



## WELCOME!

### Greetings,



What wonderful weather for gardening - a little sun followed by a downpour. Hurrah for the late rains! They will keep our gardens looking good for many weeks.

With summer on the way, there are many water wise ideas and hardy plants to keep the garden looking good throughout the hottest days. Call in and talk to our experts.

We have had a wonderful response to our request for gardens to visit. Many thanks! We have selected two gardens which may be easily reached from Zanthorrea.

There are many new plants and displays at Zanthorrea and we hope you can visit us soon.

Happy spring gardening!

*Jackie, Alec and the team*

## WHAT'S ON AT ZANTHORREA?

### Bush Telegraph via email

Thank you to the Bush Telegraph readers who have asked to receive their newsletter on-line. It saves paper as well as saving many hours spent sticking on address labels!

You may still be receiving an unwanted paper copy, so please help us by supplying your address to be removed from the database.

A thousand thank yous!

*(email jackie@zanthorrea.com)*

### Bird Cam

There are six eggs in the nest box above the seedling bench. How do we know? There is an infra red camera in the box which relays images to a television monitor in the shop.



We expect the eggs to hatch in around two weeks, and we look forward to watching the babies feed, grow and finally fly away. Come and visit soon before the birds fly the coop.

### Garden visits

*Saturday 21st September, 9.30am*  
Join Alec and Jackie for a wonderful morning visiting the hills gardens of Joy and Norm Lushey of Victor Road, Darlington, and Bob and Jan Datson of "Gumdale" Maida Vale. Both gardens are an inspiration - not to be missed.

We meet at Zanthorrea and conclude the morning with a cuppa. RSVP as numbers are limited. Please phone 94546260 or email *jackie@zanthorrea.com*

### Wildflower walk

*Sunday, 6th October, 8.30 - 11am*  
*"Walk the Zigzag"*

Last year this Shire of Kalamunda event attracted around 3000 walkers. Meet at the carpark at the top of the Zigzag, and after the walk, call into Zanthorrea for refreshments.

For more details, call Kalamunda Shire.



## A limerick a day, or more!

The numerous limericks we received kept us entertained for many a lunch hour. Well done and thank you! Congratulations to our winner, **Peter Daniels** of Lesmurdie. Peter's \$50 voucher is in the mail. Watch out for more limericks in the next Bush Telegraph!



*The Government man said 'Look here -  
There's a climate of correctness and fear  
I'm no sycophant  
But that strange spiky plant  
From now on will be called Xanthorrhoea.'*



## WATERWISE GARDENING

*Fear not. The ongoing water restrictions need not prevent you from enjoying gardening. Your garden can still look fantastic even with limited water.*

### Plant wise

The most important waterwise factor is the wise choice of plants. For a splash of colour, use hardy native ground covers rather than water hungry European style annuals. For a hedge or border choose Aussie plants such as dwarf lilly pillys, dwarf tea trees and low growing bottlebrush. They use far less water than English and Japanese box. Replace specimen trees which require deep watering with feature trees such as our own local weeping peppermint myrtle which can survive all summer without water once established.



### Design wise

Garden design plays a part too. By replacing water guzzling lawns with paving, mulch or hardy ground covers, water bills are likely to be halved. Shade trees with deep roots will allow more delicate small shrubs to grow beneath them.

Enjoy pots of colour near the house, and plant up more distant parts of the garden with hardy native plants. The few litres of

water used to keep pot plants looking healthy and lush is negligible compared to the water from sprinklers on garden beds.

### Garden wise

There are many water wise tips which I am sure you have heard before:

1. Plant with organic soil improver dug into the planting hole to ensure each drop of water applied remains in the root zone.
2. Apply a little slow release fertiliser only. Using excessive amounts of quick acting fertiliser will produce leafy growth which begs excessive watering.
3. Trim foliage during early spring, once flowering has finished. Less foliage results in less water needs.
4. Mulch to 10cms around plants, especially newly planted ones. Coarse wood chippings make an ideal mulch.
5. Regularly check watering systems. Low micro sprays use less water than large droplet overhead sprinklers. Automated systems or simple timers will ensure plants are not overwatered.
6. For not-wettable soil, apply a soil wetting agent such as Grosorb. When planting pots and baskets, consider using water saving crystals which create a reservoir of water for dry days.

