



## Greetings



Cool mornings and a brief thundery shower heralds the start of autumn, and warms the heart of weary gardeners. It's time to plan plant prune and pamper the garden.

This Bush Telegraph has lots of ideas to inspire and we hope nudge you back into the garden after the long hot summer.

Although the best wildflower show is to be found in late winter and spring, there are many autumn show-stoppers. Find these on page 2 and on the website.

We look forward to meeting you at the nursery or at Garden Week.

Best wishes,

– Jackie Alec and the team

*PS: We are open every day over the Easter long weekend.*

## What's on?

### Garden Week at Perry Lakes

25th to 30th March: Garden Week promises to be an exciting event in 2004.

Look for the Zanthorrea display gardens, and say hello. We are opposite the new Waterwise Gardening for the Future display.

Tickets may be pre-purchased from Zanthorrea Nursery.



### Gardening Talks

Write these dates in your diary, and join Jackie and friends for a cuppa and a chat. Please RSVP on 9454 6260.

### Practical Pruning Demo

Pruning can transform and invigorate the garden. Learn from the experts just how and when to prune.

*Saturday 3rd April 10am*

### Garden Design in Small Spaces

It's easy to create drama in large gardens, but achieving the impact in a small space takes more thought.

*Saturday 1st May, 10am*

### New Plants from old

Growing plants from seed is an exciting hobby. Learn tips for success from the growers.

*Saturday 29th May, 10am*

### Kanyana Open Day



*Claire & the sulphur-crested cockatoo*

For the folk who missed out on the Kanyana night tours, June and Lloyd conduct evening tours from time to time, so email kanyana@kanyanawildlife.org.au, or phone Kanyana on 92931416 to reserve a place.

The Kanyana Open Day, held on 21st March, is another opportunity to visit Kanyana.

### STOP PRESS: "Congratulations Zanthorrea"

#### WA WINNER 2004 AGCI – Best Medium Garden Centre

The judging criteria for the awards included range of stock, staff presentation, services, marketing, merchandising, layout and overall ambience.

The national winners will be announced on April 17th at the NGIA conference on the Gold Coast.



### Roo Proof

We plan to compile a list of kangaroo proof plants. Have you found any plants which kangaroos do not eat? Please write or email Jackie.





## Fabulous Flora

### What's growing?

During summer we have great plant growth and less sales, so many of the hard-to-supply lines come on stream in autumn.

*Grevillea 'Sunkissed Waters'*, the variegated form of '*Royal Mantle*', is now in stock at \$9.95.

*Grevillea 'Claire Dee'*, a big fast free flowering hybrid (planted on Watsonia Road verge) and *Grevillea bipinnatifida*, the local fuchsia grevillea, are both available in semi advanced sizes at \$15.75.

It's a bit early for kangaroo paws (but not too early to prune and divide). However we have some good stocks of '*Big Red*', '*Bush Pearl*', and soon will have '*Royal Cheer*', which looks like our WA emblem, but is shorter and tougher.

### The correas

The correas always look good in autumn with their showy bell flowers. My favourite from last year, the low 'pink star' form of *Correa alba* and a couple of new forms of *Correa reflexa* are in stock now. (*Correa 'Clearview Giant'* and *C. 'Redex'*)



*Correa 'Clearview Giant'*

Rush in for the popular pink and lemon *Correa 'Marions Marvel'* as numbers are limited and we may run out. *Correa 'Dusky Bells'* will also be ready for planting now.

### Plant of the Month

*Moonlight and roses for Kanyana*

We don't have roses but the beautiful *Grevillea 'Moonlight'* is the current Kanyana plant. \$1 from the sale of each one is donated to help our injured wildlife.



*Grevillea 'Moonlight'*

*Grevillea 'Moonlight'* has taken off in sales, with owners coming in for more as they experience the way '*Moonlight*' can lift a garden. Growing to about 2.5m, easily shaped and free flowering, these shrubs can fit courtyards or shrubbery, full sun to part shade. Plant with a few litres of soil improver to get the best out of them. The two old ones near our flag pole are just about ready for a one third prune. I'll give them a few weeks so you can see how big they can grow!



*Grevillea 'Moonlight' flower*

### Process paws & plant paperflowers



*Pink & White Everlastings*

Just a reminder that it's time to sow that everlasting seed you saved from last year's plants (or buy some if you like!) Pick up an information sheet from Zanthorrea to find out how to grow these pink and white beauties. (Or visit the website.)

