

Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Patrons: Chris & Charlotte Webb OAM



Friendship through Gardening

September 2019 Newsletter

What's on in September

9 September (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting. Speaker: Greg Slater from The Highlands Orchid Society. "Growing Orchids in the Garden"

16 September (Monday) 10.30am:

Garden visit to Annette Lane, 2A Bracken St, Mittagong

28 September (Saturday) 6pm:

Tulip Time Dinner
Bowral Hotel
Bong Bong Street, Bowral

What's on in October

14 October (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting. Speaker: Adele Stephenson from Rocky Point Mulching – specialising in mulches, compost, etc.

21 October (Monday) 10.30am:

Garden visit to Vonnice Littlemore's 17 Wilsons Lane, Exeter

28 October (Monday)

Bus trip to Fagan Park and Mother Earth Nursery



From the President

As I cruise around the Highlands, the daffodils are out and the trees are beginning to blossom, but where is Spring? The nights are still cold with potential frost, and I'm left wondering, do I prune my fuchsias or not? A little rain, but not enough. Driving between here and Canberra, the place looks really dry. I certainly don't envy the Floriade and our own Tulip Time gardeners trying to get it right.



Did many of you get to the Monet Exhibition at the National Gallery? It was very pleasing to see a few old friends (paintings) hanging on the walls and relatively short entry lines.

Anyway, on to bigger and brighter things in the Highlands when, in September and October, there is just too much to do.....

Deb

From the Editor



Welcome to Spring!

Don't you just love Nature's delights bursting to life.

I recently went up to the St. Ives Orchid Show, what a display of colour. Two large halls, one for exhibits and the other 'sales.' Guess which one was the busiest!

The winners were of the highest quality – just magnificent well worth visiting.

This issue is full of pics from our visit to Abbi Hill – Elaine Lye's garden and Barbara Bell shares her visit to 'Powis Castle' in Wales with us.

Plant of the Month

Whilst attending Elaine's garden visit this month Muriel encouraged members to take a drive down the road just below Elaine's garden to admire the beautiful camellia 'donation' hedge – just stunning with its masses of pink blooms.



Camellia 'Donation'

camellia x williamsii 'donation'-camellia

This stunning camellia produces a rich display of dense foliage and medium to large, semi double, pink flowers that are veined and shaded with a rosey pink. Flowering during the cooler months of the year, it is a hardy, long living shrub that likes acidic soil. It looks great in a feature pot and also makes a wonderful hedge or espalier.

Source: <https://www.flowerpower.com.au/camellia-donation-2544200190>

Muriel's Musings

I'm angry beyond words that they have cancelled the street parade - are they too blind to see that people from Sydney AND BEYOND come up for the day and line Bong Bong St, 5 deep both sides of the street to watch and appreciate our parade. Canberra, Floriade and the other garden park shows are on a grander scale than our Corbett Gardens but for the city folk our parade and tulips are just a nice days outing AND a nice little earner for our business people. Mind you, the way Tulip Time was run before they changed us from being The Bowral Municipal Council to

the Wingecarribee Shire, Tulip Time hasn't been a shadow of the well-run event it used to be. If anyone would care to talk to me, I would be only too pleased to point out a few huge embarrassing boo boos that Council and the Tulip Time committee have made - 4 or 5yrs ago it was a perfect sunny day but with clouds gathering beyond Oxley's Hill. The crowds in Corbett Gardens were huge at 11 o'clock and if I remember correctly the admission fee was \$8 there was only 1 entry and exit gate open (Bendooley St). As I left the gardens there were a group of ladies 7 or 8 of them asking the gate keepers where was the bus that would be taking them around the streets to see other garden attractions, explaining that they had travelled up from Sydney by the special train put on for Tulip Time. The gate keeper was so abrupt as she said "They don't run it anymore" and when a lady asked "Could they go back into the Park then "THE GATE KEEPERS WANTED TO CHARGE THEM ANOTHER \$8 each!!! Then I came across another mature aged couple (herself on a supportive crutch recovering from a knee injury). They too had left GOSFORD at 5.30am to catch the train, by now the clouds over Oxley's Hill were looking much more threatening and our train travellers were asking "What can we do till the train leaves at 4?" (now you can start laughing) I felt so embarrassed at the way these people were being fleeced and treated that I turned into 'mother hen' gathered all the abandoned ones together and led them to Springetts Arcade where there was shelter, Bakers Delight, toilets and Main St. shops to browse. Judging by the comments that were being expressed I doubt that many of those visitors would go home as Ambassadors for Tulip Time.

