

Welcome



Spring!

The wonderful wildflowers at this time of year are so inspiring. After the long damp and cold winter we can't help but step out into the garden or visit the bush!

The Kings Park Festival and Walk the Zigzag are just two events where we can walk among the wildflowers. They're not to be missed.

By choosing compact and colourful plants, it is possible to create a tapestry of wildflowers in your own backyard. The added bonus will be the small honeyeaters who visit to enjoy the nectar.

The nursery gardens are also in bloom and worth a visit. Bring a friend and ask our friendly team to make you a cuppa. Sit a while in the atrium and enjoy the peace.

We look forward to your visit.

Best wishes

– Jackie Alec and the team



Flowering now: *Hardenbergia comptoniana*

What's News?

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating spring.

Celebrating our birthday!

Sunday 18th September 4pm

In early September 1975, we opened Zanthorrea Nursery and who'd have thought we'd be here 30 years on! We can't let the occasion slip by without a celebration.

Join us to celebrate on Sunday 18th September, from 4pm until dark. Sausages will sizzle and cakes will be cut. (Our fabulous staff are not only knowledgeable horticulturists, but make delicious cakes.) Free cappuccino and other cold bubbly refreshments will be served. Enjoy the garden centre after hours.

RSVP 94546260 to help with catering.



Flowering now: *Calothamnus quadrifidus*

Memories

We are planning to put together a display of early photos of the nursery and the team past and present. Any photos would be most welcome.

Show us your garden!

Inspire other gardeners and send in a photo or two of your Australian native garden. The best of the digital will be displayed on the website (with your permission) and regular photos used in a display in the nursery

Busk Walk

October 15th, 9.30am

Join Jackie and Alec for a stroll in the local bush. Check out what is flowering, and learn the names of the beautiful plants flowering in spring. Stay for a cuppa if you have the time.

Meet at the Zanthorrea gazebo.



RSVP 94546260

Walk the Zigzag

2nd October from 8.30am - 1pm

This event just gets bigger and better. Organised by Kalamunda Shire, it is a wonderful way to walk down the zigzag and see local displays along the way.

PS: Call in for a free cappuccino and biscuit before heading home. (We are a 15 minute walk from the bottom of the zigzag.)

* Don't miss Kings Park Wildflower Festival, 22nd to 26th September



Flowering now: *Verticordia chrysanthella*



Then and Now

Brief history of Zanthorrea

During the early months of 1975, plans were made for a nursery which was to become Zanthorrea.

Alec's mother Jean Hooper had enlisted our help at weekends in her garden design business in Gooseberry Hill. The plants she wished to include in garden plans were rarely available at nurseries, so she did what all good pioneers do - she grew her own.

Before too long, word was out that there were healthy hardy plants for sale in Gooseberry Hill, and Jean's cottage business quickly grew.

So discussion between Jean, carpenter son Alec and his wife Jackie centred on how to turn this successful backyard business into one which would support us all.

In February, we bought a partially degraded bush block, and cleared the north east section, leaving bush where we could.



Jackie and Alec lived on site in a caravan with trips up to Jean's for daily showers. Alec's skills in building were invaluable and Jackie's teaching wage was used to purchase timber and shade cloth. Meanwhile Jean continued to grow hundreds of plants both at her Gooseberry Hill property and down on the new site.

Finally we were ready, and in September 1975 we opened our doors to our first customers.

Perhaps you were one of them?

The "now" plant for Kanyana.

We have a little and old forest of *Banksia ericifolia* in the display gardens just past the children's play area. These have proved very tough and reliable and seem to be in flower for ever.

I was pleased to see a new compact reddish form come into cultivation. As it is bird attracting, we have selected it as our fund raiser for Kanyana Wildlife Centre. \$1 from the sale of each plant goes to help the birds and animals at Kanyana.



Banksia 'Red Rover' is claimed to grow only 1.8m by 1.2m. I suspect this is only the five year size and unless you wield the secateurs - maybe take a few of the long lasting cut flowers inside - it may sneak over 2m when it gets as old as our 20 year *Banksia ericifolia* specimens.

The tall flower spikes are up to 20cms long and occur through winter and spring. With occasional summer water, this NSW banksia is at home in rocks and in the hills as well as our sand over clay. Alec

New release Banksia, \$9.90

Find out more about Kanyana at:
www.kanyanawildlife.org.au



Canning Stock Route



Over the past 40 years I've often seen the faint wiggly line of the CSR on maps and thought "that would be interesting!"

This year I was lucky enough to have the time, and nab one of the few sought after private spots on Kings Park's seed collecting expedition. Chief seedsman at Kings Park, Luke Sweedman, ran the 2+ week camping out trip and it was a real experience. We crossed four deserts and although the southern section hadn't had much rain we collected many species of eucalyptus, casuarina, hakea and a very rare *ptilotus*.

