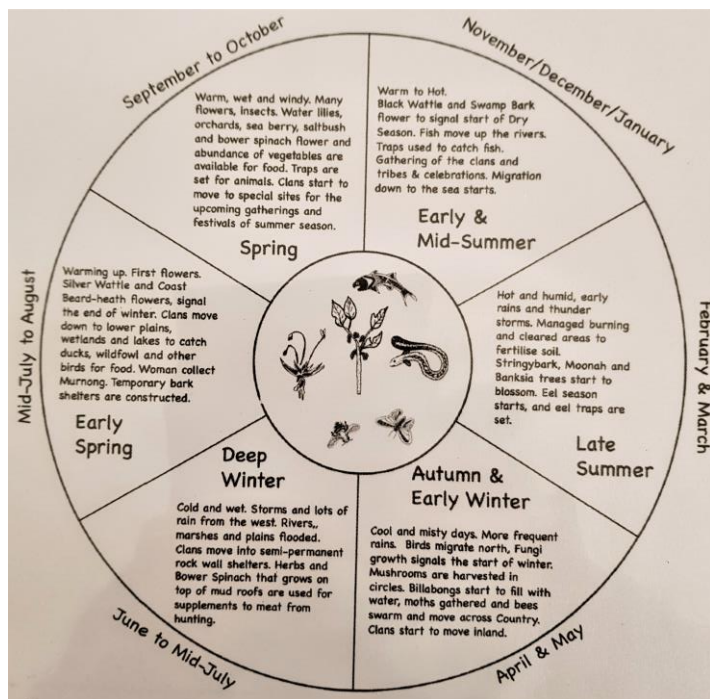
"... They cooked a possum for our evening meal, it being very strongly tintured with the volatile peppermint oil ... from the Eucalyptus piperata, or peppermint tree.... The heart or crown of the fern tree, slightly roasted reminded me of the flavor of the cocoanut."

Bunce travelled with a Wadawurrung guide to learn about Australian plants and the way they were used. He shared much of this information, as well as plant material, with other botanic gardens.

Bunce also forged a firm friendship with Willem Baa Ni Ip ("King Billy") 1836 – 1885. King Billy was invited, as *"sole representative of the aboriginal race which formerly owned the district"* to present Daniel Bunce's book to Prince Alfred on his visit to Victoria (1867). In 1872, he attended Bunce's funeral.



Welcome for Flag-Raising Ceremony. NAIDOC Week, 2021



Seasons of the Geelong region Wadawurrung peoples; Geelong's changing landscape, CSIRO, 2019

Geelong Botanic Gardens' Guides have had a long interest in the first Australians. George Jones collected many references to Daniel Bunce's interaction with the aboriginal people and shared them with the Guides. In the 1990s, historian Lou Lane addressed the Friends on the camping sites in Eastern Park, Wadawurrung food plants and crustaceans. Guides Jean Abbey and Netta Schefferle documented the Australian native plants in the Gardens and led guided walks on aboriginal plant use.

In 2008, we decided that we needed to know more about the Wadawurrung. I began to gather information from many local sources, with special help from teacher Julia Ditterich, who was running a course at Sacred Heart College. Guide Diana Sawyer joined in analysing our information and together we put together a special guided walk, which included Wadawurrung history, culture and plant use. We approached the local Cultural Officer, Uncle David Tournier, to ensure that our information was correct and culturally appropriate. Uncle David accompanied us on a tour of the Gardens, contributing interesting stories to our resources.

At our first advertised themed walk, we were stunned when more than 40 people arrived! There was obviously a great deal of interest in the topic. Since then, the Guides have included this themed walk in most years. We have also provided special walks and talks for groups like the Australian Plants Society and Melton Botanic Gardens. Public interest continued growing, especially after the publication of *Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe, and in 2019, 67 people turned up for the advertised walk. That was when we decided to roster two guides for each themed walk!

Even in the uncertainty of the pandemic, people keep turning up to hear about the Wadawurrung. In July 2021 (NAIDOC week), despite threatening weather, about 40 people arrived. Lynne Clarke and I took the walk and were impressed with the interest shown by the group, who contributed additional information and volunteered to help in this area.

In 2019, Dr Fred Cahir was guest speaker at a Friends' function, presenting his new book, *"My country all gone – the white men have stolen it": the invasion of Wadawurrung country 1800-1870*. Fred was an excellent contact for more information.

He provided me with useful sources on Wadawurrung language and to find the correct Wadawurrung names for relevant plants.... and that is an ongoing search. We hope to be able to enhance our walks with local language in future.

