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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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will be rewarded by a kaleidoscopic array of orchids which include Spider, (*Caledonia spp.*), *Mantis Orchid* (*Caladenia dilatata*) and *Donkey*, (*Diuris spp.*), orchids. The old cricket ground on the left and the school site on the right are recommended areas to locate these unique and diverse wildflowers.

Ten Mile Road-Toolibin Road

White Tea-tree, Yellow Verticordia, **Native Apricots**, (*Pittsporum phylliraeoides*) and Tennis-ball Banksia, (*Banksia sphaerocarpa*) can be seen along Ten Mile Road. Toolibin North Road can be used as an alternative route to the wildflowers of the Harrismith area.

Harrismith Tincurrin Area

The wild flowers of the sandplain areas are the most spectacular to be found within the Shire of Wickepin. The mallee heath found here is dominated by the three largest botanical families to be found in Australia, that is *Epacridaceae*, Heaths. *Myrtaceae*, Waxes, verticordias, eucalyptus, and Bottlebrush. *Proteaceae*, Banksias, Grevilleas and Isopogans.

The areas surrounding the Harrismith Townsite will delight the visitor with an endless array of the curious, beautiful and diverse. The colour of the wildflowers at spring time is magnificent.

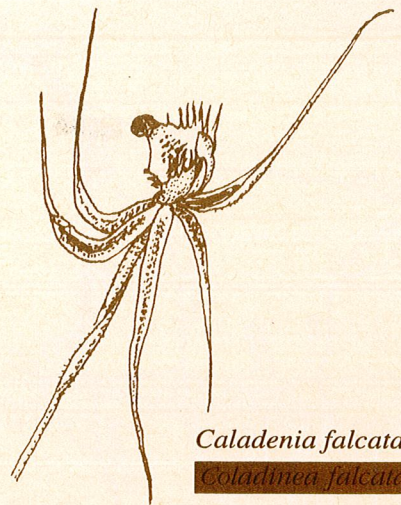
The airstrip just south of the town site is worth a special visit. A rare form of Geraldton Wax has been found here.

Returning to Wickepin via Line road, you will see that places of special flora are marked. This road has many interesting and unusual specimens including a rare prostrate banksia and the large pale green *Banksia baueri* mostly found on the south coast.

At the western end of Line road an area worth exploring is the old Toolibin town site. Several good specimens of Marri are here.

There is an excellent stand of Acorn Banksia at the road intersection. On cemetery road the most easterly range in WA of Marri can be observed. Nearby Lake Toolibin is unique in that it is a relatively fresh water lake, as during the summer time it is classified as salty. Local conservation groups have won awards for their efforts in protecting their farmland from salt encroachment.

Don't forget to visit the Facey homestead (8) whilst in this area.



Caladenia falcata

Caladenia falcata

TREES of the WICKEPIN SHIRE

Dominant woodland trees of the Wickepin Shire are **York Gum**, (*Eucalyptus loxophleba*), **Salmon Gum**, (*Eucalyptus salmonphloia*) and **Wandoo**, (*Eucalyptus wandoo*) and **Red Morrel**, (*Eucalyptus oleosa*).

The **York Gum** is often a straggly, multiple branched tree, with rough dark grey bark. It is often seen growing in association with the **Jam tree**, (*Acacia acuminata*). Jam trees were so named because the newly sawn timber is purported to have the odour of raspberry jam.

Wandoo is the Aboriginal word for this knarled woodland tree which has creamy white bark is often spotted with grey.

Another tree commonly known by its Aboriginal name is **Marri, or Red Gum** *Eucalyptus calophyllya*. The tree is easily identified by its large globular fruit and thick broadly pointed leaves.

The salmon pink timber colour is the reason for the common name for Salmon Gums. The bark of these beautiful trees varies from a copper pink colour during autumn, changing to a whitish grey with purple patterns later in the year.

