

Welcome



Gardening is now even more fun for Alec and Jackie as we are new owners of a young border collie called Harry. Harry finds gardening activities fascinating and 'helps' with weeding, planting and mulching.

At work Harry like to help Dan Ross and Alec in the production area, and greets each of us enthusiastically as we arrive at work. His favourite place is the frog pond, and his favourite toy an discarded plastic pot!

It's been another exciting year at the nursery. The highlight was the surprise announcement by Minister Kim Chance, of Zanthorrea as winners of an inaugural award for the most weed-wise nursery in Australia. Sandy Lloyd, from the Department of Agriculture ensured that the award was kept a secret even from journalsits and gathered supporters. (See excerpts from the media statement on page 3.)

To celebrate yet another year in the garden centre, we welcome our friends and customers, new and old, to join us for festive fun and refreshments at our Christmas Sundowner.

Best wishes from Alec Jackie and the team.



Christmas Sundowner



Wednesday 6th December, 5.30 - 7.30pm.

Join Alec Jackie and the team for a long summer evening in the garden centre. (Celebrate our first daylight saving sundowner.) Enjoy the sights and sounds of the nursery after hours, and share in some festive fare.



Jamie and Freddie from Big Island will demonstrate cooking with a wonderful range of Australian gourmet products. Tasting encouraged! Visitors to

the Open Garden weekend will remember the sensational trifle and wonderful spicy treats.



Cool music from "Peppermint Jazz", local wine tasting and Alec's special recipe "sausages in a bun" will make this a wonderful evening.

Don't miss it. See you there!

And yes, the garden centre and gift shop are open for late night shopping this one night only.

Welcome to new team members

Lorretta, who joins us on Mondays and occasional Sundays, is an experienced professional gardener with a keen interest in native plants.



Lorretta with a Wollemi Pine

Tahlia joined the team on school work experience earlier this year and now works on Saturdays.



Shelley

Have you met Shelley and Dan? They started at Zanthorrea in April and are both highly valued members of the team. Dan is pictured on page 3.

Christmas Carols

Sunday, Dec 2nd, 12:15pm and 1:30pm

Enjoy Christmas carols from the talented young musicians from the Hills Youth String ensemble.

We wish you a joyful festive season and a happy new year



Summer gardening

Mulch – Green and Full of Birds

Pinebark and woodchips are great at reducing water loss from the soil and at the same time minimising weed growth.

Better still in the longer term is to have good groundcovers which get thicker and more effective as they grow older.

Growing mulch increases the life in your garden, with food and shelter for many of the garden's little helpers.

While reducing direct water loss, plants do breathe and thus keep the garden cooler.

A couple of the honeyeater's favourites are *Grevillea gaudichaudii* and *Grevillea 'Flatout'*. We have never had better batches of these.



Grevillea gaudichaudii

Grevillea gaudichaudii has been around for a long time. (Longer than its name?) Growing to 1.5m wide and 15cms high in 5 years, and as it is a long lived plant it will creep out well past 2m if not pruned. The fat lobed leaves are deep green with red new growth spurts. Having these big green leaves allows it to grow in lower light areas, like under trees or at the side of the house.

Flowering is showy with deep red toothbrush flowers off and on from spring to autumn. This is one of the easier grevilleas to strike from cuttings so these full plants are \$9.65 each.

'Flatout' is our own grevillea so you can't buy it anywhere else (yet!). You will just have to visit us! It is easy for you to grow but slow to strike for us, so costs a bit more at \$10.80 each.



Grevillea 'Flatout'

A very handy hybrid that can grow in the hottest spots thru to light shade. The finger shaped leaves are a light grey/green with pinkish new growth and makes a dense mat to 2m wide and 20cms high in five years. I can imagine it exceeding 3m eventually. Also with red toothbrushes off and on through the year peaking in late winter.

Pruning is easy – cut them back to any shape or line you like. It's called indiscriminate pruning because you don't have to worry about pruning at nodes, branches or leaf bases – just chop 'em off!

Neither *G. gaudichaudii* or *G. 'Flatout'* appears to have the prickly and allergic properties of some grevillea hybrids.

Get a few in soon.

