



Wildflower Society of WA Northern Suburbs Branch

***Celebrating
30 years ~ 1985 - 2015***

Newsletter - July 2015

Next Meeting :- July 28th

7-30pm, Henderson Environmental Centre, Groat St. North Beach

**Andy Young - "Tiny Moth Pollinators of
Boronias & Leucopogons"**

Coming Events :-

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 25 August | Hans Lambers — "Species Richness in Our Most Nutrient Impoverished Landscapes, Deserving UNESCO Inscription" |
| 22 September | Michael Morcombe — "Wildlife and Pollination" |
| 27 October | Judith Harvey — "Salmon Gums in the Great Western Woodlands" |
| 24 November | AGM & Eddy Wajon — "Gondwanalink & Chingarup" |

Last Month 30th Anniversary Celebration "Members' Memories of 30 Years"



Twenty five members came along to the June meeting to celebrate 30 years of the Northern Suburbs branch. Quite a few in the audience recalled the initial public meeting on 30 June 1985, held during the annual State Conference, to discuss the formation of a Northern Suburbs branch. Hazel Dempster recalled the exciting occasion, held at the height of popularity of TV garden programs and at a time

-ern suburbs were beginning to expand rapidly.



Marilyn and Ken Zakrevsky recalled the inaugural General Meeting of the branch, on 20 August 1985, with George Lullfitz as the founding President, and the annual auctions held for many years as fundraisers. The first auction in 1985 relied on donations from local nurseries, including the Wildflower Nursery on Wanneroo Road, raising over \$1,000 and setting the branch up financially. It was recalled that Alex George visited the Wildflower Nursery to say thanks for their ongoing support and present a copy of the 1st Edition of the Banksia Book. Marilyn also spoke about the campaign to save Hepburn Heights, a few years later, and the role that Northern Suburbs took on, leading guided walks to promote the campaign and raising awareness under then President, Brian James.

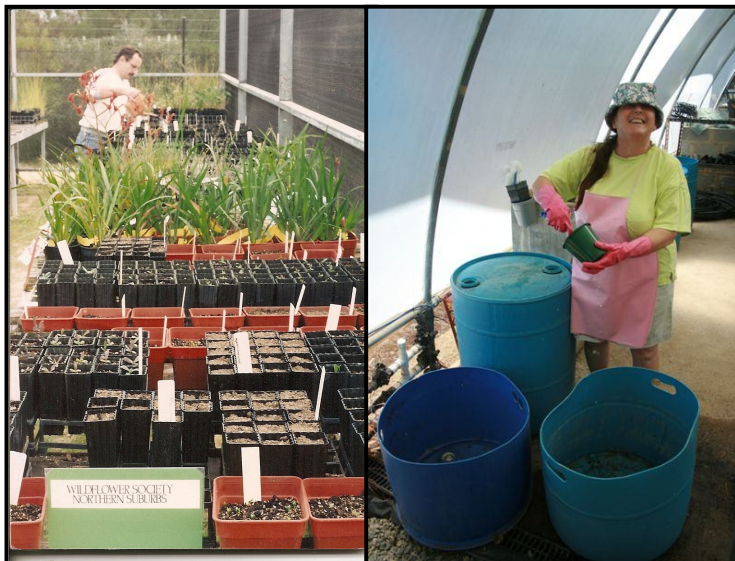
Newsletters have been a lifeline of the branch since shortly after its foundation and the various editors over the years – including Dave Bright and David Pike - were thanked very much for the time and effort put into producing such a professional publication. General Meetings over the years have been a principal focus, with Dave Bright recalling that for a time meetings were planned around an annual theme, such as ‘Creative Uses of WA Native Plants’, but for the most part speakers have covered a vast array of topics related to WA flora. Speakers over the years have included: Kevin Thiele, Kingsley Dixon, Eric McCrum, Philippa Nikulinski and Jiri Lochman.