Geelong Botanic Gardens is a great venue for discussing Wadawurrung plant use. An important theme of the 21st Century Garden plantings is to foster the appreciation of local plants – and of course, these are the plants which were so important to the Wadawurrung for food, medicine, materials, tools and ceremony.

With growing interest in the community, this walk will always be popular. We try to keep it relevant and will continue to work to improve it. Perhaps one day we will have a Wadawurrung Guide at Geelong Botanic Gardens!

Most GBG guided walks begin with an acknowledgement of the traditional owners of our land, but for this themed walk it is particularly important.

*We acknowledge that this is Wadawurrung country and pay our respect to their elders, past present and future.
We acknowledge the sad history of Wadawurrung displacement and suffering after the arrival of white settlers.
We acknowledge and respect the enduring Wadawurrung cultural and spiritual connection to the land.
We acknowledge that as they cared for the land, the land cared for them..... and that there is much we can learn from their skills in conservation and land management.*

Liz Bennetto, FGBG Guide

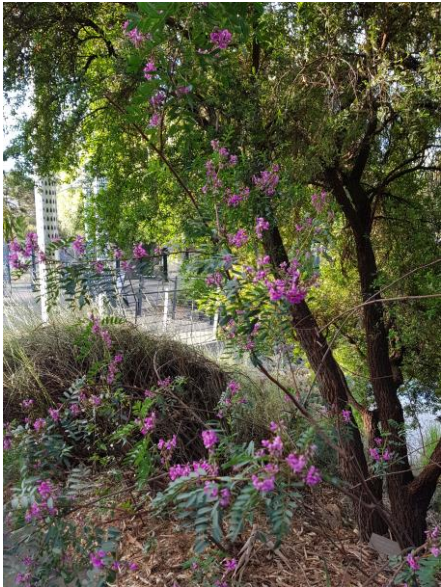
All of these 21st Century Garden plants were used by the Wadawurrung. Can you identify them?
For answers, check the Friends' website friendsgbg.org.au



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2



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4



5



6

PLANT IN FOCUS

Zieria prostrata Headland Zieria

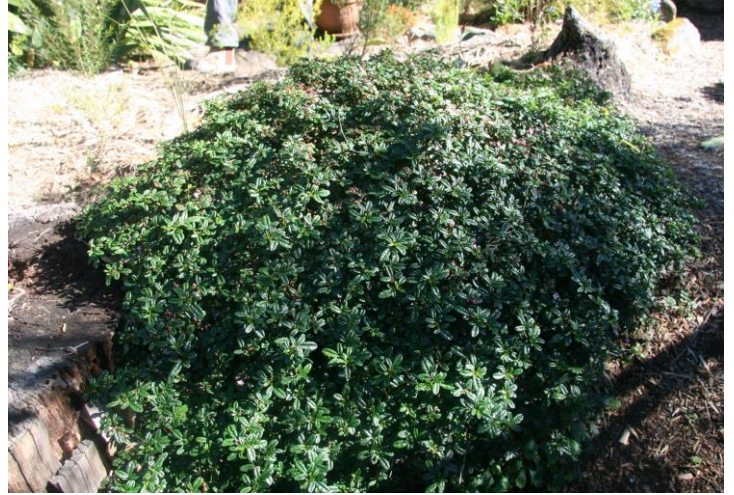
Zieria prostrata is a plant in the citrus family, *Rutaceae*. It is endemic to the Coff's Harbour district in NSW, where it grows in low coastal heathland on headlands in a single nature reserve. Other headlands along the NSW coastline have similar Zierias, but so far this species has only been found in one location.



Zieria prostrata buds and flowers

Zieria prostrata is a low, rambling shrub with shiny dark green leaves composed of three leaflets. The small flowers are pink in the bud stage but paler as they open, arranged in groups of 3-7 in the leaf axils. Flowering is from late August to October and is followed by fruit containing seeds.

