



Christmas at the ANBG - and beyond

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With thanks for helpful
suggestions and corrections
from other ANBG guides



Australian Christmas Connections

Blandfordia nobilis

Ceratopetalum gummiferum

Bursaria spinosa

Prostanthera lasianthos

Nuytsia floribunda

Hakea preissii

Eucalyptus socialis

Calanthe triplicata

Grevillea bipinnatifida 'Jingle Bells'

Grevillea pteridifolia

Non-Australian (Myrtaceae)

Metrosideros excelsa

My choice:

Grevillea robusta

Christmas Bell – Sydney

Christmas Bush – NSW

Christmas Bush – SA and Tas

Christmas Bush – Victoria

Christmas Tree – WA

Christmas Hakea

Christmas Mallee

Christmas Orchid

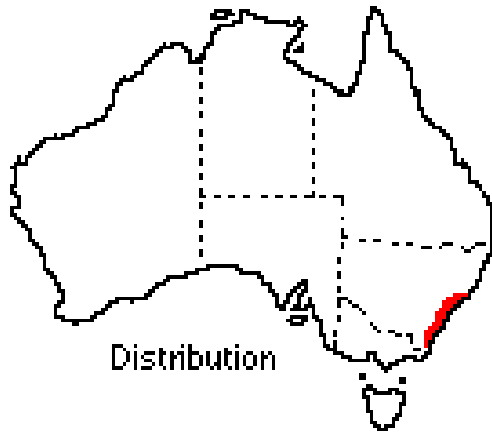
'Jingle Bells'

Kimberley Christmas Tree

Christmas Tree/Bush - NZ

Silky Oak

Blandfordia nobilis - Christmas Bell



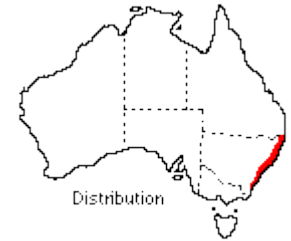
Source:<http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/gnp3/blandfordia-nobilis.html>

- Family:** Blandfordiaceae
- What:** tufted perennial herb, strappy green leaves are up to 75 cm
- Where:** NSW (sandstone)
- When (in flower):** Christmas (usually)
- Location in ANBG:** VC? Sydney Region Basin - S191

- Name:**
- Blandfordia* after George Spencer-Churchill (1766-1840), Marquis of Blandford;
- nobilis* famous, noble

Ceratopetalum gummiferum

NSW Christmas Bush



Photos: Brian Walters

The white flowers appear in October (above).....followed by the red sepals at around Christmas time (right).

Family:

Cunoniaceae

What:

large shrub or small tree (up to 10m)

Where:

open forest and rainforest - NSW

When (in flower):

October – red sepals (X-mas)

Location in ANBG:

191d-j-k-t, j5, n16, 37, j42, 87, 142.

- S191: near glasshouse s, east of Red Centre

- S37: upper Eucalypt lawn, SE of the Burbidge amphitheatre

Name:

Ceratopetalum:

from Greek *ceras*, a horn and *petalon*, a petal, referring to the petal shape of one species.

Gummiferum: producing a gum

Bursaria spinosa

Christmas Bush

Tasmania and South Australia



Photo: Brian Walters

Family:	Pittosporaceae
What:	Shrub to 3-4m. Prickly.
Where:	East Coast, Brindabellas
When (in flower):	mid-summer
Location in ANBG:	S33-96-111-165- 175-191 -193-197 - S191: Sydney Region Basin - S175: below VIC

Name:

Bursaria: Latin: *bursa*, a purse, alluding to the purse-like seed capsules.
Spinosa: Latin: *spinus*, spiny or thorny, referring to the spiny branches.

Prostanthera lasianthos

Victorian Christmas Bush



Photo: EW, Tasmania, 2011

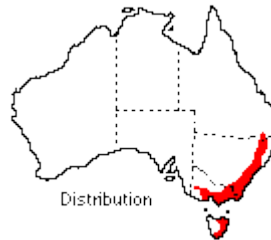


Photo:

- Family:** Lamiaceae
- What:** bush from 2-10m
- Where:** Eastern states
- When (in flower):** November - January
- Location in ANBG:** j5-6-191b+d, **148, 147**

In rainforest:

- S148: on the left of the main boardwalk, not far from the clock
- S147: on the left, over stone steps going down into the lower rainforest

Name:

Prostanthera: from Greek words meaning appendage and anther, referring to the structure of the stamens

Lasianthos: hairy flowers

Nuytsia floribunda

W.A. Christmas Tree



Photo: Els Wynen, WA, 2013

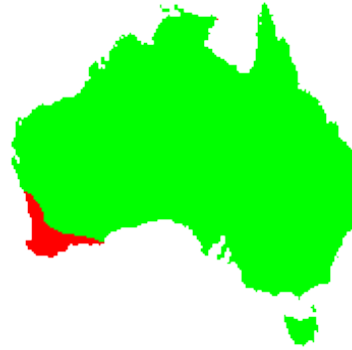


Photo: O.Roberts, from <http://anpsa.org.au/n-flo.html>

Family: Loranthaceae

What: root-parasite

Where: WA

When (in flower): summer

Location in ANBG: no

Name:

