

# Garden Highlights, January 2018

1. **Cockspur Coral Tree** *Erythrina crista-galli* is a member of the pea family, Fabaceae. Like many other peas it lives with bacteria on its roots. These bacteria take nitrogen from the air and make this vital nutrient available to the Coral Tree. This plant comes from South America where it is the national tree of Argentina and national flower of Argentina and Uruguay. There are three *Erythrina* species native to Australia, and viable seeds of a further species are regularly washed up on Queensland beaches.



2. The **Perennial Border** displays a riot of flower colours and plant forms during summer and early autumn. Some of these plants are available for purchase in the Friends' Nursery.

1.

3. Keep cool in the gardens on hot, summer days. Relax near the trickling stream of water on a seat in the shade of the **Fernery**. There is dark shade under large spreading trees such as the Copper Beech *Fagus sylvatica* 'Atropunicea'.



2.

3. The Flame Trees, Kurrajong and their relatives, *Brachychiton*, are well-represented in these gardens. Two examples with spectacular pink flowers are the **Pink Flame Tree** *Brachychiton x roseus* (see photo of its flowers carpeting the ground) and the Queensland Lacebark *Brachychiton discolor*. Both large specimens are National Trust registered trees. The smaller Illawarra Flame Tree *Brachychiton acerifolius* has red flowers.



3.

## What's on in January 2018

(Booking and more details on Friends website)

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

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

### Free Guided Walks,

each Wednesday 11:00am, Saturday and Sunday 2:00pm.

### Botanic Art Masterclass: 'Leaves',

Friday to Sunday 12, 13, 14 January 2017 9:30am - 4:30pm.

### Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' Weekend 13, 14 January 2017 4:00pm.

Bookings [www.ozact.com](http://www.ozact.com) or 0419 330 516

### Workshop: 'Fashion design with flowers'

Monday to Wednesday 15, 16, 17 January 9:30am - 4:30pm.

### Family photography adventure at the Gardens,

Thursday 18 January 10:30am - 12:00pm. Booking via GBG website.

### Workshop: 'Introduction to Botanic Art'

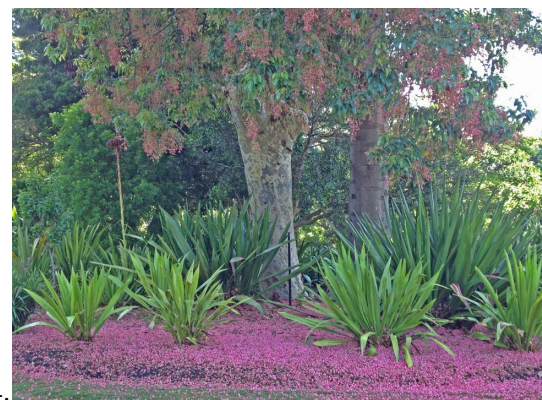
Weekend 20, 21 January 9:30am - 4:30pm.

### 'Geelong Botanic Gardens'

**University of the Third Age (U3A)** course, February 2018.

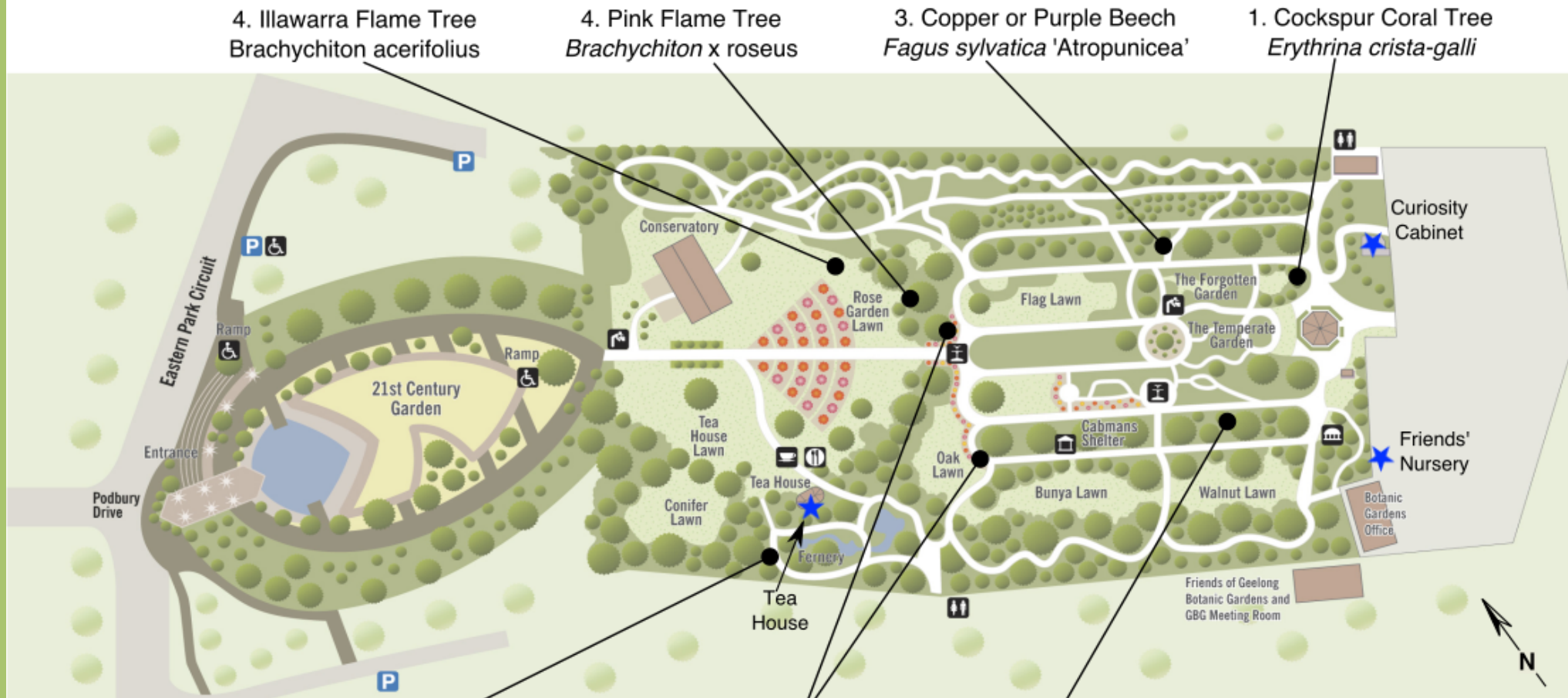
See the **African Succulents** display in the Curiosity Cabinet.

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



4.

# Geelong Botanic Gardens Map



3. Fernery

2. Perennial Border

4. Queensland Lacebark  
*Brachychiton discolor*

**Geelong Botanic Gardens  
Highlights January 2018**

