



EucMedia 11

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Malcolm French

Feb 2019

A big welcome to **EucMedia 11.**

Western Australia has had a flowering bonanza across most genera in 2018 with the genus *Eucalyptus* presenting an awesome display...



Eucalyptus macrocarpa subsp. *macrocarpa* (mottlecah)

On the flowering front,

Eucalyptus conferruminata
(Bald Island marlock),

was splendid and with this flower cluster
13 cm wide.

Nature's design of its buds and fruits is quite
amazing .



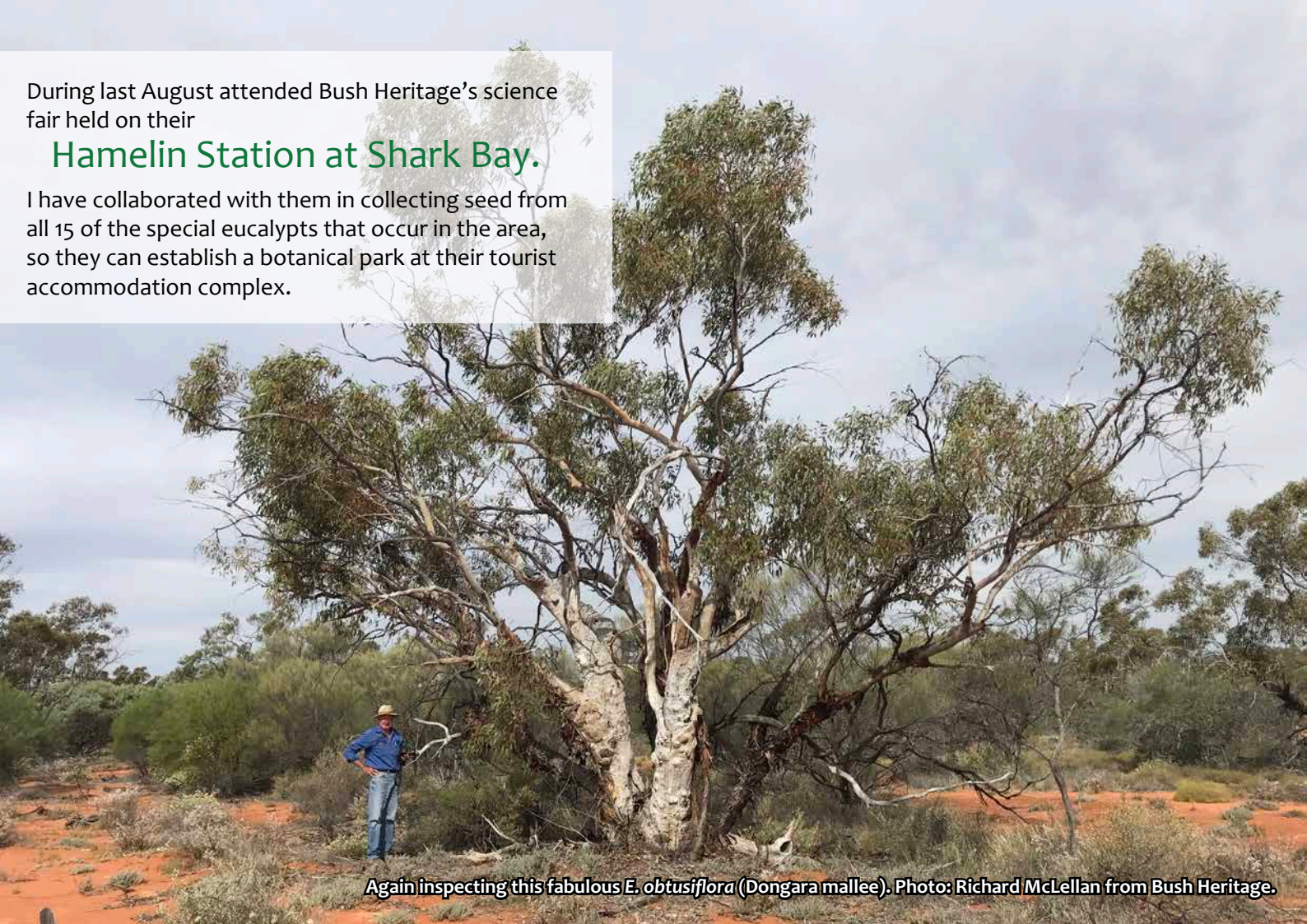


Yours truly inspecting the abundant fruit of the rare *E. beardiana* (Beard's mallee). Photo: Richard McLellan from Bush Heritage.