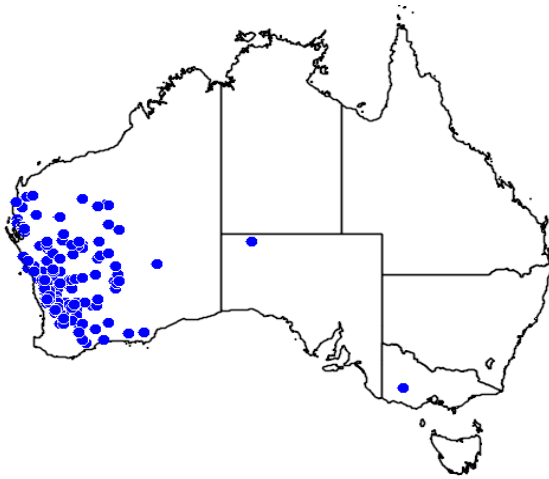
Nuytsia:

after Pieter Nuyts, member of the Council of Dutch Indies and 17th century explorer in south western Australia

Floribunda:

from Latin *floribundus*, profusely flowering

Hakea preissii - Christmas Hakea



Source: <http://www.australianplants.com/plants.aspx?id=1704>



Source: [Australian Plant Image Index](#). Image by: Fagg, M.

Family:	Proteaceae
What:	Shrub or tree to 8m
Where:	WA (mainly)
When (in flower):	August-Oct. (Dec.)
Location in ANBG:	No

Name:

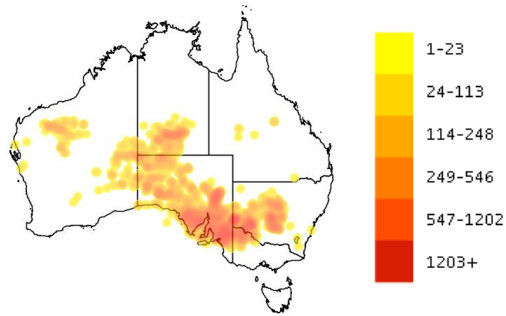
Hakea: after Baron Christian Ludwig von Hake, a patron of botany
preissii: [Ludwig Preiss](#) (1811-1883) , who made copious collections in Western Australia from 1838 to 1842

Eucalyptus socialis

Christmas Mallee



Source: Australian Plant Image Index Image by: Fagg, M.



Source: <http://bie.ala.org.au/species/Christmas+Mallee>



Source: EW, ANBG, Dec. 2012

Family: Myrtaceae

Location: all states, except Tas.
Height: 6m (sometimes 12m!)
Other names: Red Mallee; Giant Mallee
Location in ANBG: Eastern Mallee,
S33, 96, 211, 165, 175, **191**, 193, 197

Name:

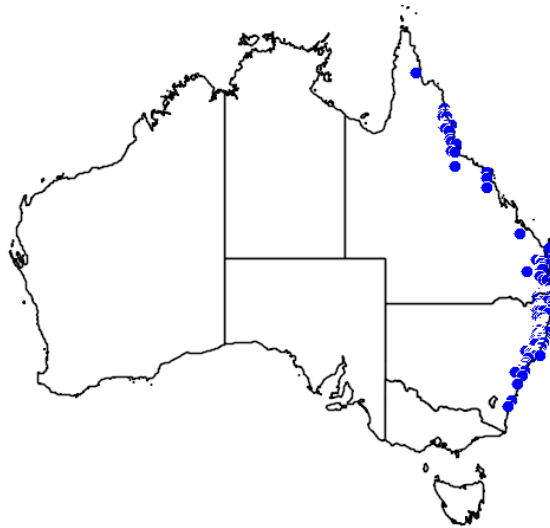
Eucalyptus: well covered

socialis: friendly; ref. to occurrence with several other species



Source: http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/0e0f0504-0103-430d-8004-060d07080d04/media/Html/taxon/Calanthe_triplicata.htm

Calanthe triplicata – Christmas Orchid



Source:
http://orchids.wikia.com/wiki/Calanthe_triplicata?file=Calanthe_triplicata.jpg

- Family:** Orchidaceae
- What:** Orchid
- Where:** Cape York Peninsular and NE Qld, south as far as south-eastern NSW; occurs also in Asia and the Pacific islands
- When (in flower):** Summer - autumn
- Location in ANBG:** ANBG Visitors Centre (Dec. 2012)

Grevillea bipinnatifida 'Jingle Bells'



Photos: EW, ANBG, 2013

Family: Proteaceae
What: Small bush – from 0.5 to 2m
Where: WA
When (in flower): all year?
Location in ANBG: S124

Name:
Grevillea: Charles Francis Greville, co-founder of the Royal Horticultural Society.
bi: twice
pinnatus: feathered
fidus: divided, usually in the outer third, in reference to the leaves

Grevillea pteridifolia

Kimberley Christmas Tree



Family: Proteaceae

What: Prostrate (up to 5 m) to small tree.

Where: Tropical Australia and adjacent islands

When (in flower): Christmas?

Location in ANBG: No

Name:

Grevillea: Charles Francis Greville, co-founder of the Royal Horticultural Society

Pteridifolia: foliage like the fern *Pteris*.

Metrosideros excelsa

NZ Christmas Tree/ Ironwood/ Pohutukawa ('sprinkled with spray')



Photo: EW, Devonport, Jan. 2011



Photo: EW, Devonport, Jan. 2011

- Family:** Myrtaceae
- What:** Tree: 12m – 25m
- Where:** NZ (endemic)
(grows well in salt and sandy environments)
- When (in flower):** summer
- Location in ANBG:** not

Name:

Metrosideros: iron heart

excelsa: tall

Grevillea robusta



Family:	Proteaceae
What:	Tree
Where:	SE Qld and NE NSW
When (in flower):	summer
Location in ANBG:	S78



Photos:

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Grevillea+robusta&go=&q=bs&form=QBIR#>

Name:

Grevillea: Charles Francis Greville, co-founder of the Royal Horticultural Society
robusta: tall?