Quondong, (*Santalum acuminatum*), and **Sandalwood**, (*Santalum spicatum*), were both common trees in the area, but are now only present in isolated locations. Sandalwood was exploited for its aromatic wood as it was exported to Asia to make joss sticks. Many of the earliest Europeans in the area were the Sandalwood gatherers.

Remember the Country Code

Take nothing but photographs.
Leave nothing but footprints.

Traffic Safety

When stopping by the roadside, signal your intentions in plenty of time to alert following traffic.
Do not park on crests or curves, or where traffic visibility is restricted.

Facilities Available

WICKEPIN Petrol, Hotel, Caravan Park, General Store, Deli, Garage, Art & Craft Shop.
YEALERING: Petrol, Hotel, Caravan Park, General Store, & Historical Display, Garage.
HARRISMITH: Hotel, Petrol.
TINCURRIN: General Store, Petrol.
Nearest Autogas is at Narrogin or Corrigin.



Lechenaultia tubiflora

Further Information Contact

CALM Narrogin District Office,
(098) 81 1113

Shire of Wickepin
Wogolin Rd, Wickepin
(098) 88 1005

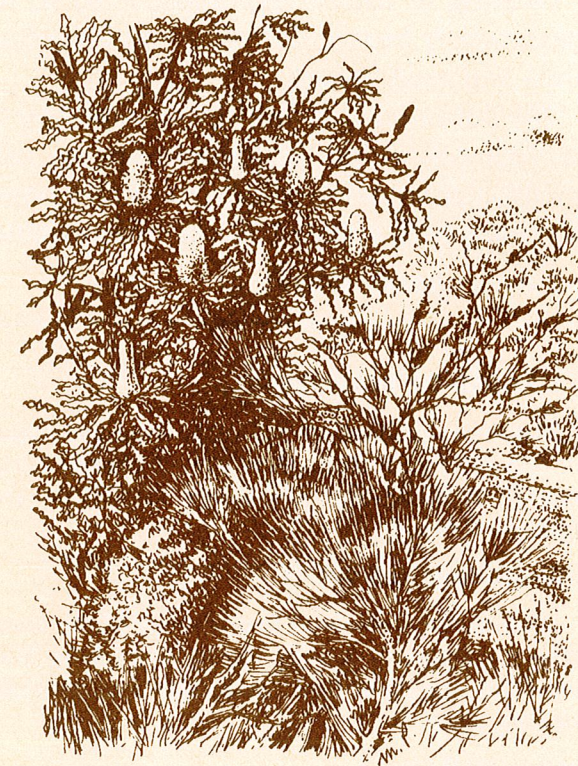
Wickepin Newsagency
(098) 881070

Yealering Store: (098) 887013

Roadside Conservation Committee,
50 Hayman Rd COMO 6152. (09) 334 0423
Produced by the
Roadside Conservation Committee, May 1994.



Wickepin Wildflower Tours



Welcome to Wickepin

Wickepin is located 210 kilometres south east of Perth, in the rich agricultural lands of the central southern region. This area, steeped in a colonial history of the 'Facey genre', is interspersed with a floral bounty waiting to be discovered by YOU

Visitors to the district are often surprised at the beauty and variance of plant habitat that Wickepin and surrounding districts offer. They are located in one of the most diverse regions of plant life in the world.

Clearing of native vegetation, > 90 %, for agriculture means that remnants of this diverse and spectacularly beautiful flora are now confined to a few conservation reserves, isolated remnants on farms and road verges.

The importance of corridors, formed by the roadside vegetation, can not be overstated. They are the vital link in the natural ecosystems, often enabling animals to move between the remnants. Besides conservation values, roadsides provide valuable shelter for adjoining farmland and provide the visitor with a glimpse of our unique natural heritage.

Enjoy your visit

Wickepin of Yesteryear

Numerous historical sites from the bygone colonial era can be found throughout the Wickepin area. Several of these that are easily accessible are highlighted here.

Gillimanning Hall Site 3

A memorial stone is all that remains of this once active community. A wide variety of orchids, best seen from August to Sept., make this a worthwhile stopping place.