Among the many things to surprise me were the number of camels (bad thing) visible dingos and their calls at night (great) and forests of flowering 2-3m *Grevillea wickhamii* (excellent).



Grevillea wickhamii

I was sad only that Jackie has to stay back at the nursery, so missing the trip and the other 29 interesting people in our expedition!

– Alec Hooper



The Australian Garden

Potting mixes for native plants

It's obvious that soils and potting mixes are an important factor in how well plants grow. Aussie native plants are found in a wide variety of soils from sandy coastal to hills clay, so gardeners ask which potting mix is best.

Due to added interest in potting mixes suitable for potting Australian native plants, we at Zanthorrea carried out some tests throughout winter. From our results we found the native plant soil from Richgro was the best across the board for the various species tested.



We are now stocking the 30litre bag for \$7.90

Due to different conditions in summer, we plan to repeat these tests to see how the different potting mixes perform in summer, and would value any feedback you may have.

– Ross

STOP PRESS: Bird Cam

A pair of ring neck parrots have taken up residence in the bird box over the seedling benches. Check out the action on the bird cam monitor in the nursery shop.



Invasive plants

There are many garden plants that have jumped the backyard fence, and invaded our bushland. Watsonia and freesias are pretty as a picture in spring, but replace naturally occurring species. Not only the bulbs and perennials, Australian native species such as wattles and sollya have proved a problem in some areas of Australia.

Each area has its own collection of environmental weeds, and it is important that we do not plant species which have proved to be escapees in our locality.

At Zanthorrea, we take this issue seriously and have put together a list of “no-grow” plants and also a list of “not recommended near natural bushland” species.

(Check the zanthorrea website for our invasive plant policy.)

** National Weedbuster week is held each year during the 2nd week of October.



Local Sollya heterophylla is an invasive plant in Tasmania

From the Production Team

We have a few more miniature ‘roo paws *Anigozanthos gabrielae* now available at \$7.95. Other plants of interest - shade loving *Hibbertia dentata*, lots of *Grevillea ‘Honey Gem’* from \$8.45, pink woolly *Verticordia monodelpha* and the bright green Albany Southern Cross *Xanthosia rotundifolia*.

– Alec

Spring Waterwise Tips

Weeds: Remove or whipper-snip weeds before they seed. They can rob plants of precious water.



Mulch: Spread a 5 - 10cm layer of coarse mulch to cover the ground, reducing weed growth and evaporation from the root zone of plants.

Pruning: Tip prune lushly growing plants after flowering.

Go easy with fertiliser: For reticulated gardens only, a small amount of slow release fertiliser is all that is needed.

Check reticulation outlets, and repair blockages and breaks.

Waterwise Garden Appraisal: For information about the Water Corporation subsidised “Waterwise Garden Appraisal”, contact one of the horticultural team at Zanthorrea.

In the vege garden:

Once the weather warms, it's time to plant tomatoes, capsicums, chilli, eggplant and zucchini.





What's flowering



- Hybrid kangaroo paws (above)
- Native wisteria
- Yellow feather flower



- Bottlebrush (above)
- Purple mint bush
- Heart leaf flame pea
- Pink plume verticordia



- Native hibiscus (above)
 - Blue leschenaultia
 - Morning iris
 - Hypocallyma 'Coconut Ice'
- ...and many local wildflowers.

Spring Outdoors

Uveto Sun Safe gloves

Alec and Jackie use these when cycling, but they are equally useful for the fair skinned driver, bushwalker or gardeners to protect against damaging UV radiation.

Washable and long lasting. \$19.90



Cast Iron Mosquito Coil Burner

Tired of mozzies biting your ankles while you relax outdoors. This lantern will hold the mosquito coil safely. \$34.95



No Flies net

Simply slip the fly net onto your hat for effective protection against all flying insects.

From \$8.95

(New seasons sunhats now in stock.)



Didgeridoonas Stubby Quilt

Wrap it around your bottle or stubby to keep your drink cool. Insulated with Australian wool, the stubby quilt is an essential summer companion.

\$12.95

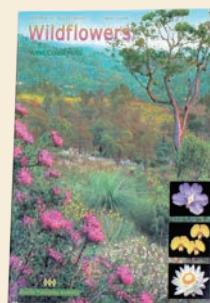
Just one of the innovative range of Australian made products from Didgeridoonas.



Wildflowers of the West Coast Hills

A must companion when walking in the Perth hills, this little book was written by the members of the Darling Range branch of the Wildflower Society. (Use one of several easy methods to identify the flowers you see while walking, from "piccy flicking" to keying out botanically.)

Still the best wildflower book for our area. \$19.95



Dandy Lion Mug Mats (set of 4)

Place your hot mugs on these refreshing coasters. Contains sandalwood, essential oils and spices.

A local handcraft at \$22.95



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