

Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.



Friendship through Gardening

Upcoming Club Meetings and Events

October

10 October (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting: Uniting Church Hall, Bowral. 'A Talk on Cliveas'.

Please bring a plate for afternoon tea.

15 October (Saturday):

Plant Stall - Ruth Bailey's home, 16 Shepherd St, Bowral.

8.30am - 2.30pm

18 - 20 October – Coach Tour

Mayfield Garden and Little Hartley.

7.30am departure from Mittagong RSL Club.

24 October (Monday) 10.30am

Visit to Diane Davis' Garden 311 Thirlmere Way, Thirlmere, followed by Jayne Blundell's Garden 110 Stratford Rd, Tahmoor.

November

14 November (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting: Uniting Church Hall, Bowral.

Speaker: Judith Oysten – 'The Historic Rose Lady'

28 November (Monday) 10.30am

Visit to Julianne Allan's Garden – 2 Blackett Pl, Bowral and Deb Evered's Garden 10 Blackett Pl, Bowral

President's Message

Well, here we are again.

Another month and still the rain keeps falling.

My roses are leafing up, as is my woodland of Silver Birches, but still the ground is sodden. Perhaps you would like to share some of your gardening success stories with other members or maybe you have some questions you need answered. Send a note to me or the Editor, Roz Mulligan and we can share your stories or queries with other members. We have a query in this month's edition. Do you have any good ideas for Dawn?

The Plant Stall is on Saturday 15 October 2022 at 16 Shepherd St Bowral from 8.30am – 2.30pm. I'm still looking for a couple of helpers for an hour or two, so please let me know if you can help. I hope you've been potting up plants to sell. They can be dropped off to Ruth Bailey's home on Friday 14 October after 12 midday. We need your assistance to make this event a success.

The Coach Trip to Mayfield and surrounds is still

scheduled for Tuesday 18 – Thursday 20 October 2022. At the moment, the numbers are low and the trip may not proceed. If you are planning to go, could you please let Ray Bradley know as soon as possible. Bookings close 3 October 2022. At this stage, we are unlikely to plan any overnight trips for next year.

Further in the newsletter, you will see an invitation to remember one of our popular members, Sue Kingsford. It has been a labour of love and respect establishing this rose garden at Harpers Mansion and you are invited to attend and enjoy some morning tea. Our thanks to all who worked on this garden.

Our next meeting on Monday 10 October 2022 at 2pm will be at the Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Bendooley St & Boolwey St, Bowral, and I encourage you all to bring a plate of yumminess to share for afternoon tea. If you are able to help set up, please let me know.

Keep smiling, people will wonder what you're up to.

Deb

What's on.....

13 October: Australian Garden History Society
(Southern Highlands Branch)
Rescheduled Coach Trip to the National Arboretum, a Private Garden at Griffith, and the Rose Gardens at Old Parliament House Canberra.
Enquiries / bookings: Ray Bradley
(e) rbb1945@bigpond.net.au
(m) 0416191 905

13 – 16 October: Berry Garden Festival 9.30am-4.00pm
<https://berrygardens.org.au/berry-gardens-festival/>

29 - 30 October: - Bundanoon Garden Ramble - 8 stunning gardens.
<https://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au/>

29 - 30th October: - Spring Central Tablelands Garden Trail is on again. Five fabulous and colourful gardens all located in the beautiful Hartley Valley.
Search: Central Tablelands Garden Trail for more information.

5 – 6 November: - Crookwell Garden Festival. One of the gardens open is Markdale.

From the Editor

*H*ave you bought a plant, planted it in the right place then it seems to die on you. Well, this happened to me, having bought a lovely blue clematis earlier in the year then all the rains came and I thought I'd lost it - drowned. I resisted and resisted the urge to dig it up over Autumn and Winter, then with the coming of Spring, lo and beholdnew growth. How happy I was to see those young shoots coming forth and now look forward to its flowering.

I think Mother Nature is toying with us, giving us one or two perfect days followed by days of rains, but the plants know its Spring and continue to burst with colour. On one of those perfect days, a Tuesday, I went down to Tulip Top Gardens and what a stunner it was. If you haven't visited Tulip Top then it is a must. An easy drive down to Sutton, just before Canberra, hidden in a small valley just off the highway you will be greeted with masses of pink flowering peach, pear and cherry trees (1,000 trees in fact) and 10 acres of magnificent tulips. Dogs are welcome and Daisy enjoyed sniffing around the garden enjoying her day out. Such a picturesque garden. Open 10th September- 16th October, 2022.

*H*ow busy are the Southern Highlands during Tulip Time. Visitors stop at the Information Centre in Mittagong to take pictures of the tulips then continue to Bowral. On the first day the line to Corbett Gardens was around the corner and down to the Post Office.

Folks just love Spring!
Happy Gardening!

Roz



Plant of the Month

Lily of the Valley



During her reign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was happiest surrounded by nature and animals. She enjoyed gardening and even had a favourite flower - Lily of the Valley with its delicate bell-shaped fragrant white flowers and fine, deep green leaves, grows in abundance at Buckingham Palace and brought Queen Elizabeth II

much joy throughout her 70-year-reign.

Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*) is a herbaceous perennial. It is part of the Liliaceae family and is native to Europe. During the flowering period in Spring slightly arching flower stems will appear and all along the stem will be dainty bell shaped flower heads. The flowers can either be coloured white or pink and have a beautiful perfume. Lily of the Valley prefers a shaded position in the garden that is cold and damp with plenty of compost and leaf mulch. They take a few years to become established and are best when undisturbed.

Source: <https://www.gardenexpress.com.au/growing-guide/lily-of-the-valley-growing-guide/>

Spring: the music of open windows. – Terri Guillemets

INVITATION

Sue Kingsford Dedication

Many of you knew Sue as an active member of many garden clubs and groups in our region, as well as an ardent supporter of roses, and as a friend.

A new rose bed has been established at Harper's Mansion in her memory, a dedication for which, will be held on **Thursday November 10 at 10:30am**. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Free entry to all garden group or club members and friends of Sue Kingsford.

Harper's Mansion
9 Wilkinson Street Berrima

Peter Rezek
Heritage Roses in Australia
Ph: 0413 153 650

Weather Wise

By Erica Spinks

The spring equinox has recently occurred and daylight saving starts soon. The turn of season and the artificial extension of daylight hours in the evenings can affect how often we can get out in our gardens each day. But it's the weather that has the most influence.

Don't you think we've had enough rain these past couple of years? The Bureau of Meteorology has again forecast a La Nina event for this spring and summer. More rain!

I've been surprised this year that some bulbs that didn't emerge last spring thrust upwards this year with a vengeance. Some I didn't know were there (I'm looking at you, Dutch Iris). My garden still has the potential to surprise me.

I had feared that many of the bulbs I planted over the past two years would have rotted, given all the rain we've had. Instead, they are lush and flowering brilliantly. You have to admire their strong will to live.



Given that the weather is not something we can control on a day-to-day basis, it's useful to create microclimates within our gardens. Planting windbreaks to protect fragile plants from prevailing winds, taking advantage of brick walls to provide extra warmth, and strategic placement of shade trees can all help our gardens thrive. May they continue to provide pleasure, no matter the weather.

Erica

Given recent events here's how to avoid a scam!

Four signs that it is a scam

Scammers:

- PRETEND to be from an organization you know
- say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE.
- PRESSURE you to act immediately.
- tell you to PAY in a specific way

What You Can Do to Avoid a Scam

- Block unwanted calls and text messages.
- Don't give your personal or financial information in response to a request that you didn't expect
- Resist the pressure to act immediately
- Know how scammers tell you to pay.
- Stop and talk to someone you trust.

Visit the site

<https://www.accc.gov.au/consumers/protecting-yourself/protecting-yourself-from-scams> for more information

Can we help Dawn?

I'd appreciate some advice please.

I'm wondering what I can plant to enjoy a flowering display in November (next year) as I have a home wedding then.

I'm a life-long local and know that our Springs are tumultuous. I also know that November is past the height of flowering so am not sure what to put in for a nice display. I'm a fairly confident gardener but the area in question is still shady up to late Sept. Help please. Many thanks

Dawn

Ray's Date and Ginger Slice

155g dates	60g preserved ginger
125g butter	3 cups cornflakes
1/3 cup sugar	

Put chopped dates, butter, sugar and finely chopped ginger into a saucepan, stir over low heat until dates are soft. Remove from heat, add cornflakes and mix well. Pour into a greased & lined greaseproof paper 7" x 11" lamington tin. Refrigerate until slice is cold and firm.

TOPPING: Melt 125g solid white vegetable shortening over low heat. Remove from heat, add 1 cup sifted drinking chocolate, stir with wooden spoon until smooth. Spread chocolate topping over slice, return to fridge until set. Cut into squares or slices.

Treasurer's Report as at 27th September, 2022

Opening Balance:	\$14,590.27
Income	1,927.08
Expenses	-648.70
Closing Balance:	\$15,868.65

Your Committee

President:	Deb Evered 48621407
Vice-President:	Ray Bradley 0416191905
Secretary:	Claire Wormleaton 0438627572
Treasurer:	Sue Ciscato 0448112321
Membership:	Sue Ciscato
Public Office:	Sue Ciscato
Welfare Officer:	Judith Lewis 0438523660
General committee:	Glenys Lilliendal, Judith Lewis, Deirdre White

Our Thanks to:

Mt. Murray Nursery for their continued support of our Club by providing the lucky door prizes each month.

Visit their web stie at:
<https://www.mtmurraynursery.com/> for gardening news and specials.

Did you know that Mt. Murray Nursery also offers members a 5% discount on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Just show your membership badge.

Website: bowralgardenclub.com
Newsletter Editor: Rosalyn Mulligan

October in the Garden

by Annette Lane

My motto this month: "Weed and Feed"!!