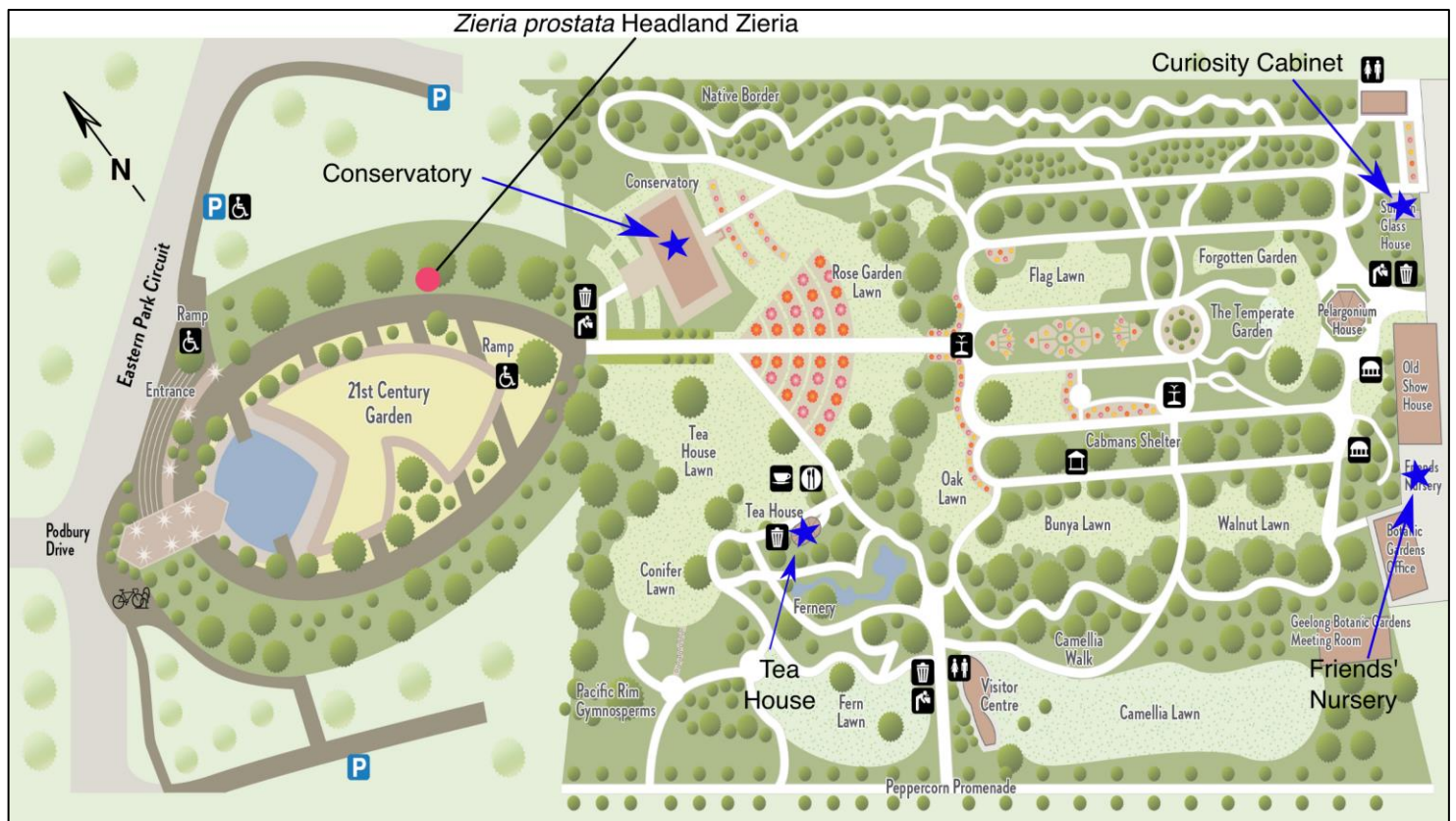
Conservation: *Zieria prostrata* is classified as endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999*. The main threat to its survival is by introduced species, especially kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*), bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) and lantana (*Lantana camara*).



Zieria prostrata rambling scrub

In Geelong Botanic Gardens, *Zieria prostrata* is located near the northern path in the 21st Century Garden. It is an attractive small shrub for the home garden and is usually available from the Friends' Nursery.

Sarah King, FGBG Guide



VALE TO GOOD FRIENDS

SUSANNA KEITH

Sue Keith died on September 11 after a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis. For as long as she was able to contribute in any way, Sue was an enthusiastic member of the Friends, joining in 2002 and volunteering from 2003 in the Tea House as a valuable member of the team. When the management of the Tea House changed from the Friends to a private provider in 2012, Sue worked with Jan Perry and others to organise a successful celebration Garden Party on the Tea House lawn for people who had volunteered at the Tea House since it began in 1992. Sue served as a committee member from 2008 and became Vice President in 2014. She took on various responsibilities as her health allowed, never complaining, including organising merchandise purchases, maintaining the First Aid Kits and always making sure there was enough tea and coffee for volunteer morning teas. Whenever there was catering Sue was involved. As part of the Committee Sue was very active during the 2016 AAFGB conference held at the Geelong Conference Centre. Sue was also a Geelong representative on the AAFGB Committee 2015 – 2016. Sue will be sorely missed and we send our sincere sympathies to Ian, David, Claire and their families. Susanna was an Honorary Life Member.