PS: The garden club members used to man the gates of the many local Open Gardens and the money we raised we donated to buy hedges and roses for the Harbison Homes garden, equipment for the Children's ward at the Hospital and to help many other local charities - as we still do. The Bowral Garden Club's heart is "As big as a bucket". Now I'm going to have a coffee n calm down. Cheers.

Muriel

Garden Tips for September Maryanne Hewitt

Spring is well sprung and a little rain as well but after seeing the Bureau of Meteorology forecast today, it appears we may again have a

very hot summer and not enough rain anywhere - let's hope they are wrong again!!!
However,

- mulching is a must - use plenty and make sure that the ground is well covered with a little airspace next to the plants.
- another water saving idea is using 2L or so water bottles onto which you attach spikes that let water flow slowly which is good for trees and shrubs; water late afternoon when the main heat has gone from the day. This will allow the plants to take up moisture overnight and be prepared for the following day.
- give all the flowering bulbs a feed before they die down thus is helping with next year's spring flowering
- garden beds should all be ready or nearly ready now for planting. Plant bio mustard now for vege gardens especially - this will be grown enough by the time the frosts are really gone - just dig it in and plant your veges - especially good for the tomato bed
- set up seedling trays - fresh plants of silver beet, chard, spinach can go in soon, fresh plants of herbs and salad plants; lettuce should grow well now. Don't forget to get some purple leaf ones as well, parsnip and carrot seeds can go in now - try some of the heritage carrots, purple ones - very tasty!!
- cover small plants at night as the frosts have not gone yet
- look at your climbers- clematis are on the move, new shoots may need some support as they climb, feed as well with sudden impact. I always add some extra liquid potash as well for more flowers
- make sure you have some water in the garden, it doesn't have to be a large amount but birds and bees need water to drink and with moisture levels so low everywhere, we can help by having birdbaths and water bowls in the garden.

Maryann

Minutes of General Meeting 12th August, 2019

Present: 76 members and 3 visitors

Apologies: Susan Ireland (apologies for last month as well), Roz Wootton, Sandy Westwood, Jo Wright, Bob and Noelene Bailey, Judy White, Rosamund Mohacsi, Lois Morrison, Peta Peter, Robyn Stephens

President Deb Evered opened the meeting at 2:03pm welcoming members.

Deb introduced Lorna Bussell the Tulip Time Officer from Wingecarribee Council who addressed the meeting regarding the Council's recent decision to forego the annual Tulip Time Parade.

Deb opened the conversation asking: 'Given that the street parade has been a significant event for the Bowral Garden Club and visitors how will a Tuesday night walk cut it?' Lorna proceeded with giving the reasons for the cancelling the parade:

- Over the years the number of participants has been dwindling as well as the number of floats which were the main attraction of the parade. Now it is turning more into a parade of business vehicles rather than decorated floats
- Number of people watching the parade was getting smaller and smaller
- Arguments against and complaints about the parade have increased
- The cost of running the parade was increasing e.g. insurance, traffic and risk management
- Last year the Chamber of Commerce decided they would no longer support the parade as they couldn't get support from the community or businesses for the parade

Lorna explained that the parade started off as a community event, a community walk, floats came later and again it was community groups that paraded the floats. The only group that enters a community float now is Bowral Garden Club.

The Council aren't sure if an evening community walk will work but a lot of thought has gone in to the decision.

Firstly, the original event started as a community parade and secondly 2ST would hold a community breakfast in Corbett gardens at 7.00am which was poorly attended hence the decision to move the walk to the late afternoon so that the community has time to

attend the walk before the gardens close at 7.30pm.

The theme of the procession is Mary Poppins. Bring a lantern or umbrella and join the community walk from 6pm on Tuesday 24 September starting in Glebe Park. The lantern procession to Corbett Gardens will commence after the turning of the Mary Poppins statue welcoming Spring and Tulip Time to Bowral. Notifications had been sent out to past participants about the change to the Tulip Time parade, the Council does not know why the Club didn't receive theirs. Lorna apologised for this glitch and will continue to follow through. Lorna answered further questions from the members.

Deb thanked Lorna for attending our meeting and addressing the members.

Minutes:

The minutes of the 8 July, 2019 meeting were printed in the August newsletter.

