



NEWSLETTER

April 2021

P.O. Box 111, GLEN FORREST, WA 6071

Meet: Octagonal Hall, 52, McGlew Rd., Glen Forrest.
4th Friday of the month. [Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30pm](#)

Committee 2021

President: Penny Hussey
Vice President: Fran Kininmonth
Treasurer: Peter Day
Secretary: Janet Atkins
Committee Members:
June Barkman
Mal Myers
Maxine Tyler
Robin Rudeforth

Email:

For all email contact to individual Committee Members please use the WSWA's generic email:
eastern.hills.branch@wildflowersocietywa.org.au

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/easternhillswildflowersoc/>

COVID NOTE: Unless there should be a sudden, mandatory lockdown announcement, the meetings will go ahead.

Coming Events April

Thursday 1st April
Committee Meeting
3pm. Octagonal Hall.

Wednesday 14th and 28th April
Seed Cleaning
9am Octagonal hall

Monday 19th April
Propagation Group
12 noon Octagonal Hall

Evening Meeting

Friday 23rd April

Shelley James, Collections Manager, WA Herbarium

“From Red Box and Beyond – Western Australian Herbarium collections and their use in biodiversity science”

Herbariums contain centuries of botanical specimens gathered from around the globe. Changes in research and technology make the information contained in these specimens even more important in documenting the impacts of global change.

In this presentation, Shelley James will describe how the Western Australian Herbarium fits within the global network of herbarium collections, why continued advocacy for high research-quality botanical collecting and preservation of collections is needed, and how current efforts to efficiently digitize and provide online access of our herbarium collections is increasingly important and valuable for the documentation and discovery of the flora of Western Australia and to global biodiversity research.

It should provide lots of food for thought.

Don't forget specimens for the nature table!

There will be a Quiz this month.

Coming Events May

Thursday 6th May
Committee Meeting
3pm. Octagonal Hall.

Saturday, 8th May

PLANT SALE

(see later)

Wednesday 12th and 26th May

Seed Cleaning

9am Octagonal hall

Monday 17th May

Propagation Group

12 noon Octagonal Hall

Evening Meeting

Friday 28th May

“The old Herbarium’s native plant garden”

Alex George

Designed to showcase some of WA’s most spectacular plants, the Agriculture Department (which owned the site) had to be convinced it was a good idea first, Alex will illustrate a magnificent creation – and a rather sad ending.

PLANT SALE 2021

Saturday 8th May

(This will go ahead Covid permitting.)

Plant Sale Committee

Mitzi Wehlack - Signage and catalogue.

Contact sangrila@primus.com.au

Janet Atkins – General Organisation/Rosters etc

atkinsrj@inet.net.au

Joy Collins – Pricing and supplies
colljoy@inet.net.au

Peter Day Treasurer - Grower Payments etc
pandcday@inet.net.au

Growers with plants for sale please make contact so that we are aware of your intentions to supply plants. This is particularly important if you are a first time grower. All welcome no matter how small a quantity. Peter can send you a copy of an excel sheet for grower lists, if you wish to use it (does all the calculations for you).

Important date

25th April - for final lists with accurate numbers. Please send to **Mitzi**.

Help Needed

This is the Branch’s main source of income with growers donating 40% of their takings. They have been very busy for at least the

past six months looking after all their charges. Help setting up on Friday 7th May and selling/cleaning up on Saturday 8th May would be greatly appreciated. We will also be supplying refreshments for members helping out so will also need some catering help. We have decided not to provide refreshments for the public this year in light of the uncertain Covid situation.

If you are able to help out please contact **Janet**.

Cardboard boxes needed. Place on south verandah, from the 30th April.

REPORT

Member’s Night

Evening meeting, Friday 26th March

A small but enthusiastic audience applauded four members (plus one other who unfortunately brought the wrong memory stick!) who showed photos that took us to places both local and exotic.

Penny Hussey showed some of her favorite flowering trees, only one of which was Australian.

Fran Kininmonth took us on a journey to the Kimberley, including this *Brachyton*.



Janet Atkins took us along the now closed railway line between Yelbeni and Trayning, noting how the vegetation is reclaiming the sandy soil. She then treated us to a photographic essay on the beauty of Red-flowered Mallee, *Eucalyptus erythronema*,

whose white trunks turn seasonally to a glorious cinnamon.



Robert Atkins then showed some of the flora found on Moorine Rock, a large, unspoilt outcrop in the wheatbelt.

Finally, Robert and Janet combined for a quick run through the Pilbara from Marble Bar to Karijini.

Everyone then enjoyed supper and chatted about the diverse floral glory of our State.

Penny Hussey

Armadale Branch's 60th Anniversary



Fran, Armadale member Jan Kunnan and Penny (Photo: Kim Sarti)

Four members of EHB travelled to Armadale to represent the Branch at this event. It consisted principally of planting six trees in the surrounding park, all of which had historical significance, but there was also entertainment. The Armadale Primary School Choir sang and a man played tunes on a gum-leaf- very well. There were also

plenty of superb munchies to eat while chatting!



The Mayor of Gosnells, R. Butterfield, plants a Salmon White Gum, Eucalyptus lane-poollei, watched by Armadale's President, Roger Harrington.



Michael and Irene Morecombe plant a tree, with Armadale's Roger Harrington and Kim Fletcher.

Fire

While fire is a terrible disaster for those people affected, destroying property and maybe life, it is not necessarily disastrous for bushland.

Here some six weeks after the Gidgegannup fire, a *Kingia australis* bursts into flower.



Penny Hussey

‘Wander out Yonder’ – Mullewa Way

Going for a ‘Wander out Yonder’ this spring?

Consider attending Mullewa’s Wildflower Festival on 26th-29th August. They will have a excellent display and knowledgeable organisers who could direct you to some of the many patches of superb bushland in the area.

In addition – are you interested in geology? You can find an ammonite, if you know where to look! And the area surrounding Mullawa has traces of the last glaciation, in the Permian, 350 million years ago! Glacial erratics, faceted rocks, and even the remains of a moraine! There are also superb fossils and the first coal seam found in Western Australia!

Also, if you like more recent history, there is a superb Byzantine-style church, built by Monseigneur Hawes.

Why not spend a weekend in Mullewa this spring?

Penny Hussey

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Hypocalymma puniceum
Large Myrtle



This is a slender, bushy shrub that can grow up to a metre high and wide. In full flower it is very showy, as the flowers are a deep pink, and are larger than those of other Hypocalymmas. It will produce flowers between November and April.

It occurs naturally in kwongan on gravelly sand in the north-eastern part of the Wheatbelt, from Wongan Hills to Lake King.

In cultivation, it will grow in gravelly sand in full sun and, once established, will not need summer watering. It has a long flowering season, when little else is out, which makes it a very desirable garden plant.

Propagation is by cuttings.

Robyn Rudeforth

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Wildflower Society of Western Australia