

Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.



Friendship through Gardening

May 2022 Newsletter

What's on in May

9 May (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting to be held at Mittagong R.S.L.

Speaker: John Swainston – “A Virtual Rose Show.”

23 May (Monday) 10.30am

Garden Visit to Patty Mouhtouris' 'Prittlewell' – 21 Bodycotts Lane, Fitzroy Falls.

This will be a 'Biggest Morning Tea' in support of Can Assist.

What's on in June

6 June (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting and AGM to be held at Mittagong R.S.L.

Speaker: Todd Hill from Hill Potato Farming, Robertson

Note: *This is the first Monday of the month as the second is the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday*

27 June (Monday) 10.30am

“Pictures on the Big Screen” morning followed by soup and slices.

From the President

What a busy time we've had in the Highlands. The Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens held their major fund-raising event for the year on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April. They had a Plant Fair on site with stall holders from NSW and Victoria and arranged for 5 local gardens to be opened to the public. The gardens were well attended despite the rain, and all visitors seemed to have had a fine weekend of it.

There was also an area at the Botanic Gardens where 4 local garden clubs, a native garden club, 2 rose societies and the historic society all gathered to spread awareness of their existence.

It was a great opportunity to get to know each other and share ideas with each other as well as the public. We spoke to a myriad of folk, locals and groups from all over NSW. It was an interesting couple of days weatherwise, talk about 4 seasons in one day!

I was fortunate enough to pick up some fabulous plants. I bought 2 hippeastrums “Alfresco” from Nick who had travelled up from Silvan in Victoria and put them on our stall. They were admired by passers-by





purchased 3 creamy yellow Clivias at the bargain price of \$10 each. Now to find homes for them.



along with my magpies who came along for a day out. The children stopped and patted them and were somewhat surprised when they didn't fly away! I also

After doing days like this, I have a greater admiration for people who do markets every weekend. You do get to have some interesting conversations with people, but it's a long day. Thank you to my support team who gave freely of their time and did it so willingly. Your support for the club is much appreciated.

The next meeting is on Monday May 9 at 2pm. Our speaker will be John Swainston who will be giving a spectacular viewing of the last HGS Rose Show that was held virtually.

I hope to see you all there.

Deb



AGM - Committee

It is a requirement of the Club Constitution that these positions be declared vacant each year.

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- General Committee

As you know the AGM is approaching on Monday 6 June. This is your big opportunity to get more involved in the running of your club.

Please call Deb Evered 0402814119 or email

president@bowralgardenclub.com to express your interest.

It's a great way to meet more people in the club and have an influence on the way things are run. It can be fun, come on, have a go!

Anzac Day

In the April newsletter I posted a picture of the Anzac wreath made by Sue Ciscato. Thank you to Annette Lane and Pam Mildwater who laid the wreath at the memorial in Bowral on Monday and again, thanks to Sue for her artistic creation.



From the Editor

It's Camelia time in the Highlands and haven't they benefited from all the rain. I have 4 young Camelias and two are choc-o-block with flowers. I especially love Jennifer-Susan



Don't know what this one is called. Both trees are only about 3 foot tall. I also have Early Pearly and Fried Egg.

In this month's edition Erica doesn't know the name of some of her Camelias (can we help her out!) and Annette gives some handy tips for gardening in May.

Happy Gardening!

Ro2

Financials as at 29/04/22

Opening Balance 28/02/22	<u>\$14,883.10</u>
Cash Received	<u>\$75.00</u>
Exps Paid	<u>-\$363.75</u>
Closing Balance as at 29/04/22	<u>\$14,594.35</u>

Plant of the Month

I saw these plants at Bunnings last month and thought 'what an unusual plant'.

Smithatris is a genus of the ginger family (*Zingiberaceae*). The first species of this genus, *Smithatris supraneanae*, was named in 1998 by Kress and Larsen, two researchers from Denmark, in the limestone hills of Saraburi Province, Thailand.



The genus was thought to be monospecific until a second species, *Smithatris myanmarensis*, was discovered later in Myanmar. The genus was named after the Scottish botanist Rosemary M. Smith due to her extensive contributions to discoveries and reclassifications in the *Zingiberaceae* family.



Smithatris likes moist soils, well-drained soils, or fertile loamy soils. They need lots of water and occasional misting. Best grown in containers.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smithatris>

Muriel's Musings

Over the past few days, I've had several things happen to me that "cracked me up". I had a visit to my GP just for a medical referral, but when my details came up on screen it showed that I was due for my flu and pneumonia vax update. I was given 1 in my left arm and the other in my right arm with only a slight stinging felt. (I long ago worked out how to cope with needles without embarrassing myself by flinching or moaning. You simply press your tongue hard against the roof of your mouth). Which segues to a long, long-ago memory when I won't name names, a young member of the family came off their bike causing grazed hands and knees requiring a trip to Emergency just in case.

