



40 years this Spring



A big welcome to our Spring 40th year anniversary edition of the Bush Telegraph.

It looks like it is turning out to be a cracker Spring with many wildflowers starting their blooms early.

Page 2 we have some reminiscing of the 40 years that Zanthorrea has been in business including how the nursery started up in 1975.

This September we are hosting an after hours celebration so we hope you can all come and enjoy the evening with us.

Father's Day is September 6th, so why not bring your father in for a walk through our display gardens. They are looking great thanks to the early plantings of Graeme the nursery gardener.

We hope you all enjoy this fantastic season as much as we do, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

- Ross, Jackie, Alec and the team.



The nursery display gardens are open to all and are a great place to find inspiration.



Spring Photography Competition

The Spring wildflowers give the most fantastic pallet for a budding macro photographer. This year we are having a competition for amateur photographers to capture a WA wildflower photo. For conditions of entry and the gallery of entries visit: www.zanthorrea.com/photo2015.php. Prizes include: \$200, \$100 and \$50 vouchers to Zanthorrea. This year Judging will be 'The peoples choice' by Facebook likes, so be sure to jump on and pick your favourites. Closes 31st November.



Kings Park Wildflower Festival

All September long Kings Park play host to a wonderful wildflower festival involving walks, talks, activities for the kids and display gardens full of our WA wildflowers.

Also good to get in your diary is the Native plant sales on the 26, 27 & 28th of September. See you down there.

Visit: <http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/kings-park> for more info on what's on at Kings Park.

What's On



Pruning Techniques

Pruning your native plants doesn't have to be an arduous or scary task. Join Ross to find out the when, how and why of pruning.

Saturday, 12th September, 10am

RSVP on 94546260

Gold coin donation to Kanyana.



Celebrate 40 years at Zanthorrea

Friday 25th Sept. 4pm to 7pm.

Join with Ross, Alec and Jackie to celebrate 40 years of Zanthorrea.

Enjoy the nursery after hours and share light refreshments as the sun sets with brewed coffee, tea and non-al punch.

Late afternoon is the perfect time to wander through the gardens.

RSVP essential on 9454 6260 for catering purposes.

2015 Plant List 28th edition

An updated plant list will be out soon, and will include some of the new plants we like to grow. Also a reference to plants for frogs, butterflies, cockatoos and bush tucker. Pick up your copy instore or download the new pdf off our website.



40 years and still going strong



“From the seed of an idea in the Summer of 1975, grew the Zanthorrea we know today.”

In the beginning:

Jean Hooper, a frustrated farmer and native plant enthusiast, grew plants in her back yard in Gooseberry Hill. Jean’s plants were so hardy and healthy that word spread, and her little nursery soon outgrew her 3/4 acre site. Enter son Alec and his wife Jackie, with enthusiasm to join with Jean to create a “real nursery”.



When we bought the current site it was a degraded block with remnant bush and plenty of rubbish to dispose of. Alec, with carpenter skills of hammer and saw, built the original shed, shadehouses and gazebo. Jean, a horticulturist, grew the first batch of plants on site and Jackie continued working as a teacher in Balga to support the new venture.

The new nursery in Watsonia Road continued to flourish as the drought of the late 1970’s directed gardeners towards drought hardy

Australian native plants. Jean retired in 1982 and set off for almost a year discovering the Americas, Alec and Jackie bought the business and continued to specialise in Australian plants.

Son Ross Hooper now owns Zanthorrea, and his parents are paid casual members of the team. From the original family of three, the Zanthorrea team is now a happy group of 17.



Then and now:

Over forty years, there have been dramatic changes in the garden industry. We are more aware of the environment and the role gardens play in keeping our world clean and green, from food production to habitat gardening to preservation of our wildflower heritage. There have been many changes in the perception of Australian plants. An interest in our wonderful flowers has seen plant breeders develop hybrids and selected forms of native plants that meet market demands both in Australia and overseas:

bigger flowers, disease resistance, more compact growth, longer flowering season are just some of the desirable characteristics. From a small selection of bottlebrush, eucalypts and wattles in the 70’s, we now have the choice of thousands of attractive Australian floral species.

Garden design has become more adventurous, as demonstrated by the myriad garden shows and magazines. From Mediterranean to Mexican, Japanese to Partierre, garden design is increasingly using Australian plants as part of the plant-scape. And it is common to spot our native flora overseas in open gardens, Chelsea flower show, on the west coast of USA and anywhere where water is scarce.



Cultivation of native plants has changed. In the 70’s, it was said that you just plant green side up and forget. The result was often disappointing. We now recommend soil improvement before planting, pruning to encourage bushy growth, and fertiliser when required. We recommend some watering in summer for less hardy species to create a good looking garden.

Times have changed, but not our enthusiasm for Zanthorrea and the fabulous Australian native plants.

Congratulations Zanthorrea on turning 40 years old!

- Jackie Hooper



Wild about wildflowers

"If there is one thing we should do exploring this fantastic state of WA it is to enjoy the stunning array of diverse wildflowers, for they are some of the best in the world!"
-Ross



Swan River Myrtle

Walking in the bush at this time of year is inspirational. There is plenty of colour and plenty of fresh smells. Using these palettes of plants from the bush you can create a beautiful bright garden.

