

Seasons Greetings!



A warm welcome to the long days of summer. It felt like summer started early with some record temperatures at the end of spring. Summer may not be everyone's favourite time of year in the garden, but it does allow some extra time in the morning and evening with the longer daylight. Plants also need a little bit more attention with checking the watering and protecting them from the strong easterly winds.

While many plants go into a semi dormancy in the hot weather, some plants are out looking their best including beaufortias, tropical hybrid grevilleas, sturt desert peas and of course the WA Christmas Tree. We hope there is plenty to excite you into the garden this summer.

Happy gardening,
Ross, Jackie, Alec and the team at Zanthorrea.



Summer flowering *Hemiandra pungens*.



Roof Painting the Shop

Our roof has a fresh coat of paint thanks to Kalamunda Roof Restorations. The paint used is heat reflective, so should keep our gift shop cooler in summer. We think it looks pretty nice too.



Zanthorrea Calendar is Out Now

Thank you for being on our mailing list for the Bush Telegraph. Your free calendar is now available for pickup. One per mailing list customer, while stocks last.

When you visit, just mention you are on our mailing list (no vouchers required this year). Additional calendars may be purchased at \$7.95.



The Blue Banded Bee (native to this area) are out and about at the moment. Here it is on an Eremophila.

What's On



Make your own Mini Garden

Bring your kids in to make a mini garden. It can be for fairies or for dinosaurs. This is a hands on workshop where your child will build their own garden. All the materials are supplied.

Cost \$5 per child.

Saturday 18th of January at 10am.

RSVP: 08 94546260.

Places are limited.

Please note: young children will need parent supervision.



Water Plants and Frog Bowls

Ponds and water bowls add a beautiful touch to any garden. Mostly it is as simple as adding some water plants and you will attract frogs too. If you want to learn all the dos and don't of setting up a pond or water bowl, join us for talk by Mark Tucek.

Gold coin donation to Kanyana.

Saturday 1st of February at 10am.

RSVP on 94546260

TIP: Insect attracting plants like the Darwinia citriodora provide a good food source for frogs.



In the Summer Garden

Waterwising my Garden

The best time to help your garden become waterwise is at the time of planting, as you can improve the soil and choose waterwise plants. Saying that, it is not too late to make some adjustments to help your garden be more waterwise and survive summer.



A selection of waterwise plants and products.

Deepwatering and Soil Wetters

Soils around Perth can be hydrophobic. This means that the water doesn't want to soak into the ground. A good soil wetter will help fix this problem, but worth noting is soil wetters work better with a regular application once a month. Deepwatering is when you water less often but for longer. This soaks right down into the soil and encourages the roots of the plants to also go deeper. Shallow rooted plants can be less reliable and more prone to drought. To check how deep your watering goes, just dig down around the plant and have a look.

Soil Waterholding Capacity

All soils will have a different waterholding capacity depending on the amount of sand, clay and organic matter. If it is too low it will make even the toughest plant struggle to survive. If you have a sandy soil, make sure you mix in some clay and soil improver for better waterholding capacity. Your plants will love you for it.

TIP: Don't be afraid to water the odd plant if it has heat shock, as it costs more water to replace it with a new plant. After recovering the plant, you can look at helping it with Drought Shield, Seasol or setting up a temporary shade for it.

Mulch

It is always a good idea to mulch your garden. Any mulch will be better than none, but if you can get to 50mm then this is best. Use a coarse woodchip that will let the water through and stop evaporation.

Sun Protection for Little Plants

If you have some new and little plants that are getting hammered by the sun, you can baby them by creating some sun protection. Either use three stakes and a tree guard, this will reduce the hours the plant is in full sun for. Or make a little shade tepee with again three stakes and some shade cloth.

Three WA Eucalypts

The word Eucalyptus is Latin for 'well-covered', referring to the cap that covers the flowers before they burst open. We have a great selection of Western Australian Eucalypts in stock at the moment, so why not plant one in that sunny spot out the back and create a cool, shady area to sit and watch the birds? Here are three of my favourite W.A. Eucalypts.



Eucalyptus torquata – Commonly known as the 'Coral Gum' this small tree from the Goldfields, south of Kalgoorlie, usually reaches

a height around 6m. Decorative pink flowers attract nectar feeding birds and insects for a long period from spring to early summer. It is an adaptable tree that will tolerate light frosts, drought, limestone and even mild salinity.



Photo from florabase: Eucalyptus decipiens

Eucalyptus decipiens – A lesser known medium tree, growing to a height of about 10m, native to the waterways and swampy areas in south west W.A. and the Perth hills. The 'Redheart', as it is commonly known, has a dense canopy making it an ideal shade tree, wind break and screening tree for larger gardens in just about any soil type, from clay to sand and limestone.



Eucalyptus pyriformis – A great choice for the dry, sandy soils of Perth, the 'Pear-Fruited Mallee' is a small, often multi-trunked, tree or mallee growing to about 5m tall from an area north-east of Perth stretching north past Geraldton.

