

Jubaea



Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Inc. Newsletter

June 2022 Volume 22 Issue 2

FRIENDS OF
GEEELONG
BOTANIC
GARDENS



The Black Bat flower, *Tacca chantrieri* in the Conservatory

INNOVATION AND RENEWAL AT GARDENS

The first cool fog has descended on the gardens – gently signalling another turn of the seasons. The end of the warm weather meant our chilli display was also due to end and we donated our harvest to the charity *Feed Me Bellarine*. The Parterre beds have already been replanted with Pansies and Violas that will fill the space with bright and bold colours – perfect for the coming grey backdrop of winter.

With the Geelong Botanic Gardens showcasing a variety of edible plants this past season, in both creative and sustainable ways, we were the perfect candidate for the ABC's Radio Station Saturday morning gardening broadcast. During the interview that took place in March, Hosts Matt Preston and

Carolyn Blackman talked all things edible during the live interview – our Parterre Garden chilli display was of particular interest to Matt, and it was an honour to be recognised as one of Geelong's significant sites.

Equally notable and as successful as the chilli display has been the vegetable garden. With the use of council green waste compost, processed from the material collected in Geelong's residential green waste bins, we have improved the soil structure exponentially and harvested a variety of fruit and vegetable crops. Among the more popular displays have been the giant Atlantic pumpkin and red Aztec corn. Councillor Mason is using our project as a model to promote the

sustainable council green waste throughout the wider community. We hope to see it utilised in many home gardens around Geelong.



Cr Jim Mason at the vegie patch at the rear of the GBG

The broader Geelong community will not only have access to great gardening products but also great educational material. The soon to be Urban Forest Dashboard is just one example. This dashboard captures data on each tree within the City of Greater Geelong using satellite imagery. Information and imagery on tree species, size, life expectancy, plantings and much more will be available online. One of the advanced features will include the Hollow Hunter project. This project encourages individuals to identify tree hollows around Geelong and upload their data to the site. GBG partnered with this initiative by hosting Hollow Hunters workshops to the public. The aim of this project is to dispel the myth that hollow trees are dangerous and advocate for the many species of fauna that require them to survive throughout our urban environments.



Ashley at a Radio Interview on 774 Radio

With Education a continuing focus of the Geelong Botanic Gardens, we have taken the opportunity to partner with the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne to launch the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning programs for schools and botanic gardens in regional Victoria. This initiative encourages schools to partner with their local botanic gardens through curriculum-based learning activities and fosters early childhood connections with botanic gardens. We have had early success with six schools partaking in our

program already. A big thank you to Ben Liu and Sally Fierenzi from RBGM for running the launch.

As well as hosting school groups, the gardens have seen a flurry of activity over the summer months. It has been a joy to see the new visitor facility being used extensively with Music in the Gardens, Shakespeare, jazz musicians, the Balinese Community Association, Candlelight, the Geelong Orchestra, swing dancing and cooking demonstrations. Many of these events have been completely sold out. These activities and performers have drawn visitors in their thousands, and we are enjoying this time of vibrant community engagement.

Finally, I'd like to conclude this article with the exciting announcement that we have filled the GBG supervisor position with talented horticulturalist, Tristan Krepp and introduce him to you with a brief history of his horticultural experience.

Tristan was 6 years old when he began showing his prize-winning orchids and was in primary school when he won Youth Gardener of The Year. Unsurprisingly he went on to develop an extensive career in horticulture at a young age.



Tristan at his team's exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show 2013

At 15, Tristan began his apprenticeship at Deakin University, working within the Parks and Gardens Department where his work was again recognised this time with the '2012 BBM: Sir John Pagan Horticulture Award'. With this award he had the opportunity to travel to the United Kingdom for further horticulture experience. On this trip Tristan was selected to be a part of a team creating an exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show. The world's most prestigious flower show was celebrating its 100th year when Tristan and his team created and built the 2013 Trail Finders Australian Garden. This exhibit went on to win a Gold Medal and Best in Show, an historic first for an Australian team.

Since returning to Australia, Tristan has passionately promoted the love of horticulture throughout the community and championed the professionalism of the industry by sharing his experiences broadly, particularly with a strong focus on encouraging Geelong's youth to develop their horticultural careers. We look forward to all he has to share with us, and his bright future at the Geelong Botanic Gardens. Congratulations Tristan!