What to see this Spring

Hypocalymma robustum

The Swan River Myrtle has plenty to offer the home gardener with their bright pink flowers from June to November that completely cover the 1m high shrub. Likes a gravelly or sandy soil.



Hardenbergia comptoniana

The native wisteria is a fantastic vigorous climber, and if you have room for one of these I highly recommend them. They are very tough once established and if you have some skills with building a trellis, then they will do the rest!



Calothamnus 'Golden Orb'

Calothamnus quadrifidus

Coming in a range of different forms, the One-Sided Bottlebrush is a tough performer that can grow in many different soil types, in sun or shade. Responds well to pruning, also makes a good bonsai!



What's smelly this Spring!

Hakea lissocarpa

The honey bush is one of my favourites for its strong sweet scent that reminds me of walks in the local bush when I was a kid. 1m high and prickly.



Eremophila microtheca

Not everyone likes the smell of this one, but it is definitely a distinct smell of the bush. It is a tough drought hardy shrub, with an attractive show of mauve flowers.



Prostanthera 'Minty'

Native mint bushes are great for shady spots near paths, as when brushed past the foliage they have a delicious minty smell. The Prostanthera 'Minty' is a fantastic compact form with a massive show of purple in Winter to Spring.



5 Wildflower photography tips

- 1) Choose a bright overcast day for an ambient strong light that creates the best colour.
- 2) Take time to move around and choose the view point. While positioning the flower, take note of the background as you don't want too much detail behind the flower.
- 3) The best mode to shoot in is a manual mode with a low iso setting, adjust the aperture and shutter speed to get the whole flower in focus. Use a tripod if necessary.
- 4) Think about the composition of the photo, do you want a solitary flower, a cluster or a close up of part of the flower? All have their place in flower photography.
- 5) Thanks to digital cameras you can take lots of shots. The more you experiment and have fun, the more likely you will get those amazing shots!

- Ross



Sensational Gifts

"Fathers Day is September 6 this year and it is the perfect time to show your dad how important he is to you!"



Heaven In Earth!

We're in heaven with all these wonderful new things! There are 'crier' boards, blackboards, plant labels and signage made in beautiful slate from Europe. Each piece is lovingly cut and put together here in Australia, even using their own home grown Casuarina branchlets for stands! They make a wonderful gift for those who like to entertain, with signs leading you to party or enjoy a lovely garden! Keep an eye out as this range will be expanding closer to Christmas! We can't wait!



Choose a gift for dad from our Father's Day display.



Quality products from the UK:

This thumb waterer makes a special gift for the gardener who likes to sow. Or how about a terracotta finial for holding garden stakes together to make a teepee in the patch and keeping those eyes safe!

Finial

Add a touch of class with a black iron finial handmade in Australia. Fitting four jarrah stakes it makes a great strong plant support for those tomatoes or climbing crops. Also some nice strong iron 'S' hooks hand shaped with a wide fit and safe flattened ends. Hang your baskets or even this years crop of garlic!

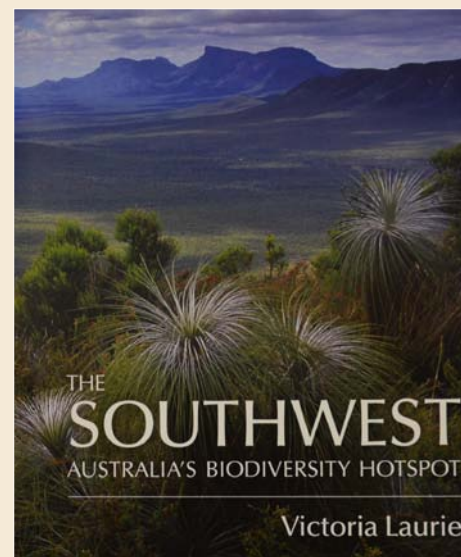


Golden Whisk:

Get ready to spoil Dad with a slice of heaven! The staff were more than happy to sample some of this local company's special confectionery! Lucy and her husband work hard in their Midland kitchen to make each batch fresh to order and use local where possible! Unique twists on old favourites such as

brittles, caramels and rocky roads will leave you craving for more! Staff favourites: Peanut and pretzel brittle, chai caramels and honey & spice nuts! We think its all amazing but we'll let you be the judge!

-Danielle



Book Review

Our very local author, **Victoria Laurie**, has released her latest book **'The Southwest' Australia's Biodiversity Hotspot**.

This is a great read about the landforms, history, plants and animals of an area on the west of a line between Kalbarri and Esperance.

Victoria has broken the area into nine regions and has written passionately about the jewels and the risks in each. Then there are the stunning photos, by various photographers, dotted throughout the 200 pages, terrific!

Inspired writing that makes me want to get out into the bush and look at it in a new light.

Price \$45.

- Alec



Zanthorrea nursery

155 Watsonia Road, Maida Vale
Western Australia, 6057

Phone: (08) 9454 6260

Fax: (08) 9454 4540

www.zanthorrea.com