Spectacular large red or cream flowers attract birds and insects from winter to spring. - Amy



New and Interesting Plants



Sturt Desert Peas

Swainsona formosa

These stunning pea flowers from the north of WA are looking their best right now. They should be treated as an annual, though you may get a second year out of them. Try them in a pot with *Zanthorrea* potting mix.



Maroon Bush

Scaevola spinescens

This is a very useful plant indeed. They have edible dark berries, and the leaves and flowers can be made into a medicinal tea. This tea is said to have anti viral and anti bacterial properties and has also been used for some cancer treatments.



Fraser Island Apple

Fraser Island Apple

Acronychia imperforata

A fast growing sub tropical tree to 6-10m that develops clusters of sweet yellow fruit (not actually an apple tree). The berries are sweet and tart and can be used in both sweet and savoury dishes or eaten fresh. Flowers summer to autumn with clusters of cream flowers.

Information from the **Tuckerbush** website: <https://tuckerbush.com.au/fraser-island-apple-acronychia-imperforata/>



Chamelaucium 'Cluster'

A new release from the Wildflower Plantation is this stunning *Chamelaucium* hybrid 'Cluster'. Flowering winter to spring with large clusters of bright pink flowers at the end of the stems. Great for your own vase flower arrangements. First batch to be available shortly in 140mm pots. Plant now to enjoy the flowers next year.



Alec installing the Elk Horn.

Elkhorn

Platycterium bifurcatum

Zanthorrea has inherited a couple of large Elk Horn ferns, and one has been stuck up in our *Melaleuca quinquenervia*. This will be an ideal spot for it as it will be in shade and receive water from a micro sprayer off our retic system. The second one we have propagated, so will soon have some for sale in our atrium area. Interested in growing one, just think a shady aerial position on a board or tree that will get a regular sprinkling of water.



Hibbertia dentata

The toothed or trailing guinea flower is one we don't commonly have at our garden centre. Currently we have a nice batch in 140mm pots. They are striking plants with their bright yellow flowers and dark glossy foliage. They are a non vigorous climber, or more often grown as a ground cover. They make an excellent hanging basket or container plant. Find a spot with afternoon or dappled shade.



*The sun loving *Dicrasyllis globiflora* are also ready for sale and looking good.*



Christmas Gift Ideas



Books Galore!

The gift shop is brimming with a great selection of books for kids and adults alike this Christmas. Come and have a browse through:

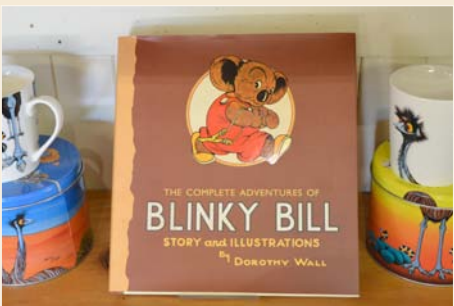
- Beautiful coffee table books
- How-to books on native, edible and indoor gardening.
- Local flora and fauna ID books.
- Bush Tucker information books.

Take a nostalgic journey through some of your favourite childhood books, such as:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar.
- Snugglypot and Cuddlepie.

As well as new favourites like:

- The Big Book of Bugs.



Feature book: The Complete Adventures of Blinky Bill.

by Dorothy Wall, \$44.95.

This hardcover edition combines the three Aussie classics: "Blinky Bill", "Blinky Bill Grows Up", and "Blinky Bill and Nutsy", which were released between 1933 and 1937.

Also included in the book is the very interesting biography of the author, Dorothy Wall.



Native Botanical Gifts to Pamper the Skin

A family owned business, The "Pure Oils of Tasmania" range was created in conjunction with Gardening Australia presenter Angus Stewart. With the aim of sustainably using some of the Tasmania's beautifully fragrant and therapeutic plant essences. The range includes pure essential oils of Manuka, Kunzea, Tasmanian Blue Gum and Lavendar Tea Tree. Each of these essences are also used to create an aromatic spritzer and luxurious nourishing cream. Beautifully presented in timber-look gift packaging. Essential Oils \$32.95. Nourishing Cream \$29.95. Aromatic Spritzer \$27.95.



Statement Tea Towels by Russel Leonard.

Statement Tea Towels

By Russel Leonard, \$22.95.

Screen printed by hand in Australia on quality linen/cotton blend tea towels. Designs on vintage Australian postage stamps. We have platypus, kangaroo, koala and kookaburra designs. A functional piece of art!



Christmas Fun!

Come and browse our fun collection of Australian Christmas decorations and homewares. Leave a cookie and some milk for Santa on his cute mug and saucer set by Ashdene Australia. Two designs to choose from: Singing Koalas or Christmas Wombats. \$29.95 each.



Hanging Christmas Koalas, \$19.95 by Bristlebrush Designs Australia.



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