

# Garden Highlights, April 2018

1. These gardens have mature examples of each of the 3 species of Cedar tree, **Atlas Cedar *Cedrus atlantica* (photo)**, **Himalayan Cedar *C. deodara*** and **Cedar of Lebanon *C. libani***. They shed their pollen at this time of the year, in the gardens and in Eastern Park. If you are nearby when this happens, you will see clouds of yellow streaming from the tree. You may see male (pollen) cones on the ground, spilling pollen. While Cedar trees are in the Pine family, there are several, very different, trees that have been given common names that include the word 'cedar', because their timber is similar.



2. As the days become colder the **Winter Sweet *Chimonanthus praecox*** begins to flower on bare branches. Valued for its fragrant winter flowers in its native China, it has been cultivated for more than 1,000 years. Unfortunately wild plants are now vulnerable as a result of forest clearance.

1.

3. A number of trees show colourful foliage after a couple of cold nights. Notable in the Botanic Gardens are the **Red Osier Dogwood *Cornus sericea* (synonym. *C. stolonifera*) (photo)** and the **Persian ironwood *Parrotia persica*** with leaves that are streaked with red, yellow and green. In Eastern Park to the south and south west, close to the Botanic Gardens, are the **Red Maple *Acer rubrum*** and the avenue of **Claret Ash *Fraxinus angustifolia* 'Raywood'**. This variety of Ash originates from a single plant discovered in a nursery near Adelaide. It is now grown as grafted trees elsewhere in the world. Red Osier Dogwood plants may be available in the Friends' Nursery.

2.

4. The **Cross Berry *Grewia occidentalis*** is a large shrub that has unusual 4-lobed, brown berries that give its common name. This plant from southern Africa is not widely grown in Australia, but it may be available in the Friends Nursery.

3.

## What's on in April 2018

### Mobile Phone Photography Workshop in the Gardens

Tuesday 10 April 2:00 - 4:00 pm, \$7.00 (5 years and over).

See <http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/>

or phone: 03 5272 4379

For Friends activities below:

Booking and more details on Friends website or office:

Themed Guided Walk: **'Seeds: The capsules of life'**

Sunday 8 April 2:00 pm. Gold coin donation.

**Discovery Table**, Sundays 1 and 15 April 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

### Free Guided Walks

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

**Friends Nursery is open** each Wednesday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, **except on 4 April**.

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

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

4.



Over page: Map showing plant locations

[www.friendsgbg.org.au](http://www.friendsgbg.org.au)

Phone: 5222 6053

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# Geelong Botanic Gardens Map



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