Motion: that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting

Proposed: Deb Evered

Seconded: Maryann Hewitt

Correspondence In:

- ❖ The Garden Clubs of Australia Bulletin for June 2019
- ❖ My Open Garden – flyer for Private Gardens of the Monaro – bookings for Spring 2019 or Autumn 2020 visit the website www.privategardensofmonaro.com.au
- ❖ Email from Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens asking us for our support in voting for a grant to build a children's playground at the gardens. You need to log in to your MyServiceNSW account or go to Service NSW shop at the Hub in Mittagong
- ❖ The Spring edition of 'Our Gardens' published by The Garden Clubs of Australia
- ❖ Upcoming Events – Advance Notice from myopengardens
- ❖ The Highlands Garden Society Bowral Inc are having their Camellia and Spring Flower Show on Saturday 7th September
- ❖ Southern Highlands Orchid Society Inc – Annual Orchid Show Sat. 28th September, 2019
- ❖ Bundanoon Garden Ramble 2019 – 26th & 27th October
- ❖ Bundanoon Garden Club are having a Spring day out visiting three gardens in the Nowra area – see their newsletters for details

- ❖ Noosa Botanic Gardens are having a Father's Day Plant Fair on Sunday 1st September
- ❖ Millthorpe Garden Ramble 2-3 November 2019
- ❖ Mayfield Winter Garden Roast
- ❖ Telopia Tools Sharpening Services have opened new premises at 69A Main St, Mittagong
- ❖ Flyers for Galston Open Gardens Friday 18th – Sunday 20th October

Correspondence Out:

- ❖ Get well cards sent to Robyn Stephens and Shandra Egan
- ❖ Letter to Wingecarribee Council letting them know of our disappointment firstly in the decision not to hold the Tulip Parade and secondly for not informing us formally of the decision
- ❖ Email to Diana from CWA informing her of the Club's intention to donate \$500 towards the drought relief and inviting her to attend our August meeting to receive the cheque
- ❖ Email to Lorna (via Izabella Lane) from Wingecarribee Council letting her know of the time of our meeting in August where she will be addressing members re: cancelling of Tulip Time parade
- ❖ Email response to Janine Armstrong's resignation as President of Bundanoon Garden Club wishing her good fortune for the future

Treasurer's Report:

The financial report was read, proposed by Sue Piscato and seconded by Sue Edney

Welcome Gift to New Members:

Deb presented new members Lizzie Norman and Trish Ide with a welcome gift then Muriel Stuart welcomed our new members to the Club.

General Business:

- ❖ Donations: Deb presented \$500 to each of the following organisations
 - Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens – a bench will be purchased to view last month's previously donated trees. Charlotte thanked the Club very much and briefly talked on the process to vote on a State Government Grant for a playground to be built at the SHBG. Voting closes Wednesday 14th August at 5.00pm. Charlotte also mentioned SHBG are also trying to get

community support for a picnic shelter via another grant from Veolia Grants Goulburn. A form was being circulated for signing during the meeting

- Dignity – Deb welcomed Sheree from Dignity who spoke on what Dignity have achieved in the last 18mnths – they have increased the number of homes across NSW to 26 to cater for men, women and children. Our donation will go towards after hours support as the homes are unsupported after 7.00pm. e.g. Providing baby packs for mums fleeing from domestic violence Sheree also mentioned if anyone would like to help with cooking meals for the ‘at risk folks’ in the community contact the PCYC community kitchen in Mittagong.
 - CWA Bowral branch – Maggie Stewart accepted our donation which will be put to good use supporting a number of towns in NSW. The funds will be sent to various branches for distribution.
- ❖ Bus trip to Fagan Park on 28th October, 2019 – Ray will be taking names, the cost will be \$45 including morning tea. Bring a picnic lunch to have at the Park. Bookings will close on the 14th October.
 - ❖ Bundanoon Garden Club are having a Spring day out visiting three gardens in the Nowra area on Wednesday 18th September. Cost \$60 includes entry fees and morning tea at Terrara House
 - ❖ The raffle each meeting will continue for two more months to raise funds as there isn’t a plant stall this
 - ❖ Mesara Tree Farm at George Emery Lane, Glenquarry are having a seasonal sale on Saturday 24th August

Raffle: 1st prize: Sue Edney
2nd prize: Annette Lane

Lucky Door Prize: Lucky door prizes won by Steve Westwood and Ros Macdonald

Show and Tell: Displays on the table

Q & A: Q&A book introduced on a monthly basis. The book will be circulated during the meeting – if any members have any gardening questions they would like to pose please write

them in the book and hopefully other members will have some answers for them

Any Other Business: none

Next Meeting: 9th September, 2019 at 2 pm, Uniting Church Hall, Bendooley Street, Bowral. Guest speaker: Greg Slater from The Highlands Orchid Society

