



Welcome

Welcome to the winter issue of the Bush Tele. Winter has set in with very low temperatures and frequent rain. Summer with dry winds and scorching temperatures seems a long way off.

The winter is colder for me (Jackie) as I have flown in from Cairns in tropical Queensland to help with end of financial year tasks. Alec and I are enjoying a trip around Australia, leaving the nursery in the capable hands of Ross and Dan and the team.

Arriving on Saturday, the nursery looked spectacular, better than any we'd seen on our travels.



Alec & Jackie on the Kalkani Walk

What was planned as a holiday for us has turned into a botanical discovery tour with photos in the day and evenings spent identifying new plants we'd seen. Alec has sent emails and photos back to the team with his plant of the week. For the wildflower enthusiasts, some of our favourites so far were ... Grevillea wickhamii and Grevillea pteridifolia, Crotalaria cunninghamii (green bird flower) and Eucalyptus ptychocarpa.

Unfortunately many of the plants seen up north do not take well to the cold winter conditions of the South West of WA. However Alec will be trying to grow a few when he arrives home. (He can't help himself.)

See you in the spring!

Best wishes,

– Jackie, Alec and the team

What's The News?

Zanthorrea Nursery: Best Medium Garden Centre in Australia

Last Bush Tele we told you of our State win in the National Garden Centre Awards. Congratulations to the team for taking off the National prize for the 5th time since the competition started in 1995. We have won in 1995, 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2008.



Press release & judge's comments:

At the gala dinner of the annual nursery industry conference, held this year in Adelaide Zanthorrea was announced winner of Best Medium Garden Centre in Australia. Judge Peter Whitehead from NSW praised the nursery and recommended all garden centre owners visit.

Zanthorrea is a family-owned garden centre located in the hills of Perth. Specialising in Australian natives, the business has more than 600 indigenous varieties. As an accredited garden centre, Zanthorrea guarantee customers that plants will be clean, healthy and "hardened", and are well-known in the area. They have been providing customers with specialist advice and experience for 32 years. Winner of the 2006 Australasian Weed-wise Nursery award, the NGIA judges described this garden centre as "utterly delightful" and "immaculate", with "absolutely faultless general plant lines."

Garden Talks

Winter garden walk

Join us for a guided tour of the nursery gardens. We know you're busy, so this event is on both Saturday and Sunday, 10am.

Saturday 26th July with Dan

Sunday 27th July with Ross

Tea & biscuits supplied for a gold coin donation to Kanyana Wildlife Centre. Please RSVP on 9454 6260.



Australian Cottage Gardens

Join Jackie for a look at creating an Australian themed cottage garden.

Saturday 23rd August, 10am

Welcome

... to new team members Andrea and Danielle.

Andrea came to Zanthorrea as a work experience student as part of her horticultural studies. We were so impressed with her enthusiasm and knowledge that we offered her a position.



Andrea



Danielle

Danielle grew up in the Southern Cross area, and has recently commenced horticultural study. Her friendly nature and energy is a great asset to the nursery.



News From The Team

New Eco pots



You may notice a change to some of our pots. We have been trialing a hard colourful pot made from recycled husks and fibres, we call them 'ECO POTS'. Currently these pots are made in China but that's OK because we think the message of recycling is a good one. The pots are organic and will compost completely. Simply break them up with your boot (make sure you have taken out the plant first!), then pop it into either the hole or into the compost bin, and that's it! They should break down in 4 to 8 weeks into good soil your plants can use. Left as a pot they won't break down for a good 2-3 years. The dyes used in the construction are natural and there is no glue used. We are still trialing these so appreciate any feedback from your use at home.

– Ross, Production manager

Congratulations

... to Tim, who has completed his Certificate of Horticulture. Tim now works four days at Zanthorrea, and as well as tending our display garden, assists Ross in production.



Hakeas

For me, Winter is a great time to enjoy our Australian plants especially as it is the peak flowering period of my personal favourites, the Hakeas. Some staff think I'm obsessed with them and they're probably right!



Hakea laurina

Two of the best are *H. laurina* and *H. multilineata*. With their stunning and intricate flowers they light up a garden and prove irresistible to hungry birds. They are best planted in full sun and being from the Proteacea family they are phosphate sensitive, so if fertilising, use a slow release one, or if they are looking happy, then none at all.



Chorizama cordatum

Other Australian plants worth considering for winter interest include *Chorizama cordatum* (Heart Leaf Flame Pea), which is flowering brilliantly right now in the Zanthorrea gardens. It is great for brightening up a shady spot in the garden and can also tolerate sun.



Calothamnus quadrifidus (grey form)

A real unsung hero of the West Australian plants is *Calothamnus quadrifidus*. I especially like the grey form with its soft, furry foliage. I love watching the bright green buds appear on the older wood in early winter, with the promise of the bright red 'one-sided' flower to come. Birds like the New Holland Honeyeater and the Red Wattle Bird adore them. So why not brave the chilly weather, grab a beanie and go planting!

– Daniel

Kanyana Plant



Banksia blechnifolia

This banksia is easy to grow in all soils. An unusual creeping banksia, it holds its large rusty coloured flowers at ground level.

\$1 from the sale of each plant goes to Kanyana Wildlife Centre.

Vale Lloyd Butcher, Kanyana

It is with sadness that we relate the passing of Lloyd Butcher, husband of June Butcher, founder of Kanyana. A good friend and tireless worker for many good causes, Lloyd will be sadly missed.



