



NEWSLETTER

September 2022

EHB NO LONGER HAS A POSTAL ADDRESS
Use the email, please.

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

Committee 2022

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

Email:

For all contact
(including 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 RULES

Covid rules are now relaxed, though you might well decide to still wear a mask when inside.
EHB Committee

Coming Events Sept.

Thursday 1st September
Committee Meeting
3 pm Octagonal Hall

Seed Cleaning in recess

Monday 19th September
Propagation Group.
Octagonal Hall, 12 noon

Evening Meeting
Friday 23rd September
"Orchids along the Bibbulmun Track"
Ian Kininmonth and Helena Studham

Join Ian Kininmonth and Helen Studham as they recall their adventures and find out about the orchids they photographed and recorded.

"Let's walk the Bibbulmun ?" Ian suggested to Helen, receiving only a sceptical look in response. The Bibbulmun, track running from Perth to Albany exceeds 1,000 kilometres, so it is more than just a walk in the park. What would they do? See? Talk about? "We've got all the gear we need, we're fit, we have time, and we'll see heaps of wildflowers". Detecting a slight softening of Helen's attitude Ian went in with the final sales pitch. "Plus we're sure to see lots of orchids".

Three weeks later they hit the track on the 14th August 2020, to start 61 days of walking through country where over 400 species of orchid had been recorded.

There will be a nature table, but no quiz this month.

Wildflower Ramble
Sunday 25th September
10.00-12.00am
Leader: Janet Atkins and Robin Rudeforth

Location: tba.

An email will be sent to all members closer to the date to indicate where the ramble will start from.

Coming Events Oct.

Thursday 6th October

Committee Meeting
3 pm Octagonal Hall

Seed Cleaning

In recess

Monday 17th October

Propagation Group.
Octagonal Hall. 12 noon.

Evening Meeting

Friday 28th October

“The Life and Times of Emily Pelloe”
Alex George

Emily Pelloe was the first person to popularise WA's wildflowers by producing books and having a regular wildflower column in the local newspaper. She was an enthusiastic horsewoman and a talented artist who used to ride out into the bush, carrying lunch and her painting gear, until she found a suitably floriferous spot to settle down to painting. But she complained that her horse, Snowdrop, was prone to eating the flowers before she got around to sketching them!

She wrote two books, one on WA flora generally (1921) and another devoted to orchids. She also contributed the chapter on “Flora” to the WA Centenary book in which she trumpeted the plight of wheatbelt flora subjected to indiscriminate agricultural clearing.

She was an early member of the WA Naturalists' Club (founded 1924) and immensely influential in her time. This should be a fascinating and eye-opening talk.

There will be a quiz and a nature table.

Sunday 30th October

Wildflower Ramble

10.00 – 12.00

Boya/Darlington bushland

Leader: Penny Hussey

Meet tba

REPORTS

Evening Meeting

Friday 26th August

“Flowers of Morangup Nature Reserve”
photos taken by Arthur Blundell..

The late Arthur Blundell, together with a number of EHB members, organised a survey of Morangup Nature Reserve, east of Noble Falls. They collected, identified and mounted specimens, producing a comprehensive herbarium of the area,

We remembered Arthur as we enjoyed his excellent photography by watching a powerpoint presentation he put together to illustrate the plants seen during the work in Morangup. These were excellent and showcased the diversity of this area. Members of the audience chatted about the species, and memories of Arthur, making this a very pleasant showing.

There were some superb plants on the nature table. The quiz proved to be a little harder than usual, but one group got 10.5 out of 20. Well done!

REPORTS

Wildflower Ramble

Sunday 28th August

Moola/Glenburn Rd, Glen Forrest

Leader: Mitzi Wehlak

Apparently this was a lovely walk, attended by eight people. There was a wonderful variety of flowers in bloom. There will be a full report next month

How would you do at the Quiz?

Who is this person? Born in Sweden, he was a noted botanist collecting mainly between 1790 and 1805. Returning to England, he was Librarian for Sir Joseph Banks and the Linnaean Society of London. An important WA genus was named after him.



And can you name this handsome shrub? It grows on sandplain in the northern and central Wheatbelt.



Answers on the last page.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Olearia rudis Rough Daisy Bush

Olearia is quite a large genus of shrubby daisies which occur in the Kimberley and across the inland as far as south-east Australia.. They are generally known as Scrub Daisies and Daisy Bushes.

This striking purple daisy might be more familiar to coastal dwellers than to people in the Hills, because it grows well among scrub on coastal limestone areas, but it can also be found in open woodland on heavier but well-drained soils. It occurs from Eneabba to the Stirlings, but there are also a couple of odd occurrences in SA and Victoria.

It is a woody perennial or a few-branched shrub up to 1m high, roughly hairy on the stem, The flower heads are terminal on the end of stiff upright branches. Each inflorescence is quite large, up to 3cm across with bright, showy ray florets. These are produced in spring and are usually lilac but can be deep purple or sometimes white.



The plant may be propagated by seed sown in autumn or early spring or by cuttings taken during the warm months.

They would be a fine addition to any garden!

Robyn Rudeforth

(Note: horticultural information taken from “*West Australian Native Plants in Cultivation*” by A. R. Fairall, Pergamon Press, 1970.

WEED ALERT

Hyparrhenia hirta
Tambookie Grass

This tall, clumping invader is increasing steadily along roadsides and other disturbed areas. It is found in Africa, the Mediterranean and South-east Asia, and was brought here for trial as a pasture grass (USELESS!). But it liked this place, and spread.



Because it is large, with strong roots, it dominates its site. In summer it forms a tussock that flares easily and contributes to rapid bushfire spread.

Control: remove the whole plant, or slash to ground level and use herbicide.

To see a local example, the next time you visit Zanthorhea Nursery, look further along Watsonia Road.

Penny Hussey

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