



NEWSLETTER

May2021

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: Thank you for your understanding everybody, as the sudden mandatory lockdown meant the cancellation of the evening meeting on Friday 23rd of April with just four hours notice. Especial thanks go to our guest speaker, Shelley James. I am very pleased to say that she has agreed to give the talk on the scientific importance of Herbaria at our September meeting. Let's hope we don't have similar problem this coming month!

Coming Events May

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

Saturday, 8th May
PLANT SALE

Wednesday 12th and 26th May
Seed Cleaning
9am Octagonal hall

Tuesday 25th 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 owns the site) had to be convinced it was a good idea first. Alex will illustrate a magnificent creation – and a rather sad ending.

There will be a Quiz.

Don't forget to bring specimens for the nature table.

Coming Events June

Thursday 3rd June
Committee Meeting
3pm Octagonal Hall

Wednesday 9th and 23rd June
Seed Cleaning
9am Octagonal Hall

Monday 21st June
Propagation Group
12 noon Octagonal Hall

**Evening Meeting
Friday 25th June**

Vanessa Brown: UWA and Kings Park
Science

**“Banksia Woodland Restoration with
Seed Enhancement Technologies”**

Vanessa graduated from Curtin University with a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Biology in 2017. Now doing a PhD, she is studying seed enhancement technologies and how they can be used to overcome restoration barriers in severely disturbed areas after mining, pine plantations or agriculture, in order to improve the restoration of Banksia woodlands.

REPORT

PLANT SALE

Covid restrictions caused consternation in the lead-up to the Plant Sale – would it have to be cancelled? But in the end, the event went ahead with no covid restrictions apart from registering attendance for contact tracing and observing social distancing where possible. It seemed to me to be going very well, with lots of enthusiastic buyers.



Here you can see part of the queue for payment – at one time it stretched right around to the back door of the building!!!

There will be a full report next month, but I wish to give my personal thanks to the dozens of people who help run the event. Not just the growers, but producing and distributing the catalogue, tidying the

grounds, ordering the tables, guarding the material overnight, erecting the tents, laying out the seedlings, painting the price stakes, collecting the money, spruiking sales, cooking cake and making tea, etc. You are all wonderful volunteers and the event could not happen without you.

THANK YOU!

Penny Hussey

Future events

Weekend excursion to Mullewa?

It has been suggested that EHB organize an excursion to Mullewa to take in the Wildflower Festival on 26th-29th August, as well as other sites of interest in the area. Accommodation and a bus could be arranged if there is enough interest.

Please would you contact the excursion organizer, Fran Kininmonth, if you would like to take part.

Tree planting?

Susannah Brook Catchment Group, with the assistance from volunteers, will be planting on these dates.

Thursday July 8th
Saturday July 10th
Thursday July 15th
Sunday July 18th

Starting at 9.30am, morning tea is provided but please bring your own water, wear a hat, long trousers, long-sleeved shirt and gardening gloves. Sunscreen will be available on the site, which is accessed via a firebreak off Strawberry Hill Drive.

Please park outside the planting site, on the roadway rather than bringing vehicles into the bush.

There are no toilets, only the bush.

If you would like to join us for a morning's planting, please make contact using the email address below.

Sandy Stone
susannahbrookcatchmentgroup@gmail.com

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Correa backhousiana var. *corriacea*
Velvet Correa



This is a small shrub up to 1m high and 0.5m wide. The leaves are leathery and the lower surface is covered with minute, velvety hairs.

The flowers are creamy-white and are produced in autumn and winter. They attract nectar-seeking birds. It will grow in full sun or shade.

This variety grows naturally on dunes and granite outcrops in South Australia, and on limestone outcrops in WA. It is drought and frost hardy.

It is propagated by cuttings, but can be slow to form roots.



Photos: Lullfitz Nurseries

Robyn Rudeforth

WEED WATCH

Verbescina encelioides
Crown Beard



This is a good example of a plant that was probably brought in (from America) for gardens and has since spread. It is an annual, flowering through spring, summer and into autumn. It has grey leaves and large, bright yellow flowers. It can grow to a meter or so and looks like a rather bushy sunflower. Very attractive – in a garden.



The plant likes limesand and has been spread down from Geraldton along roads where sandy soil has been imported as part of the building works. In the Perth area, look for it alongside new freeways. It can also be found on building sites, where truckloads of sand from the coast has been spread to level the site before construction.

The plant produces hundreds of very fertile seeds and will spread rapidly in soils that it likes. It is an important threat to coastal ecosystems, however, it is unlikely to survive in the Hills, as the soils are too acidic.

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 Austral