

FRIENDS OF THE WAITE ARBORETUM INC.

NEWSLETTER 97 SPRING 2018

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Free Guided Arboretum walks

North West Corner Arboretum Walk
Sunday October 7
Waite Arboretum

The first Sunday of every month
at 11.00 am. Walks meet at Urrbrae
House on the lawn
More details at:
[http://www.communitywebs.org/
friendsofwaitearb/](http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofwaitearb/)

As a Friend of the Waite Arboretum
we are a member of the [Australian
Association of Friends of Botanic
Gardens](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/special/australianassociationoffriendsofbotanicgardens/)

Check out the events and what is
going on at:
<https://friendsbotanicgardens.org/>

What's on at Urrbrae House

[https://www.adelaide.edu.au/waite-
historic/whatson](https://www.adelaide.edu.au/waite-historic/whatson)



Patron: Sophie Thomson

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Photography: Erica Boyle, Eileen Harvey, Jenny Birvé



Acacia notabilis Flinders Wattle, Notable Wattle LEGUMINOSAE WA, NSW, SA 1995

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Report from the President of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum Spring 2018. Dr Wayne Harvey

The Spring Edition of the FWA Newsletter may add extra dimension to our readers' awareness of the Arboretum and its value. Dr Jennifer Gardener describes how monetary values can be assigned to trees in their largely unseen processing of the air we breathe, the interception of rainfall run off and the provision of a range of habitats. Dr Kate Delaporte reminds us the Arboretum is a diverse wildlife habitat as well as a collection of trees. The list includes mammals and reptiles as well as the more obvious birds and insects. Dr Kate Delaporte reports on the Tawny Frogmouth seen in the Arboretum and reminds us that our actions in one place can have unintended consequences elsewhere. Family pets are not allowed in the Arboretum and it is important that all visitors are careful not to damage any part of the landscape or interfere with the wildlife. We welcome everyone's assistance in this.

Visitors to the Arboretum are likely to come upon a seat or two, somewhere amongst the trees. Each seat is a dedication to people who have made a significant contribution to the Waite campus or to the sciences in SA. Terry Langham has compiled a register of the seats in the Arboretum and the people behind the dedications. Wooden seats need maintenance so please contact us if you can lend a hand.

The Waite Arboretum collection is not restricted to Australian trees. Eileen Harvey has provided informative text and great photographs of a non-Australian species growing at the Waite.

The Friends is an organisation dependent on people volunteering their time and their goodwill to help realise our aims, so the University of Adelaide's recent special event acknowledging all volunteers was appreciated. Our past Treasurer Dr Peter Nicholls was recognised for 20 years of volunteering for the Friends. Thankyou Peter. In the same month, the City of Mitcham hosted a civic reception for volunteers active in the Mitcham area, which includes the Arboretum. 90 volunteers representing 40 separate organisations attended.

Readers will notice the inclusion of the registered charity logo in our Newsletter. Donations and gifts to the Friends can be treated as tax deductions.

We have many native animals in the Waite Arboretum (see page 6&7), however, native animals avoid areas where dog and cat scents are present. No dogs or cats are allowed in the Waite Arboretum, including the old and new Eucalypt collection. No dogs and cats are allowed in the Waite Conservation Reserve. In other areas, animals must be kept on a leash or under effective control at all times.



Trees - the Quiet Achievers

During National Science Week in August, about 38 people braved showery days to attend two special guided walks entitled 'Trees - the Quiet Achievers' led by Marian McDuie and Jennifer Gardner.

Trees play a critical role in maintaining a healthy environment and keeping our cities liveable. Trees create a sense of place, provide wildlife habitat, improve our well-being, increase economic prosperity, property and aesthetic values, ameliorate the urban heat island effect, capture stormwater runoff and remove air pollutants, especially fine particulate matter that can play havoc with our respiratory and cardiovascular systems.

Participants on the walks learned how standardised field measurements, combined with species, local climate and pollution data were analysed using the open source iTree Eco software to scientifically quantify and assign \$ values to the environmental benefits of 1,255 Arboretum trees representing 600 species.