Ashley Filipovski, Director, Geelong Botanic Gardens

25 YEARS OF THE FRIENDS GIFT FUND

It is more than 25 years since the Friends established a Trust Deed, referred to as The Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Gift Fund.

Prior to 1997 the Friends had contributed significant funds to support Geelong Botanic Gardens, with funds sourced from membership subscriptions, fundraising, events, donations, public subscriptions etc. As the Friends grew, a distinction needed to be made between funds received as donations to support the Gardens, and funds used for the administration of the Friends. In 1996 the Gift Fund was established as a Public Ancillary Fund, approved by the Australian Tax Office, for the receipt of tax-deductible donations (over two dollars), to benefit Geelong Botanic Gardens. The funds may only be used by an entity which is a Deductible Gift Recipient (has DGR Status with the ATO) as Geelong Botanic Gardens is. Eastern Park does not have DGR Status so the Gift Fund may not be used for projects within Eastern Park. General funds, however, may be used for such projects.

In 2018 a very large bequest was received into the Gift Fund. Due to a request from the estate, currently over half of the Gift Fund has been committed to a major project, to be determined by the anticipated new GBG Master Plan. The balance of the Gift Fund is generally used for non-major GBG projects



The Furphy Cart after restoration

The Fund was established by the Committee of Management following the completion of the *Eastern Park and Botanic Gardens Master Plan (1995)*. The Trustee of the Gift Fund is the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens Inc; all distributions of funds of the Gift Fund are considered, determined and authorised by the FGBG Committee, on behalf of the Trustee. To be considered, projects must meet:

- objectives and criteria of the Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens
- objectives of Geelong Botanic Gardens and
- provide long term benefit to the Geelong Botanic Gardens and community.

Each financial year a percentage of the fund (currently 4%, by Statutory requirement) must be distributed, to be used for

projects and programs in Geelong Botanic Gardens. It to be used to support the Friends or Friends activities.

The Fund has enabled people who enjoy and value the Gardens - our members, the wider Geelong community and visitors - to express their appreciation of the Gardens. With the establishment and development of the Gift Fund, projects and programs for Geelong Botanic Gardens can be continually supported.

Donations from the Fund have enhanced the beauty of Geelong Botanic Gardens and helped to secure the continuing relevance of its collections, facilities, education and public programs.

Since the Friends were formed in 1985, the financial contribution of the Friends to Geelong Botanic Gardens has been significant. A list of achievements has been maintained over several years and has recently been updated.



The Japanese Cranes and Dragon Tortoise statues



The Hitchcock Fountain and surrounding urns after restoration

In reading through the list, every member who has worked for or supported the Friends, and members and the public who have contributed through donations, should feel great pride in their contribution, no matter how big or small. Collectively, we have supported the on-going development of this truly magnificent botanic garden. In carrying out our primary purpose, "To conserve, protect and enhance the Geelong Botanic Gardens and its environs, including Eastern Park", it is fitting this year to acknowledge, with great satisfaction, the Friends' outstanding financial contribution to Geelong Botanic Gardens.

The Achievements List may be viewed in the 'Projects' section of the Friends' [website](#) or contact the Friends Office for a copy.

Allison Martland, FGBG Vice President

GEELONG SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART



INSPIRED BY NATURE 7 EXHIBITION

Opening Night held at Exhibition Gallery
Deakin University, Waterfront Campus, Geelong



FGBG President Denise Feldman introducing tutors John Pastoriza-Pinol, Amanda Ahmed, Amanda Sutterby and Craig Lidgerwood



Guest Speaker, Penny Whitehead, Deputy Director at Geelong Gallery



Tilly Brunton deciding what to buy 😊



Amanda Blake Sutterby and Dolores Skowronski-Malloni



Students: Rosemary Donnelly, Corinna May, Robyn Lewis and Deb Chirside



A view from above: some of the 100 guests that filled the atrium next to the gallery space

Geelong School of Botanical Art continued.

Finally, we were able to celebrate the work of our students and tutors with our 'Inspired by Nature 7' Exhibition after two years of Covid-19 lockdowns. Compelled by restrictions to postpone our traditional bi-annual exhibition in 2021, we were fortunate to be able to exhibit during the month of March this year at Deakin University's Waterfront Campus Exhibition Gallery.