During last August attended Bush Heritage's science fair held on their

Hamelin Station at Shark Bay.

I have collaborated with them in collecting seed from all 15 of the special eucalypts that occur in the area, so they can establish a botanical park at their tourist accommodation complex.



Again inspecting this fabulous *E. obtusiflora* (Dongara mallee). Photo: Richard McLellan from Bush Heritage.

With Richard McLellan and Michelle Judd from the Hamelin Station management team, I went next door to the Indian Ocean fronting

Tamala Station

for eucalypt research.

On top of the highest ocean cliffs in WA on this section of the

Zuytdorp Cliffs.

No eucalypts here, but not far away inland, in the first limestone dune swale, was

E. oraria (ooragmandee).

Its very bright green leaves are most conspicuous.



The Zuytdorp Cliffs. It's hang onto your hats here Richard!



E. oraria, Tamala Station



Well whats going on here? Interesting wind-shaped maze of stems.

A little further inland was surprised to find a good population of the

smooth-barked coolabah,
E. victrix.

On your next trip to Shark Bay check out Hamelin Station's excellent accommodation complex, where the botanical park will be established.



The bigger picture.

Introducing what I believe is the first recorded red-flowered variant of

E. dielsii
(cap-fruited mallet)

from a previously-unrecorded population on the Esperance Plains.



