



WILDFLOWER REPORT

8th August 2018

Well we are off to a rather slow chilly start to the season so we are hoping a few sunny days are on the way. We have had some early orchids out for a couple of weeks and we anticipate flowering will progress rather quickly once we get some fine weather. Refer below for a brief summary of the current wildflower status for our area.

Hint – check for pink tape within our reserves as an indicator of flowers in that area.

Mia Moon Reserve – approx. 7km's north of Dalwallinu turn left onto Nugadong West Rd, (sign currently missing but also signposted airstrip). Turn left at the Wubin-Gunyidi intersection and travel a few further km's to the reserve. On the right hand side of the drive as you come in the entrance just off the track into the bush are good numbers of blue fairy orchids, quite a few snail orchids and a few pink candy. There are many more to come and spider buds in this area also. There are a lot of orchids throughout the bush but there is no defined path to follow. If you drive into the main reserve the yellow and white pom, poms are beginning to bloom and there are many other orchid bases present. Places to look include a walk around the edge of the granite rock back towards the road & gnamma hole, particularly in amongst the pincushion plants where leek orchids and bee orchids are on their way. Well into the bush opposite the turnaround circle are more blue fairy and a few spider buds also. **Further west from Mia Moon on the Wubin-Gunyidi Rd (few hundred metres) and opposite the old Mia Moon school site is another granite outcrop.** If you are keen, spots to explore include the eastern and western ends of the rock in amongst the pincushions and under the bush at the southern edge of rock. On the opposite side of the road around the old school site is worth a look, the wattle are just gorgeous here and if you walk back along that side there are some green veined shell orchids in a cluster just off the edge of the road.

Petrudor Rocks – our favourite picnic spot is looking lovely again with water in the natural rock pool and a smattering of pink and white everlastings in bud. Orchids spotted here 1.5 weeks ago included blue fairy & leek orchids plus spider buds.

Xantippe Tank – blue fairy and leek orchids spotted 29/7.

Buntine Rock- accessible for **4WD or AWD** with decent clearance as the track in is not in good condition. Blue fairy orchids and pink candy found here, cowslips a few weeks away yet.

Wreath Lechenaultia – good numbers on Goodlands Rd that are small dinner plate size **just** starting to flower, not in full bloom yet. A long way out of town so not recommended at this stage unless it suits your travel route. If so check between first and second grid on right hand side as you come onto the gravel section from the south end. There are other patches on this road so keep your eyes peeled.

Town walks – In the bush walks around town, snail, blue fairy, spider and green veined shell orchids have been spotted in the last week by locals, so you might see some of these if you are out stretching your legs.

Refer to Dalwallinu brochures for directions to mentioned locations

We do recommend you touch base with the Visitor Centres in the surrounding areas as you travel through for the most up to date information on their locations.