The young patient in the bed next to them was given a needle and 'yelped' whereupon our young family member promptly fainted, fell out of bed and split their head which then required a needle and a stitch or two. The fall out of bed must have caused amnesia for to this day they still can't remember that incident happening..... But I surely do.

I haven't had time to come up with a 'Thought for the day' because I'm laughing myself silly reading Jeremy Clarkson's 'Diddly Squat: a Year on the Farm. You can get it from the library when I've finished it.

Muriel



Gardening in May

By Annette Lane

During May tidy up the garden – weeding and removing damaged growth. Collect Autumn leaves and add to compost, garden beds and worm farms. For quicker decomposition spread leaves on the lawn first and mow over them.

It's time to dig up and divide bearded iris. Discard the 'mother' rhizome in the middle because it is spent. Replant and dress with a small amount of slow release rose food.



Last feed before winter for roses, camellias, magnolias and citrus fruit. Order your roses for August planting. There are wonderful new releases this year. Martha Clarke at Welby Garden Centre has a wealth of knowledge to share. She has ordered a huge variety for the rose planting season. Start preparing your rose beds now for future planting. Enrich your soil with organic matter and cow manure. Test the PH of your soil 5.6 to 6 is highly suitable for roses. If your PH level is low add lime.

It's "Tulip Time" I always plant my tulips around Mother's Day. Turn over the soil



prior to planting until it is fine and crumbly. Raise the beds for planting. Do not apply fertilizer in the bulb hole rather

top dress afterwards otherwise new bulb roots will burn. Cover with mushroom mulch. When growing, feed with liquid Sea Mungus.

Choose a Camellia Sasanqua if you want to plant a flowering bush that thrives in the Highlands. Local nurseries have a multitude of flowering specimens to choose from.

The Vegie Patch - Great time for vegie growing. The advantages are many - fewer insect pests, fewer diseases, less need to water and reduced stress on plants. Sow broad beans, peas and spring onions. Plant seedlings: cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, silver beet, Bok and Pak Choy. For a colourful display plant chards – red, yellow and orange stems.



Plant rhubarb crowns. Hopefully your neighbour or friend has a decent clump so they can share a crown or two. They are hungry plants so dig in plenty of wet rotted manure. When planting, water in with seaweed extract – my go to for everything in the garden is Sea Mungus.

Happy Gardening,

Annette

Let's play a game

By Erica Spinks

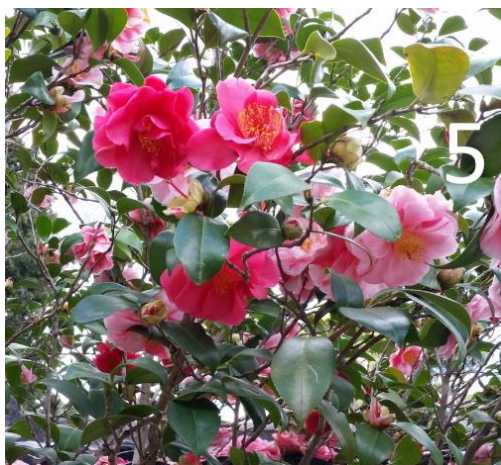
I like to know the plants' names so I can appear knowledgeable in front of my friends. Really, though, it's so I can address them by name when I talk to them. At present, I fondly call them all "gorgeous", as in "good morning, gorgeous" but that's a bit impersonal, don't you think?

Deb Evered thought some of our members would be able to help with identification so let's have a quiz. Here are photos of some of the camellias in my garden. Each one has a number, so it would be great to if you could send the number plus its name to Deb. We will put the results in our next newsletter so everyone can know.

So, please help me and my camellias. Then I'll know how to properly address them when I next speak to them!

Erica





Your Committee		
President:	Deb Evered	48621407
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Secretary:	Pam Mildwater	0402045516
Treasurer:	Sue Ciscato	0448112321
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Website: bowralgardenclub.com

Newsletter Editor: Rosalyn Mulligan



New South Wales Floral Art Association Inc

*Member of the Australian Floral Art Association (AFAA) and
the World Association of Floral Artists (WAFA)*

<https://nswfloralartassociation.org.au>

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Treasurer: Mary Sweeney

maryswee45@gmail.com – (m) 0419 466 751

Floral Design demonstrations and competitions will be held at Mittagong R.S.L. Club

Friday 20th May at 10am – 3.45pm & Saturday workshop 10am – 12.30pm

On Friday 10.15am to 11.45am Sue Fingleton from Queensland will be the featured demonstrator after winning the Best in Show & Most Successful at the National Convention 2021.

COST: Members – Friday \$25 & Saturday \$20

Non members – Friday \$30 & Saturday \$25

Individual demonstrations - \$10

Viewing of competition entries only – gold coin donation

For the program contact Show Secretary, Deidre Hill – ph 4887 1254

E: quindalupnursery@bigpond.com

www.nswfloralartassociation.org.au

SHBG Plant Fair.

