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*Macadamia*

*Proteaceae*

*Macadamia* commemorates a Scottish analytical chemist, philosopher and Australian politician, Dr. John Macadam (1827-1865), who travelled to Melbourne in 1855. He was Secretary of the Philosophical Institute of Victoria (Australia), now the Royal Society of Victoria, from 1857 and became a Vice-President in 1863. From 1849-1864 he was a member of parliament for Victoria and he was also secretary of the supporting exploration committee behind the the ill-fated 1861 Burke and Wills expedition. From 1858-1865 he served periodically as a government analytical chemist, while from 1860-1865 being health officer for Melbourne, as well as lecturing in chemistry from 1862 for the Medical School at Melbourne University. Despite having pleurisy (after breaking some ribs) he sailed to New Zealand to appear as an expert witness for a murder trial and he died at sea. He was a friend of Baron Sir Ferdinand Jakob Heinrich von Müller (1825-1896), the Australian explorer and botanist who from 1857-1873 was Director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens. In 1858 the latter amongst many other activities was involved in classifying and naming this then new genus *Macadamia* and decided to honour the name of his friend.