



Wildflower Society of WA

Northern Suburbs Branch

Newsletter - March 2021

(Web Page : ns.wsowa.org.au)

Next Meeting :- March 23rd

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

Note : Change of Speaker!!

Kevin Thiele

“70% of all Australian species have not even been discovered yet,
and what we can do about it”

Coming Events :-

April 24 - Northern Suburbs Branch Plant Sale

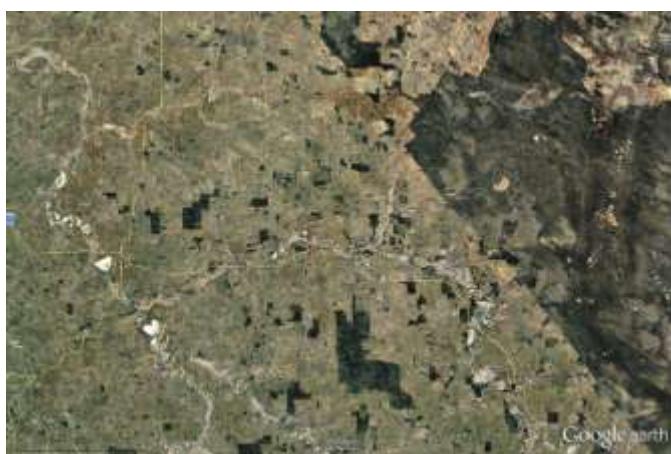
April 27 - Kelly Shepherd “Old and New Relationships Within the
Family Goodeniaceae”

May 8 - Eastern Hills Branch Plant Sale

May 25 - AGM & Roz Hart “New Moves With Urban Bushland
Fungi”

Last Meeting

Eddy Wajon
“A Year in Hyden”



Eddy Wajon is well known for his series of West Australian wildflower guide books, and his February talk to our branch was based on his latest – A Year at Hyden : the Wildflowers of Hyden and Wave Rock. This commissioned work is available from various outlets in the Hyden area and is a great colour guide to common and not so common species. Eddy told us that the book covers a 50 km



radius from Hyden, an area largely cleared on the feral-proof fence side but still with substantial areas of nature reserve and natural forest. Informative maps in the book also make a flora trip to the Hyden area that much easier.

Eddy took us on a photographic journey through a year in the Hyden region and it was quite amazing to see how many species were flowering in every month of the year and also to see a ‘signature’ photo for each month of a typical animal or landscape scene. So, in January/February the Crested Dragon (*Ctenophorus cristatus*) heralded summer-flowering species, including the Dwarf Inland Banksia (*Banksia audax*), a smallish shrub or tree with golden-orange to brown flowers and the White Mallee (*Eucalyptus phenax*), a small to large mallee with white flowers emerging from a round, conical cap on a cup-shaped fruit. Both of these can be found at Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve, south-east of Hyden township.

The Blue-Banded Bee signified the Autumn months of March, April and May. Among the stunning flowers Eddy showed was the Dainty Starflower (*Calytrix habrantha*), a smallish shrub with deep magenta to purple star-shaped flowers with a yellow centre, found in March just east of Hyden on Duck Rock Road. In April, the Tangled Daisy Bush (*Olearia incondita*), a white flower, 25-35mm across with a yellow centre surrounded by purplish woolly scales, grows through other plants at Hippo’s Yawn and Wave Rock. From May and through Winter, the



Frosty Cone-flower (*Isopogon pruinosus*), a tall shrub with blue ‘icy frosty’ leaves, produces pink or white tubular flowers with a tuft of hairs at the top.

The blue and yellow Mitchell’s Diurnal Cockroach pointed to the profusion of Winter flowers in June, July and August. Blue Boronia (*Boronia coerulescens*) first flowers in June, then right through to the end of Spring. A small shrub with rigid, wiry stems and white to pale



blue or pink flowers, this is one of many long-flowering species. The very common Matchsticks (*Drummondia hassellii*), a small shrub with tubular, hairy, red, white and yellow flowers, also flowers across a wide range of the Eastern Wheatbelt from July into late Spring.