21 artists exhibited their works this year with 69 paintings being hung. 10 of these paintings were sold (5 framed and 5 unframed). In 2019 we had 29 artists exhibiting and 79 paintings hung, with 7 being sold. It is not surprising that we had fewer hung works in this exhibition because of Covid disrupting our classes.

More than 590 people attended the exhibition over the month, a substantial increase from 2019. Average daily attendance was about 30 people, compared with 19 in 2019. By far the most popular day was Saturday - which validates our decision to open over the weekends!

Our visitors gave very complimentary and positive comments about the artworks, admiring the fine detail and botanical beauty accomplished by the artists.

Congratulations are extended to Deb Chirnside for winning Best Artwork for her Magnolia seed pod and leaf and to Yvonne Lyons for the Best Emerging Artist Award for her *Brugmansia sanguinea*. Congratulations too, to Amanda Blake Sutterby for winning the People's Choice Award for her *Osage Orange*. However, there were other artists whose works attracted many votes too, including Linda Fiddes, Niki Coates, Deb Chirnside and Rosemary Donnelly.

All exhibitors have had the opportunity to provide feedback about this year's exhibition; their very constructive comments and opinions will be used to plan for the next exhibition. After a comprehensive review of the exhibition, some issues raised such as signage and directions, advertising, framing and pricing guidelines as well as procedures for the end of the exhibition, will give us plenty of things to think about as we work towards *Inspired by Nature 8!* Pammi Pryor, Coordinator GSBA



Inspired by Nature 7 Botanic Art Exhibition



Beautiful artwork around every corner of the Gallery



John Pastoriza-Piñol and Niki Coates at the Opening Night



Guests Phillipa Challis and Rosie May McSween

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE WEEDING TEAM

Early in 2022 a new horticulture team of volunteers was established and Peter Jablonsky is the Coordinator. This team has been on a wish list for many years, and it has finally happened. Each week Tristan Krepp, the newly appointed Supervisor, designates a specific area of the Geelong Botanic Gardens to be weeded. There is always a bed which needs attention.

When the group arrives at the area to be weeded, staff have the essential weeding tools, kneeling pads and waste containers ready.

When I asked Peter if he needs more Weeders, he said “Many hands make light work!” Not everyone is available each week, therefore, he would like three additional Team members. The skills required, according to Peter, are flexibility (no back problems) and basic garden knowledge.



Some of the Weeding Group: Sue Dunn, Marg Oates, Peter Jablonsky and Marg Watts

THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

This committee meets on the first Monday of each month.

Our current committee is kept very busy and seeks more members. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 29 August and we welcome members who are currently volunteering to nominate for this important role in our organisation. Please phone the office if you would like to ask about the roles and duties.

THE HERITAGE ASSETS AT THE GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS

You may have noticed that the Friends are working with the Geelong Botanic Gardens to have all the significant heritage structures restored over time. This has been made possible by using the Gift Fund. In the past 18 months, the Hitchcock Fountain, the three urns and the Hansen Gates have been restored. However, there is still one significant item in need of attention: the Traill Fountain.



The Traill Fountain, showing some of the beautiful sculptures that adorn the structure

Where possible, our policy is to apply for a grant so that the Gift Fund is not drained of funds. In March we applied to Heritage Victoria for a grant to restore the Traill Fountain. Heritage Victoria have generously assisted us in this process as it is quite complex. We await the outcome.



The Traill Fountain, from top to bottom

Norman Houghton, Geelong historian and archivist, describes our heritage structures as “superannuated monuments as an aftermath to benefactions.” The two fountains were updated in 2002, but as they did not have a thorough conservation process, it has not taken long for more thorough work to be required. Ashley Filipovski, the Gardens Director, has wisely advised the Council that to retain their conservation status, their ongoing maintenance is required. An agreement between City of Greater Geelong and the Geelong Botanic Gardens Director, Ashley Filipovski, is now in place to provide cyclical maintenance work for all the conservation structures from 2024. I know that this commitment will reassure all of us about their future preservation.

Denise Feldman, FGBG President

TAUR (BELONGING)

Geelong Design Week was held in March this year with the theme *Taur*, which means ‘belonging’ in the language of the Wadawurrung people, Traditional Owners of Djilang (Geelong). Geelong Botanic Gardens Guides offered a Design Week walk entitled *The Wadawurrung Connection*. As usual, it brought quite a few interested visitors to the Gardens.

