

## Welcome



### Greetings,

The nursery has been very busy in recent months as gardeners choose Australian plants to counter water restrictions and uncertain climatic conditions. 'Sustainable' is a term that is heard in many aspects of life, but especially in the garden.

At Zanthorrea, since opening in 1975, we have been committed to gardening in harmony with nature. Using Australian native plants and hygienic practices, we have been able to reduce water use and avoid harmful chemicals.

In May this year each member of the team attended ten hours of training in sustainable gardening to equip us to advise gardeners on safe gardening practices. We are happy to help you find sustainable answers to your gardening questions.

We look forward to your visit.

Best wishes,

– Jackie Alec and the team

### Welcome Kerrie

Welcome to horticulturist Kerrie who joined us in June. Kerrie has worked in garden centres both in Perth and overseas, so is well qualified to help you with your gardening enquiries.



## Vale Jean Hooper



Since the last Bush Telegraph, our co-founder and mother has passed away, aged 85. It was a peaceful death at Kalamunda Hospital early evening May 12th with Jackie, daughter Rae and me at her bedside. Friends and family from afar joined us for a simple funeral May 15th.

Jean grew up in the wheatbelt and was farming there and in Esperance until the mid 60's, when after a few years travelling she settled in Gooseberry Hill.

While establishing her garden design business, Jean completed a Cert. of Horticulture. She inspired Jackie and me to join her in establishing Zanthorrea Nursery, and we opened in September 1975.

Although officially retired by 1981, Jean continued working at the nursery for many years. Even in her late 70's, Jean was called on to help with guided walks, and plant ID.

A dedicated volunteer for the Kings Park Guides, Wildflower Society and the Herbarium, Jean was an active retiree, lending a hand to Meals on wheels and others in need.

In December 2005, after a long battle with Parkinson's syndrome and heart disease, Jean left her granny flat on the nursery property for a low care hostel where she continued to prune and plant.

Jean's passion for Australian plants is carried on at Zanthorrea by Alec and Jackie and grandson Ross.

## Garden Talks

### Practical Pruning with Paul

Join Paul, our gardening expert to find out what you need to know about pruning: why when and how.

Saturday July 14th, 10am in the gazebo. Please RSVP to 94546260.

### Australian Open Garden Scheme

Zanthorrea Nursery Gardens will be open over the weekend of 25th and 26th August from 10am to 4:30pm. There is a small fee to enter the gardens over the weekend and all proceeds support local good causes: Kanyana Wildlife Hospital and the Kalamunda Volunteer Bush fire brigade. Enjoy the festivities with food, music, guided walks and talks by the Zanthorrea team.

### Congratulations to Zanthorrea.



**Federal Minister Eric Abetz, Alec, Jackie, Ross and Hasluck MHR Stuart Henry**  
Photo courtesy Echo Newspaper

In May, Zanthorrea became the first garden centre in WA to be officially certified by Sustainable Gardening Australia. To find out more, go to:

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

Congratulations to our Dan who has made it into the Police Academy. Dan has been with us over four years, and worked with Ross in production. Customers will remember his willing and expert help in the garden centre.



## Warm up with Winter Pruning

### Tell your plants who's boss!

Do you feel cross when the 1m shrub you bought from the garden centre grows like crazy to 2m high and wide!

Although we'd like to be accurate with plant dimensions, alas, there are many factors that cause unusually vigorous growth in plants: extra water, heavy handed fertiliser, exceptionally fertile soil, shade that causes plants to reach for the sun are just some factors.

The solution to this dilemma is simple. Tell your plants who's boss and learn the not so gentle art of pruning.



### Tools you will need in your arsenal

- Sharp, good quality secateurs. Bypass pruners such as Felco No 5 can easily cut to pencil thickness.
- Loppers. Use short or long handled loppers for more serious pruning. I love my ratchet loppers that give me more power for pruning entire branches.
- Shears, manual or electric. For neat hedging or pruning plants back from paths, use sharp shears.
- Chainsaws. With an over vivid imagination, I am unable to come within several metres of a chain saw, but for the truly brave pruners, properly sharpened chainsaws will quickly establish who's boss in your garden. You have to be cruel to be kind.

### Why bother?

If you love an overgrown garden, and do not feel the need to control the height and spread of plants in your garden, then there may be no need for you to prune. However there are times when gardeners feel the urge to wield the pruning tool!

### Benefits of pruning

1. Tip pruning is especially useful in encouraging vigorous healthy new growth.
2. Pruning stimulates flowering. Pruning after flowering often brings on an extra flush of flowers.
3. Dead-heading flowers sends energy into the plant, rather than setting seeds.
4. Removing dead or diseased branches will extend the life of the plant. Always clean pruning tool after cutting into diseased wood.
5. Hard pruning will rejuvenate woody plants such as mallees and some large flowered grevilleas. (Can be risky with some plants, so seek advice at the garden centre if unsure.)
6. Hedges look perfect in formal gardens if pruned regularly.
7. Plants can adopt a new look with artistic pruning. Shrubs can become trees or topiary shapes. Trees can be pruned down to size, or up to form a perfect specimen tree.



**WARNING:** Pruning can be addictive! It is one of the most fun activities in the garden.

### Pruning Tips

- Use sharp clean quality tools.
- Cut to just above a node (where the leaf or branch joins).
- Use a slightly sloping cut especially in winter.
- Clean and carefully store pruning tools for next time.
- After pruning can be a good time to re-energize plants with a little fertiliser, and a good drink if pruning in summer.

