

# Garden Highlights, October 2018



Woolly White Canary Island Sage  
*Salvia canariensis f. candidissima*



Giant Honey Flower  
*Melianthus major*

The Silver Border celebrates plants that are adapted to cope with hot weather and lack of water. Throughout the year, their light silver-grey colour and hairs help the plants stay cool without using too much precious water.

A tall plant with pale green leaves, the **Giant Honey Flower *Melianthus major***, has slender spikes of deep red flowers. The flowers open progressively, with the youngest flowers at the tip of the stem. Each flower has a cup that fills with nectar. The cups of young flowers are upside-down - no use for holding nectar. As each flower matures it rotates so the nectar cup can fill. When a bird sips the nectar, pollen brushes onto its head. When the bird sips from another flower the nectar brushes off and pollinates that flower. As the flower ages, it rotates again. To see these flowers up close, there is another Honey Flower beside the lawn in the Perennial Border, behind the giant Yew hedge. (See the map overleaf.)

## What's on in October 2018

(Booking and more details: Friends website or phone the Friends office.)

**Discovery Table:** Sundays 7 and 21 October 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

**Geelong Seniors Festival:** Free guided walk and morning tea,  
Monday 8 October 10:00 am. Bookings are essential.

Themed Walk '**Australia's Iconic Plants**' Sunday 14 October 2:00 pm.  
Gold coin donation.

**Colac Otways bus trip** Thursday 18 October,

\$80 members of the Friends, others \$90. Book and pay by 10 October.

Friends' Nursery: **Plant Sale**, Weekend 27 and 28 October 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Free Guided Walks:** Wednesday 11:00 am, Saturday and Sunday 2:00 pm.

**Friends Nursery** is open: Wednesdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

See the African Succulents display in the **Curiosity Cabinet**.

The **Tea House** is open every day.



Over page: Map showing plant locations

[www.friendsgbg.org.au](http://www.friendsgbg.org.au)

Phone: 5222 6053

[www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/)

# Geelong Botanic Gardens map

Silver border  
both sides of the path

Giant Honey Flower  
*Melianthus major*

Woolly White Canary Island Sage  
*Salvia canariensis* f. *candidissima*

**Geelong Botanic Gardens  
Highlights October 2018**

