



Spring into the Garden



Welcome to a fantastic Spring!

On the first day of Spring there was already an excitement in the air, The cold wet Winter has abated and the wildflowers all over WA have begun to make an amazing show. Our own display gardens are looking great and well worth a visit.

Jackie and Danielle are just back from the gift fair in Melbourne and have had a terrific time finding new suppliers of giftware for our shop. Keep an eye out over the next couple of months for the new products (on page 4). We wish you a joyous Spring and happy gardening, Ross, Jackie and the team at Zanthorrea.



Congratulations to Diane, the winner of the Oxfam hamper. We would also like to wish our Zanthorrea Wanderers all the best for Saturday the 17th's 50km Oxfam trailwalker event. If you want to follow the team goto: <https://trailwalker.oxfam.org.au/my/team/25579>



The winning photo from last year by Laura Bennet-Swan

Spring Amateur Photo Comp

We are once again hosting a Spring wildflower photo competition, so get out the camera and start snapping. This year we have made a change in the judging: There will be 3 prizes of the same value for: Judges award, Zan staff award and Facebook likes award.

We are only accepting one entry per person of an Australian Native flower photo. For full terms please visit our website or visit us in store.

Please email entries to info@zanthorrea.com.

2nd place

winner from last year:

Gina Smyth



3rd place

winner from last year:

Kade Ehlers



Kanyana Plant of the Month

Keep an eye out for the Kanyana plant of the month, \$1 from the sale of these plants will be donated to Kanyana. September's plant is *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, commonly called 'Yellow Buttons'.

What's On



Small Animals in the Garden

Join Eric McCrum on either day to hear about the mysteries of the recyclers, the catchers and the hunters of the garden.

Saturday 8th of Oct at 10am.

Saturday 22nd of Oct at 10am.

RSVP on 08 9454 6260.

Gold coin donation to Kanyana



Kings Park Wildflower Plant Sale

Kings Park Wildflower Festival this September has many inspiring ideas for a native garden. Also worth a visit is their plant sale days **Sept 17 & 18**. For more info visit: <http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/kings-park/events/festival/festival-events>.

Eastern Hills Wildflower Branch Meetings

There are several interesting talks during spring at the EHW meetings.

Friday, 23rd September: Malcolm French on "The Eucalypts of the South West of WA".

Friday, 28th October: Cathy Car on "Watch your step: leaf litter critters underfoot".

Friday, 25th November: Neville Marchant on "Insectivorous plants".

The Venue is: Octagonal Hall, McGlew St, Glen Forrest. Talks start at 8.00pm after doors open at 7.30. \$2 entry.



Container Gardening

Alix's edible container gardens

What's needed:

- A container - minimum size 30cm pot - the bigger the better.
- Premium quality potting mix.
- Slow release fertiliser, plus regular liquid feed.
- Lupin mulch.



Stand the container on pot feet to ensure good drainage and remember to water daily throughout the summer months.

Some suggestions for veggies and companion planting:

- Tomato, basil and marigold.
- Silverbeet and lobelia.
- Sage, oregano, thyme and rosemary.
- Chilli plants and alyssum (Various chilli plants can look very attractive as well as productive).

Smaller flowering plants e.g alyssum are great for adding in and around pots not only to attract beneficial insects but also looks pretty.



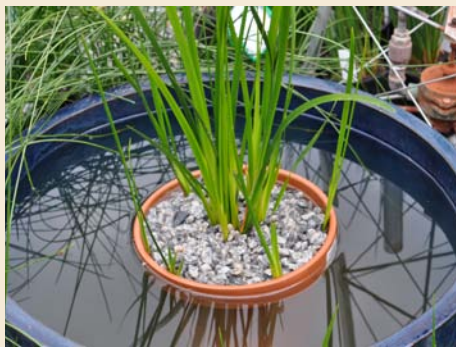
For a boost or to replenish an old mix Alix recommends Richgro Tomato, Vegetable & Herb organic

fertiliser mixed through the top 10cm of potting mix and a mixture of Seasol and Powerfeed given fortnightly for strong healthy growth.

- Alix

Creating a water garden in a container

A great way to create a cooling effect in the garden and to provide frogs and birds with a water source once Summer arrives is to create a water garden. You can use an existing container by filling holes with Silicon and coating the inside with a sealer e.g Crommelin pond sealer or by investing in one of the many beautiful ready sealed water bowls.



Some plants to consider:

- Ficinia nodosa
- Bolboskion species
- Schoenoplectus validus
- Juncus pallidus
- Lepidosperma longitudinale
- Meeboldina scariosa
- Centella asiatica Aka Gotu Kola

Remember: If submerging a plant add gravel to the top of the pot to keep soil in place.

Rocks or slabs of stone can also be placed in, on or around container providing places for frogs to hide or sunbathe on.

Add some native pygmy perch to reduce mosquito larvae.

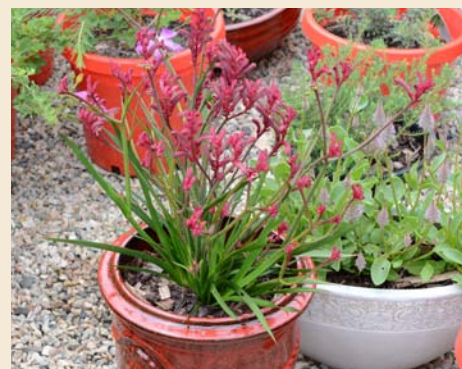
... and don't forget to top up water regularly throughout summer!



