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MEDIA RELEASE



Orchids in full bloom at RBG Cranbourne

When it comes to native orchids, look no further than the bushland in RBG Cranbourne.

From early September and through into late October, the bushland is awash with colour.

Many of the orchids found naturally in the gardens are endangered or rare, like the Naked Sun Orchid or *Thelymitra circumsepta*, the Bronze Caladenia (*Caladenia iridescens*), which has a striking iridescent bronze colour and the Black-tongue Caladenia (*Caladenia congesta*) with a deep red tongue and striking pink flowers, making them easy to spot amongst the greens of the grasses.

This year, visitors have the chance to enjoy the stunning array of orchids, as well as participate in the Wildflower Festival running from Saturday 20 September to Sunday 5 October.

The Wildflower Festival will include walks through the bushland, sustainable gardening workshops, wildflower photography tours, hands-on activities for children, artists-in-residence activities and special wildflower fairy days for the kids.

The Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne will be selling a range of beautiful Australian plants on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st September. Come along and buy a plant that you've seen in the Australian Garden.

Please note: the following entry fees apply for the Australian Garden: \$9.50 adults, \$7.10 concession, and children under 16 free.

*Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne, corner Ballarto Road and Botanic Drive
(off South Gippsland Highway), Cranbourne (Melway Map 133, K10)*

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