Geelong Botanic Gardens has recently been working on developing a special relationship with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, with a view to fostering public recognition of their culture and specifically of their use of plants and care for the land.

Early European explorers were amazed by Australia’s beautiful countryside. James Cook described the coastal land as “chequered with woods and lawns ... green and pleasant”. The country inland from Port Stephens was “truly beautiful: it was thinly studded with single trees, as if planted for ornament ... perpetually reminded of a gentleman’s park and grounds” (Dawson, 1826). And of course, the Western District of Victoria was Major Mitchell’s “Australia Felix”. (*1)

Although many observers in early days knew that the parklike countryside was a result of aboriginal land care, this recognition was lost over the years, and has only recently been revived by historians, academics and indigenous leaders.



Corrina showing how the *Lomandra* was used for weaving

Our first peoples belonged to the land: their connection to Country was the key to health and wellbeing. Caring for Country was an important duty and privilege, and from childhood they learned about conserving resources and slow-burning to promote a healthy countryside which attracted animals for hunting, promoted plant growth and prevented catastrophic bush fires. To this day, Country incorporates all the knowledge and cultural practices associated with the land. Aboriginal people are part of Country, and their identity is defined in relation to Country. (*2)

“If you take away our land, you take away our stories – and if you take away our stories, you take away who we are.” (*3)

Welcome to Country is therefore a very significant ceremony. At Geelong Botanic Gardens, we were privileged that Corrina Eccles, representing Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, conducted a moving Welcome to Country, speaking first in Wadawurrung language and then translating the words for us. A

smoking ceremony accompanied the Welcome to Country. Corrina lit a small, slow fire on the gravel of the 21st Century Garden and with the leaves of significant trees, created a haze of welcoming smoke. We were all invited to walk through the drifting smoke, accepting the generosity of the country and the Wadawurrung people.

Corrina accompanied guides Liz Bennetto and Lynne Clarke on the walk, where she helped as we talked about Wadawurrung plant use and history. She was particularly keen to admire our *Exocarpus cupressiformis* (Brush Cherry, Cherry Ballart), which is indeed a beautiful specimen. This plant is often used in smoking ceremonies. To the people of southern Victoria, it is an important symbol of childhood and nurturing and was used to create healing smoke for mothers and newborn babies. The timber was used for bull-roarers, which provided the sound during ceremonies marking the transition from boyhood to manhood (women were not allowed to hear this music). Apart from the plant’s ceremonial importance, the leaves were used to help after snakebite and the fruit provided a tasty snack. An important plant indeed!



Exocarpus cupressiformis
Brush Cherry, Cherry Ballart



Corrina initiating the smoking ceremony

Our guided walk finished at a bed of *Murnong*, the Yam Daisy. This was one of the most important food sources for the Wadawurrung until it was destroyed by the sheep and cattle which came with the European settlers. Corrina was so happy to see the *Murnong* being nurtured in Geelong Botanic Gardens!

Liz Bennetto, FGGB Guide

Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that this is Wadawurrung country, and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

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 Country. As they cared for the land, so the land cared for them.

Refs:

*1 Gammage, Bill The biggest estate on Earth: how aborigines made Australia. Sydney, Allen & Unwin, 2011.

*2 Neale, Margo & Kelly, Lynne Songlines. Port Melbourne, Vic., Thames & Hudson, 2020.

*3 Interview on Radio National, 2022

FGBG EVENTS

How lucky the Friends have been with the glorious weather blessing us during our first events for 2022. The self-drive tour in February had several venue cancellations but the substitute venues proved to be every bit as delightful. A generous lunch (Duck Duck Goose Café) after a garden wander at the 'Barrabool Maze Estate' was a lovely start to the day; followed by a tour of the extensive 'Moorabool Valley Wildflower Farm'. Beautiful bunches of proteas from the farm were eagerly purchased, before we drove on to the amazing 'ArtRocks Estate' (Studio Gallery and Garden) at Inverleigh. The intriguing garden art and fabulous dry-garden plantings were as appreciated by our members and guests as the stunning "chandelier" room, where afternoon tea was served on vintage fine china crockery. In all, it was a wonderful day out.

