



## Welcome to Autumn



Autumn is a busy time of year for us in the garden, with plenty of colour and the promise of early rains.

We have lots going on in the next few months, with Easter just the beginning of the Autumn season. Pop in with your kids for a treasure hunt or have a wander through the display gardens for new ideas. We will soon be adding new plants to our display gardens with a selection of the new release plants that are currently available, so be sure to keep an eye out for the changes.

Danielle has found many new exciting products for our gift shop, whether you are looking for a present for a friend or to create your new fairy garden with ornaments.

We look forward to seeing you in the garden centre and hope you have an amazing Autumn.

- Ross, Jackie and the team.



### Time to plant native plants

Bring your garden to life with some Autumn flowering plants. Autumn beauties include correas, kangaroo paws, grevilleas and bottlebrush. Pruning, fertilising and replanting will create a healthy good looking garden.

### Easter, a time of renewal

In the northern hemisphere, Easter marks the beginning of the growing season. The snows are melting, spring flowers shooting and the watery Winter sun is getting stronger each day.

For some, Easter was a pagan festival celebrating the return of the sun and warmth. Others celebrated the Christian religious festival of Easter. The children of today celebrate Easter with bunnies, eggs and other symbols of new life.



Gardeners in southern Australia can breathe a sigh of relief as the hot dry Summer season morphs into Autumn. Autumn is indeed the best time to plant. Time to refresh the native garden with new species and time to plant winter vegies.



### Time to plant Everlastings

To enjoy the beautiful pink and white everlasting wildflowers in early Spring, plant seed in Autumn. Simply wait for a decent rain, remove any weed growth, and rake the seeds into soil that has been improved with a little organic matter. (Pick up an info sheet or check out our website.)

## What's On



### Garden Releaf 2016

**9th & 10th of April.** Gardening is good for the soul! See page 2 for details of this fun weekend.



### Perth Garden Festival

We are excited to be exhibiting at the Perth Garden Festival on the 28th of April to the 1st of May. This is the largest plant festival in WA and has many ideas to inspire. This year we are going with the theme: Colours of Australia, and will showcase some of the showy Australian Native plants.



### Mother's Day

Looking for something to do this Mother's Day? Bring Mum down to the garden centre for coffee and cake and help us raise money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation!  
**8th of May. No RSVP required.**

*Send in your funny story of Mum to win a \$50 voucher.*





## Garden events



### Garden Releaf 2016

Feeling blue? Be happy in the garden. Our interaction with plants has been shown to have enormous positive effects on health and well being, and why not, gardening is great! We are once again hosting a Garden Releaf weekend. This year it is on the 9th & 10th of April. We aim to celebrate the benefits of gardening and to raise money for Beyond Blue.



### Here's whats on:

#### Activities from 10am to 12 noon:

- Morning tea - Homemade cakes, and blue iced donuts. Tea, coffee and fruit juice.
- Face painting with Fairy Rose and Fairy Danielle.
- For the children: Decorate a blue butterfly or blue mask or Pot a blue plant. **All proceeds to Beyond Blue.**

#### All day:

- Relax and stimulate your senses in our inspiring display gardens. Look for the blue froggy display.
- Blue helium balloons for a gold coin donation to Beyond Blue.
- Treasure hunt. Find the blue objects hidden around the gardens.
- Raffles with excellent prizes,

including a fairy garden kit. (Bonsai pot, succulents and miniatures)

- Competition - guess the number of blue jelly beans.

*Hope to see you there!* - Ross

### Sensory Gardens

Sensory gardens are gardens to stimulate all our senses. They have a healing effect and bring about a sense of happiness and wellbeing.



#### Fragrant native frangipani

**Sight:** Choose plants with bright flowers, or contrasting foliage colour. Grevillea 'New Blood' & Kunzea pulchella are two that really stand out in the garden.

**Touch:** Look for textured plants like the soft Albany woolly bush or Melaleuca incana nana and the scratchy sandpaper wattle and spiky Casuarina 'Cousin It'.

**Taste:** Bush tucker plants have become a part of Australian cuisine. Tasty ones include midgen berry (Austromyrtus dulcis) and native mint (Mentha australis).

**Smell:** For wonderful fragrance, plant native daphne, boronia and native frangipani.

**Sound:** The gentle rustling of leaves or the swishing of branches can be very relaxing. I love the bold sound of the sheoaks and the gentle woosh of Lomandra 'Fibre Optics' or weeping peppermints. Plant them in an area that is exposed to the wind.

For more ideas, visit Zanthorrea.  
- Jackie

### Wildflower Society

Joining a wildflower society is a great way to gain a wealth of knowledge and meet some great gardeners in our community. The Eastern Hills Branch aims to promote the enjoyment and conservation of our wonderful and unique wildflowers, particularly those in the Hills.



