

Garden Highlights, April 2023



The **Cross-berry *Grewia occidentalis*** is a modest shrub. It is never covered in flowers. It makes up for this by the beauty of its nearly matching 5 pink petals and 5 sepals, and its long flowering season. Its fruit has 4 fused berries, with the lines where they join forming a cross (see the photo over the page). Each berry has a single seed. These seed germinate better when they have passed through the gut of a monkey, in its home country in the south and east of South Africa. As this shrub grows in a variety of habitats it is reported as being easy to grow in the sun and open shade. Despite this, the Cross-berry is hardly ever seen in gardens in Victoria. *Grewia* species grow in Africa, Asia and Australia.

Over page: Map showing plant locations

What's On in April 2023

Guided Walk: 'Indigenous Plants':

Sunday 9 April 2 pm,
gold coin donation.

Guided Walk: Australian Heritage Festival 'Stories from the Gardens',

Wadawurrung Country: Sunday
23 April 2 pm, gold coin donation.

Discovery Table:

Sunday 23 April 1 - 3 pm.

Free Guided Walks:

Wednesdays 11 am, Sundays 2 pm.

Friends Nursery open:

Wednesdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

The Conservatory is open

every day: 9 am - 4 pm.

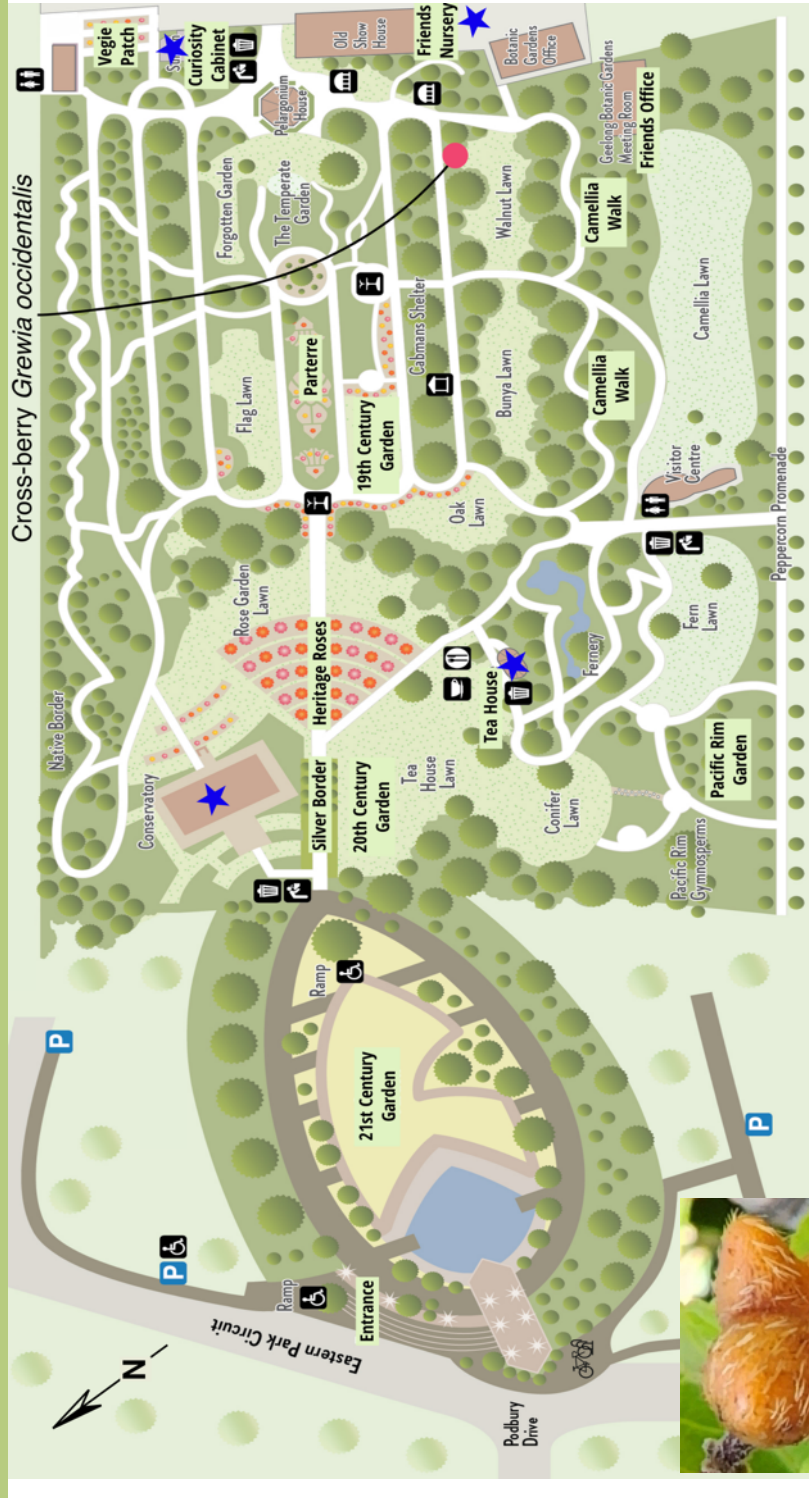
(For more details about What's On:
Friends website or phone.)

Bookings: www.friendsgbg.org.au

Phone: 5222 6053

www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg/

Geelong Botanic Gardens map



The fruit of Cross-berry has a cross-shape between the four fused berries.

Photo: Marlene van Vuuren, iNaturalist.org CC BY-NC

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

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