The Team's Favourite Plants

Gaby

Hakea trifurcata grows well in our hills gravel and the sand plain of Perth. This local hakea is one of my all time faves. The divided prickly foliage glistens with droplets after rain and the new growth has stems that provide a beautiful subtle contrast. Open white fragrant flowers in winter/spring are a bonus. Great for sun or under a light tree canopy. The pungent foliage also provides a safe habitat for birds.

Diana's Favourite Plant (at the moment!)



Grevillea 'Superb'

- Great in any soil
- Quick and easy to grow
- Flowers profusely for months
- Bird heaven

Shelley

Acacia glaucoptera (Clay Wattle)

One of the more unusual species of the Acacia tribe. This little WA treasure is quite unique with its funky blue/green winged foliage and rich red fresh growth, not to mention the vibrant globular flowerheads emerging from the central stems during late winter and spring.

This species is very ornamental and requires relatively well drained soils. Tolerates slightly alkaline soils. Prefers partial sun, but will grow in dappled shade and full sun. Responds well to light pruning after flowering to encourage the colourful new growth. This small 1 – 1.5m

shrub will add a lovely texture to any garden.

Andrea T

Some customers have bemoaned that Banksias can be a little tetchy to grow. Being one of the best bird attractors and having some of the most fascinating flowers, many a keen gardener wants one (or two or three) in their patch of earth. So if you have tried and failed, or are thinking of growing one but are a little tentative, the following are highly recommended to reward you greatly.

For the flats:

Banksia praemorsa (WA): 3m bush with beautiful large yellow or bronze flowers.



Banksia media

Banksia media (WA): slightly smaller in size and flower but magnificent none the less.

Banksia blechnifolia (WA): fabulous ground cover with flowers that sit on the ground. Use as a living mulch.

Banksia integrifolia: slim medium tree with pale yellow flowers.

For the hills:

Banksia spinulosa: medium to tall shrub from eastern states that adapts well to the heavier soils.

Banksia ericifolia: large shrub/tree with long orange red cones.

Loretta's list of plants to look out for...

Banksia nutans (WA)

A 1m shrub that requires good drainage and full sun or partial shade. Rusty brown coloured flowers produced during spring and summer that have an onion like smell.

Eremophila oppositifolia

Widespread A small to medium shrub 1.5 – 2.5m x 1.5m producing cream with pinkish tubular flowers in winter and spring. Fine silvery leaf and pretty flower bracts that are retained after flower drops off.

Eucalyptus erythrocorys (WA)

A 3 – 10m tree with smooth, white or grey bark, which produces bright yellow flowers. The red cap that covers the emerging flowers brightly contrasts with the already open flowers. Often has a wiggly growth habit. Easily grown in most soils.



Eucalyptus erythrocorys

Calothamnus graniticus (WA)

A rounded shrub 1.5 x 1.5m. Produces deep red flowers from winter to spring. Fabulous soft foliage. Prefers well drained soil.

Beaufortia squarrosa (WA)

A small to medium shrub 1 – 1.5m high which produces tufting flower heads in either brilliant red or orange during summer. Prefers well drained soil in full sun.



Gift Ideas - Naturally

Corrynne's Natural Soap



Made using a combination of natural oils these soaps are naturally gentle on the skin and especially suited to those who are irritated by commercial soap.

Other ingredients include essential oils, herbs, ochres and sandalwood powder.

Organic lavender Suitable for all skin types, soothes insect bites and is reputed to promote new cell growth.

Tea tree, eucalyptus and Sandalwood Tea tree is active against infection including viral, fungal and bacterial.

Herbal scrub Contains lime oil, eucalyptus, dried mint, lemongrass, oats, sage and sandalwood, which makes this soap an excellent exfoliant with anti-bacterial properties.

Happy Dog Soap for Sensitive Skin



Like most of us, dogs have very sensitive skin - that's why this soap

is perfect for them. It is made from pure coconut, olive, palm oils and lavender, Tea Tree and lemongrass essential oils blended together for their anti-bacterial, healing and soothing properties. The soap is very lathery which helps to lift fleas and eggs out of their fur. Stop your pet suffering the natural way.

Bath Salts - Relaxing

Contains Epsom salts, oatmeal, rose geranium and lavender essential oils. Use in your bath for a deeply relaxing soak. Epsom salts penetrate muscles while essential oils calm and relax the mind. Also available in a Reviving formula.



Thurlby Herb Farm

Produced in the South-West Thurlby products contain no synthetic additives, no parabens, no lauryl sulphates or dyes and are stocked here at Zanthorrea. This seasons wonderful winter warmers, include:

Heat packs

Come in a variety of cover designs and fragrances, including wheat and sandalwood, wheat and lavender.

Dew Drop Herb Pillows

Small enough to slip inside a pillow or to simply sit amongst the cushions on the sofa, this herb pillow promotes relaxation and sleep.

In addition to the above we have a range of hand creams, soaps, perfume sachets, sleep sachets and much more.

Soy Candles

The Conscious Candle Company is an Australian boutique candle maker of essential and fragranced oil candles.

Soy is a unique wax and has the following properties.

- Virtually soot-free, smoke-free, cleaner burning.
- Burn time is 25% to 30% longer than conventional wax candles.
- Easier clean-up, Pure Conscious Soy wax is water soluble and biodegradable.
- Stronger fragrance throw than conventional wax candles.

Help save power and enjoy a comfortably lit evening.

- Lorretta, Gift buyer

Green Solutions

Eco Growth Eco Neem

This premium quality neem oil will promote healthy and clean growth, creating a natural balance in your garden.



Eco-oil is a botanical oil concentrate, registered organic. Helps with winter problems such as citrus leaf miner, aphids and mealy bug.

For more information on sustainable gardening, go to: sgaonline.org.au



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