



## Welcome



### Welcome to Autumn

It was most enjoyable to welcome autumn, with its cooler weather and rain. March can still be hot, so it is good to keep an eye on the garden and check if the plants are getting sufficient water.

Autumn is one of the best times to plant while there is still warmth in the soil, and with the promise of more rain to come.

It's time to sow everlasting seeds and to plant red and green kangaroo paws. Planted early they will give you a fantastic show in spring!

If you are looking for gardening ideas, we are here to help. We look forward to seeing you soon. Happy gardening, Ross, Jackie, Alec and the team at Zanthorrea.



### Everlastings

Between April and June is the best time to plant Everlasting Daises. We find the easiest way is to mix the seed with soil improver and spread over cleared soil. Watch out for snails though!

## History



### History of Zanthorrea

Alec and Jackie have been contacted by the Kalamunda History Society to record the history of Zanthorrea Nursery, as part of the 'Oral Histories Project'. Alec will be interviewed to produce an audio CD, that will later be made into a written transcript.

It is a sobering thought that in the blink of an eye, or that is how it seems, Zanthorrea has grown from a small nursery in the Perth hills selling their home propagated plants, to an award-winning destination garden centre.



Zanthorrea was established in 1975 by Jean Hooper (above), her son Alec and his wife Jackie. Jean grew the plants while Alec, a carpenter, built the structures. We built the nursery then relied on 'word of mouth' to bring in the customers. (Early social media?) Thanks to the drought years of 1977-1979, Australian plants became more desirable and Zanthorrea gradually grew from a small family business to a garden centre with 21 employees.

## What's On



### Garden Releaf Postponed

Unfortunately due to the rising COVID cases around Australia Garden Releaf Day has been postponed until a later date. Zanthorrea still plans to raffle off a terrific hamper to raise funds for Beyondblue, so we encourage you to purchase a ticket.



### National Eucalypt Day March 23rd

Across Australia our iconic gum trees are being celebrated. Visit the website:

[www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au](http://www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au) to see what events are on near you, or to enjoy the amazing photos of Eucalypts in their photo competition.



### Plant Seed Potatoes

Seed potatoes have arrived. It is a great time to grow potatoes. Mix in plenty of compost and some manure for great results!



## Flora for Fauna



**Is it a Quenda or a bandicoot?**  
Quenda is another word for the southwestern brown bandicoot.



### Bandicoot Friendly Backyards

Visitors to Zanthorrea may be surprised to see quendas dashing around the garden centre. They have built up in numbers in recent years, enjoying the habitat offered by our sheltered native gardens. The quendas are good for our gardens too, as they aerate the soil in their search for grubs and other soil dwelling creatures.

To encourage quendas in your backyard:

Plant a variety of shrubs and strappy leafy plants to provide shelter from predators: *Lomandra longifolia*, *Dianella* spp, *Darwinia citriodora*, *Grevillea 'Little Jean'*, *Calothamnus hirsutus*.

Quenda are mainly insectivorous but do eat some fruits from plants such as *Dianella*, *Austromyrtus* and *Syzygium*.



*Austromyrtus dulcis* berries.

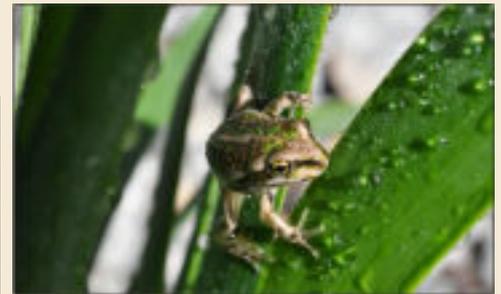
Avoid tempting quenda with human food. Foraging is important to supply a varied diet and keeps their teeth healthy.

Have shallow dishes of water nearby, especially in hot weather. Keep dogs and other pets under control.

Ensure a healthy garden by choosing organic fertiliser and natural pest control.

### Frogs for a Healthy Garden

If your garden is in good shape with a diversity of life, it's likely you listen to a chorus of frogs in the evenings. To attract frogs to the garden, include insect attracting plants to the landscape. Insects are attracted to fluffy flowers in pale hues of white, cream, pale pink, mauve and blues: *Kunzea ambigua*, *Baeckea virgata*, *Grevillea crithmifolia*, *Brachyscome*, *Bracteantha* spp. They are also attracted to plants that are food for their caterpillars: *Chorizema cordatum*, *Hardenbergia* spp, *Scaevola* spp.



As frogs make a delicious snack for kookaburras and other hungry visitors, planting strappy leafed, prickly or tangled species will provide shelter and refuge. Use *Lomandra* spp, *Dianella* spp, *Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty'*, *Grevillea 'Juniper Rose'*.

Water for frogs can be a frog pond, a large ceramic bowl or a small creek bed. Add water plants to provide food for the tadpoles, sedges and juncus with floating nardoo. - Jackie

Creating habitat for our Australian fauna is rewarding. Birds, lizards, butterflies and frogs bring our outdoor areas alive with sound and movement.

### Bring in the birds

To attract birds to your garden, simply supply the following:

Water is essential. Use bird baths, ponds or shallow dishes, and top them up regularly.