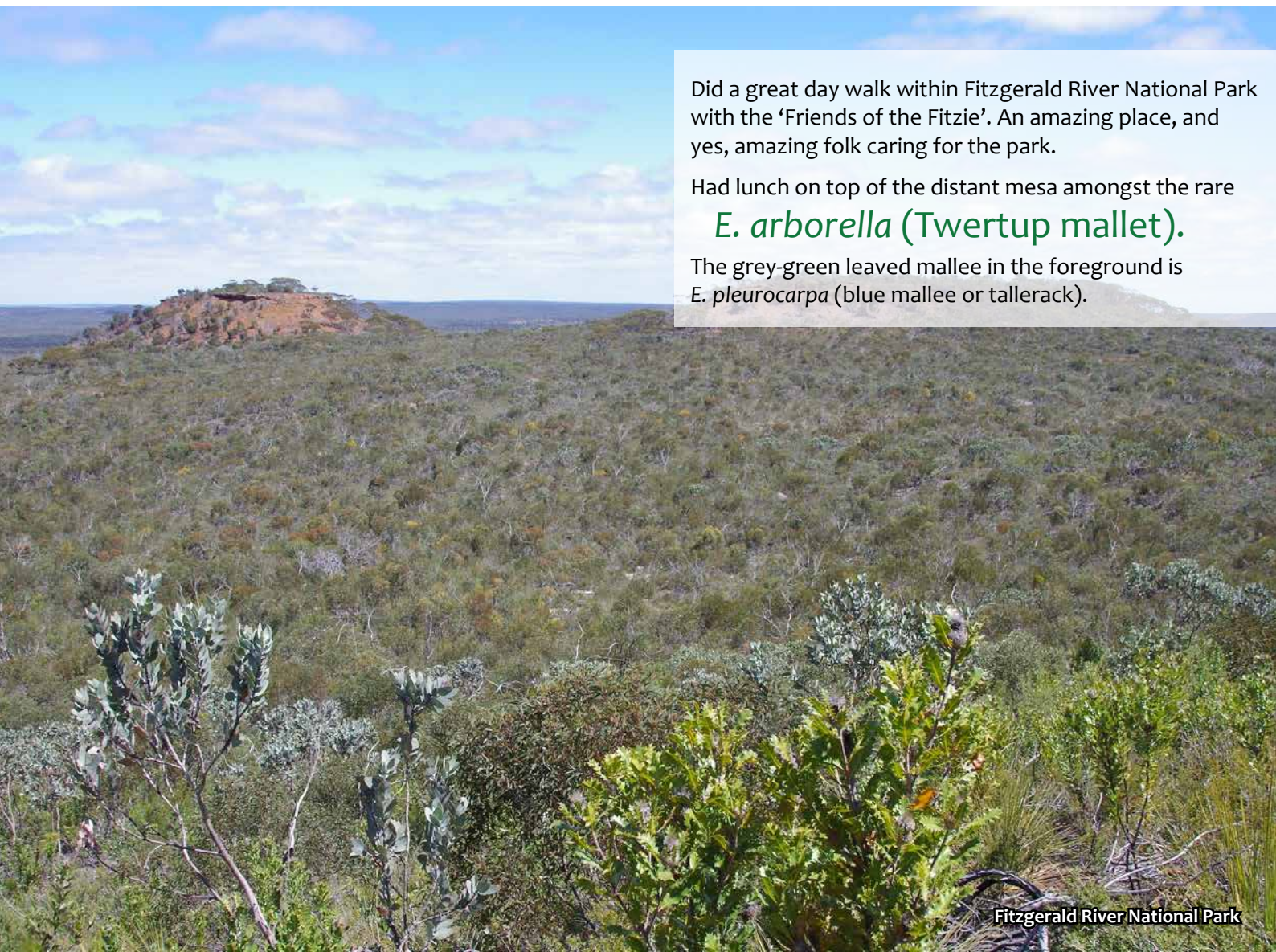
E. dielsii

Did a great day walk within Fitzgerald River National Park with the 'Friends of the Fitzie'. An amazing place, and yes, amazing folk caring for the park.

Had lunch on top of the distant mesa amongst the rare

E. arborella (Twertup mallet).

The grey-green leaved mallee in the foreground is *E. pleurocarpa* (blue mallee or tallerack).





E. arborella and its colourful streaked bark, Fitzgerald River National Park



E. arborella, Fitzgerald River National Park





E. tenuis (Mt Day mallet), Hyden-Norseman Road.

A quick trip to

Scamp Rock in the Goldfields.

You just cannot get enough of these woodlands.



E. vittata (ribbon-barked mallet) at The Breakaways, east of Hyden.



E. tenera (sand mallee), west shore of Lake Johnston.



White-trunked *E. urna* (merrit) and bronze-trunked gimlets, Scamp Rock track.

To top off 2018, I went out to the western region of the

Great Victoria Desert

between Christmas and New Year's day 2019 and was pleasantly surprised to find the desert in full bloom from a eucalypt view point.

Quite amazing really, with a few examples shown here.



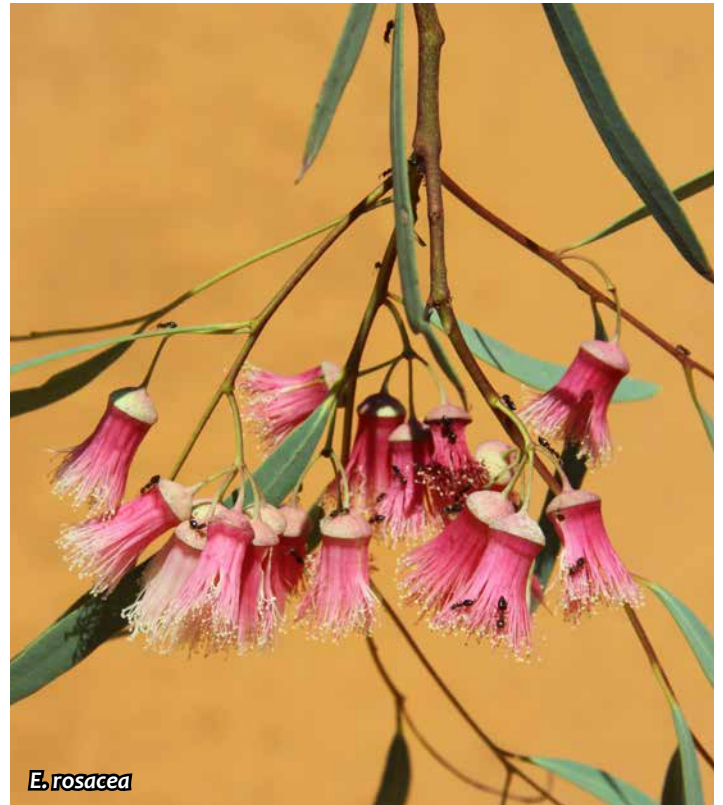
E. pimpiniana (pimpin mallee)