Tarling Well Site 2

This site was proposed as a town site to be known as Tarling. Rough barked York Gums now shade the remains of an old wooded trough and stone lined well. A place to stop and ponder on bygone days.

Albert Facey House 8

The Facey Homestead provides visitors with an insight to the hardships settlers. Visitors should check at the Shire office for opening times. A small entry fee applies.

Wickepin to Yealering

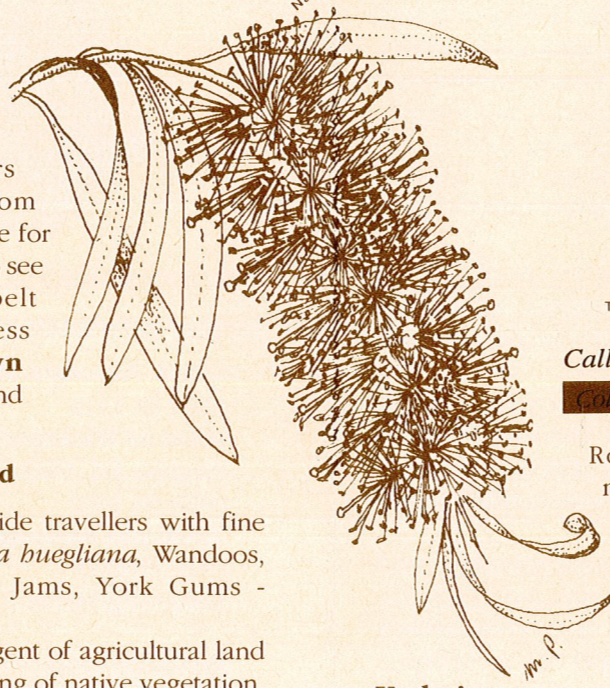
Wickepin Cemetery

Reserve 1
The first stop for visitors travelling to Yealering from Wickepin is the cemetery reserve for it provides a good opportunity to see a wide range of wheatbelt wildflowers. Some of the less common tree such as **Brown Mallet**, (*Eucalyptus astrigens*) and **Silver Mallet**, (*E. falcata*)

Wickepin North - Russell Road

These tree lined roads provide travellers with fine examples of **Sheoaks**, *Casurina huegliana*, Wandoos, Salmon Gums Sandalwoods, Jams, York Gums - Blackboys & Morrels.

Salt is a major degradation agent of agricultural land in WA. It is caused by over clearing of native vegetation, which allows the water table to bring dissolved salts into the root zone. Approximately midway along Russell