Confused? Then join Paul for his pruning demonstration on July 14th.



*Paul pruning*

### Glorious pink & white everlastings

There's still time...just...to plant everlasting seeds. Simply mix a pack of pure seed with a bag of soil improver, and spread over the soil. (Removing weeds and raking area first will help seeds thrive.)

Large packs of 25g cost \$19.95.

If you are in a hurry, Lucindas everlastings are packed in vermiculite and are ready and easy to plant. For a small patch, 10g packs are \$9.95





## Eco gardening

### What's Flowering Now?

Winter flowering Australian beauties include:

• *Hakea laurina* (pincushion hakea) is a tall shrub or small tree guaranteed to attract a second look when in flower. The unusual red pincushion blooms are attractive both to birds and passers by alike.



*Hakea laurina*

• *Kunzea baxteri* grows naturally in harsh conditions, so is perfectly at home in dry summer gardens. Its dense foliage is suitable for pruning into a medium hedge, or shaping up into a mini tree. Fat red bottle brush flowers have yellow tips that catch the sun.



*Kunzea baxteri*

• *Brachysema celcianum* or Swan River Pea is another very hardy plant with dense bluish green foliage, perfect for a low screen. Red pea flowers brighten any winter garden.

• The very hardy *Chamelaucium uncinatum* (Geraldton Wax) seems to grow in most soils or situations. The unassuming flowers are perfect for long lasting cut flowers and

come in many shades from white to pink to purple. Geraldton wax is a bushy fast growing medium shrub.



*Chamelaucium uncinatum*

• *Hardenbergia comptoniana* (native wisteria) grows naturally both in the Perth plains and hills. The splash of purple pea flowers add a touch of colour to the deep green leaves. A vigorous climber, native wisteria is hardy and fast growing.



*Hardenbergia comptoniana*

• *Callistemon pollandii*: With a little pruning, this bushy tall shrub makes a handsome small tree. Flowering long and prolifically, it is popular with birds and insects.



*Callistemon pollandii*



### Sustainable gardening tips

#### Feed and nurture the soil:

Busy gardeners make the mistake of feeding their plants! It's much more important to feed the soil. Adding organic material when planting can reduce the need for supplementary fertiliser.

Recycle clippings and other organic matter into compost to use in the veggie garden.

#### Protect the soil with mulch:

Coarse mulch around the garden gradually breaks down to form humus, a rich plant food. In addition, it insulates the soil allowing the growth of beneficial soil organisms.

#### Mulch also:

- Reduces evaporation.
- Helps prevent soil erosion.
- Helps control weeds
- Insulates the soil against extremes of temperature.

#### Say no to toxic pesticides:

To create a healthy garden for frogs, birds, insects and family, it is critical to cut out harmful pesticides and fungicides. First consider the possible imbalances that may be causing the problem, then look for the least toxic solution.

#### Choose:

LOW IMPACT products, as recommended by Sustainable Gardening Australia. (SGA).



Look out for the shelf talkers



## Gifts for you and your garden

### Fashionable garden wear – for ladies only!

Look good and feel good in these long lasting gloves with double reinforced fingertips that fit like a second skin. Available in pink, lavender and blue. RRP \$13.95



Coordinate your gloves with comfy premium sloggers. Wear them all weekend, or simply leave them by the door for that quick dash to pick parsley. Cranberry, sage, blue and plum. RRP \$54.95

### Australian Bush Stars

Enjoy the beauty of our unique wildflowers with the latest from Australian Fine China.



Flinders glass platter, 'Native hibiscus' design from the studios of Meryl Bell. \$34.95

Matching cups. \$16.95

Also available in a golden 'Everlastings' design.

### Soy Wax Candles from the Conscious Candle Company, WA

These candles come in wonderful fragrances such as choc cherry. This clean burning wax candle comes in several sizes, in a glass container - no more messy drips! Large candle featured is \$27.95, with optional jar shade to create a truly beautiful effect, \$8.95..



### For the young and young at heart: Nature Puzzles

Beautiful Bugs. These compact 9 piece puzzles are harder than they look. \$4.95



Also available in Lizards, Frogs, Wild animals and other designs.

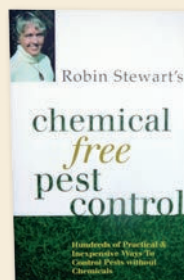
### Book Review

Robin Stewart's

*"Chemical free pest control."*

This inspiring and helpful book contains hundreds of practical and inexpensive ways to control pests without harmful chemicals.

RRP \$21.95



### Environmentally friendly products

Our SGA trained team can help you make good choices.

Eco-oil is a botanical oil concentrate that acts as a contact spray insecticide and miticide, used to control citrus leafminer, scale, mites, aphids and other sap sucking insects. A registered organic product, eco-oil comes with detailed instructions on its use. RRP \$19.75



Yates Success controls caterpillars on fruit and vegetables in the home garden. This product contains 'spinosad', derived from naturally occurring soil bacteria. Check the specific instructions for use on the back. RRP \$14.00



Seasol is one of the most widely used garden health treatments. 100% organic Seasol contains naturally occurring growth stimulants, potassium to build disease resistance, and trace elements. Use it to promote healthy growth and to build resistance to heat, frost, pests and disease. Good stuff!

RRP \$10.50



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