

Garden Highlights, May 2016

To celebrate the recent launch of the book *Trees: Artists' views: Capturing the Essence of the Geelong Botanic Gardens*, by Dolores Skoronski-Malloni, we are highlighting 4 trees from the 42 in the book. Artists help us to see things that we might otherwise miss or ignore. In the book the artists have captured, amongst many other features, the diverse bark of 8 trees. This full-colour book is available from the Friends' office for \$30.00.

1. The **Queensland Bottle Trees** *Brachychiton rupestris* that greet you at the front gate keep an eye on the 21st Century Garden. When they shed branches, they seal the hole to prevent water loss.

1.



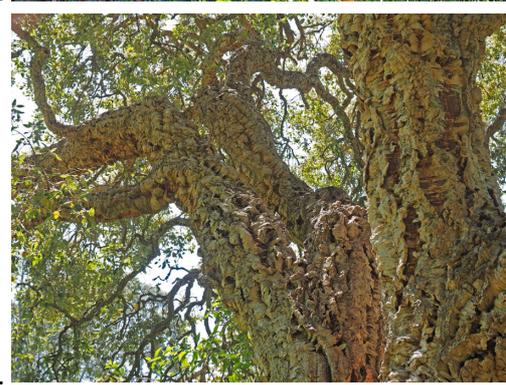
2. In addition to unusual shapes in the trunk of the tree that is variously called **Copper Beech or Purple Beech** *Fagus sylvatica* var. *atropunicea*, it has multi-coloured leaves. In summer the upper face of its leaves are purple and the underside green, then, as the nights grow cold, they become copper in colour, before being shed.

2.



3. The bark of the **Cork Oak** *Quercus suber* was used for wine corks before the rumour began circulating that there is a shortage of cork. When everyone moved to non-renewable plastic seals, a century's supply of corks accumulated. As the cork is dead, its removal doesn't harm the tree, but the downturn in demand has resulted in removal of the trees and loss of a unique habitat in Portugal.

3.



4. The **Maiden Hair Tree** *Ginkgo biloba* grows aerial roots, called Chi Chis, when old or drought-affected. The Chi Chis appear to flow down the trunk and from the branches. Despite this Ginkgo probably being the first to grow in Australia for 40 million years, it is not old by Ginkgo standards. It is only about 160 years old, but it has suffered several droughts and heavy water restrictions during its life. As Autumn advances it puts on a golden display. This tree may be available from the Friends' Nursery.

4.



What's on in May 2016

Discovery Table, Sunday 8 May 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Discovery Walk: 'Sound of the Gardens', Sunday 15 May 2:00.
Gold coin donation.

Free Guided Walks, each Sunday 2:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 am.

The Friends' Nursery is open on Wednesdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Winter Plant Sale, weekend 30-31 July 30-31.

Friends Botanic Art Exhibition, Geelong Art Gallery,
'Geelong Botanic Gardens Revealed' 30 April to 19 June 2016

The Curiosity Cabinet is displaying cactus and other arid-area plants.

The Tea House is open every day.

4.



Over page:
Map showing these and all
the plants in the new book.

www.friendsgbg.org.au
Phone: 5222 6053

Geelong Botanic Gardens Map

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|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 <i>Acer palmatum</i> | 6 <i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i> | 10 <i>Cedrus atlantica</i> | 15 <i>Dracaena draco</i> | 20 Ginkgo biloba |
| 2 <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | 7 <i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i> x <i>populneus</i> | 11 <i>Ceiba speciosa</i> | 16 <i>Erythrina acanthocarpa</i> | 21 <i>Grevillea robusta</i> |
| 3 <i>Araucaria bidwillii</i> | 8 Brachychiton rupestris | 12 <i>Corylus avellana</i> 'Contorta' | 17 <i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> | 22 <i>Jubaea chilensis</i> |
| 4 <i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i> | 9 <i>Camellia japonica</i> | 13 <i>Corymbia maculata</i> | 18 Fagus sylvatica var. atropunicea | 23 <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> (dead) |
| 5 <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> | | 14 <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | 19 <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> | 24 <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> |



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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 25 <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | 30 <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i> | 35 Quercus suber | 40 <i>Washingtonia filifera</i> E2 | Locations of trees in the book:
Trees: artists' views 2016 |
| 26 <i>Livistona australis</i> | 31 <i>Parahebe hookeriana</i> | 36 <i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i> | 41 <i>Wigandia urens</i> I2 | |
| 27 <i>Magnolia doltsopa</i> | 32 <i>Pittosporum tobira</i> | 37 <i>Schinus molle</i> | 42 <i>Wollemia nobilis</i> H3 | |
| 28 <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> | 33 <i>Plumeria rubra</i> | 38 <i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i> | | |
| 29 <i>Mahonia oiwakensis</i> | 34 <i>Populus wilsonii</i> | 39 <i>Vasconcellea pubescens</i> | | |
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This map shows all 42 trees shown in the book except for no. 23 (dead).
The plants portrayed in these Garden Highlights are nos. 8, 18, 20 and 35.



This information was developed by the Volunteer Guides
Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens

www.friendsgbg.org.au
www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/