E. pimpiniana (pimpin mallee)



E. rosacea



E. rosacea



E. gypsophila (kopi mallee)



E. salubris (gimlet)

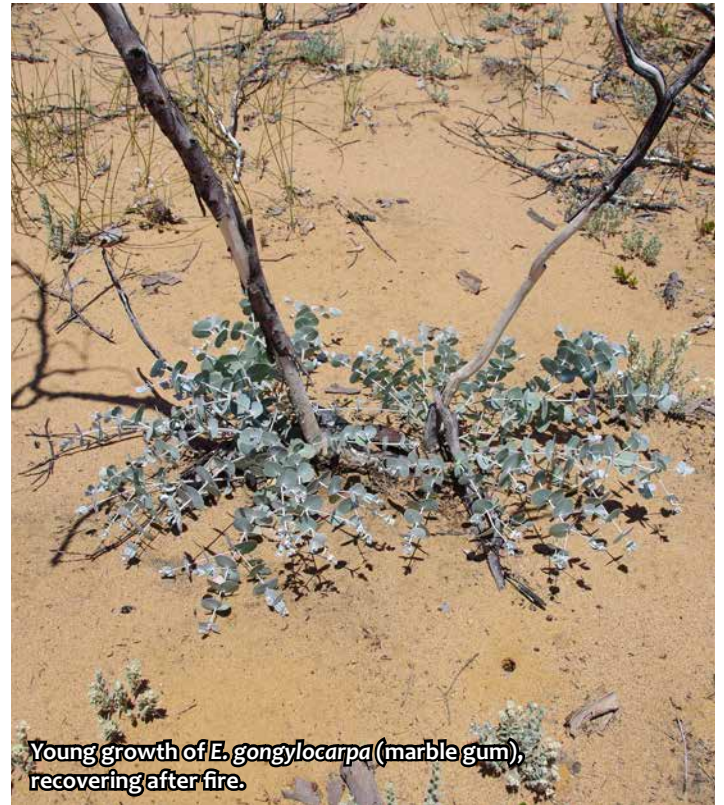
On my way, I visited one of the most easterly known

E. salubris (gimlet)

populations. In 1914, international forest authority Sir David Hutchins wrote of goldfield forests, 'salmon gums, gimlet and smaller gums are wonders of tree growth in such a climate'. I agree.



E. salubris (gimlet)



Just had to include the desert sanddune-dwelling
E. gongylocarpa (marble gum).