Spring, and the views around Dragon Rock, showcased a selection of the

many species in flower. Winged-seed Grevillea (*Grevillea pterosperma*) is common across the region, with white flowers on a green base in a long, cylindrical spike, easily seen across the landscape and flowering through late winter to early summer. From October, Pritzel's Featherflower (*Verticordia pritzelli*), with bright red or pink flowers, can be found on Lazy D Farm and, into November the Yellow Star Daisy (*Erymophyllum ramosum* subsp. *ramosum*), a herb with shiny bright yellow flowers, can be seen around a salt lake on Wave Rock Road.



So, the year, and this small summary of the flora Eddy showed us, ended in December with another banksia – Swordfish Banksia (*Banksia elderiana*) - a small tree with prickly, saw-toothed leaves and a typical yellow banksia flower on a nodding, cylindrical head. This was a look at a Year at Hyden we will all remember and enjoy when we head out that way.



Growing Notes

We have lost the original files for our Strappy Plant, Everlasting and Kangaroo Paw Growing Notes. If anybody has printed copies in their filing system, could they please either scan them or loan them to us so that we can make re-prints to hand out to customers at the nursery.

FROM THE PRESIDENT – MARCH 2021



know.

A point that is worth making is that our branch and in particular the Nursery is there for the enjoyment of all members. Whether you are an expert in native flora, a keen observer or home gardener, you are all welcome to join in to whatever ability or interest you have. Many choose to come along to monthly meetings and learn from the guest speaker program whilst others get very involved in the Nursery activities. Whatever your level of involvement, your support is very much appreciated. Not everyone wishes or is able to be involved in the running of the branch or its activities. But each in our own way has something to contribute and that is what makes our branch strong and worth belonging to.

With that in mind we are coming up to the AGM and while we are very fortunate to have members with exceptional knowledge and experience in wildflowers, many of us have skills and expertise gained over our working lives whilst not related to wildflowers can and do contribute to the running and growth of the Branch. And for that matter, the Society. So if you feel you can offer your experience to help out in whatever way you think you can, then I would very much welcome your involvement and assistance.

We have two excursions planned. One is possibly to the Moore River area and the other to Hepburn Heights. A date for the Hepburn Heights visit has been suggested for Sunday 12th of September. I will check at the March meeting if there is interest in either of these two excursions.

Our Guest speaker for the next meeting on 23 March is Dr Kevin Thiele who will be asking the question – 70% of all Australian species have not even been discovered yet and what we can we do about it? This will be a challenging talk from Kevin who is also, as most would know, the President of the Wildflower Society. Kevin is an enthusiastic and engaging speaker who will welcome discussion from members. So do come along and join in.

A note for our library: Our member Shirley Frearson has generously donated two lovely books on orchids. Thank you, Shirley. Our library can be accessed and books borrowed on meeting nights or by prior arrangement with the secretary.

Richard Curry
President

Our busy year has begun and we are getting down to preparing for the Plant Sale on 24th April. In addition, the Glendale Primary School project is well underway with plants in stock ready for the first stage planting. Our nursery volunteer team is working very hard to get everything ready and assistance is always welcome especially on the event days. So if you would like to become involved in supporting these activities, please let myself or the secretary

Northern Suburbs
Free guided nature walks.
Each Month
Run approx 2 hours.
Start at 8am.

1st Saturday Landsdale Conservation Park.

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

Contact David 9448 9192

2nd Saturday Koondoola Regional Bushland.

Meet in Koondoola Ave Opposite Burbridge Ave.
Contact David 9448 9192

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 9448 9192



Wildflower Society of WA

Northern Suburbs Branch

PLANT SALE

Assorted tube-stock

\$4-00

Saturday April 24th

9-00am to 2-00pm

at

Landsdale Farm

*Cnr Landsdale and Evandale Rds
Darch*

*Grow with us &
Link with Nature*





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: Thursday 9am - 2pm
Saturday 9am - 2pm**

**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
Laxmannia Orthrosanthus and Sedges.**

and many many more.



**Come along for advice on how to grow
plants for your minimal maintenance**