

Friends of Cairns Botanic Gardens

Program of Activities

2018

MONTHLY TALKS:

Talks are programmed on the second Wednesday of each month excepting December and January. They are held at the Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre, Collins Avenue, Cairns from 6.00pm. Members pay \$5 and visitors \$10 and a light meal and tea and coffee are served. Guests mingle until 6.30pm when an update of Friends' activities is provided after which the talk commences. Talks generally last about 45 minutes and are followed by question time. The talks are usually concluded by 8pm.

April 11:

Dr Geraldine McGuire, Environmental scientist - **"Rainforest Bounty"**
Products made from rainforest fruits.

May 9:

Ingrid Marker - **"Cassowaries"**
Ingrid is the onsite manager of Garners Beach Cassowary Facility, Mission Beach. Her talk will cover what is being done to conserve these magnificent birds and the dangers they face in their natural habitat.

June 13:

Barry Muir - **'Rainforests - What makes them tick?'**

July 11:

Dr David Rentz MA, patron of the Friends - **annual "Moth Night"**
Screens are erected to attract moths and groups move out into the Gardens to see what can be found. Bring mosquito repellent.

August 8:

Peter Hitchcock - topic to be confirmed.

September 12:

Johanna Karam, General Manager of Sea Turtle Foundation - **"Sea Turtles"**

October 10:

Russell and Mary Spanton - **"The Story of Vanilla"**
Port Douglas vanilla growers will talk about the vanilla industry and how they developed their product.

November 14:

Dr David Rentz MA - a guided **"Night Walk"** in the Cairns Botanic Gardens
Visitors are asked to bring a head lamp or torch and mosquito repellent.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Committee meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month in the conference room of the Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre. General members can attend meetings as observers and are encouraged to volunteer for the various activities initiated by the committee.

The Annual General Meeting of the organisation is held in March each year.

EVENTS:

Jazz Under the Stars – Saturday night, 1st September

This event is held annually during Festival Cairns. Guests arrive any time from 5.00pm bringing a picnic, folding chairs or rugs to enjoy the Gardens before the music program starts.

ANNUAL PLANT SALES:

Friends' members meet weekly to propagate plants to sell and raise funds for enhancements to the Gardens.

Wednesday plant trolley sales are held each week from February until November near the Friends House from **9.30am -11.30am**.

As well as the weekly sales, three much larger sales are held annually from 8.00am to 12.00pm

- Pre-Easter Sale Sunday 25 March 2018 – Gardens' staff amenities area behind Friends House
- Fathers' Day – Carnival on Collins – Sunday 2 September 2018 – Conservatory Lawn
- Christmas Plant Sale – Sunday 2 December 2018