In April our long-awaited coach tour to the Daylesford area finally took place. 'Frogmore Gardens' was as spectacular as ever, with members being awed by the splendid swathes of grasses and perennials, with their magnificent backdrop of tall trees and bushland. The Friends of Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens greeted us in Daylesford with an energetic tour of a historic garden, almost as old as Geelong Botanic Gardens. Wonderful mature trees and a fern gully are its crowning glory. Barrie Satchell was even moved to climb the spiral staircase of the very high old water tower! Blackwood Ridge Nursery and Garden was simply glorious – stunning garden rooms included a Japanese area, manicured perennial garden beds and so much more. A 50%-off-everything sale made this an even more appealing place to visit! Our picnic morning and afternoon tea and a bus full of plants bought from all three venues, as well as a confounding quiz on the bus on the way home, rounded off a very popular day for all.

On the 18 May all Friends' volunteers were invited to the annual Volunteers Lunch. With soup and bread provided by the Events

Subcommittee, this year we were treated to extra catering supplied by Geelong Botanic Gardens. This was to thank the volunteers for all the hard work they do for the Gardens and the City.

With a number of GBG staff joining us for the Lunch, Gardens Coordinator Ashley Filipovski thanked the volunteers for all of their work and contributions, in so many different ways. Then Friends President Denise Feldman added her hearty congratulations to everyone, before introducing our special guest, known by many simply as Vasili. A well-known TV and radio horticultural personality, Vasili now lives in Lethbridge.

He gave an entertaining talk about his life adventure into horticulture, before mingling and sharing the delicious luncheon. The volunteers were very appreciative of the huge spread that the City and Events team provided and the lively atmosphere in the room was delightful. Many thanks to the City, GBG staff and Vasili for a happy and memorable event.

The Friends' Winter Lunch will be at Truffleduck, Fyansford, on Thursday 23 June. This is one of our major fundraising events and we look forward every year to seeing many of our members at this event. Please join us, perhaps with a group of your own friends, and enjoy fine dining, an outstanding guest speaker, a wonderful raffle and lively conversation. Bookings for the Winter Lecture Series are still being taken – refer to events on the back page.

We must acknowledge the contribution of our recently formed catering group, who have provided superb morning and afternoon teas for all our events. Their work saves the Friends a great deal of expense and helps keep ticket prices affordable. Their generosity and catering skills are much admired and appreciated.

Allison Martland, Events Coordinator



Jan having morning tea at Frogmore Gardens



Barrabool Maze



Amazing Sculptures in ArtRocks Garden



Friends enjoying the home gardens at the Wildflower Farm



Vasili recounting an amusing garden story



Ashley and Vasili at the Volunteers Lunch



FGBG Volunteers enjoying lunch with some of the GBG staff, Ashley and Visili for National Volunteers Week

PLANT IN FOCUS

Davidsonia (Davidson's Plum)

Davidsonia is an understory plant of the rainforest. The trees have several forms ranging from single trunked with a few branches and large compound leaves which grow from the top part of the trunk, to multi-trunk forms covered in dense foliage to the ground. The reddish-brown flowers occur in pendulous clusters in spring. These are followed by purple, edible fruits up to 50mm diameter which resemble small plums. In the wild, the seeds of the Davidson Plum need to pass through the gut of animals to germinate. The tree kangaroo chews the plump, juicy fruit first, but the cassowary can swallow it whole. Digestion can take hours to days, during which time the animals may have wandered kilometres from the parent tree. The broken-down fruit and seeds are excreted by the animal, giving germination a kick start of fertiliser, resulting in a successful seed spread.



Davidsonia pruriens Cairns Queensland
Photo: Kerry Coleman inaturalist.org CCBY-NC 4.0

Family: *Cunoniaceae* **Genus:** *Davidsonia*

Species:

1. *Davidsonia pruriens* was the first named of the three species in the genus. It is known as the Queensland Davidson plum, the Queensland itch tree (due to very irritating hairs that cover the tree - *pruriens* is Latin for 'itch'), the Sour plum and the Northern Davidson plum. It is widespread in tropical rainforest in north-eastern Queensland and can grow to 20m tall. Aboriginal names are Ooray, Wuray, Wiraa, Munumba and Jirirr.

