

## U3A Program, 2019

### Geelong Botanic Gardens, a local treasure

The Course offers a comprehensive exploration of our beautiful Botanic Gardens which are the fourth oldest in Australia. Since 1854 they have been developed to include rare and endangered exotic and indigenous plants and the Gardens offer a peaceful place for learning and reflection in our busy city.

The classes are taught by several of our experienced Guides at the Meeting Room at the rear of the Gardens. Each session includes a walk focusing on the aspect explored in each class and morning tea is provided.

We have hosted this Course since 2016 with excellent feedback each year and we look forward to sharing our knowledge and love for this special place with students in 2019.

Date	Session Description	Tutor/s
4.2	Orientation session: Overview of Course. Role of botanic gardens, in particular, the GBG and the role of the Friends. History of GBG to 21 <sup>st</sup> C. Garden through to the 19 <sup>th</sup> C Garden	Jenny Dean
Links	This begins the story of the GBG: the context, the role and place of botanic gardens in general.	
11.2	21 <sup>st</sup> C Garden and Wadawurrung people. Drought conditions and the changing climate. Sustainability and education. Morning tea and close look at the sections and plants of the 21 <sup>st</sup> C Garden.	Liz Bennetto
Links	This session continues the story of our GBG and links to Aboriginal land and plant use in our own area.	

<p>18.2</p> <p>Links</p>	<p>Water Management and the Fernery.</p> <p>Irrigation of GBG and stormwater harvest. Changing garden fashions – history of fernery and the fern glade. Morning tea and walk to the lake area, the Otways Fern Glade and the site of the original Fernery.</p> <p>Water management and the changes in garden fashion are a good fit. Students can explore the links from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present and the importance of water management.</p>	<p>Norma Shepherd</p>
<p>25.2</p> <p>Links</p>	<p>Basic Botany and Classification of Plants.</p> <p>David will conduct an explanation and hands-on session before morning tea and a walk through the Gardens finding some of the plants discussed during class.</p> <p>This gives a basic understanding of the plants, their evolution and adaptations in changing conditions.</p>	<p>David Johnson</p>
<p>4.3</p> <p>Links</p>	<p>Around the World in 60 Minutes.</p> <p>The trade in plant material around the world 16<sup>th</sup> C to 21<sup>st</sup> C. This gives students a brief history of how plants were traded and preserved across land and sea to find their way into collections around the world. This includes our collections of pelargoniums and salvias. Morning tea will be followed by a walk through the Gardens.</p> <p>This reprises the story of the GBG and will focus on the competition for the discovery and propagation of new plants from all parts of the globe. This has direct links with the collection of plants from the beginning of our Gardens.</p>	<p>Jenny Dean</p>

