

# DISCOVERY WALKS - 2017

## **February 12<sup>th</sup>: Cabbage and Jelly: a garden rich in palms**

Palms capture the essence of the warm lands discovered by Europeans in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, coinciding with the establishment of the Geelong Botanic Gardens. Explore the stories of palms here in the Gardens with your Guide.

## **March 12<sup>th</sup>: Treasures of the Collections**

Geelong Botanic Gardens hold special collections of plants. Come with your Guide to explore the Silver Border, Perennial Border and the Salvias.

## **April 9<sup>th</sup>: Vital Veggies – Healthy Herbs**

How can we grow our own food? Join this group tour of the vegetable and herb gardens for a discussion of plant selection and sustainable gardening techniques.

## **May 14<sup>th</sup>: Walk the Eastern Park**

Find out about the historic pathways of Eastern Park. Appreciate the magnificent trees - many of which have Heritage listing – the views and the exciting rejuvenation of our Eastern Park.

## **June 25: Heritage Structures in the Gardens and Park.**

## **July 9: How far can a Mango go?**

The plants we enjoy via our supermarkets have travelled far in time and geography, but where have they come from? Look into the manipulation of our environment, starting with mangoes, to find out more.

## **August 13<sup>th</sup>: Useful, beautiful, weed or all three?**

As Europeans tried to replicate their homelands of the northern hemisphere, they brought and tried to acclimatise many plants to Australia. Some can be seen in the Geelong Botanic Gardens and in Eastern Park. Explore these with your guides.

## **September 10<sup>th</sup>: What's new at the GBG? Seeds, Hedges and History**

Visit the Seed Production beds being established in the annex area. This important long-term project will support the gradual reseedling of Eastern Park following the current weed eradication program. Discover a little history and admire the plants for garden hedging in the new demonstration beds near the Conservatory.

## **October 8: Fern Fever**

“Pteridomania” is the term for the Victorian era craze of fern collecting and the use of fern motifs in decorative art from pottery to printed paper and sculpture. Geelong in the 1880’s experienced this passion and under the direction of Raddenberry, the curator, a huge fern house was built.

Today our ferns are in the Fern Glade. Join your guide to hear fern fashion history and enjoy a walk through the 1980’s Fern Glade to encounter these fascinating plants.

## **November 12: ‘HERITAGE TREES and the ARTIST’S VIEW’**

Geelong Botanic Gardens is well known for its magnificent heritage trees, many of which are classified by the National Trust. Our botanic artists have been inspired by these and many others and their work is collected in the book *‘TREES Capturing the Essence of Geelong Botanic Gardens: Artists Views’*. Follow the tree trail with your Guide to find the originals. Meet at the front gates.

## **December 10: Conservatory Cuisine - Coconut+Vanilla+Chocolate = Lamingtons-Anthea CANCELLED**

Join your guide for a visit to our newly refurbished conservatory at the GBG and discover how a mix of “hothouse” plants originally from faraway lands came together to inspire a classic Australian treat.

