

Garden Highlights November 2014

Thomasia purpurea var. *undulatum*

This Western Australian plant has papery purple sepals, behind tiny red-black petals in the centre. The sepals, behind the petals, are green in many flowers. Several species of *Thomasia* can be bought at the Friends Nursery.



Jerusalem sage *Phlomis fruticosa*

The name *Phlomis* derives from a Greek word for 'flame'. It may refer to the ancient use of the leaves as lamp wicks. This plant has been given the British Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit. It can be bought at the Friends Nursery.



Morning flag *Orthrosanthus multiflorus*

This member of the Iris family comes southern Australia. The blue flowers open in the morning and close towards the end of the day. Both the common and botanical names reflect this behaviour. The Greek words *orthros* means morning and *anthos* means flower. This plant can be bought at the Friends Nursery.



Cotton Palm *Washingtonia filifera*

The new leaves at the top of this palm show filaments of 'cotton' in spring. This palm is shorter than its sibling the Sky Duster, *Washingtonia robusta*, growing in the avenue near the Conservatory, but it has a broader trunk.



What's on in November.

- Self-drive **tour of 5 gardens** in Geelong, Monday 17 November, 10:00 – 4:30. Ticket must be purchased by 12 November, Friends Office. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.
- **Botanical art exhibition**, GBG Meeting Room, weekend 22 and 23 November, 10:00 – 4:00.
- **Guided walk** leaving from the botanical art exhibition, each day 22 and 23 November. 2:00. Gold coin donation.
- **Pelargonium display**, GBG Meeting Room, weekend 1 and 2 November, 10:00 - 03:00.
- In the Friends' Nursery, come to '**Pot a pele**' and take it home. The Nursery will also have other plants for sale. Sunday 2 November, 1:00 - 3:00.
- The Friends' **Nursery is also open** each Wednesday, 9.30 – 12.30.
- See the 'Sprout!' display in the **Curiosity Cabinet**.
- The **Tea House** is open every day.

Geelong Botanic Gardens Map



- 1a. *Thomasia purpurea* var. *undulatum*
- 1b. Other *Thomasia* plants
- 2. Jerusalem sage *Phlomis fruticosa*

- 3. Cotton palm *Washingtonia filifera*
- 4a. Morning flag *Orthrosanthus multiflorus*
- 4b. *Orthrosanthus polystachyus*