The plant nursery has been an integral part of the branch since 1997, when it was established at Landsdale Farm School. Hazel has been involved with the plant side of things since the beginning, even before she was a member, and she spoke about her involvement through Lullfitz Nursery in propagating plants for specific revegetation projects and then in negotiations to set up the nursery at Landsdale. In the very early days of the branch, a seed bank was established to propagate for specific projects and for sale to members. Hazel gave a short account of the nursery over the years, stressing that the hard work has paid off and made the branch financially



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secure and able to pursue other activities. Thousands of WA native plants have been propagated at the nursery and put into residential gardens.



The Zakrevskys highlighted this with an Open Garden at their home in 2003, which showcased WA natives and also raised funds for garden related projects in WA.

Also mentioned were the many excursions which the branch has undertaken over the years, many of which were attended by Elizabeth George. Dave Taggart remembered Wongan Hills, and a trip to Dryandra when possums invaded and ate the breakfast! David Pike's annual Moore River walks were much appreciated and the plant survey excursions to Eurardy Station, when over 500 species were found, were remembered for their lasting value in leading to Bush Heritage's purchase of the property.

Northern Suburbs

Free guided nature walks.

Each Month

Run approx 1 hour.

Start at 8am.

1st Saturday Landsdale Conservation Park.

Meet in Landsdale Rd approx 100 metres east of Evandale Rd, Darch.

Contact Phylis 93499105

2nd Saturday Koondoola Regional Bushland.

Meet in Koondoola Ave Opposite Burbridge Ave.

Contact Phylis 93499105

3rd Saturday Lake Gwelup Reserve.

Meet Scout Hall car park near tennis Courts, Huntriss Rd, Gwelup.

Contact Christine 94472983

4th Saturday Star Swamp Bushland

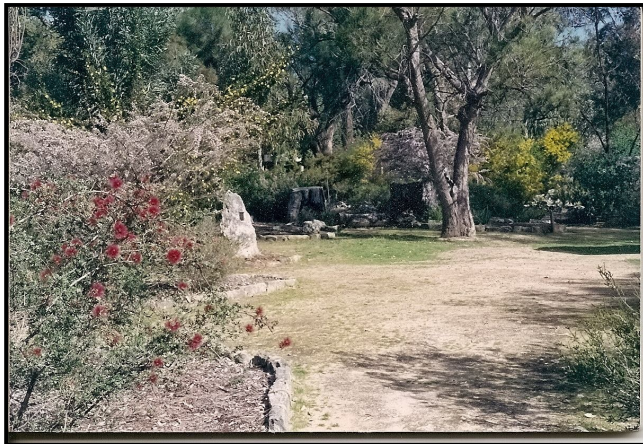
Meet at the Henderson Centre at the end of Groat St, North Beach.

Contact Christine 94472983

5th Saturday Trigg Bushland

Meet in the car park between St Mary's School and Millington Reserve (off Elliot rd) Karrinyup.

contact David 94489192



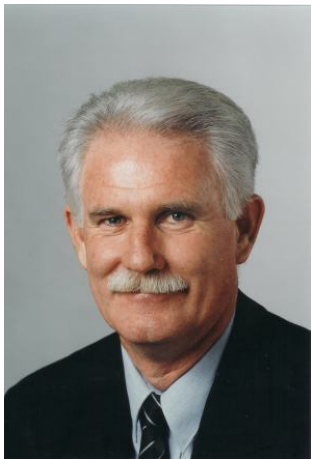
David Pike gave a short photo presentation which covered the branch involvement with Yanchep Botanic Garden, various excursions and activities from the past, and nursery events. Hazel Dempster gave a short presentation on the Wildflower Society gardens at the new WA Herbarium which is an ongoing commitment to plant out themed garden boxes with various WA plants, in-

cluding a Pilbara bed, banksia bed, eremophila bed and a wetland bed.

There were many other shared memories, including State Conferences hosted by the branch and other events attended. Members no longer with us were fondly remembered and a show of hands was called for to discover who has had the longest membership in the room – it turned out that Keith Oliver has been a member of the Society for 51 years so he was invited to blow out the candles on the 30th anniversary cake. Current President, Richard Curry, summed up by saying that the Northern Suburbs branch has done much over its 30 years, including notable achievements in the promotion and propagation of WA flora, management of a very successful branch and contributions to science and the preservation of WA flora. And, for the most part, it's been great fun!



