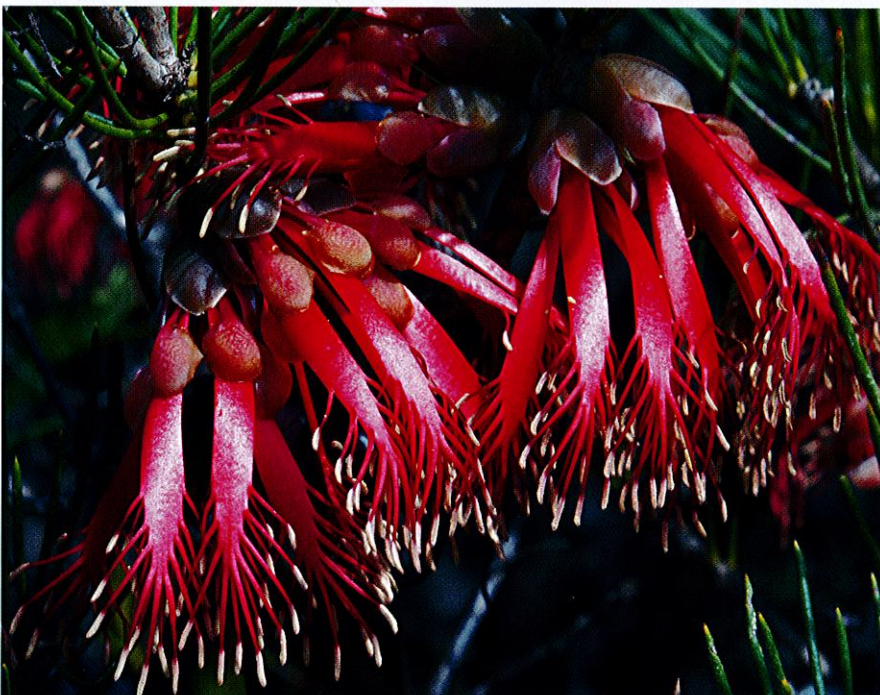
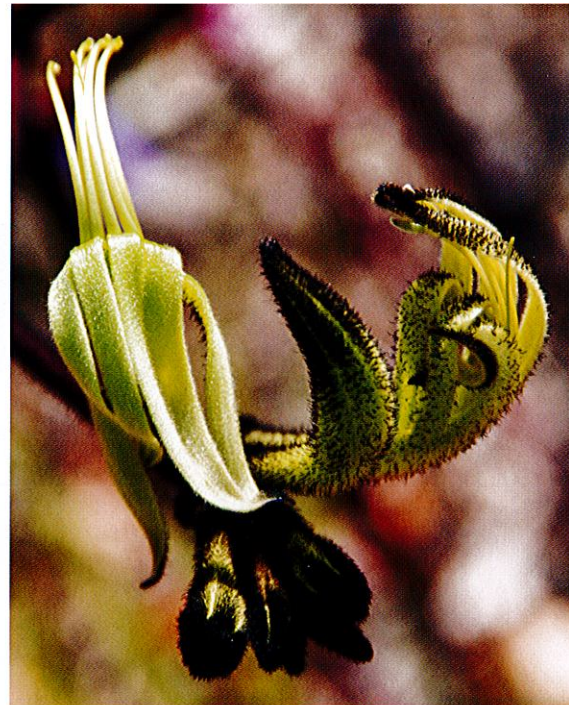


