

# THEMED WALKS -2021

## **Colour and Silver**

*Cancelled (COVID-19 lockdown)*

**Sunday February 14, 2.00 pm**

## **The Pacific Rim – Ancient Plants for a New Garden**

**Sunday March 14, 2.00 pm**

Explore the newest area in the Geelong Botanic Gardens. Ancient trees are a key feature of this beautifully landscaped section of our Gardens. Tree-lined avenues intersect with paths, seating areas allow contemplation and rocks invite children to enjoy this place.

## **Geelong Design Week Walk: Waste Not, Want Not Water**

**Sunday March 21, 1.00 pm**

A guided tour to explore the Stormwater Harvesting Project in Eastern Park. The storm-water dam has created a natural wetland promoting diverse plant and animal life, as well as providing valuable water for Geelong's parks, street trees and Geelong Botanic Gardens. (Design week walk)

## **Geelong Design Week Walk: Adaptation to Climate Change: Geelong's 21st Century Garden**

**Sunday March 21, 2.00 pm AND Wednesday March 24, 11.00 am**

Take a guided tour of the Geelong Botanic Gardens' 21st Century Garden. Designed and created in response to prolonged drought, the garden features plants which have adapted to water shortage both in Australia and around the world. The landscape is unusual and innovative, and initially caused much discussion, both local and international. (Design week walk)

## **Eastern Park Walk**

**Sunday April 11, 2.00 pm**

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.

## **National Trust Heritage Walk: Majestic Heritage Trees**

**Sunday May 9, 2.00 pm**

Geelong Botanic Gardens are the fourth oldest botanic gardens in Australia. The first curators were avid plant collectors and many of the splendid trees they planted now have heritage status. Several historic structures have also found a home here.

## **Our plant heritage from Gondwana**

**Sunday June 13, 2.00 pm**

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.

## **The First Australians**

**Sunday July 11, 2.00 pm**

Geelong Botanic Gardens is on Wadawurrung land. Learn about our first people: their lifestyle, conservation of resources and traditional use of plants for food, medicine, weapons, transport, musical instruments and religious ceremonies. Find out what happened to the Wadawurrung when Europeans arrived here.

## **Rare and Endangered Plants**

**Sunday August 8, 2.00 pm**

Over the last 200 years many species of plants and animals have become extinct. During today's walk we will look at a selection of threatened species grown here in the Geelong Botanic Gardens and learn the important role Botanic Gardens play in plant conservation.

## **Wattles**

**Sunday September 12, 2.00 pm**

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.

## **Chinese Plants in our Garden**

**Sunday October 10, 2.00 pm**

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!

**Changing Planet, Changing Plants: Plant Adaptation**

**Sunday November 14, 2.00 pm**

Many plants have developed impressive features for coping with drought conditions. These adaptations are vital in a time of climate change. We will explore some of the plants in Geelong Botanic Gardens demonstrating the strategies which they employ. You may be inspired to alter the character of your garden!



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