



## Welcome



### Hello Summer!

Summer is a festive time of year. A time to share with friends and family, celebrating life and gardens. Long days make for early morning and evening gardening sessions, while the warm midday weather makes us appreciate the shade that trees give us. At Zanthorrea we are very fortunate to have the afternoon shade from our large Rose Gum, planted at the beginning of Zanthorrea's journey in 1975.

2024 Calendars are out now! We are giving away one free calendar per mailing list customer. No voucher issued, just ask us at the front counter for your copy. Happy Gardening, Ross, Jackie, Alec and the team at Zanthorrea.



### Cut Flower Centre Pieces

A clever trick for a beautiful centre piece for the table. Simply place cut flowers in a jar, fill with water and invert the jar. They last for ages and will be a talking point at the Christmas gathering.

## News



### We Won! Excellence in Sustainability Award

At the recent Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Enterprise Awards night, Ross and Jackie were delighted to receive the Excellence in Sustainability Award!

What does Sustainability mean to Zanthorrea? With the recent acquisition of an electric tractor, Zanthorrea now has all on site vehicles and gardening tools powered by batteries. Our water is all collected and used a second time on our botanical gardens. Power comes from the sun thanks to 54 solar panels, with plans to remove reliance to the grid with a large battery backup system. Zanthorrea is an advocate for low fertiliser and chemical use, encouraging climate friendly plant choices and greening our urban areas. We can all help to be a part of a sustainable future. - Ross



*Congratulations to all the category winners!*

## What's On



### Christmas

Zanthorrea will be closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day this year. We hope everyone has a safe and joyful start in the new year, and we look forward to celebrating the wonderful and diverse range of plants Australia has to offer in 2024.



### Nature Play for Kids

Bring the kids in for some summer holiday fun. Join us for an informal Scavenger Hunt and Nature Art Activity.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

No need to book - just come along anytime between **10am - 4pm** and pay a **gold coin donation to Kanyana**.

### Gift Vouchers now Online

A Zanthorrea Gift Voucher makes a wonderful gift for a gardener of any age, and now comes with the convenience of purchasing online through our website by credit card or Paypal.





## Andy & Vicki's Garden



place, for us the bush has a random look that is driven by species that self-select among the wonderful WA biodiversity. There are no straight lines or hedged edges. We've tried to mimic that."



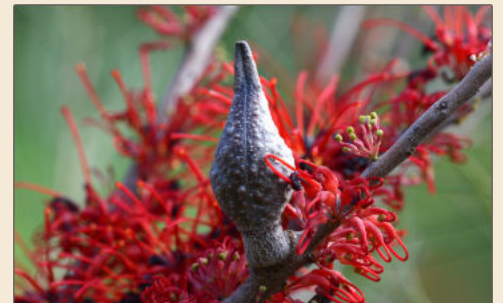
A large part of the garden has been devoted to growing healthy and abundant vegetables and fruit. This journey has taken Andy down a path of learning about soil, microbes, and no dig gardening. We asked Andy what tips he has for our readers wanting to produce a healthy veggie patch: "It is all about the soil – a true truism". Over the years he has added chicken manure, compost and river sand to lighten a heavy clay base. He's a great believer in green manure in Autumn – "I don't dig it in, I whipper snip it and leave it on top as cover. I've also used chickpeas and borlotti beans to grow pea straw as nitrogen fixers in-situ. My veggie patches are now no dig. When I want to plant, I add to the layers rather than disturb the fungi network and biome below, then plant into the new layer." Andy also uses chickens to help control weeds, act as pest control, and add fertiliser. The chickens provide his family with an abundance of yummy eggs.



The garden has many areas with different microclimates and Andy and Vicki have cleverly chosen plants that can grow in the loam/clay soil. Callistemon, different eucalypts, hakea, grevillea and drought hardy mediterranean plants all come together to create a beautiful landscape, many watered by rainwater collected in tanks.



The garden is enhanced with art pieces, some of which are deeply sentimental. This adds another layer of interest to the garden.



We asked Andy if he had a favourite Australian plant in the garden and why it is his favourite? Andy said that identifying a favourite plant is a bit like naming your favourite child. If he had to pick a few he would choose the Hakea orthorrhyncha and the two Eucalyptus citriodora at the front of the house. However, Andy is also an enthusiastic grevillea lover. Hakea and grevilleas are features of the plantings around the house and further out.