The study, conducted by Marian, Jennifer and Erica Boyle, was published online in September 2017 and can be viewed and downloaded from https://www.itreetools.org/resources/reports/WaiteArb_iTree_2017.pdf.

The walk led visitors to some of the trees with the highest environmental benefits including: #1A Canary Island Pine *Pinus canariensis* and #1880 Bunya *Araucaria bidwillii* both planted in 1893 by Peter Waite, #21 Grey Box *Eucalyptus microcarpa*, #199 Rusty Fig *Ficus rubiginosa*, #437 Canary or Algerian Oak *Quercus canariensis*, Elm Avenue and # 1201M Sugar Gum *Eucalyptus cladocalyx*. The environmental benefits of each and every surveyed tree are available in an online Waite Arboretum Inventory map <http://arcg.is/1iTTCy>.

Trees are valuable assets. Sadly, with urban infill, many trees, especially large, long-lived trees are disappearing from our suburbs. By quantifying the environmental benefits of trees and assigning a dollar value, we hope to advocate for trees and influence decision makers and asset managers to preserve and maintain our urban forest.

In July, ABC TV *Gardening Australia's* Sophie Thomson presented a segment 'Trees in Time' featuring the Arboretum i-Tree study. It can be viewed on [http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/trees-in-](http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/trees-in-time/10043502)

[time/10043502](http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/trees-in-time/10043502)

In September, as a result of the ABC broadcast and National Science Week walks, Marian and Jennifer were invited to give a presentation to the Friends of the City of Unley Society who are concerned about the loss of their tree canopy cover.

A workshop on the Arboretum i-Tree survey was also presented by Marian and Jennifer at the 19th TRENET National Street Tree Symposium attended by about 260 delegates.



National Science Week Guided Walk. 'Trees—the Quiet Achievers'





Volunteer Thankyou

On Monday 13 August an invitation from University of Adelaide was held to thank all volunteers at Urrbrae House, the Urrbrae House Gardens, Waite Arboretum and the Waite Conservation Reserve. Present were Professor Eileen Scott — Deputy Head of School of Agriculture Food and Wine, Kerry James — Volunteer Program Coordinator, Lynette, Amanda, Sally, Kate, Erica and Andrew. Drinks and refreshments were served and Service Certificates were presented for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of volunteering. The Berbery String Quartet presented a wonderful program of music.

Henry Purcell - Rondeau from incidental music to the play "Abdelazer"

Johann Sebastian Bach - Air from Suite No. 3, BWV 1068

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart- "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" I. Allegro

Antonio Vivaldi- Spring from "The Four Seasons"

George Frideric Handel- "V'adoro Pupille" from the opera Giulio Cesare

Johann Strauss II- "Adele's Laughing Song" from the operetta "Die Fledermaus"

The Berbery String Quartet are husband and wife, Minas and Erna, and their children Lara and Samvel. Minas and Erna are part of Vivente Music and they regularly perform at Urrbrae House.

A really enjoyable evening where volunteers from the different groups at Waite enjoyed coming together over



The Berbery String Quartet performing pieces by Purcell, Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart, Handel and J. Strauss, - the wonderful "Adele's Laughing Song" from Die Fledermaus. JB



Professor Eileen Scott, Deputy Head of School of Agriculture, Food and Wine presenting Peter Nicholls a Certificate of Service award for 20 years as a valued volunteer. JB



FRIENDS OF PARKS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Volunteers working for conservation

Gold Pass

The Director of National Parks and Wildlife, John Schutz is offering a Gold Pass to all Friends of Parks members who have been active members for 15 years or more.

This offer is in recognition of the very significant and valuable contribution to the Friends of Parks goal of helping to manage the States' parks and reserves on behalf of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR). All requests need to be in by 1 November.

The Gold Pass allows the cardholder a concession to the following facilities of DEWNR:

Free entry to all parks in the State, where vehicle entry fees apply, or where personal access fees apply.