Western Australia is world renowned for its mind-boggling floral diversity and dazzlingly beautiful wildflowers. The state—which spans three broad climatic regions and offers a diverse range of habitat types—is home to more than 12,300 native plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties), many of which grow nowhere else in the world. Knowledge of our flora continues to grow, with new species frequently unearthed and important populations of poorly understood species continuing to be discovered (see ‘Botanical blitz’ on page 9). While our unique botanical treasures can be enjoyed throughout the year, several areas stand out for their wildflower displays. Depending on winter rains, the Gascoyne and Murchison regions often erupt into vibrant oceans of spring colour, as everlasting daisies and a kaleidoscope of different species burst into bloom. The sandplain heaths and mallee shrublands in the south-west corner of the state, including areas such as the botanically significant Fitzgerald River and Lesueur national parks, are breathtaking in their species diversity, while the majestic Stirling Range National Park is a similarly impressive botanical drawcard. But WA’s floral diversity is so extraordinary that even the smallest fragment of bush, an individual granite outcrop, or even an ephemeral swamp, can reveal a wonder world of species. Here we celebrate WA’s wonderful wildflowers in a photographic essay.

# Wildflowers: a visual celebration





Previous page

A spectacular blue-flowered species of *Andersonia* from Mount Roe National Park in the Walpole Wilderness area.

Photo - Marie Lochman

Opposite page

Pink woolly (*Verticordia monadelph*) at moonrise in Reynoldson Reserve, Wongan Hills.

Photo - Sallyanne Cousans

**Top left** A member of the fan flower family, *Scaevola calliptera*, Quindalup.

Photo - Sue Morrison

**Top right** Black kangaroo paw (*Macropidia fuliginosa*), which occurs between Geraldton and Perth.

Photo - Janine Gunther

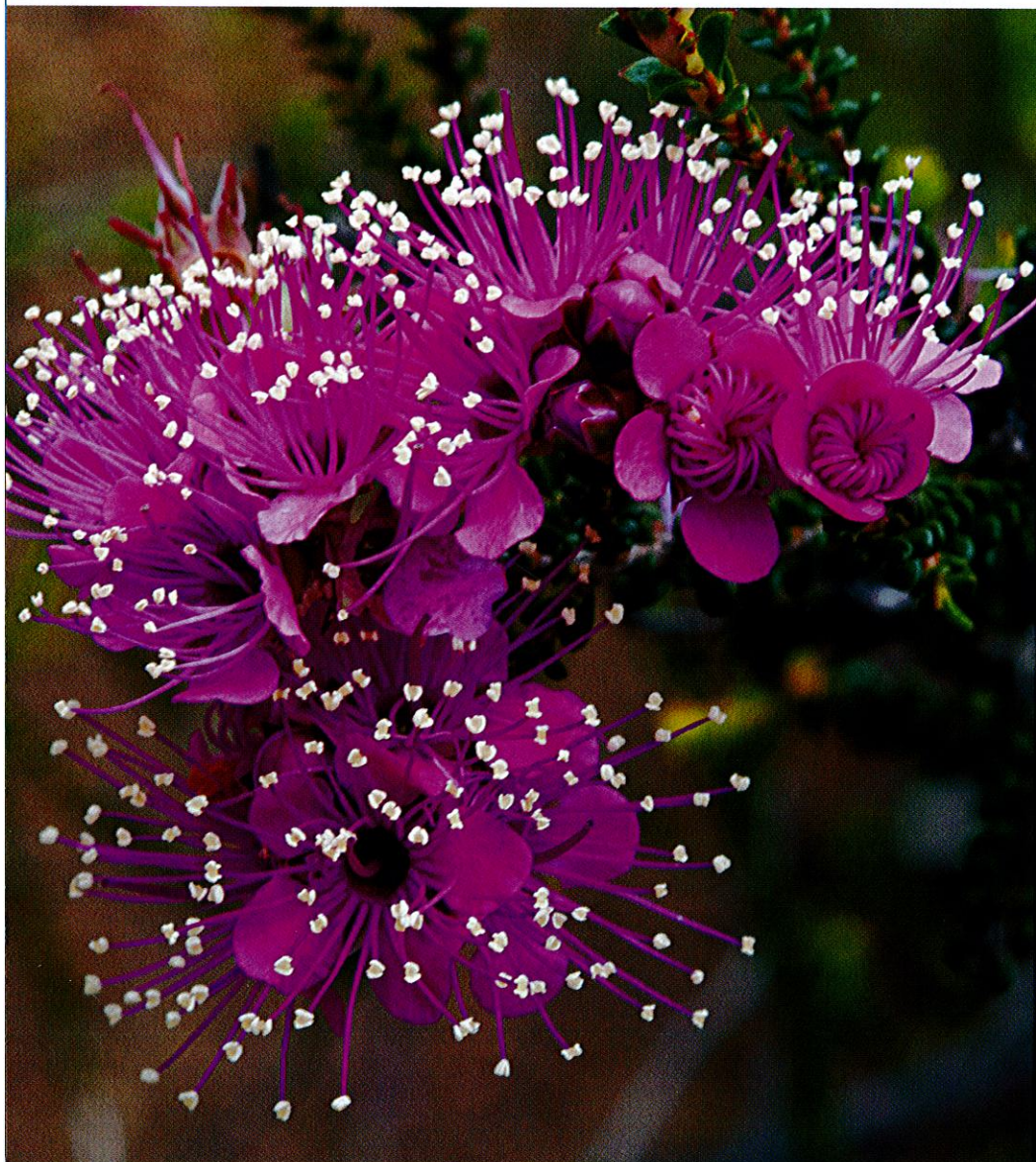
**Centre left** Granite clawflower (*Calothamnus graniticus*), Meelup Regional Park, Cape Naturaliste.