– Alec Hooper

What's Flowering in Summer

Always stunning in summer are the tall summer flowering 'roo paws: *Anigozanthos 'Big Red'*, 'Yellow Gem' and 'Orange Cross'. These beauties suit sun or shade, garden bed or pot, and can survive on barely a drop of water.



Anigozanthos 'Big Red'

We are trying *Anigozanthos 'Bush Sunset'* this year. It is also summer flowering and seems very tough.

Other stunners are:

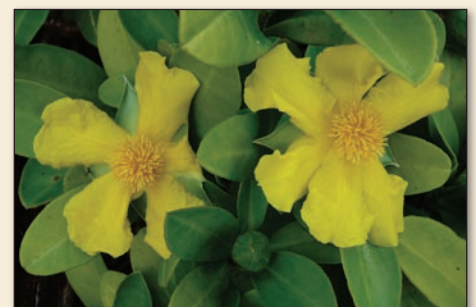
Callistemon 'Little John' flowers on and off most of the year, but looks fabulous now with dark red flowers and blue- green foliage.



Callistemon 'Little John'

Fanflowers: *Scaevola 'Purple Fanfare'* 'Sunfan' and 'Mauve Clusters' are wonderful cottage garden plants, or hanging basket features. Extra summer water is required to keep fanflowers looking their best.

Snake Vine (*Hibbertia scandens*) may be used as living mulch ground cover in shade or sun, and sports large yellow flowers through the warmer months. With support, it will climb a trellis or tree.



Snake Vine (Hibbertia scandens)



Garden Inspiration

What to Plant in the Vege Garden

Summer veges to plant include all things leafy. Ensure these are watered daily, mulched to ensure fresh flavour and picked within six weeks.

Other wonderful summer crops are: tomatoes and capsicum, corn and melons, squash and pumpkin. For larger gardens, sweet potato is a rewarding crop and grows vigorously over summer. Veges grow very well in large pots, or raised containers, and are easy to care for. Straw mulch will help them keep their cool.

Dan recommends Glenvar Lupin Mulch for vege gardens. (\$11.95 for a large bag.)



Dan with Glenvar Lupin Mulch

AOGS Open Gardens at Zanthorrea

A wonderful early spring sunny day provided the perfect setting for hundreds of visitors to our beautiful display gardens. Josh Byrne joined enthusiastic Zanthorrea team members Sue, Paul and Jackie to present gardening talks. Many thanks to the Water Corporation and Wollemi Australia for sponsorship, and to Kanyana and the Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade for the catering. (Kanyana and KVFBF shared in monies raised by the Australia Open Garden Scheme.)

“WA Nursery Wins National Weeds Honour”

“A Western Australian garden nursery has been named Australia’s Most Weed-Wise Nursery in new Awards announced by the Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS).

Agriculture and Food Minister Kim Chance presented the inaugural National Award today to the Zanthorrea Nursery in Maida Vale.

Mr Chance said Zanthorrea stood out among nurseries in Australia for its proactive approach to the problem of environmental weeds that presented major threats to native plants, wildlife and environments.

“This nursery does not sell plants that have the potential to become serious environmental weeds threatening our native plants, wildlife and environments,” Mr Chance said. “

Excerpt from Media Statement issued by the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Kim Chance.

See the full report and our ‘Invasive plant’ policy on the website, <http://www.zanthorrea.com.au>

Josh Byrne planted the advanced Wollemi now on show in our nursery gardens. Look for the black cage to the west of our gazebo.



Josh Byrne with our Wollemi



Alec & Jackie with minister Kim Chance

Plants for Small Spaces

Many gardeners have limited space but would like a garden that mimics a natural landscape or perhaps that looks like cottage gardens of old.

There are a few tricks that can help create a garden in a limited space.



- Select small plants or dwarf varieties of favourite species
- Repeat plants in odd numbers of 3, 5 or 7 to tie the design together.
- Make careful use of foliage colour and texture to provide interest when plants are not flowering.
- Plant close, but regularly prune. Take off low foliage to create tree look-alikes, or prune down to limit height and create dense growth.
- Use gravel, pine bark or small stepping stones to create a sense of moving through the space.
- Select a feature, either a bird bath, small seat or piece of garden art.
- Consider a waterproof mirror, or shiny stainless steel surface to create an illusion of space.