Free camping up to 5 nights in any one location at any one time

50% concession on the use of facilities in parks and free guided tours.

Application for Gold Pass:

pamela.smith@sa.gov.au / GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA



Neutrog donates fertilisers for the Urrbrae House Gardens and the Waite Arboretum native plants.



Volunteering at the Waite, University of Adelaide

140 volunteers are working in nine different groups including the Waite Arboretum, Waite Conservation Reserve and Urrbrae House Gardens.

During last year this was a contribution to the University of Adelaide of more than 4100 hours equalling some \$160,000!!

The volunteer groups are:

1-Waite Conservation Reserve volunteers: they help with conservation and restoration of the 121 hectares of Conservation Reserve behind the Waite campus. Planting native specimens, fighting olives, improving walking trails and general maintenance.

2-Waite Arboretum Guides: our knowledgeable guides perform free tours of the Arboretum every month, highlighting different aspects of our beloved trees. Last year more than 300 visitors enjoyed their walks.

3-Urrbrae House Gardens and Waite Arb volunteers: Every Tuesday and Friday people meet during the morning to maintain the four different thematic gardens, pruning, dead-heading roses, planting, fertilising, mulching, watering (sometimes) and also mapping. A small team works maintaining the Labyrinth and dedicated volunteers care for the Arboretum, hand pulling weeds around the tree collections and treating and painting the Arboretum seats and tables.

4-Mediterranean Garden Society Working Bees: Four times a year members of the Mediterranean Garden Society come on a Sunday to maintain the Garden of Discovery with its many wonderful Australian native plants. Weeding, cloud-pruning and planting are some of the activities. Recently more than fifty plants were donated by this group to revitalise the garden. So, don't miss the opportunity to walk along and discover the new beauties recently planted!

5-Palm and Cycad Collection Working Bees: A group of lovely people with lots of knowledge has been working since 1994 on the development of the Palm & Cycad collection. All the specimens were donated by their members. Planting, weeding, fertilizing, watering and the positioning of the seat so one can rest and look at the palms. All down to the good work of members of the Palm and Cycad Society SA.

6-Heritage Roses of Australia & Rose Society of South Australia:

Rose experts of both HRA and RSSA come every year to help with the winter pruning of more than a thousand rose bushes displayed in the Rose garden. They are also involved in rose pruning demonstrations. We love to see you every winter!

Friends of the Waite Conservation Reserve Committee: Committee members devote their time not only to practical activities such as weeding and restoring the vegetation but also promote the use and enjoyment of the Reserve as well as presenting it as a research and educational resource.

Friends of the Waite Arboretum Committee: this proactive group works to foster interest in the care and use of the Arboretum, and to raise funds for its development and promotion.

Erica Boyle



Trichoglossus moluccanus Rainbow lorikeet feeding on *Hakea francisiana* or the Emu Tree. Nomadic movements of the lorikeets are in response to seasonal flowering or fruiting of plants. These birds have been active in the *Corymbia citriodora*, the Lemon scented eucalypts flowering along Walter Young Avenue. Photo EH

Reminder notice for FWA membership renewal for 2018/19.

If anyone has a vice in their shed no longer in use, the volunteers are in need of such a device.



Please contact the editor.



Valuing the Waite Arboretum, South Australia

An i-Tree Ecosystem Analysis

Wildlife Habitat

Green spaces in cities increase biodiversity. The Waite Arboretum is relatively rich in wildlife for an inner suburban park. The wide range of eucalypts attracts nectar feeding birds like lorikeets. Mature trees, especially eucalypts, provide nesting hollows for birds and possums and roosting places for bats. Pines and araucarias attract large parrots like Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Long-billed Corellas which descend in huge flocks to feast on the seeds. Galahs, Magpies, White Ibis and Maned Duck are very common. While the number of birds is large the species diversity is low. Domination by a few species of mainly larger more aggressive birds at the expense of other birds is now typical of open parklike areas around Adelaide. This change has occurred in the past 10-30 years. Of the 55 avian species recorded in the Arboretum only 20 are now common. Koalas are often seen in the eucalypts. A single Western Grey Kangaroo and Echidna have been sighted in the Arboretum – both most likely strays from the campus Waite Conservation Reserve where they are common. In total seven native mammal, five frog and four reptile species have been recorded. Waite Arboretum provides habitat for a range of invertebrates including 14 species of butterflies and 14 species of jewel beetles.