E. gongylocarpa (marble gum)

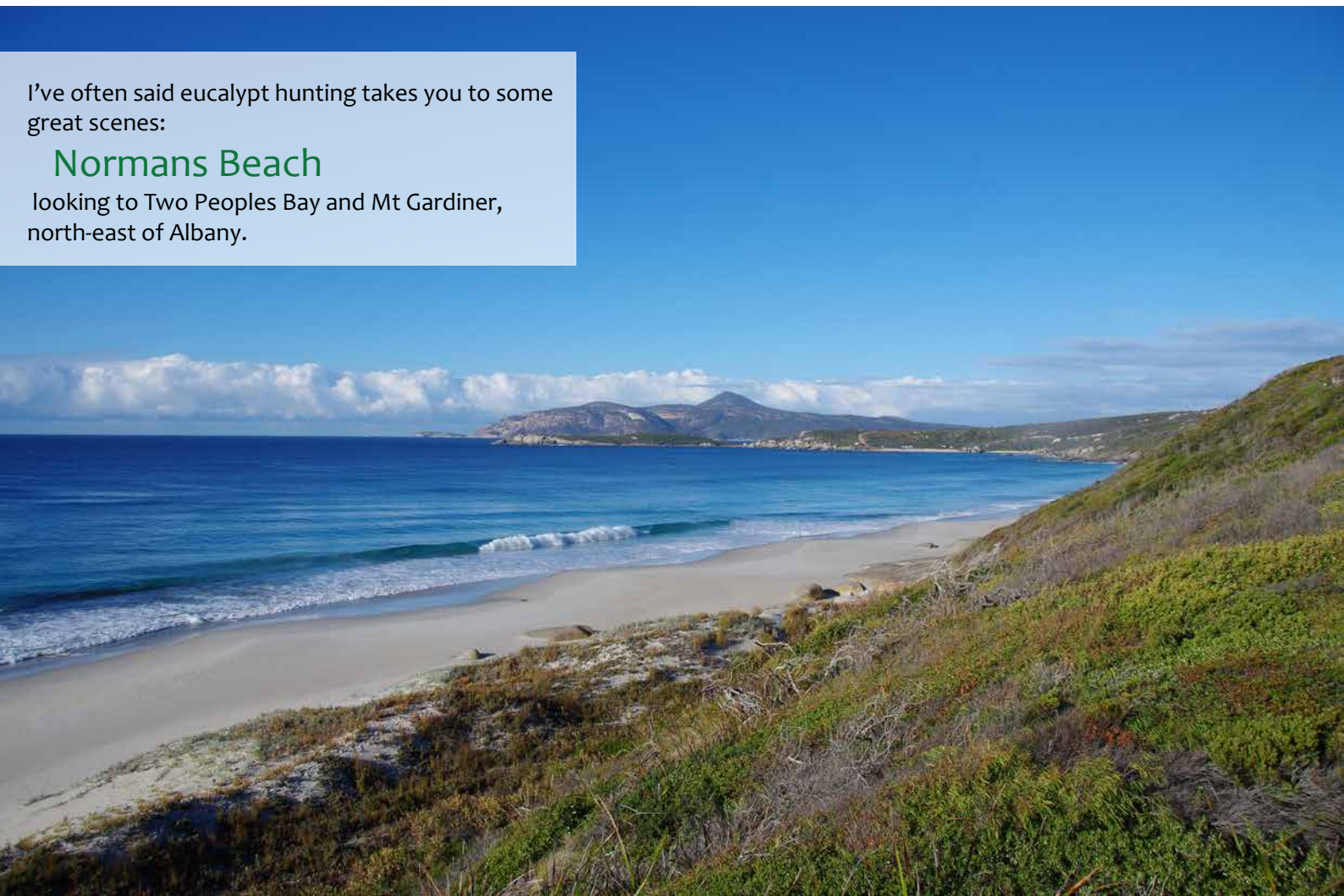


E. angulosa (coastal ridge-fruited mallee) overlooking West Cape Howe, west of Albany.

I've often said eucalypt hunting takes you to some great scenes:

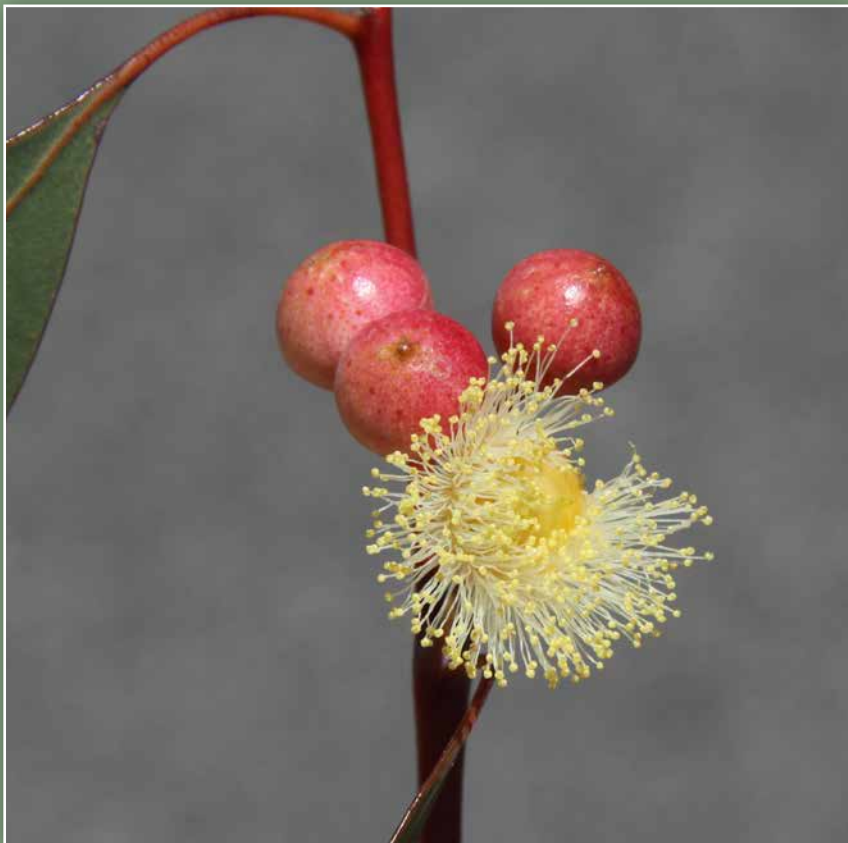
Normans Beach

looking to Two Peoples Bay and Mt Gardiner, north-east of Albany.





E. angulosa looking to Haul Off Rocks, south-east of Wellstead.



Captured one of our very rare eucalypts, *E. crucis* subsp. *praecipua* (Paynes Find mallee), only known from one rock outcrop in the lower Murchison region.

Wishing you a very prosperous 2019
Malcolm

Any comments or questions, please contact me at
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