Plant a variety of Australian native plants to supply suitable food:

Seed (*banksia*, *hakea*, *eucalypts*)  
Nectar (*grevillea*, *melaleuca*, *roo paws*, *correas*, *eremophila*)

Fruit (*lillypilly*, *midyium*, *dianella*).

Provide nesting and shelter with dense spreading plants such as *grevillea*, *kunzea*, *hakea* and *callistemon*.

Taller trees, where space permits, will provide perches, hollows and nesting places for black cockatoos.



*A Bronzewing pigeon in a Jarrah tree.*



## Biodiversity is Key



A close up of the *Grevillea vestita* flower

### Biodiversity is Key

Biodiversity is the variety of all living things; the different plants, animals and microorganisms, the genetic information they contain and the eco systems they form.

Collectively by building our soils, planting a diversity of plants, and encouraging habitat, we help ourselves, the local environment, and the planet.

If you would like to learn more about biodiversity in the garden check out the book *Habitat* by AB Bishop. - Clare

### The Grevillea Genus

Grevilleas would have to be one of my favourite genus, as you just get so much diversity. They vary from ground covers to trees, with all the different flower colours you can imagine. Here are a couple of my favourites:



If you have room for the tallest of the grevilleas, then it is the **Grevillea robusta**. Growing between 10m to 30m high, it has beautiful bright orange flowers. The one in this photo has been hard pruned to stay under a power line. - Ross



Understanding some of the benefits of biodiversity is key to creating healthy, thriving, and resilient ecosystems. Benefits include a supply of oxygen, clean air and water, the pollination of plants and pest control. All vital life-giving and essential elements for life to evolve.



### **Grevillea nudiflora**

This unusual ground cover has long needle like leaves with a curve at the end. The bright red and yellow flowers protrude from the foliage on long stems providing nectar for little birds. I find this grevillea works really well in a rockery garden or trailing over a retaining wall.

### **Grevillea vestita**

A prickly local grevillea that can often be overlooked. The flowers are considered white, but just have a look at the complexity when zooming in with a macro photo. They are truly unique with their little pink to white explosions of colour!



### Eucalypts

Eucalypts are iconically Australian and with over 800 to choose from, you get a variety of sizes, colour flowers and bark types. Here are a couple worthy of a mention.

**Eucalyptus sideroxylon Rosea** (Pink Iron Bark) develop a beautiful rough black trunk that really stands out in a garden.

**Corymbia calophylla** (formerly Eucalyptus) is one of the best trees to feed the local wildlife.

**Eucalyptus erythrocorys** (red capped gum), is incredibly hardy in Perth's various soil types and brightens up a summer garden.

Ecosystems develop naturally in our gardens when we use a variety of plants that encourage many different creatures to participate in the ecosystem. Having a diversity of plants in our garden increases the chances of the survival of all the plants, insects, and animals.

Soil biodiversity reflects the mix of living organisms in the soil. These organisms interact with one another and with plants and small animals forming a web of biological activity. These organisms improve the entry and storage of water, resistance to erosion, plant nutrition, and break down of organic matter.



# Gift and Garden



**Thurlby Herb Farm** (Walpole) have been supplying Zanthorrea for many years, with their wonderfully fragrant products. Take a deep breath as you walk through our door. Drawer sachets and clothing protectors in new fabric designs, soaps and other delights.

**Battsenby's** (Perth Hills) make native bee hotels, micro-bat boxes and pardalote boxes. These lovingly hand made native bee hotels will add interest to your garden while providing a home for native bees. From \$34.95.



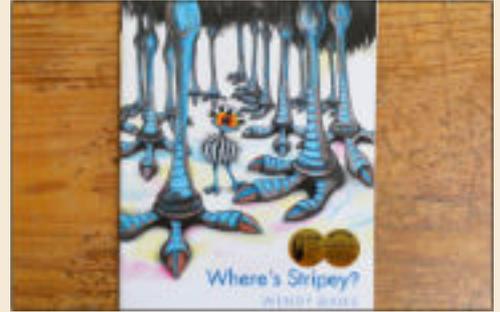
**Kim Lyons ceramics** (Lesmurdie) Made right here in the hills and individually decorated, Kim Lyons pots are a long lasting piece of garden art. The new blue glazed pots look stunning.

**Stunned Emu Collection, from Wendy Binks** Capturing the humorous spirit of Australia, Wendy Binks' designs bring a smile to our faces. Choose from mugs, stubby holders, wine coolers, tea towels, children's books. From \$10.95.



Thurlby Herb Farm (Walpole)

**Lucinda's Everlastings** (Kojonup) Plant Lucinda's seeds for a fabulous spring show of pink and white everlastings. For best results, plant after the first soaking rains.



## BOOK REVIEW

### Where's Stripey?

This delightfully illustrated children's book was the winner of the WA Premier book awards. It is the story of Sheila emu who had just paid THIRTY big green emu eggs and Crikey, whose job it was to look after them! Baby emu Stripey wanders off and Crikey set off to find him. Where could he be?

There are interesting emu facts at the back of the book. RRP \$18.95



**Tubular Bell & Chime Company** We are delighted to announce that the wind chimes have finally arrived.

These beautiful Australian hand crafted wind chimes are tuned to scale, and will give many hours of enjoyment. There are many styles available with colours from antique copper and silver to bold Gold and Flame. Choose from Pentone and Carillion to Olympus and the mighty Temple Gong.



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