**Scientific name:** Kirengeshoma palmata

**Family:** Hydrangeaceae

**Common Name:** Yellow Wax Bells

**Native Habitat:** Woods and native lowlands of Japan and Korea.

**Hardiness zone:** Zones 4-10

**Exposure:** Part shade, but can also tolerate more sun if adequate moisture is provided.

**Form:** Clump-forming, graceful herbaceous perennial.

**Soil Requirements:** Prefers cool, moist, humus-rich soil. Perfect for the woodland garden.

**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium.

**Height:** Approximately to 5 feet.

**Leaf:** The leaves of *K. palmata* can become quite large, approximately 4 to 8 inches wide, decreasing in size as they near the top. They are maple-like in appearance, borne in opposite pairs, sharply-lobed, and light-green in colour.

**Flower:** In late summer, the Yellow Wax Bells begin their show. Tight, bell-shaped, pendulous, pale yellow flowers begin to bloom atop stems produced from the leaf axils. Five-petalled, waxy flowers hang in terminal clusters of 3 to 5.

*K. palmata* is showcased every year at the Members’ Garden Party with its blooms lasting long into September. In late October, our Woodland Garden is lit up when the foliage turns a vibrant yellow.

*Kirengeshoma palmata* can be propagated by cuttings taken in early summer, by division of mature plants in the spring, or by seed which is offered in our Index Rarium.

*Kirengeshoma* with its unique blooms and grand stature makes a bold statement. A “must have” plant particularly for the woodland garden.