

VanDusen Botanical Garden

Guide Weekly Update #13: June 23 to June 29, 2019

Brought to you by Ashley Lambert-Maberly (ashley.lm@ubc.ca), award-winning ☺ Sunday walking guide.

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23 June 2019 Sunday: Medicine Wheel

12:00 to 3:00pm: At the Canadian Heritage Garden. Drumming, singing, and prayers will be shared. The ceremony concludes with a pot-luck (the sharing of food).

Notes from Cynthia's walk have been added to Erica's Notebook (go to Gardener Walks, click on 2019 June)

PERFECT PAIRINGS



► The Wollemi Pine is back again. This rare plant (discovered in 1994 when a bushwalker rappelled into the a gorge in the Wollemi National Park) will grow to 40 meters in the wild. The location of the original grove (and a second grove found subsequently) is a closely guarded secret, lest visitors destroy its habitat. ► Less unusual is the Blue Star Creeper (*Isotoma fluviatilis*) growing all around it, an indefatigable ground cover readily available (and apparently quite happy in Vancouver's climate). This Southern Australian plant has a much older pedigree, having been formally described in 1810. ► In the formal Rose Garden there are several stunning stands of Speedwell (*Veronica*) in bloom. Veronicas are the largest genus in the Plantaginaceae (Plantain) family, and you've probably noticed that many botanists now consider Hebes to be part of the genus. ► But if you're in the Rose Garden, it's likely not for the companion plants, but for the stars of the show themselves. Particularly striking is this multi-coloured Hybrid Tea Rose named Sterntaler, part of the W. Kordes Sons' Fairy Tale collection. These German growers have established this collection of cultivars in response to David Austin's English Roses: like his, they have attractive old-fashioned large blooms, but unlike his, they do not emphasize scent. Instead, they have focussed efforts on breeding roses with better disease resistance than the English roses arguably have.

You can normally DOWNLOAD all my photos from Google. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/vandusenphotos> and each week I'll keep adding more shots.