Sweet Scented Boronia like a protected position in Summer

Container jobs to do in Spring

- Move more summer sun sensitive plants to a more sheltered position as the sun becomes stronger.
- Renew basket liners.



- Refresh potted plants with premium potting mix.
- Treat with wetting agent e.g. Ecowet in preparation for summer.
- Add slow release fertiliser.



- Freshen up with some long flowering natives.
- Apply Seasol regularly to avoid stress to plants.
- Add saucers under pots to retain moisture.

- Lorretta



Addressing Alkalinity in our Soils

You may have areas in your garden that are particularly troublesome to grow plants. This may be due to alkaline soil. Most people think of this only affecting gardens on or near the coast however there may be areas in your garden that have developed alkalinity due to other reasons.



Consider the following:

- Living near the coast i.e Rockingham, Mandurah, Cottesloe.
- Limestone in soil or leaching from retaining walls.
- Yellow builders sand.
- Imported soils containing mushroom compost.
- Adding fertiliser such as chook manure or pure Dynamic lifter.
- Builders rubbish buried in soil.

The easiest way to determine this is to conduct a pH test. Kits can be bought and are easy to conduct, otherwise bring in a soil sample from 20-30cm down and we can test it for you.

If you find that your soil is high in pH then you can choose to do one or more of the following:



- Choose plants that are naturally happy in alkaline soil (see our Coastal planting sheet, available online or in our shop)
- Remove builder's rubble if applicable.
- Grow acid loving plants in pots
- Build raised garden beds and fill with a native soil mix.

Please note - if growing a tall plant eventually the plants roots will enter the natural soil level below and may start to show signs of nutrient deficiency such as yellow leaves.



If plants are struggling with the alkalinity, one tell tale sign is yellowing of new growth. This is likely iron deficiency and can be treated by applying Iron Sulphur or Iron Chelate.

Be aware that this does not solve the problem for good and an ongoing treatment may be necessary.



Why not try these alkaline loving plants:

Strappy leaved plants

- Anigozanthos flavidus
- Dianella revoluta
- Lepidosperma gladiatum

Groundcovers

- Eremophila glabra
- Grevillea crithmifolia prostrate
- Myoporum parvifolium



Small shrubs

- Correa alba
- Eremophila maculata
- Hibbertia subvaginata



Medium shrubs

- Calothamnus quadrifidus
- Olearia axillaris
- Templetonia retusa



Tall shrubs

- Acacia saligna
- Grevillea olivacea
- Melaleuca huegelii

Trees

- Agonis flexuosa
- Callitris pressii
- Eucalyptus platypus
- Eucalyptus torquata

Happy Spring planting - Paula



Exciting New Giftware

Just in time for the Spring weather we have some new children's gift lines arriving to keep them entertained over the school holidays! Of course there is plenty for the grown ups too!



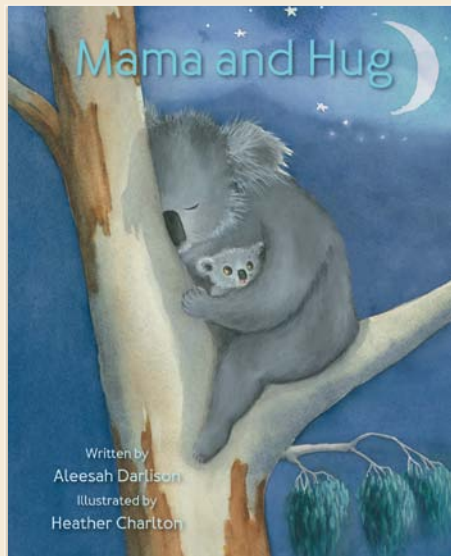
Honeysticks: Earth friendly crayons made from beeswax and non toxic pigments in different sizes for small hands. Hand made in New Zealand and packaged using recycled material. From \$12.95.



Childrens garden tools: Small wheelbarrows for the little helper \$64.95. Garden tool kits available in pink and blue \$32.95.



Oddball: cute "flippin' fun" animated notepads. \$3.95.



Books: Australian themed, produced and published locally; Lilah's Fairy Friend, Mama and Hug, Beyond Our Garden Gate \$14.95.



Felt fun: get lost in the whimsical world of fair trade items such as felt fairies and mushroom houses!



Thurlby: all of your old favourites in a sweet new packaging!

Eastborne Art: new designs in tea towels, gloves, kneeling pads and handbags. From \$19.95

Red Tractor: Quirky 'country' themed plates, shopping list, cards and preserves. From \$12.95



Imagine Ellie: a new range to our store, see the wine mats, bottle coolers, fold out vases and nail files printed with illustrations and quotes to make you giggle! A great gift for a female friend!



Cards: the card stands have been restocked with LOTS of new designs and of course the old favourites. Dont forget that ALL of our cards are Australian made!



Linen Press: new designs in the organic cotton ranges which are also printed in Australia. Check out the 'bee happy' range. From \$17.95.

Happy shopping! Danielle



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