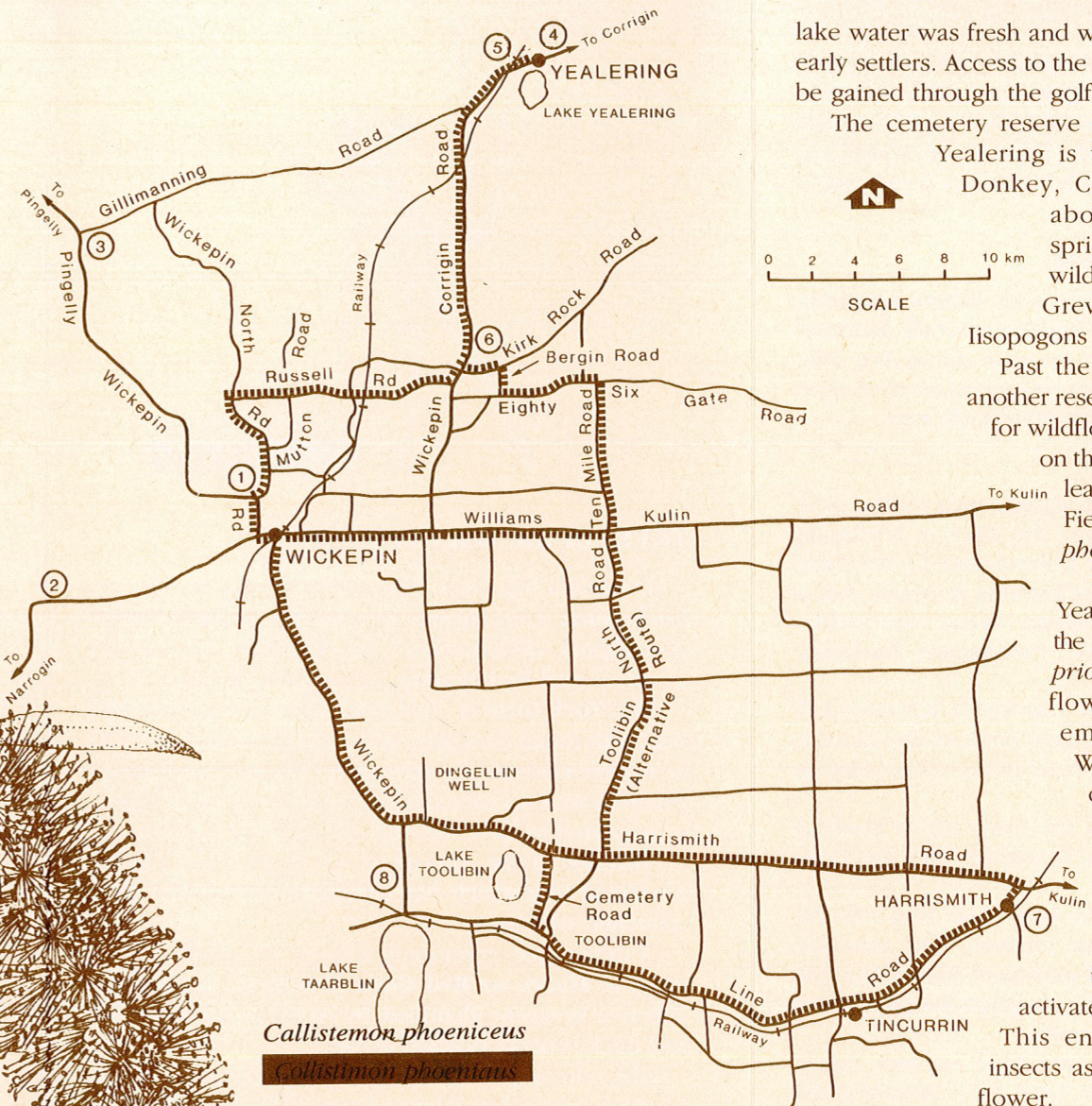


Callistemon phoeniceus

Callistemon phoeniceus

Yealering

Yealering was established in 1907. At that time the



lake water was fresh and was a valuable source for the early settlers. Access to the eastern side of the lake may be gained through the golf club entrance.

The cemetery reserve (4) on the eastern side of Yealering is worthy of a visit. Spider, Donkey, Cowslip and Wax orchids, abound from late winter to spring. Many other species of wildflowers such as Verticordias, Grevilleas, Leschenaultias and Isopogons are prolific.

Past the school, west of Yealering, another reserve (5) well worth exploring for wildflowers is to be found. A track on the western end of this reserve leads to a magnificent stand of Fiery Bottle-brush (*Callistemon phoeniceus*).

Several kilometres south of Yealering an imposing stand of the **Acorn Banksia**, (*Banksia prionotes*), line the road. The flowers, which are the floral emblem of the shire of Wickepin, are at their best during March and April.

At the railway crossing on this road several species of Trigger Plants, *Stylidium spp.*, can be found. These plants have a pollen loaded trigger mechanism which is

activated by nectar seeking insects. This ensures pollination by the insects as they move from flower to flower.

Malyalling Rock Reserve 6

Malyalling Rock is typical of the granite outcrops found throughout the southwest. They were utilised by Aboriginals and Europeans as water catchment surfaces.

Magnificent examples of Salmon Gum can be seen at the entrance to the Malyalling Rock Reserve. They are particularly attractive in the afternoon light during autumn.

Visitors to this historical precinct during the spring