IRENE SCHLOTZ

It is with great sadness and fondness that we say goodbye to Irene Scholtz, who passed away on August 11, 2021, aged 94. Irene was one of the original Growing Friends, who began working in the nursery on Wednesday mornings in 1989. Many members of the Friends will remember her smiling face and her willingness to stop for a friendly chat. When Irene quietly retired from active volunteering, she 'didn't want any fuss', but was beguiled into coming to a very special morning tea in her honour. Irene was born in Germany in May 1927. She was married in 1951 and migrated to Australia in 1954. Irene was devoted to her family, her faith and her garden. Her family's tribute included these fitting words: "(Someone) somewhere required a gardener to tend a garden with much love, laughter, faith and an unyielding desire to comfort the troubled....". At Irene's funeral service, her granddaughter Alisha said, "Our hearts were touched by the warmth of hers". We remember Irene with love and gratitude and express our sympathy to her extended family. Irene was an Honorary Life Member.

ROSEMARY WEATHERLY

A great contributor to the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens passed away recently at the age of 96. Rosemary and her husband Griff joined the Friends in 1998 when they moved to Geelong from a property near Streatham. It was a time of severe water restrictions in Geelong and the Weatherlys could be found almost daily in the Botanic Gardens assisting with hand watering. Rosemary was a consummate gardener, a forthright communicator, a wonderful friend, excellent voluntary guide and member of the Committee of Management for three years. Botanic Art was embraced and gave much pleasure. Rosemary enthusiastically assisted with delivery of the Education Resource Package and activities for schools introduced and funded by the Friends and the City of Greater Geelong in 1999. Although Rosemary spent her later years in assisted accommodation she retained her great interest in plants, the environment and our Botanic Gardens which she continued to visit. The Friends acknowledge the friendship, wisdom and sincerity of a wonderful member of our organisation. Rosemary was a Member since 1998.

MARDI MCCANN

We lost another good Friend with the death of Mardi McCann on June 28, 2021. Mardi was an early member and great supporter of the Friends. Mardi volunteered at the Friends' Teahouse for many years and often lent a hand to the Growing Friends at the nursery. Mardi's vibrant personality always lifted the spirits of the Friends and visitors to the Gardens; she loved the Gardens, its plants and people.

HIGH TEA

We were delighted to hold our inaugural Friends High Tea for our new members in May this year, in the Bunce Room. Our idea was to make people who had joined the Friends in recent months feel welcome and to get to know them. The event succeeded on both counts. We learnt that the eight new members are a highly skilled, interesting group. We were even able to meet special dietary needs. All food was homemade by Friends members. We received many compliments for the range of homemade food. People particularly loved the butterfly cakes. Following the High Tea, the new members were taken on a Gardens tour by Friends' Guide Peggy Muntz. We were planning to have a second High Tea in September but of course we have had to cancel the event. As soon as we are able, we will reschedule. *Denise Feldman*

BOTANIC ART

Another term has come to an end, during which all classes were conducted via zoom. We are proud of the way tutors and students have adapted to this new format, as it poses substantial challenges for all, but at least we can keep painting. In view of the most recent restrictions, we have continued with this format for term 4. If Melbourne and Geelong restrictions are lifted together during the term, classes may be able to be conducted face to face. It will be wonderful to get together again with our fellow artists and share our various experiences - and our artworks produced during the latest lockdown. Because of the possibility of snap lockdowns, the Geelong School of Botanical Art sub-committee has decided to postpone the 'Inspired by Nature 7' exhibition which was due to be held during November this year. The exhibition has now been rescheduled for March 2022, with the opening night on Friday 4 March. The exhibition will continue until 1 April. At least our artists have some more creative time to prepare for it.

