12. Further on your left is *Grevillea whiteana*, a tall open bush with dark green linear leaves and creamy-white racemes of flowers (photo below left). This plant is native to southeastern

Queensland.





- **13.** Turn left along the road to see on your right *Baeckea omissa*, an sparse shrub with weeping branches of light green leaves and small white flowers with maroon centres (photo above right). This plant is native from New England National Park in New South Wales, north into southern Queensland.
- 14. Bear left down the track into the Rock Garden to see on your left *Grevillea albiflora* or White Spider Flower, a large sweet-smelling bush with long needle-like grey foliage and white brushes with prominent styles, which develops smooth, velvety, furred pinkish-beige fruits (photo below left). This plant is native to the drier inland parts of Australia and can be found in two distinct regions, one near Uluru and the other near the Queensland/ New South Wales border near Bourke.

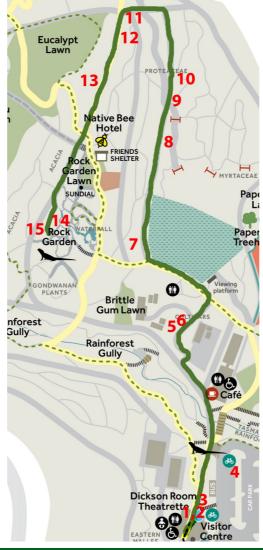




15. High on your right is *Anigozanthos flavidus*, or Tall Kangaroo Paw, with a mass of orange-red paw flowers mobbed by birds and butterflies. (photo above) All Kangaroo Paws are native to Western Australia and the flowers are bird pollinated.

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

Today we will walk from the Visitor Centre, up the hill behind the café, bear right behind the depot, then left up hill again, ending in the

Rock Garden



- 1. After you leave the Visitor Centre, on your right, in a pot, is *Blandfordia nobilis*, or Christmas Bells, with large fluted red bells, tipped with yellow, on thin stems above linear foliage (photo above). Named blandfordia after George Spencer-Churchill (1766-1840), Marquis of Blandford, this plant is native to the sandstone country of southeastern NSW.
- **2**. Also on your right, in a pot, is **Swainsona formosa**, or Sturt's Desert Pea, with pale green leaves and bright red pea flowers with shiny black centres or bosses (photo next page top left). This iconic plant, the floral emblem of South Australia, is named for the English botanist Isaac Swainson and is native to all mainland states except Victoria.





- **3.** Still on your right is *Banksia serrata*, a small tree with very large greenish brushes, ovate serrated leaves and a wrinkled trunk (photo above right). The trunk wrinkles more with age leading to its common name of Old Man Banksia. *Banksia serrata* is a widespread species in eastern Australia, extending from southern Queensland to Victoria's south coast, across to northern Tasmania.
- **4.** Look down to your right, across the road, to see *Angophora costata subsp. costata*, or Smooth-barked Apple, a large tree with a dimpled, pinkish trunk and graceful hanging green foliage covered in large, scented white blossoms (photo below left). This plant is native to the coast of New South Wales and southern Queensland.





5. Bear left up the hill behind the café, then right behind the depot, to see on your left **Babingtonia plurijuga** 'White Cascade' a medium-sized bush with green weeping foliage and masses of small white, 5-petalled flowers with green centres (photo above right). This cultivar arose as a chance seedling of **Baeckea virgata** at Wirreanda Nursery in Ingleside, NSW.

6. Also on your left is *Babingtonia* 'Howie's Feathertips', a large bush of dense light green foliage with masses of tiny creamy-white flowers (photo below).



7. Turn left up the hill, then right along the road to see, on your left, **Prostanthera lasianthos**, with dense, dark-green foliage and white flowers with dark pink centres (photo below). This plant is native to southeastern Australia, including eastern Tasmania.



8. On your right is *Banksia robur* (purple leaf form), or Swamp Banksia, with long eggshaped leaves which are shiny on top and dull underneath (photo below). This plant is native to the eastern mainland coast of Australia usually in sandy or swampy conditions. The new growth is velvety reddish purple.



9. Still on your right is *Grevillea* 'Coconut Ice' with large pink-orange spider flowers with long red styles (photo below). This hybrid plant was grown from seed collected from *G. bipinnatifida* the male parent was *G. banksii* (white flowered form). The seedling was raised by Mr. M. Hodge of Queensland.



10. Again on your right is *Lomatia arborescens*, or Tree Lomatia, a large shrub or small tree with oblong to elliptical leaves with serrated margins and racemes of white flowers, followed by dry fruits containing a number of winged seeds (photo below). This plant is native to northeastern NSW and southeastern Queensland



11. Turn left up the hill to see on your left *Grevillea wilsonii x tripartita*, a tall, rangy bush with prickly foliage and large pink spider flowers with red styles (photo below).