**Above** Common cats paw (*Anigozanthos humilis*), Badgingarra.

Photos - Sue Morrison

**Left** Coastal banjine (*Pimelea ferruginea*), Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park.

Photo - Ann Storrie



**Top left** Kunzea (*Kunzea ciliata*), Quindalup.

Photo - Sue Morrison

**Top right** Candle cranberry (*Astroloma foliosum*), Mundy Regional Park, Perth.

Photo - Marie Lochman

**Above** Sundew wattle (*Acacia anasilla*), Purnululu National Park, Kimberley.

Photo - Jiri Lochman

**Left** An island of everlastings (*Cephalopteris drummondii*) at Thundelarra former pastoral lease in the Murchison.

Photo - Cliff Winfield

Opposite page

**Top right** A typical rural scene at Paynes Find during the wildflower season.

Photo - Sallyanne Cousans

**Right** Rock thryptomene (*Thryptomene saxicola*) in Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park.

Photo - Ann Storrie



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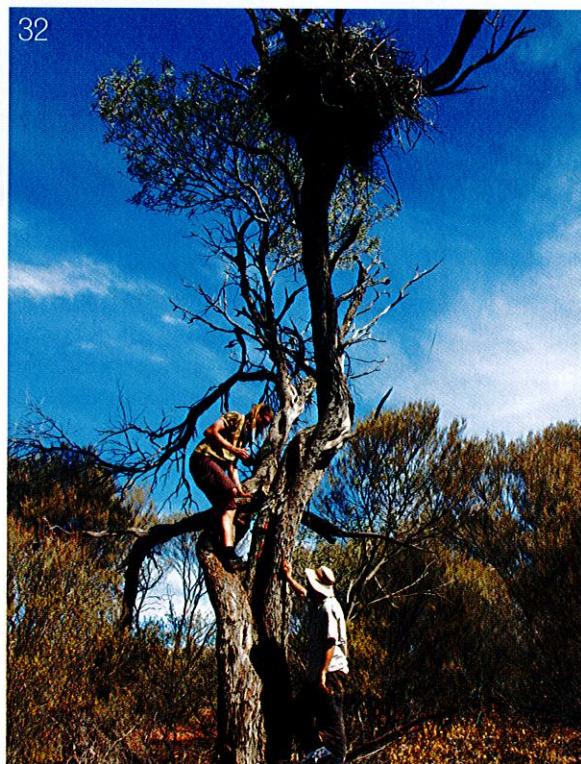
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