Jennifer A. Gardner, Marian McDuie and Erica Boyle

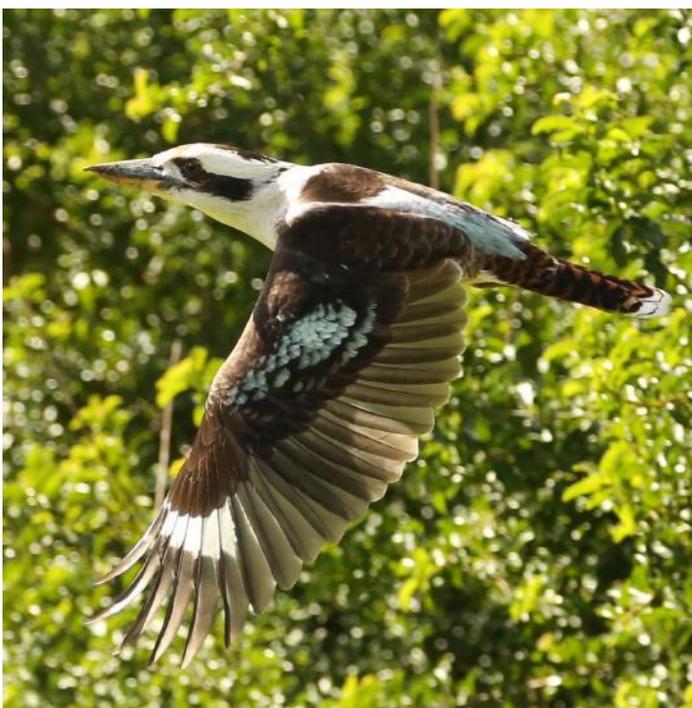


From Newsletter #96 Winter photo Jennifer Gardner

We have also found a few dead Tawny Frogmouths – so sad – with no apparent injuries. This piqued my interest, then recently two items popped up in my FaceBook feed – the first from Birds and Exotic Animals, Veterinarian in Williamstown, Victoria, Australia.

“It's that time of year again... Every winter, vet clinics see an influx of owls. The reason is that when rodents flock indoors to escape the cold, humans become desperate to be rid of them. We poison the rodents and they become slow and easy to catch, or die and make a quick meal for a hungry bird of prey. But the poison in the rodent can affect birds too, making them weaker and weaker until they injure themselves, starve, or simply pass out, where humans can then easily pick them up. Unfortunately by this stage, we lose most of them despite intensive care”.

Dr Kate Delaporte



Dacelo novaeguineae The Kookaburra resplendent in flight.
Photo Amy Brooks-Birvé



Phascolarctos cinereus Koala and joey. Loss of habitat is a threat to this species. Photo JG.

Tachyglossus aculeatus Short beaked Echidna Photo Laurel Crouch.



Native fauna in the Waite Arboretum. Photos from Waite Arboretum App. Wildlife. Photos Jennifer Gardner



Limnodynastes tasmaniensis Spotted Grass Frog
MYOBATRACHIDAE



Limnodynastes dumerilii Eastern Banjo Frog
MYOBATRACHIDAE



Christinus marmoratus marbled Gecko GEKKONIDAE



Entometa guttularis Snout Moth LASIOCAMPIDAE



Rentinus dilatatus Lantern Fly FULGORIDAE



Polyura pyrrhus larva Tailed Emperor NYMPHALIDAE



Vanessa itea- Yellow Admiral. NYMPHALIDAE A butterfly native to Australia, New Zealand, Lord Howe Island, and Norfolk Islands.



Anaphaeis java teutonia Caper White Butterfly PIERIDAE on *Capparis mitchellii* Mitchell's caper or native orange.