- Fertilise established fruit trees and vegetables
- After flowering, fertilise azaleas and camellias. I recommend the Neutrog product Kahoon.
- Prune hibiscus after flowering and of course fertilise.
- Do NOT cut off bulb foliage until it begins to yellow. Enhance next year's bulb production with liquid fertiliser application.
- Keep plants watered on dry or windy days to maintain Spring show.

****APHID ALERT, check new growth – particularly on roses and spray.*

CLEMATIS – The Star Performer.

The Southern Highlands climate is perfect for the beautiful flowering climbing clematis. They need a cool climate to thrive and we certainly provide that. Clematis look fragile but are robust when given regular watering and occasional liquid fertiliser.



My FAVOURITE BULB – THE tall BEARDED IRIS. -
What a show stopper in your October garden.



The Bearded Iris is the most exquisite flowering plant. Tall, elegant and flowers in all colours of the rainbow.

The Bearded Iris needs a sunny position that is protected from strong winds. It needs good drainage and grows best in loam that has plenty of compost added. When you feed your roses, feed the Iris it thrives on sudden Impact fertiliser.

The Vegie Patch – Where's your BEAN?

Green beans are still expensive to buy so grow your own.

Green Snap Beans produce high yields of stringless, reasonably small pods and are packed with flavour.

Plant in well prepared soil in a sunny sheltered position and sow 25mm deep in mounded rows. Seedlings will emerge from 12-16 days. Water well and liquid fertilise monthly. You will be eating delicious beans in 12 weeks from sowing. Yummy!!



As you harvest early crops fill the gaps with advanced seedlings of fast-growing leafy greens such as lettuce, spinach, rocket and basil.

Enjoy your longer days of daylight in the garden. Maybe a cocktail or a glass of wine to watch the sunset??

Cheers,

Annette.



BGC Plant Stall

Our Plant Stall for 2022 is to be held in October. You may remember we had to find a different venue from last year.



Thanks to the very generous offer from Ruth Bailey, the event will now be held at her home, 16 Shepherd St Bowral on Saturday 15th October 2022 from 8.30am - 2.30pm

This is a great joy and relief to the Committee, as it is a central location with good parking and a great space to display **ALL** our plants for sale.

Thank you, Ruth, this is a most generous contribution to the club.

You, as members can contribute to the success of this fundraising event by propagating and potting up some goodies.

From Catherine Kyngdon

*T*he white spring flowering tree is the highly fragrant *Virburnum tinus Laurustinus*. It was layered from "the mother" plant by a friend approx 30-35 years ago.



*A*nother spring-flowering tree is the *Acer negundo* var. *violaceum* (box elder maple). Its leaves start out copper-green in its late winter flush then deepens as it ages, turning golden yellow in autumn. Its pendulous clusters of reddish-violet flowers are impressive. Bought from Mt Murray Nursery around 20-25 years ago, this specimen has never self-seeded.

Catherine



Our garden visit to Meg and Clive Probyn's garden



*T*wenty-one club members and friends made a return visit to the Probyn's garden at Mittagong on Monday 26 September.

*A*lthough the daffodils were approaching the end of the flowering season there was still a nice display particularly with the tulips taking over and intermingled with them. The vast number of camellias scattered throughout the garden were still providing a good display as were the azaleas coming into flower.



*T*he constant rain over the past months has made the garden into a lush oasis ensuring many summer flowers as the seasons change.



*T*he morning concluded with an enjoyable morning tea provided by the members.

Ray





Rippon Lea House and Garden

And while you might think I've taken a break in Melbourne, this is just another working holiday!

I've been researching a National Trust property in Melbourne called Rippon Lea Estate in Elsternwick. I went there to have a garden visit but got the time wrong, so did a tour of the house beforehand. The house was completed in 1868 for a Frederick Sargood, a very wealthy Englishman. He was a visionary and practical which resulted in an underground watering system using reticulated water and a house having its own electricity supply.



Frederick Sargood was also a keen gardener who particularly loved orchids and ferns, Rippon Lea holds one of the largest and last known 19th century ferneries in Australia and the Southern Hemisphere.



As you enter the gates and drive up the serpentine drive, which would have no doubt been done in a buggy, you turn the corner to see the house. It was set on about 45 acres originally, but over the years has been reduced to 14 acres. The grounds originally accommodated gardens, both flower and vegetable, a rose garden, an orchard of fruit trees, a large pond with a grotto, horse stables, a boat house and the fernery.





Some of the original trees are still living and stand majestically throughout the gardens. This Morton Bay Fig looked stunning, as did the blossom trees. The Bunya Bunya Pines (indeed a conifer, not a pine) play an important role feeding the parrots who love the fruit.

They don't need bee hives, the bees construct their own homes on the boughs of trees.



Because the garden has few native plants, there are very few minor birds. These pests are in plague proportion and drive away the local prettier species, therefore, Rippon Lea has quite a variety of small pretty birds, two hawks and many ducks. They used to have peacocks but they have since passed.

This is a very popular venue for weddings, parties and functions or just a quiet wander by a lonely little 'Bowralite'.

Loved it!

Deb