### We can do that!

It is easy to use less water in the garden. Use hardy Australian plants and your garden will look fantastic all through summer.

### One drop of water

These plants, once established need very little water to thrive:



#### Small (under 1m)

- Native daphne (Philotheca myoporoides)
- Native rosemary (Westringia fruticosa)
- Leptospermum 'Pink Cascade'
- Grevillea 'Gilt Dragon'

#### Medium (1m to 3m)

- Kunzea baxteri
- Banksia hookerana
- Chenille honey myrtle (Melaleuca huegelii)
- Leptospermum 'Cardwell'
- Woolly Bush (Adenanthos sericeus)

#### Tall (over 3m)

- Banksia prionotes
- Wedding bush (Ricinocarpus tuberculatis)
- Western honey myrtle (Melaleuca nesophila)
- Coolgardie gum (Eucalyptus torquata)

Look for the plants with code H in our Plant List. These all have low water requirements. Call in to Zanthorrea and pick up our free Plant List, or visit the web site to view on-line.

<http://www.zanthorrea.com>



## SPRING INTO THE GARDEN

### What to do in spring?

- Tip prune winter flowering shrubs.
- Collect the seeds of everlasting seeds as they finish, and store for planting next autumn.
- Check sprinkler systems ready for dry months ahead.
- Fertilise potted plants with slow release fertiliser, and a little Seasol.
- Order a load of mulch and spread it freely.
- Pull those weeds before they run to seed. Start a compost heap.

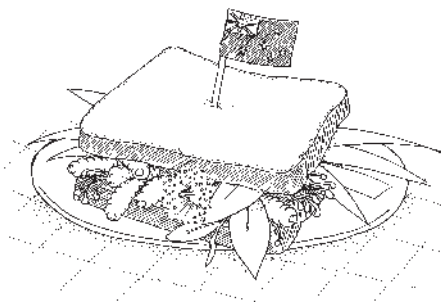
### Hurrah! It's time to plant summer veges now:

Bush crops - tomato, capsicum, chilli, eggplant. (These grow well in large pots!)

If you have plenty of room - cucumbers, zucchini, pumpkin, melons

For leafy summer salads - lettuce combo, silverbeet, rocket

Herbs to complement - parsley, basil, thyme, oregano, chives



*There was a young man called "Perkins"  
Who was exceedingly fond of green gherkins.  
One time for tea,  
He ate forty three  
Which pickled his internal workin's.*  
– Ingrid Kenney, Gooseberry Hill

### Overgrown bushes to wildflower spectacular!

When we told Mark that we planned to paint the front of the shed, he agreed we needed to trim back the Grevillea 'Robyn Gordons. Mark performed a little judicious pruning and soon they were back to 15cm stubs.

This created a large bare garden which Mark proceeded to turn into a delightful wildflower garden.

Mark's lovely garden is worth a look, especially to see how the massacred Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon's are responding. Closer to the gate you can see the less severely pruned Grevillea 'Honeycomb' which are also coming back very well.

### Flora for Fauna

Attract butterflies to your garden this spring by planting food for the caterpillars, and nectar sources for the adult butterflies.