Quote for the Month

"Trees could solve the problem,

If people trying to improve things

Would only allow them to take over"

Peter Wohlleben (1964-)

Welfare Officer

Please contact Maryann Hewitt at the meeting or by mobile phone 0431717634 to notify the Club of a member's change of circumstance and welfare. Thank you

Your Committee		
President:	Deb Evered	48621407
Vice-President:	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Secretary:	Rosalyn Mulligan	48713667
Treasurer:	Sue Ciscato	48713732
Membership:	Sue Ciscato	48713732
Public Officer:	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Welfare Officer	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Committee:	Elaine Lye, Glenys Lilliendal, Judith Lewis, Annette Lane, Ray Bradley	

Website: bowralgardenclub.com

Newsletter Editor: Rosalyn Mulligan

Newsletter articles can be emailed to:

secretary@bowralgardenclub.com

Elaine Lye's Garden Visit 'Abbi Hill'



The gloomy day was soon dispelled as our garden host Elaine brought back the colour to our day.

'Now my dear's just follow the garden path over yonder, past my girls happily pecking away in their pen.

Meander along the bottom path and across the newly mown meadow grass. My Tony's contribution to the garden.'

The parrots, content in feeding reflect the colours of Elaine's beautiful coat.



Millie, Molly
Mandy happily laps up her fresh water.

It's thirsty work keeping an eye on those birdies then exploring and hunting in my garden.....
but mums
provided me with
a big bowl.



Continue over to the silver birch grove under pinned by masses of jonquils and daffodils





Then up the stepping stones, lined with miniature daffodils, past the weeping camellia bushes towards the back where we are greeted by masses of colourful hellebores.



Thankyou Elaine, for sharing 'Abbi Hill' with us – a picture in any season.



And don't forget to admire the camelia hedge just down the road!



Powis Castle Gardens

In June this year my husband and I visited the UK and several National Trust properties including **Powis Castle**, a medieval castle, fortress and grand country mansion in mid Wales. Famed for housing treasures brought back by Clive of India whose son married into the family, it is the seat of the Earl of Powis and is known for its extensive gardens, terraces and parkland.

It is a fabulous property, well worth a visit with a lot of history and some fine paintings and artefacts. The garden survived the 18th century reaction against the formality of earlier garden design and Powis is one of the few places in the UK where a true Baroque garden can be fully appreciated.



The magnificent planted terraces from the 1670s were influenced by 16th century Italian designs. The yew hedges are considered particularly fine, clipped into wave patterns.

Powis Castle is in the top 20 list of the most beautiful gardens in the UK and yet was not very busy when we visited. A highlight of our holiday

Barbara Bell





BOWRAL GARDEN CLUB

COACH TRIP TO

Fagan Park & Mother Earth Nursery

Monday 28 October 2019

Departing Mittagong RSL 8.15am - Returning approximately 5.30pm

Cost \$45 - includes coach travel, and morning tea which will be provided but bring along your own picnic lunch



Fagan Park with beautifully manicured gardens is one of Hornsby Shire's most popular attractions. Explore the Gardens of Many Nations covering 10 hectares with 11 stunning themed gardens including Japanese, Dutch, Chinese, Mediterranean and English. Enjoy your picnic lunch at one of the picnic shelters or sitting on the lush green grass. The park was originally owned by the Fagan family and operated as an orchard and cattle farm before being donated to the government. Netherby Cottage, which was the original Fagan family homestead, is still preserved on-site along with an adjoining museum featuring heritage artefacts,



Before returning to the Southern Highlands we will visit Mother Earth Nursery at Kenthurst. The Nursery stocks a wide range of plants and beautiful ornaments and accessories for your garden. A qualified horticulturist will be on hand to answer any questions you may have

Enquiries / bookings: Ray Bradley (E) rbb1945@bigpond.net.au (T) 02 4861 4090

Payment - no later than Monday 8 October. **No refunds** will be made after that date.

Payment may be made by:

1. Direct deposit into the BDCU (Cuscal Ltd) Bank Bowral Account name: Bowral Garden Club Inc. BSB: 802 101 Account no: 100009286 Please ensure you include your reference details - surname & Fagan Park;
2. Cheque payable to Bowral Garden Club Inc. or cash at the September or October meeting - please place in an envelope with your name and marked Fagan Park Tour and hand to the Treasurer;
3. You may also mail your cheque to the Treasurer, PO Box 910, Bowral 2576.

Cost may be reduced if more than 30 passengers travel.