The Society meets at the Octagonal Hall, 52 McGlew St, Glen Forrest, from February to December, every fourth Friday at 7.30pm.

This year the Eastern Hills Branch celebrates its 40th anniversary, to mark the occasion they are hosting a public presentation by Professor Kingsley Dixon on "What it means to live in a Biodiversity Hotspot".

**Where: Mundaring Civic Centre**

**When: April 14th 2016**

For more information or to join the society, visit their facebook site:

[www.facebook.com/easternhillswildflowers](http://www.facebook.com/easternhillswildflowers)



*The fruits of an art workshop.*

*The Society is holding their autumn native plant sale on Saturday the 7th of May. at the Octagonal Hall.*





## My Autumn Garden

"By the end of Summer we are all looking forward to the cooler months of Autumn with the promise of revitalising rain!"



*Acacia 'Lime Magik'.*

As the days get cooler, I start to look at what new plants I can fit into my garden. One new plant that we have been growing at the nursery for a couple of years is the *Acacia 'Lime Magik'*. It makes a weeping lime green tree, and we think it looks terrific! After admiring the foliage for some time, I decided it is one that I simply must find a spot for. The ideal spot is with afternoon shade or some Summer water. We have a batch of 100 growing, so if you are also after one we can take your name in our request book and give you a call when they are ready.



*A Silveryeye flies in for a feed of some Corymbia calophylla flowers.*

Autumn also brings a flurry of new plants into flower, and it is not just myself enjoying their bright colours, the birds are also happily feeding on the fresh nectar. For anyone lucky enough to have an existing *Corymbia calophylla*, these trees start flowering right now and attract

an amazing amount of bird life into the garden. They supply flowers for the honey-eaters and nuts for the black cockatoos!



*Hakea laurina*

*Hakea laurina* is an amazing tree. The pin cushion flowers are architectural and bright and the plant is also a great feeder for the black cockatoos. Grown from seed the form can vary from a tree to a tall shrub, weepy to bushy, but always an attractive and worthwhile plant to have in the garden.



*Callistemon 'White Anzac'*

Many callistemons put on a fantastic show in Autumn, the *Callistemon 'White Anzac'* is no exception. It sports bright white flowers and a bushy habit to 1m, making it an attractive hedge or stand alone feature among ground covers. With Anzac day approaching, this is a great one to include in the garden plans.



*Correa 'Dusky Bells'.*

Autumn is definitely the time for native fuchsias, and there are plenty of them to choose from these days. I still like this oldy but goldy, the *Correa 'Dusky Bells'*. It is nice and bushy growing to 1m high, preferring a shady spot in the garden. The delicate pink bell flowers are just starting to pop out now.

- Ross



### Potatoes!

Potatoes are lots of fun and grow easily in the ground or in pots. Be sure to improve the soil with manure and blood & bone. If you 'hill' up the soil around the stem as they grow they will produce extra potatoes! We have 4 varieties in stock at the moment:

- **Delaware** - A good all round potato.
- **Royal Blue** - Purple skin with yellow flesh, Excellent tasting, makes the best mash.
- **Kestral** - White skin with purple eyes. Excellent for frying and roasting.
- **Norland** - A smooth medium sized potato with red skin. Great for boiling and for salads.

- Muriel





## Gift & Garden



Oh my goodness, Autumn is finally here! That means gorgeous gardening weather, Easter and Mother's Day! With that in mind we have a lot of NEW products arriving in the gift shop over the next few weeks! YAY!



### Thurlby Herb Farm

NEW Garden Party range; some old and new favourites in bright floral packaging. Perfect for Mother's Day gifts.



### Linen Press: Magpie Range

Old favourites in the organic cotton kitchen products with a new magpie design.

### Potany Pottery

A special new range for the fairy garden or bonsai enthusiast, with some of the designs exclusive to Zanthorrea. All are handcrafted locally from clay, then fired and decorated with weatherproof paint. These will last years in the garden.



### Dindi Naturals

New to the gift shop, a home and body range using essential oils from the Australian bush. It's simply beautiful!



Red Elke Little Box of Happiness Kits.

### Red Elke

Need a simple gift for someone special? These 'Little Box of Happiness' kits say a thousand words (with a humorous touch) and are made in Noosa, Australia from local and imported ingredients.

### WILD Body Bath Home

If you liked the Christmas range in diffusers and candles, you will find these new scents simply scrumptious plus some new body scrubs! Mint & Coconut, Lemongrass, Kaffir Lime. Up to \$24.95



### Qualtiy Products!

New Poc-kits to keep your tools handy whilst gardening (\$42.95), Creature Tins also available (April) for storing your favourite animals food!



### The Birdhouse Collection

Another new range to the shop, these are handmade in Melbourne. Cards, clocks, magnets, labels and brooches with an Aussie theme!

Happy Autumn everyone!!

- Danielle



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