Judy Lavery, Coordinator GSBA

PHOTO GALLERY



Rhododendrons flowering on the Camellia Path



New President, Denise Feldman



New Committee Member
Rosslyn Jablonsky



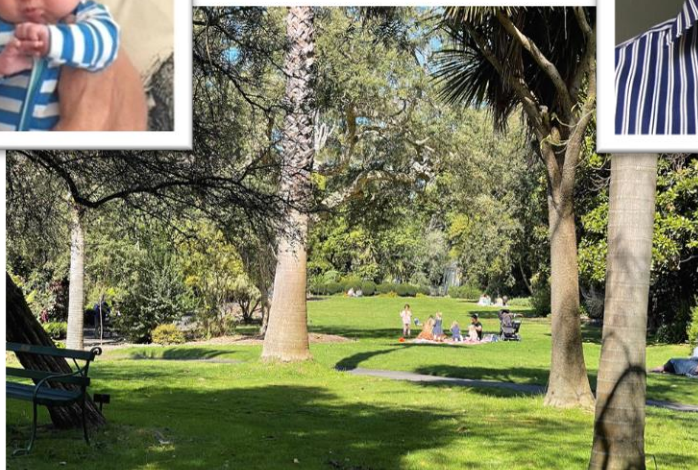
The magnificent Peppercorn Tree in the rear carpark



New Committee Member
Charles Pond

f g b g

Picnics on the Walnut Lawn

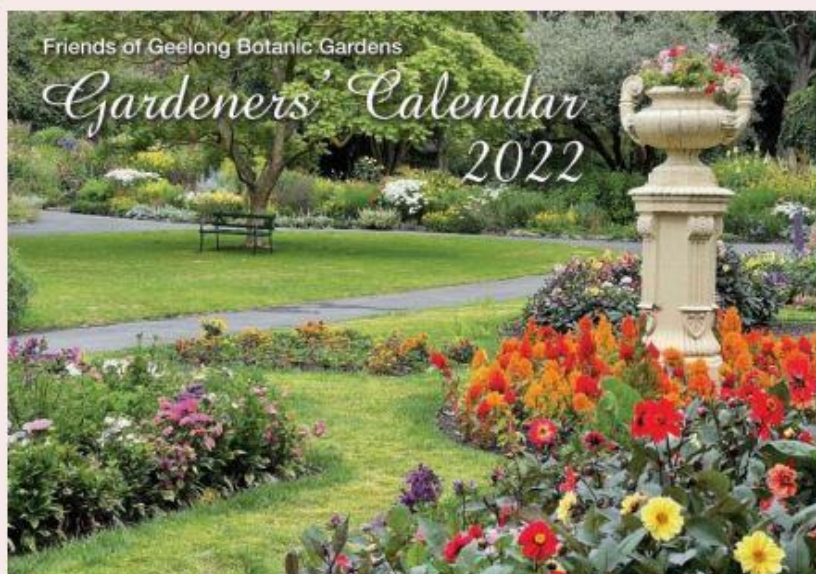


New Committee Member
Allan Brown



THE FRIENDS' GARDENERS' CALENDAR

now available



THE PERFECT GIFT FOR 2022

One only Print Run so purchase your copies of this stunningly beautiful edition now for Christmas giving.

\$12 members \$18 non-members

ONLINE SHOPPING at
www.friendsgbg.org.au

or email the office
info@friendsgbg.org.au

THE GIFT FUND

The Gift Fund currently has \$422,747.44. Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Gift Fund is registered with the Australian Taxation Office to receive donations, which are tax-deductible. This Fund may only be used to support special projects and programs within, and initiated by, Geelong Botanic Gardens. It may not be used to support the Friends or Friends activities. The Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens are very appreciative of your generous donations to the Gift Fund and would like to thank you.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2021-22

Please remember to renew your membership for this financial year; your continued support is most appreciated.

You can request another renewal notice from the FGBG Office if needed or just renew over the phone.

With all the lockdowns, there are still a number of memberships that haven't been renewed yet. Renew over the phone for your convenience.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES with the FRIENDS

FREE DISCOVERY WALKS

Every Wednesday at 11.00 am and Sunday at 2.00 pm.

THEMED WALKS

Second Sunday of every month at 2.00 pm. Meet your guide at the front steps. Gold coin Donation

Check the Friends' website for theme and date.

For more information, or to make a booking, contact the Friends' office on
5222 6053 between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm Monday to Friday.

DISCOVERY TABLE in the Gardens

Third Sunday of Every Month, 1.00 – 3.00 pm

Meet the Friends' Guides for interesting information and direction to key plants and seasonal change. Copies of the Self-guided Walks and information sheets are available at the Discovery Table and the Teahouse.

WEEKLY PLANT SALES

The Friends' Plant Nursery is **open every Wednesday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm** showcasing a wide selection of plants sourced from the Geelong Botanic Gardens. Located at the rear of GBG.

DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

JUBAEA SUBMISSIONS for the next Edition are due by 10 January 2022.
All articles including high resolution photos (jpeg files) can be sent to the FGBG Office



IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING ALL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Depending on how soon Covid-19 restrictions are eased, and what restrictions remain in place during 2021, we are hopeful that these events will go ahead. Some events may be restricted in numbers dependent on whether they are held indoors or outdoors.
- Payments for events will now be taken within the week prior to each event to reduce the risk of having to issue refunds.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER THEMED GUIDED WALK 'CHINESE PLANTS IN OUR GARDEN'

Sunday 10 October, 2.00 pm Gold coin donation.

China had the first Botanical Garden in 138 BC, an enormous park with 2,000 different plants and hot houses. Second emperor Yang Di in Sui dynasty built the largest gardens in history and searched far and wide for rare and beautiful plants. You won't believe how many of our plants have Chinese origins! Meet your Guide at the front steps of the GBG.

BOTANIC GARDENS DAY – Now Cancelled Due to Unpredictable Covid Restrictions

SATURDAY PLANT SALE

Saturday 16 October, 9.30 am to 2.30 pm

Friends' Nursery located at the rear of the Gardens.

MEMBERS' GUEST SPEAKER TALKS ON ZOOM

RSVP OFFICE FOR the LINK – Members Only

CATHERINE MILLIKAN 'Conservation of the Hitchcock Fountain'

Thursday 30 September at 11.00 am

LUANNE THORNTON 'Treasures from the Library'

Thursday 7 October at 11.00 am

PEGGY MUNTZ 'Who is Joseph Banks?'

Thursday 14 October at 11.00 am

CRAIG LIDGERWOOD 'Corsica'

Thursday 21 October at 11.00 am

GEELONG SENIORS' FESTIVAL 2021

1-30 October



To celebrate Geelong Seniors Festival \$10.00 vouchers have been available to spend at the GBG TEAHOUSE. There were 45 vouchers which were available to claim on the Friends' website and these have **now sold out**. The Guides have filmed a new virtual guided walk, which will be available to view on the Friends website from 8 October.

NOVEMBER

THROUGH the GARDEN GATES

Monday 8 November, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

This year the Friends offer a self-drive tour of four wonderful gardens; three coastal gardens at Jan Juc and one Gherang rural garden showing diversity and clever ideas at home. BYO picnic lunch or choose from local cafes. Finishing with a delicious afternoon tea at Gherang, along with a plant stall. \$30 members, \$40 non-members - afternoon tea included. NO tickets available on the day. RSVP ASAP to the Friends' Office. Payment for tickets on the FGBG Website or at Friends' Office in the week of 1-5 November.

NOVEMBER THEMED GUIDED WALK 'CHANGING PLANTS: 'PLANT ADAPTATION'

Sunday 14 November, 2.00 pm

Many plants have developed impressive features for coping with drought conditions. These adaptations are vital in a time of climate change. We will explore and demonstrate the strategies which they employ. You may be inspired to alter the character of your garden! Meet your Guide at the front steps of the GBG. Gold coin donation.

GUEST SPEAKER EVENING 'HISTORY OF THE WARDIAN CASE' with Dr Luke Keogh

Tuesday 16 November, 5.30 pm supper, 6.15 pm start. Meeting Room

Luke will be speaking on the history of the Wardian Case, the invention which revolutionised horticulture around the world. His research and the story are available in his book "The Wardian Case". Signed books available on the night.

\$15 members, \$20 non-members. Supper included.

RSVP ASAP to the Friends' Office. Payment in the week of 8-12 November.

DECEMBER

FRIENDS' CHRISTMAS PICNIC

Friday 3 December, 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm

Join the Friends and Committees to celebrate the year and look forward to 2022. Held at the GBG Visitor Facility and Picnic areas on the Camellia Lawn with light musical entertainment. BYO everything. RSVP to the Friends' Office. For FGBG members and their partners.

FGBG Patron: Dr Philip Moors

FGBG Committee: Denise Feldman - President, Allison Martland - Vice President, Jan Cheyne - Vice President, Barrie Satchell - Treasurer, Kate Kirkhope - Secretary, Tilly Brunton, Peggy Muntz, Rosslyn Jablonsky, Allan Brown, Charles Pond.

Editorial Team: Luanne Thornton, Liz Bennetto, Judy Fyfe, Tracey Tilbury, Allison Martland, Peggy Muntz, Margaret Gork.

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Friends' Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.

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