Searsia leptodictya EH

Searsia leptodictya* syn *Rhus leptodictya

Mountain Karee

About half way down the Arboretum is a spreading tree with a rounded crown and weeping foliage which reaches the ground. It is the Mountain Karee, *Searsia leptodictya* previously known as *Rhus leptodictya*. It is native to the northern part of South Africa, to Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. There it grows in woodland, forest margins and bushveld, favouring rocky hillsides within these habitats. Our tree was planted in 1979 and has grown to 5 m tall and has spread to cover an area of 90 m².

S. leptodictya belongs to the family Anacardiaceae which is widespread throughout the tropical, subtropical and warm temperate regions of the world and includes economically important species such as the pistachio nut, cashew and mango.



Searsia leptodictya EH

In the early 2000s most of the southern Africa *Rhus* species were reclassified as *Searsia*. There are about 90 *Searsia* species in southern Africa. *Searsia* was named after Paul B. Sears (1891–1990) who was head of the Yale School of Botany. The specific name, *leptodictya*, refers to the fine network of veins on the leaf. The origin of the tree’s common name ‘Karee’ is uncertain but may come from an indigenous word meaning ‘spoor (animal track) made by feet’. If you look at a leaf you can see that it does resemble the three-toed footprint of a large bird.

The Mountain Karee is a fast growing shrub or small tree with an irregularly rounded crown. It has rough, dark brown bark and gracefully arching branches. The leaves comprise three narrow leaflets which are bright green with toothed margins. The two lateral leaflets are at right angles to the terminal leaflet. Crushed leaves release a resinous odour. In southern Africa flowering occurs from December to April with male and female flowers on separate trees. The sprays of tiny yellowish flowers are followed by clusters of tiny flattened, single seeded, yellow to brown fruits in March to June.

In its native environment animals such as giraffe, eland and kudu eat the leaves and birds such as bulbuls, barbets and mousebirds eat the fruit and disperse the seed. Bees and other insects pollinate the flowers and a wide variety of butterflies breed on various *Searsia* species.

The currant-like fruits of all the *Searsia* species are edible. They are quite sour to the taste and in Africa traditional beer is made by fermenting the fruit. In former times they were ground into a meal and used to make cakes that were roasted on the embers.

The flexible, resilient and tough branches were once used to make bows and clubs, and to make serviceable and durable hand or yard brooms. The dense hard wood is used for fence posts and the bark was once used for tanning. The Mountain Karee is drought resistant and in dry times, when there is little other green feed, the leaves are valuable fodder for livestock.

S. leptodictya is commonly used as a street tree in southern Africa as it is fast growing and does not have an aggressive root system. During the first few years of growth lower branches are removed to achieve a tree shape. It is widely planted as an amenity tree in parks and public spaces. In home gardens the dense growth provides shelter for small birds and the fruit on the female tree attracts birds and butterflies.

Material for this article was sourced from: <http://pza.sanbi.org>

Eileen Harvey



Japanese gardens in Spring

Nara

Most visitors to Nara go to Nara Park and the Todaiji with its giant Buddha, and so they should. In Nara Park, one can feed the deer, who are messengers of the Gods, so one must be polite to them, and they are usually polite in return and bow when accepting special deer biscuits. However, they can become demanding if one has exhausted one's supply of biscuits. I was once bitten by a demanding deer when I'd run out of food!

But after that first visit to Nara Park there are other opportunities especially for lovers of Japanese gardens. Two of them are called Isui-en and Yoshiki-en and are located a little to the west of Nara Park. These two small gardens seem to be little known to Japanese people. My host had discovered them only a few months earlier and took me there in April just as the sakura were waning. Except for my hosts, all the other visitors were gaikokujin (foreigners) clutching their guide books. Both gardens were very peaceful and free of crowds.

Please note that there is no need to call them Isui-en Garden or Yoshiki-en Garden (although their brochures do so), since 'en' means garden!



Isuen and Yoshikien located to the west of Nara Park. BR.