#### Food for caterpillars:

- Cape weed!
- Pea flowers such as *Chorizema cordatum*
- Native grasses

#### For nectar:

- Rock daisies (*Brachyscome* spp)
- *Pimelea ferruginea*
- Annual native everlastings
- *Kunzea ambigua*

### Roo proof plants

A letter from Margaret Moir in response to our request for roo proof plants:

*"Now here's a subject close to my heart, and many others here in Margaret River where we are overrun with Western Greys.*

*Here are some plants the roos don't bother:*

- Any of the *rutaceae* family, *Boronia*, *Chorilaena*, *Correa*, *Philotheca*.
- *Callistemons*, except for *papery barked salignus*, which they ringbark.
- *Melaleucas*, ditto.
- *Brachyscomes*.
- *Smooth barked Eucalypts*.
- *Very aromatic Acacias* such as *cognata*, *fimbriata*, *cardiophylla*.
- *Thomasias*.
- *Hibbertias*
- *Hypocalymmas*.
- *Agonis*
- *Alyogyne*

*Some roo deterrents. Any of these only work for a while, so you have to keep trying new things:*

- *Vicks vaporub*
- *Lapsang Souchang tea bags*
- *Old tyres*
- *Wormwood clippings heaped around precious Grevilleas.*

*Regards,*

*Margaret Moir*

*Olive Hill Farm, Margaret River."*

Thank you to the other readers who sent lists of "Roo proof" plants. We will compile them very soon.



## KANYANA PLANT

*Ned Kelly supports Kanyana!*

This season we have selected Grevillea 'Ned Kelly' to carry the Kanyana label (\$1 from each plant goes to support Kanyana Wildlife Centre.) At Zanthorrea you will usually find them under the name Grevillea 'Masons Hybrid' which is the name registered at the Cultivar Registration Authority. It originated on the Mason's property of Northcliffe WA but those eastern states nurserymen decided it needed a "gold toothed, plaid pants" selling name and so 'Ned Kelly' came into print.



*Grevillea 'Ned Kelly'*

A great plant by any name, growing to 2m high by 2.5m wide. The orange flower spikes can be up to 15cms long and 8cm wide, and are found on the bush most of the year. Very bird attracting. Both parent plants (G. bipinnatifida and G. banksii) have the ability to thrive in most soil types and they have handed these genes onto their progeny (which include 'Robyn Gordon', 'Coconut Ice' and 'Superb').

Plant this plant anywhere as long as there is at least half a day sun, mix in Groganic and add a teaspoon of Osmocote - but we say that every time, don't we?

Grevillea 'Ned Kelly' makes a great hedge, screen or just a lone feature plant. Easy to prune, it even responds well to stub pruning as on our front garden at the nursery. It should be easy for you to find a spot for one or two - and help Kanyana at the same time.

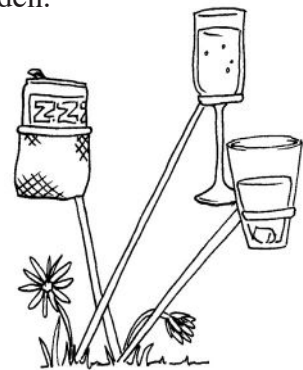
140mm pots, \$8.25

– Alec

## GREAT GIFTS

You can't beat local creations: We have sparkling stained glass hangings, intricate hand made Peri-lee butterfly and frog magnets, and beautiful photographic cards. The metal sculptures from Paul Moro are fabulous - a great garden feature.

The tea-tree emus and kangaroos are back to add charm to the bush garden.



Have you seen the beer spears and wine spikes, made right here in the hills. You need never spill your drink again. They cleverly hold your drink as they spike into the ground. Essential for picnics.

Come and browse soon.

*A canny old gardener from Perth  
Plants in rockeries full of rich earth.  
But wrong seeds were selected  
And results when detected  
Elicited sounds of great mirth.*

– Bruce Thorpe of Gooseberry Hill



### STOP PRESS!

#### The Open Garden Scheme

*Native Cottage Garden*

Visit the wonderful waterwise wildflower garden at 24 Waterview Grove, Ellenbrook.

14/15th September from 10am to 4:30pm, \$4.50



Zanthorrea Nursery is a member of the Plants Plus group.

Zanthorrea  
nursery

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