Congratulations Andy and Vicki on creating such an amazing and diverse garden. - Clare

Recently we visited Andy and Vicki's beautiful garden in Gooseberry Hill. We had a wonderful time exploring the 3.5-acre property made up of different garden areas that they have lovingly tended for more than 30 years.

As we drove up the tree lined driveway, we were welcomed by birdsong, some wonderful tall mature Eucalyptus which then revealed the beautiful architectural rammed earth house surrounded by garden beds filled with a wide selection of hardy Australian natives and other exotic plants.



Andy warmly welcomed us, and we spent a few hours talking about how their garden has evolved, his love of vegetable growing and soil and how gardening has provided a sense of place and time.

The property used to be an old cattle block. Despite that the native bush has survived and has influenced the approach Andy and Vicki have taken when creating the garden. Andy said "While formal gardens have their





## Sprucing up for the Festive Season

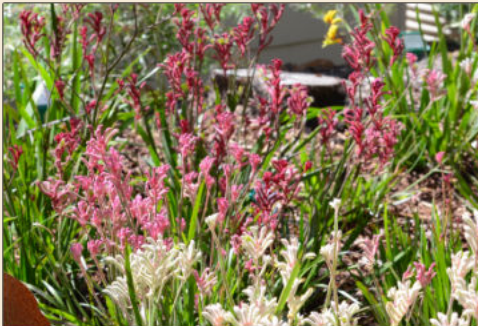


dampieras will all give you a bright flower show. Or you could use a plant with attractive weeping foliage like the Acacia 'Green Wave' or Casuarina 'Cousin It'.

### Mulch Mulch Mulch

Along with helping your garden be more waterwise, a good chunky mulch looks fantastic and gives the garden a finished look. We recommend a chunky pinebark as it is long lasting and lets the water pass through to the root zone.

*At the end of spring we are very much thinking about the approach of Christmas and tidying up our garden for when we host a family party. Here are a few ideas to get the backyard looking great.*



### Garden Artwork

If it is too hot to add more plants to the garden, consider adding some art pieces for interest. We have a range of metal art pieces in all sorts of different designs and sizes.

### Spot Colour Planting

Areas that are close to the entertaining zone can be brightened up with spot colour plantings. There are many colours of kangaroo paws that will flower all year. Or add some flowering ground covers of yellow buttons or native violet.



### Australian Native Hanging Baskets

Did you know there are many Australian native plants that can be used in hanging baskets? Fan flowers, yellow buttons, native violets and ground covering



### Waterbowl Feature

Water gardens are great fun, but can be an overwhelming large project. To keep it simple, you can have your own water garden in a large water bowl. Simply select out a range of plants, some can be submersible and others floating on the top, and then add some little fish to keep the mosquito larvae away. If you plan on letting frogs reside in your water feature, choose Pigmy Perch as they won't eat the tadpoles but still clean up the mozzie larvae.



### Colourful Pots

Adding some colourful pots to the alfresco area is a great way to brighten up the space. Depending on the amount of sunlight available you can use indoor species to full sun loving kangaroo paws. What about a Wollemi Pine for something a bit more ancient and unique?







## Christmas Gift Ideas



### Have a Colourful Australian Picnic!

We have a beautiful range of colourful picnic gear in stock to brighten up your summer, many with Australian floral designs.

Picnic Rug is 1.7m x 1.7m and is water resistant, \$89.95.

Picnic Cooler Bags from \$28.95. Insulated neoprene lunch bags from \$37.95.

Christmas themed paper napkins, \$3.95 a pack.

Insulated and stylish wine bottles, tumblers and flutes, from \$18.95.

Classic willow picnic basket set with everything you need for a picnic, \$105.95.

Insulated Cooler back pack chair, \$74.95.

Enamel mugs with colourful print, Australian made, proceeds directly benefit the artist, at \$24.95.



### Good Riddance Repellents

To make your gathering more pleasant we have a range of insect repellents that are botanically based, deet free and also comes in a sensitive range for kids. From \$24.95.



### Wind Spinners

A fun way of adding movement to the garden is a wind spinner. We have a range of different styles and colours available. Prices start from \$159.95.

Up in the Zanthorrea Display Garden near the fish pond, we have started a wind-spinner feature. Over time we will add more styles and colours all mounted at different heights on posts. Watch this space.



### Summer Colourful Pots

Exciting new summer colour pots are coming to Zanthorrea this January. They come in 2 styles, 3 sizes and 4 colours. A mix of these with flowering Australian plants will make a very colourful display for any courtyard. From \$12.95 - \$29.95.



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