

12. Further on your right is *Acacia aneura* var. *aneura*, an open bush with grey, needle-like foliage and short, fluffy, yellow rods of flowers (photo below left). This plant is commonly known as Mulga which is believed to live for as many as 400 years and occurs naturally in the dry inland areas of Australia.



13. On your left near the plank bridge is *Lythrum salicaria* or Purple Loosestrife with terminal spikes of purple flowers which are very popular with bees (photo above right). This interesting species is native not only to southeastern Australia, but widespread in Europe, Asia and North America



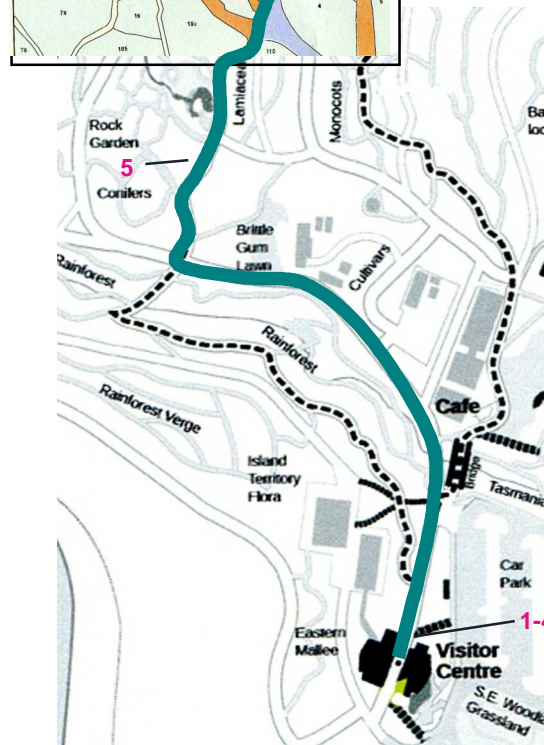
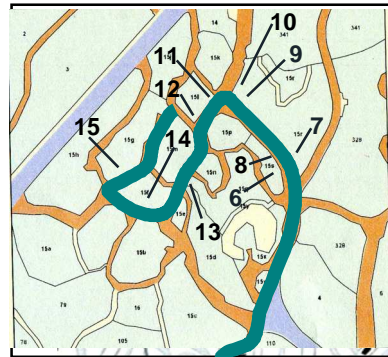
14. Bear right around the corner to see on your right *Acacia craspedocarpa*, or Hop Mulga, a small bush with yellow rods of flowers and grey foliage from south central Western Australia (photo above).



15. Above on your left is *Beaufortia sparsa*, a small bush with neat green foliage and luminous red/orange 'bottlebrush' flowers found in the extreme southwestern corner of Western Australia (photo above).



A publication of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens



27 Feb - 12 Mar 2019

Featuring the plants of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT written and illustrated by Friends Rosalind and Benjamin Walcott

Today we will walk from the Visitor Centre to the Rock Garden



1. As you leave the Visitor Centre on your right, in a pot, is *Banksia baxteri*, or Bird's Nest Banksia, with upright, stiff, triangular, pink-tipped foliage and green flowers (photo above). This plant is native to southwestern Western Australia between Albany and Esperance.

2. Also in the same pot is *Banksia media* with broad, toothed, leathery leaves and soft, yellow-brown flowers (photo next page top left). This plant grows naturally on the south coast of Western Australia.



3. Further on your right, also in a pot, is ***Eremophila warnesii*** with grey, furry leaves and purple tubular flowers (photo above right). This plant was discovered growing in inland Western Australia and is named after Ken Warnes, the founder of the Eremophila Study Group.



4. In the same pot is ***Prostanthera spinosa***, known as Spiny Mint-bush, a scrambling, wiry plant with mauve flowers (photo above). This plant is listed as vulnerable in the wild and grows in five disjunct regions of southeastern mainland Australia.



5. Bear left up the hill behind the café, then turn right on the main path towards the Rock Garden. On your left is ***Banksia aemula***, or Wallum Banksia, a small gnarled tree with knobby bark and large squat green cones (photo above). This plant is found in Queensland and New South Wales, from Bundaberg to Sydney, in coastal, heath, and sandy soil areas.

6. Continue past the waterfall, then turn left up the steps into the Rock Garden to see on your left ***Eucalyptus macrocarpa***, or Mottlecah, with striking grey sword-like foliage and very large, pinkish-red, fluffy flowers with yellow stamens (photo below). This plant grows naturally in southwestern Western Australia.



7. On your right is ***Eremophila bignoniiflora*** x ***E. polyclada*** with floppy, green, linear foliage and large tubular lilac-tinged white flowers with spotted throats (photo below).



8. Further on your left is ***Ficinia nodosa***, known as **Knotted Club-rush** or **Knobby Club-rush**, a perennial rush thought to be native to Australia and New Zealand but widespread in the Southern Hemisphere (photo below).



9. Further on your right, in a pot, is ***Hakea victoria***, or Royal Hakea, with stem-clasping, green veined foliage with prickly edges (photo below left). This remarkable foliage develops different colours of cream, yellow, orange and red. This plant is found in a restricted area on the south coast of Western Australia.



10. Again on your right is ***Beaufortia decussata***, a small shrub with red fluffy flowers with green centres and neat, close foliage (photo below left). The species name 'decussata' refers to the leaf arrangement where each pair of leaves is arranged at right angles to the previous pair on the stems. This plant grows naturally in southwestern Western Australia near Albany.



11. Turn left to see on your right ***Banksia spinulosa*** 'Birthday Candles' a dense, bright green bush with attractive needle foliage and short yellow cones with rusty red styles (photo above right). 'Birthday Candles' is a dwarf cultivar of ***Banksia spinulosa*** var. ***spinulosa*** developed by Bill Molyneux of Australflo Nurseries in Montrose, Victoria.