

Garden Highlights, August 2019



The **Purple or Copper Beech** *Fagus sylvatica* 'Atropunicea' provides an ideal environment for **Hellebores**. In summer it protects them from strong sunlight and heat. In winter it supports Hellebore flowering by allowing the gentle sunlight in, through bare branches, to nourish their development.

This Beech is a plant of many moods. In winter we focus on the form of the trunk and bare branches. The new spring leaves are vivid red. In summer it has a split personality: from under the tree's canopy, the leaves are green. However, from above they are a burgundy, purple colour. Then, prior to dropping in autumn and winter, they turn to an orange, copper colour. See the small photos over the page.



Photos: Left: Purple Beech surrounded by Hellebores.
Right: Corsican Hellebore *Helleborus argutifolius*.

What's On in August 2019

Themed guided walk: '**Plants from the Gondwana Supercontinent**',
Sunday 11 August 2:00 pm,
Gold coin donation.

Discovery Table: Sunday 18
August 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Free Guided Walks:
Wednesdays 11:00 am,
Sundays 2:00 pm.

Friends Nursery open:
Wednesdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

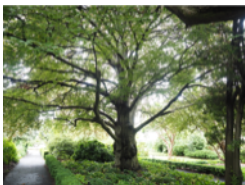
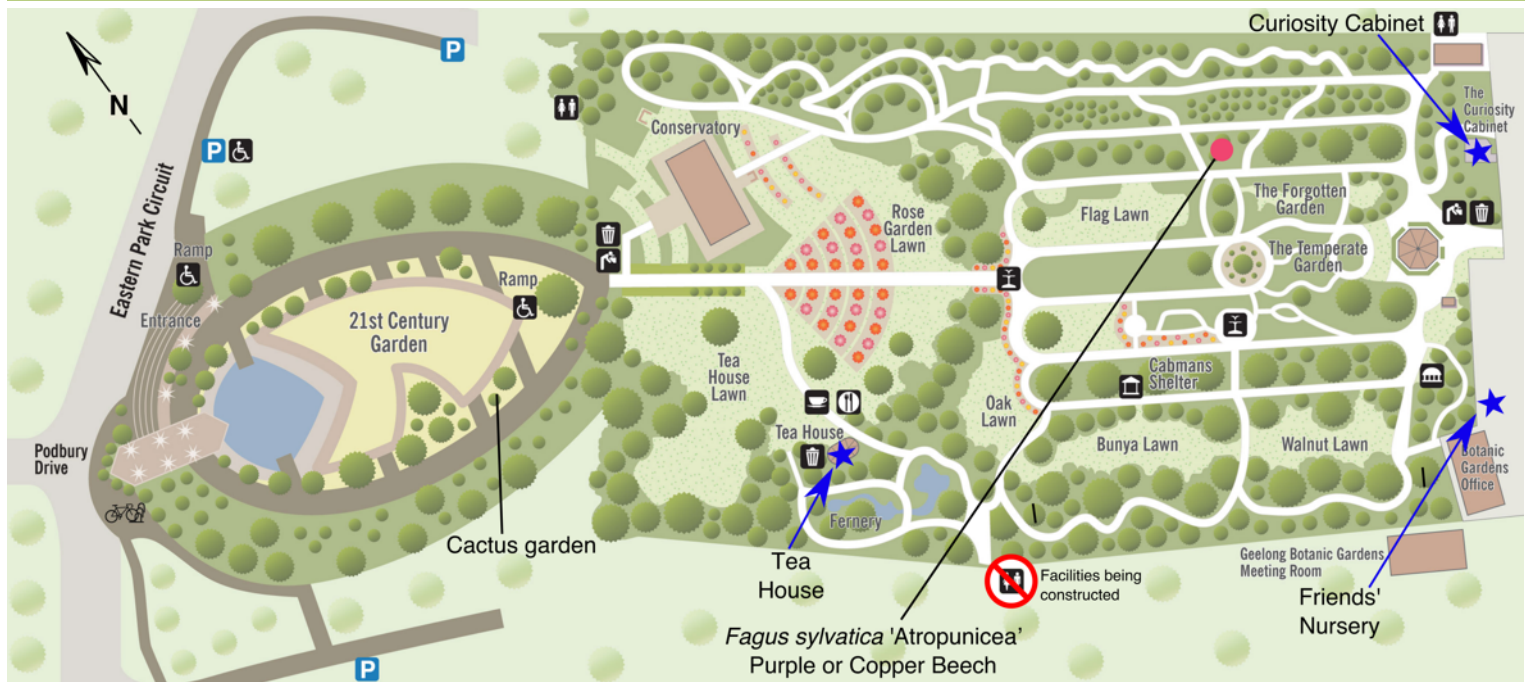
(For more details see the Friends website or phone the Friends.)

See the **Bromeliad Display**
in the Curiosity Cabinet.

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



Geelong Botanic Gardens map



Photos: Purple Beech:
Red in Spring,
Green and Purple
in Summer,
Copper in Autumn.

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

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