For a list of suitable plants, go to <http://www.zanthorrea.com.au>, or send a SAE to Jackie at the nursery.



Great Green Gifts

From Jurassic time to Christmas time

The Wollemi pine flourished in the time of the dinosaurs and yet was presumed extinct for millions of years until a National Park ranger found a few of the trees in a remote area of the Blue Mountains near Sydney.



Lovingly propagated from these few miraculous survivors, Wollemi Pines are now being offered to the Australian public in a range of sizes from 40cm tall plants to 2m trees. They are the ultimate, enduring gift and even make the perfect Australian Christmas tree.

A Certificate of Authenticity and care booklet are supplied with every plant, also gift sleeves.



Check out the new spring growth on the plants at the nursery. Select your special plant and we will care for it until Christmas. Please don't leave it until the last minute, as we may sell out.

PS 'The Wollemi Pine' book is now in stock at \$29.95

Woolly Bush

This popular Australian Christmas tree is available in large sizes this summer and looks fantastic. (\$39.95) Decorate your tree and bring it inside over Christmas, then plant out in the garden next autumn. In ground *Adenanthos sericea* makes a lovely specimen bush to 3m high with tiny red bird attracting flowers in winter.



"Gathering Christmas Bush on Christmas morning"

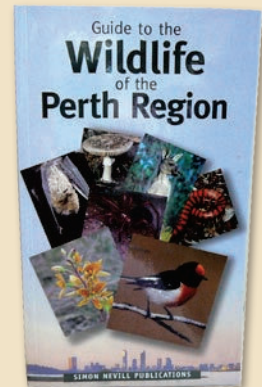
The plant featured in this Aussie Christmas carol is the NSW Christmas Bush. *Ceratopetalum gumniferum* is a tall bush which grows to around 3m in Perth and is a perfect pot plant. The flowers are white, but the sepals age to a deep red showing off around Christmas time. Picked in armfuls, they make a wonderful indoor decoration and are long lasting vase subjects.

Go Red - that's 'Big Red' - this summer

Looking for inexpensive gifts for teachers, neighbours and work mates? We can gift wrap a Big Red kangaroo paw in festive red cello. Or perhaps you would like to pot one up to decorate your patio to brighten your summer entertaining. The tall red flowers are long lasting and respond very well to extra water and fertiliser in a decorative pot.

Great Books

Andrea's pick for this summer:



'Guide to the Wildlife of the Perth Region'

Simon Nevill, RRP \$34.95

A fabulous book chock full of photographs and information to help you identify all those furry, feathery and six legged critters in your backyard and beyond.

'The New Native Garden: Designing with Australian Plants'

Paul Urquhart, RRP \$39.95

A book that is both practical and inspiring. Great for those who want to create their own piece of paradise with Australian plants, whether it be naturalistic, contemporary, formal or a little bit of everything.

'Growing Locals'

Robert Powell and Jane Emberson, RRP \$24.95

Discover the importance of growing local plants in this passionate book. Find out which plants grow in your area and how to recreate your own precious bit of bushland.



Zanthorrea nursery

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<http://www.zanthorrea.com.au>

All-Aussie Christmas Gift Ideas!



Stained glass hangers

Brighten up a window with Australian fauna

\$29.95

Rivergums and Roses gift boxes

Embroidered face cloth and soap in flora or fauna designs

\$18.95



Moro emu and rusty metal friends

Wonderful quirky gifts for friends that you'll find hard to give away!

Emu \$17.95, Numbat \$9.95



Thurlby Florentine Nougat

Made from the finest ingredients

Two sizes: \$9.95 & \$18.95



Australian Fine China

Michael Morcombe's Australia range
Featured pygmy possum mug

\$17.95

Stubbie Wallet

Another novel product from Didgeridoonas. Keep your money safe as you hold onto your can or bottle. A great Aussie gift!

\$17.95



Gundabluey finger puppets

Lovingly hand made and a wonderful gift for tiny fingers

\$27.50



Place Mat and Coaster

Sturdy practical and decorative in flora or fauna designs

\$18.95

Made in Melbourne, Vic