FROM THE PRESIDENT - JULY 2015



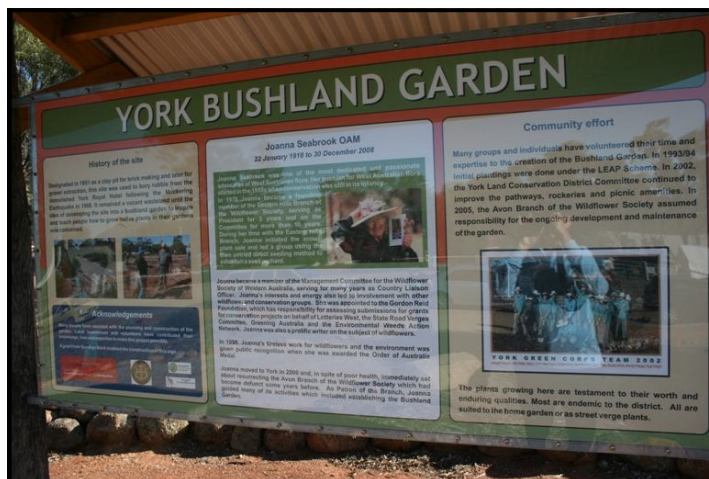
Our celebration of the Branch 30th anniversary was a milestone for our membership. The recollections of members of the history of the Branch and past members showed how after 30 years we are still active in promoting the aims of the Society. A special thanks to those members who assisted in the organisation of the evening activity and especially Hazel and David who made presentations.

Hazel's presentation introduced the Herbarium to many who had not previously had contact with the facility and after the meeting a number of members suggested to me that it might be a good option for arranging an excursion to have a look at the site and the work being undertaken. We will see what can be arranged but if you have any interest, let me know and we will start getting an idea of numbers.

Our celebration did show that we need to keep up our efforts to attract interest to our branch activities. I have spoken before about the initiative with Edith Cowan University and the joint research between ourselves, Kulin Branch and the university. One of our aims of this involvement is to engage with the student body to see how they may become involved with us. Graeme Mitchell has agreed to be the liaison between the university and our branch to promote better engagement. We recently had a meeting with Dr Kristina Lemson and Michael Just, the Masters research student undertaking the study and we identified a number of opportunities where our nursery and membership expertise could be of benefit to the student program. I will keep you informed of progress in this area.

If you know of anyone who might like to join in with us at the Nursery or listen to our speakers at the monthly meetings, please encourage them to come along. They will be most welcome.

We are now on the lead up to the AGM in November and we will be reporting a very successful year for the Branch in all regards. We look like having a stable Management Committee for the coming year but as always if anyone is interested in joining the committee and contributing ideas we would really like to hear from you.



We meet every second month for 1½ hours with the main activity being the exchange of ideas on how we can improve and grow the Branch. The administration side of our meetings is now well under control and does not consume unnecessary time. So if you have ideas to contribute, let me know.

At the Society AGM in June we volunteered to convene a group to look at setting up a sub-committee to progress the Strategic Plan – Growing Goal. This sits well with our role at the Nursery and we are working with the Eastern Hills Branch to get this process started.

The AGM was hosted by the Avon Branch and a number of our members attended. The speaker program and post conference guided walks were excellent and capped off a very successful conference. Geoff Corrick was elected Vice President and the position of President remains vacant, hopefully to be filled in the near future. The Treasurer also needs to be filled but this is a more difficult role to undertake and the Management Committee will be addressing this as a priority. Kerry Smith remains General Secretary and there is a good representation of members on the Management Committee generally. A full report on the proceedings will be made available by the Society in due course. Nevertheless, if branch members have the time, any contribution to assisting the Society management and administration would be welcome.

Congratulations to the Avon Branch for a job well done.

Richard Curry
President



A Message from Michael Just, who is working with us and Kulin Branch to work out germination techniques for Ericaceae seed.

Hello everyone,

This is a list of the Ericaceae species that I am interested in studying in the context of dormancy alleviation and germination.

I am currently interested in any information people may have to offer about the propagation of the Ericaceae from seed and I am readily contactable at mjust@our.ecu.edu.au

Specifically I would love to hear from people pertaining to their own experiences with locality's and flowering times of the listed species.