2. *Davidsonia jerseyana* is commonly known as the New South Wales Davidson plum, the 'hairy' Davidson plum or southern Mullumbimby plum. When ripe, the fruit has dark purple skin and soft, juicy, burgundy-coloured flesh. The fruit is covered by somewhat irritating fine hairs when young and is up to 5 cm long. The large, hairy leaves are bunched towards the top of the trunk. Small pinkish flowers are borne directly from the main stem in long, loose clusters. This is the most widely cultivated species of Davidson's plum in subtropical areas.

3. *Davidsonia johnsonii* is known as the Smooth-leaved Davidson plum and grows in scattered populations from north east New South Wales to south east Queensland. It is a small, hairless bushy tree, growing 10– 18m tall. The tree is grown from cuttings in cultivations in New South Wales. Fruit is abundant, but the pyrenes are always empty and no seed has ever been found. It mostly occurs as groups of several mature trees, with many saplings and young plants that have developed from root suckers.

In Geelong Botanic Gardens

It seems to me that the trees we have in our Gardens are probably *D. jerseyana*, as they are not covered with itchy hairs, the fruit is smooth and does not come from long pannicles. Our fruit produces seed which germinate readily, so it is certainly not *D. johnsonii*. Somewhat confusing!



Davidsonia pruriens new leaves
Photo: Kerry Coleman inaturalist.org CCBY-NC 4.0

Facts and figures

Davidson plums have long been a food source for Indigenous Australians and were used by early European settlers for jams and sauces. They are now a sought-after ingredient for a wide range of sweet and savoury foods, including jams, sauces, chutneys, cordials, ice-cream, yoghurt, wines and liqueurs. Davidson plum has a higher antioxidant capacity than blueberry, higher levels of lutein than avocado, and a high ratio of potassium to sodium. Established as a seedling, the tree will bear fruit 3–4 years after planting and reach full production up to 15 years after planting.

Condensed from the Plant in Focus prepared by Lynne Clarke, FGBG Guide

The full article and location map is on the [website](#)



Ripe Fruit. Photo: Kerry Coleman, inaturalist.org CC BY-NC 4.0.

GUIDE TRAINING 2022

Would you like to become a Geelong Botanic Gardens Guide?

It is our great pleasure to welcome visitors to the Gardens. We offer regular guided walks on Wednesdays and Sundays. Sometimes we just wander around the Gardens in uniform: it's amazing how many people want to chat or ask a question.

We meet once a month to share our stories, to study groups of plants or to plan for the future.

Every two years, we have the opportunity to meet at a conference with other Botanic Gardens Guides from all over Australasia, to share knowledge and guiding techniques (the next conference is in Melbourne, October 2022). If you are interested in exploring guiding, we are conducting Guide Training this year, beginning in July. The course involves a program of nine classes conducted over a period of four months, with lots of chances to observe other guides or accompany them as assistants. Each trainee guide has an experienced mentor. When the trainee feels ready, he/she is invited to become a guide.

To express interest please contact guides coordinator
Gwen Anderson 0414 664 060 or
enquire at the FGBG Office 5222 6053



The FGBG Guides learning about the months' plant in focus

THE GIFT FUND

The Gift Fund currently has \$413,913.66. The 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.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES with the FRIENDS

GUIDED WALKS

Every Wednesday at 11.00 am and Sunday at 2.00 pm.
Gold coin donation.
Discovery Table every third Sunday of the month at 2.00 pm.

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.



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DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE



JUBAEA SUBMISSIONS for the next Edition are due by 1 September 2022.
All articles including high resolution photos. jpeg photos can be sent to the FGBG Office

JUNE

THEMED GUIDED WALK 'PLANT HERITAGE FROM GONDWANA'

Sunday 12 June, 2.00 pm at the Front Gates

What does Australia share with Africa, India, New Zealand, South America and New Caledonia? We were all once joined to Antarctica in the southern supercontinent of Gondwana and have a common plant ancestry from that time. This walk will introduce you to this Gondwana heritage. Gold coin donation.

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAM on ZOOM

Most of the talks will be recorded, so your subscription allows viewing at a time that suits you.

Members \$30 and Non-Members \$35 for the 12-week series

More details and bookings on the [website](#).