Yoshiki-en became a private garden in about 1919, having previously been part of the grounds of a temple. Since 1989 it has been open to the public.

It comprises three gardens in one. The landforms of the Pond Garden date from the Edo Period (17th –19th centuries) and provide views of a tranquil pond. Next is the Moss Garden which is covered with hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.), and is bounded by a detached teahouse. Finally, one reaches the Tea Ceremony Flower Garden where outdoor tea ceremonies can be held.

The vegetation between the three gardens is largely natural and provides a lovely atmosphere for a walk that appears to be remote from the large city of Nara and its crowded, major tourist destination, Nara Park.

Entry for gaikokujin is free, so take your passport.

Isui-en is separated from Yoshiki-en by a small stream. The front part of Isui-en was built in the late 17th century (Edo period) by a wealthy merchant. The design takes advantage of 'borrowed' landscape in this case a view of Nara's Three Cherished Hills of Wakakusayama, Mikasayama and Takamadoyama in the distance.

The Back Garden was designed in the early 20th century (Meiji period) for the purpose of tea ceremonies and poetry readings. Both parts of the garden feature ponds to stroll around while listening to the sound of running water.

There is a pleasant tea house where lunch can be had while enjoying the view of one of the ponds, and the Neiraku Museum where artefacts collected by the Nakamura family dating back to 2,000 BC can be enjoyed.



Kanazawa Garden BR.

The waterways provide opportunities for graceful arched bridges as well as the Gankobashi (Flying Geese Bridge) that is formed from stepping stones arranged like the 'V' of migrating geese in flight.



Kanazawa Japanese Garden

Kenrokuen is a strolling garden dating back to the Edo period (1603 – 1868) that originally formed the outer garden of Kanazawa Castle. It features two small lakes or ponds and a number of winding streams. The ‘roku’ in Kenrokuen refers to the six attributes of a perfect landscape garden: spaciousness, seclusion, artifice, antiquity, watercourses and panoramas. The upper lake features the Kotojitoro Lantern which serves as a symbol of both the garden and of Kanazawa itself. It is said to resemble the bridge of the Japanese musical instrument, the koto.

The lower pond, called Hisagoike, features a fountain said to be the oldest in Japan. It is naturally powered by the difference in water level between Hisagoike and the upper pond Kasumi-gaike, and is normally about 3.5 m high, although this may vary if the water level in the upper pond is low.

Staff make sure to keep the waterways sparkling clean, even scrubbing the rocky bottoms with brooms to remove any errant algae

In early spring, the ume (plum) grove draws many visitors, and even more are attracted for hana-bi (sakura flower viewing). Another advantage at this time is that entry to the garden is free!



Cleaning the stream. Maple leaves and fungus. BR



Natadera Japanese Garden

In the far south of Ishikawa Prefecture lies Natadera which was established by the monk Taicho some 1300 years ago. Taicho held that nature is a paradise, and the life is itself sacred. Although there are a number of temples and other buildings at Natadera, its main attraction is a lovely semi-natural garden space.

Here there is a memorial to Basho the great poet of the short Japanese form of poetry called haiku. Basho visited Natadera during his travels that are described in his well-known travelogue *The Narrow Road to the Deep North and other travel sketches*, ed./translated by N Yuasa, Penguin, 1966.

Haiku generally consist of 17 syllables arranged in a 5, 7, 5-pattern, although modern examples may diverge from this pattern. Haiku almost always refer to a specific season, which may be stated obviously or inherent in the content.

An example of Basho’s work

looking carefully,

よく見れば

a shepherd’s purse is blooming

薺花く

under the fence

垣根哉

For more about haiku, seasons and plants *The British Museum Haiku*, edited by David Cobb makes a good starting place.