Also between now and June, apply a handful of Native Plant Grower to each clump of kangaroo paws that you want to show off. Alternatively you can insert 20g Osmocote 10cms into the soil near them. If they are too scruffy, prune them back to ground level, or dig them up to divide and make several new plants. – Alec

### New plants for old!

1. Dig up whole clump.
2. Cut off all leaves and trim roots, shaking off soil.
3. Wriggle the rhizome into pieces with your hands.
4. For best results, apply a fungicide such as Mancozeb to the divided pieces.
5. Replant, or pot into Premium potting mix, and water well until the new roots form - at least two months. Seasol is a great tonic when transplanting.







## Autumn – Time to Plant

### Contemporary Native Gardens

One aspect of Australian native gardens which has been largely neglected until recently is good design.



*An Australian native plant garden*

The bush gardens of the 70's with their promise of no maintenance and the resulting overgrown chaos discouraged people from planting natives. Overuse of a few large species like bottlebrush and gum trees has created a limited perception of what native gardens have to offer.

Australian plants are at home in large gardens. Gorgeous gums can stretch their limbs to the sky and sprawling shrubs provide a residence for wild life.

For the smaller garden, there are plenty of lovely little native plants. Many species suit courtyards and some architectural plants can be used to great effect in the minimalist style of contemporary gardens.

A little research and a visit to Zanthorrea will show what native gardens can be, and the possibilities are endless.

– Sue

Designer **Sue Torlach** has created three garden “rooms” to illustrate a new approach to using Australian native plants in landscape. View these at Garden Week from 25th to 30th March, at Perry Lakes.

### Autumn, time to plant & time to plan!

Although winter will soon be here, waterwise practices are still recommended when planning the garden make-over.

Remember the three essentials:

- Improve the soil with organic material when planting.
- Mulch to reduce evaporation
- Select plants according to their water needs, planting ones with the same water requirements together.

*Zanthorrea is proud to be a Water Corporation endorsed Waterwise Garden Centre.*



Call in for Waterwise advice from our trained staff.

### A Stitch in Time

It was once thought that natives did not require any maintenance. Gardens which are planted and left alone rarely meet the expectations of their creators.

For best results in your garden, prune, feed and water Australian plants, in much the same way as you would the rest of the garden.



*Pruning a grevillea*

### Prune:

There are many reasons to prune. You may wish to reduce the size, create a hedge, remove spent flowers or simply tip prune to encourage bushy growth. Always use sharp clean tools, and cut to a leaf node where possible.

(See page 1 for details of our Practical Pruning Demo)

### Fertilise:

Yes, it is wise to fertilise!

It's true some natives grow in infertile soil, and some are phosphorus sensitive. However, the majority of Australian native plants benefit from an application of fertiliser in autumn, to provide nutrients for healthy growth.



Organic fertiliser is popular in small doses, but slow release is safer and less likely to leach into our waterways.

### Water wisely:

Pick up a Waterwise booklet with lots of water saving ideas.

*“Every garden is unique with a multitude of choices in soils, plants and themes. Finding your garden theme is as easy as seeing what brings a smile to your face.”*

– Teresa Watkins  
Gardening With Soul



## Please! No more chocolate!

*...Seven ideas for non-fattening Easter gifts*



1) Santalia Calming Lotion \$13.95  
With Australian sandalwood oil to  
soothe, moisturise and pamper.



2) Australian Fine China \$15.95 Our  
own Easter animal. Chocolate not  
included (already consumed).

3) Thurlby Herb Farm Washable  
Wish Card and soap \$6.95 &  
\$8.95. Pretty and sweet smelling.  
For friends who need a good wash  
more than they need chocolate.



4) Boxed flowers \$9.95 A living gift  
for a special friend. Edible only in an  
emergency.



5) Tulloch's Bush Bakery Quandong  
Dessert Sauce \$9.95 If you're going  
to eat the sweet treats, do it in Aussie  
gourmet style!

6) Thurlby Herb Farm Woof Wash  
\$7.95 Won't she love a big, lathery  
bath on the lawn for Easter! (And the  
dog could do with a wash too.)



7) K & M Toys koalas \$10.95 &  
\$16.95, pen \$4.95, headband \$4.95  
Regulate their blood sugar level with  
these delightful children's gifts!



Zanthorrea Nursery  
is proud to be  
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*Zanthorrea*  
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