I have compiled data from Florabase and other available sources but this is often patchy and uninformative without entering the field. Any information on where I can find the listed species in the wild and the approximate time of flowering would be greatly appreciated. Species listed in bold are the proposed study species whilst the others are back-ups.

My hope here is to draw upon the knowledge possessed by members of The Wildflower Society and obtain information I can use to locate my study species but also to gain insight into what is known about the Ericaceae from a practical point of view.

Thank you for your time,

Kind regards,

Michael Just

Species :-

Andersonia involucrata

Andersonia l. lehmanniana

Andersonia parvifolia

Astroloma compactum

Astroloma foliosum

Astroloma epacridis

Astroloma pallidum

Brachyloma preissi

Conostephium preissii

Leucopogon cuneifolius

Leucopogon dielsianus

Leucopogon fimbriatus

Leucopogon hamulosus

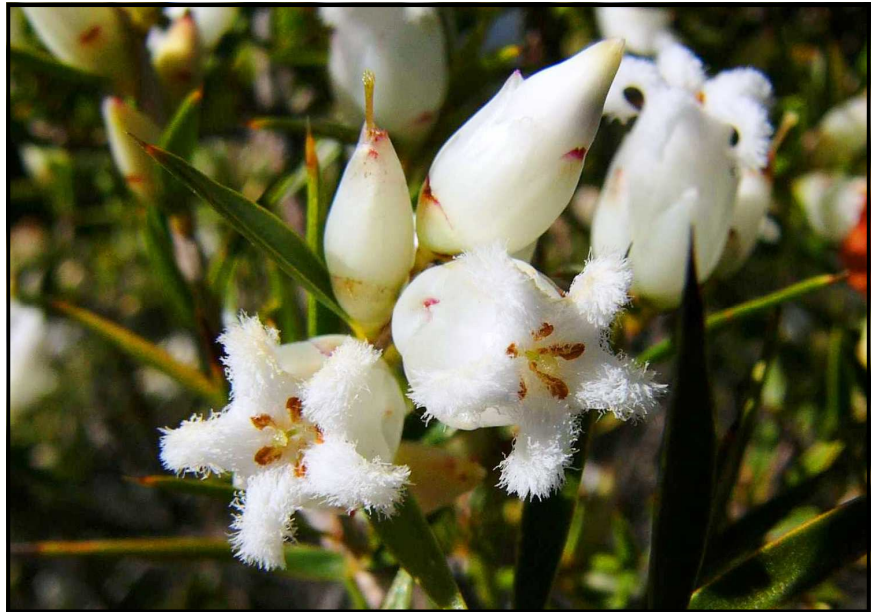
Leucopogon nutans

Leucopogon propinquus

Leucopogon verticillatus

Lysinema pentapetalum

Styphelia tenuiflora

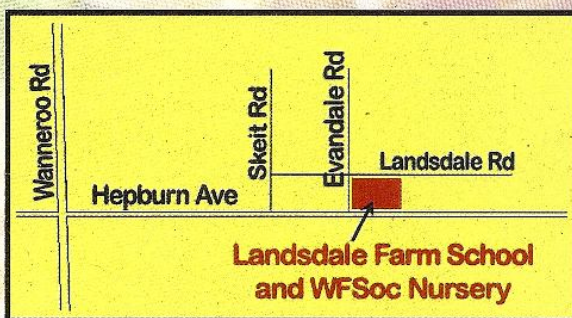




Western Australian Native Plants
for your gardens and planter pots
available from the

Wildflower Society of WA Northern Suburbs Nursery

at the LANDSDALE FARM SCHOOL



Cnr. Evandale / Landsdale Roads,
Darch
open every Saturday, 9am - 1pm

Choose from a huge range of local and other WA
interesting colourful and unique species

Trigger plants Calytrix Hakea Grevillea
Thryptomene Scholtzia Thomasia
Hypocalymma Eremophila Dampiera
Hibbertia Scaevola Verticordia

Strappy Plants including Conostylis Dianella
Laxmania Orthrosanthos and Sedges.

and many many more.

Come along for advice on how to grow
plants for your minimal maintenance
to froggy boggy gardens