Barbara Radcliffe

Yoshikien. Moss Garden which is covered with hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) BR

Garden Seats of the Season

Terry Langham, Vice-President of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum has collated the names of those people who have donated seats, in the Waite Arboretum. Terry has listed the history of some of the people (scientists, researchers staff and recreational visitors). Seats/sculptures described in Newsletters are extracts from Terry's collections and show a nearby tree species, the flora and sometimes fixtures close to the seat. Details will be put onto the website in the near future. www.adelaide.edu.au/waite-historic/friends/arboretum/

Dr David T. Blackburn 1951 – 2015

Palaeobotanist and businessman (CHAN, 2016)



The memorial seat is found by going through the second gate on the right hand side of Walter Young Drive from Fullarton Road and south towards Elm Avenue. **Nearby tree species:** *Koelreuteria paniculata* Golden-rain Tree, Pride of India SAPINDACEAE China, Korea. 1930. The seat is facing the east.



Helen May Brookes 1917-2008

Senior Systematic Entomologist, Entomology Department, Waite Institute 1936 – 1982 and Artist.



Memorial Seat located between *Pyrus calleniana*, 'Lynington', Callery pear, ROSACEAE. Helen M. Brookes also features in the Girls of Grit metal book in the Garden of Discovery.



SPRING IN THE ARBORETUM 2018



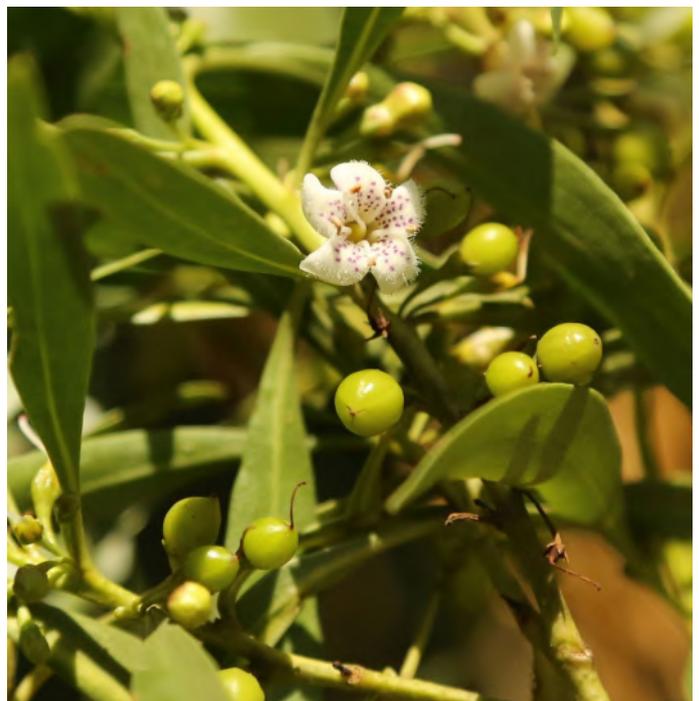
Corymbia citriodora Lemon-scented Gum, Spotted Gum. MYRTACEAE. Walter Young Ave. A tall tree from temperate and tropical eastern Australia. *Corymbia citriodora* is very similar to *C. maculata* but *C. maculata* foliage is never lemon-scented.



Pinus roxburghii Long-leaved Indian Pine PINACEAE Himalayas 1944. An important tree in forestry in northern Pakistan, India and Nepal. Old trees which die from fire or drought, undergo some metamorphosis in their wood due to the crystallization of the resin inside the heart wood. This makes the wood become brightly coloured (various shades from translucent yellow to dark red) and very aromatic with a brittle, glassy feel. This form of wood known as jhukti by the locals is very easy to ignite. (It never gets wet or waterlogged.) They use it for starting fires and even for lighting, as a small piece of this burns for a long time (owing to the high resin content). Of all the conifer species in the area, only this one seems to be ideal for that purpose.



Eriobotrya deflexa Bronze Loquat ROSACEAE Native to Taiwan, produces dense clusters of coppery-red new leaves. The leaves and seeds are poisonous.



Myoporum montanum Western Boobialla Water Bush MYOPORACEAE Inland Australia. Desert form, from arid areas of Australia is a large shrub or small tree which has thick, elliptic leaves and flowers prominently spotted purplish red.

If you have a plant related article and some pictures and you would like to put it into the Newsletter please contact the editor.