Thursday 2 June, 11.00 am – The Hitchcock Family Legacy in Geelong

With Norman Houghton

Thursday 9 June, 11.00 am – The Illustrated Plant Glossary

With Enid Mayfield

Thursday 16 June, 11.00 am - Birds of Eastern Park

With Craig Morley

Thursday 30 June, 11.00 am – Madagascar

With Craig Lidgerwood and Stephen Ryan

WINTER LUNCH FUNDRAISER AT TRUFFLEDUCK

Guest Speaker: Lynsey Poore 'THE PHYSIC GARDEN AT CHELSEA'

Thursday 23 June, 12.00 to 3.00 pm

Join the Friends for their annual Winter Lunch, with a delicious two course menu with drinks at bar prices. Lynsey will be speaking on the Physic Garden at Chelsea, established as the Apothecaries' Garden: it has occupied four acres of land on the edge of the Thames River since 1673. Bookings by Wednesday 15 June. Members \$75 and Non-Members \$85. More details and bookings on the [website](#).

INTRODUCTION TO BOTANIC ART WORKSHOP

GRAPHITE AND COLOURED PENCIL WITH AMANDA AHMED

At the Geelong Botanic Gardens 9.30am to 4.30pm

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 June - Weekend #1: Introduction to Drawing with Graphite

Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 July - Weekend #2: Realistic Renderings with Coloured Pencil

The course description and material list can be found on the Friends [website](#) or at the Friends' Office.

\$220 for one Weekend or \$380 for Weekends 1 & 2. 10% discount for Friends Members. Contact the Friends' Office to book your place by Friday 17 June, as these workshops fill up very quickly.

JULY

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAM on ZOOM

Thursday 7 July, 11.00 am – Flowering Plants and Flowers

With David Johnson

Thursday 14 July, 11.00 am – Who was Sir Joseph Banks?

With Peggy Muntz

Thursday 21 July, 11.00 am – The Development of the 21st Century Garden with Liz Bennetto

Thursday 28 July, 11.00 am – Women in Horticulture

With Luanne Thornton

THEMED GUIDED WALK 'DISCOVER EASTERN PARK'

Sunday 17 July, 2.00 pm at the Front Gates

Eastern Park has a diverse collection of trees including several with heritage status, heritage structures, a statue and a well-watered garden. It also has a missing statue that reflects the attitudes of the local community. As the walk is 3-4 km, mostly on paths, please wear suitable shoes and bring rain gear if showers are forecast. Gold coin donation.

AUGUST

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAM on ZOOM

Thursday 4 August, 11.00 am – Pollination: Plants Don't Just Sit There Waiting, Part 1. With David Johnson

Thursday 11 August, 11.00 am – Pollination: Plants Don't Just Sit There Waiting, Part 2. With David Johnson

Thursday 18 August, 11.00 am – Lord Howe Island

With David Johnson

Thursday 25 August, 11.00 am – The Geelong Customs House

With Harry Roberts

THEMED GUIDED WALK 'WATTLE IT BE?'

Sunday 14 August, 2.00 pm at the Front Gates

National Wattle Day is on 1st September, celebrating the beginning of spring and our unity as a nation. Wattles have survived drought and bushfires, and provided food, medicine and timber for all Australians. Australia's national flower is the Golden Wattle, and many wattles make excellent garden plants. Gold coin donation.

FGBG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 29 August, 5.30 to 7.30 pm

Following the AGM, guest speaker Justin Buckley, Gardens Manager at the National Trust, will speak. This will be followed by supper. Please RSVP by Monday 22 August. Free Event.

SEPTEMBER

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAM on ZOOM

Thursday 1 September, 11am – Understanding Nomenclature- How Plants are Named

With Jane Salmon (this is the last lecture in the Winter series)

GWEN'S COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Thursday 8 September, 10.00 am

Gwen Anderson will demonstrate a range of warming dishes at her home. Participants will enjoy a 4-course lunch from the prepared dishes. Bookings by Wed 31 August. \$20 members.

THEMED GUIDED WALK 'Chinese Plants in our Garden'

Sunday 11 September, 2.00 pm at the Front Gates

China had the first Botanical Garden in 138 BC, an enormous park with 2,000 different plants and hot houses. 2nd emperor Yang Di in Sui dynasty (581-618AD) built the largest gardens in history and searched far and wide for rare and beautiful plants. 2,000 years of Chinese horticultural endeavour enrich gardens all over the world. You won't believe how many of our plants have Chinese origins! Gold coin donation.