

# Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with Garden Clubs of Australia Inc

ADDRESS: PO BOX 910, BOWRAL NSW 2576

Patrons: Chris & Charlotte Webb OAM

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018



*Friendship through Gardening*

### What's on in June

**4 June (Monday) 2.00pm: Club Meeting and AGM at the Mittagong Community Centre, Queen Street, Mittagong.**

Speaker: C. Webb. *"The Art of Trough Gardens"*

**Membership renewals due. Annual subscription \$30.00 See below for method of payment.**

**The new committee will be elected.**

**Please note: this is the first Monday of the month as the second Monday is the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.**

**18 June (Monday)** Coach Day Trip to Canberra to visit the National Arboretum and the National Botanic Gardens. Booking essential.

### Members please note

The AGM will be catered for so you do not need to provide any afternoon tea.

Further, there will be no trading table so do not bring anything for that.

Thank you to all who have been supportive of the afternoon tea and trading tables, this month just come and enjoy the company.

### What's on in July

**9 July (Monday) 2.00pm** Club Meeting. Speaker: Margaret Stuart *"The Throsby history, a family story"*.

**2 July (Monday) 10.30am** Garden workshop with Phil Maher: Mittagong Garden Centre, Old Hume Hwy., Mittagong.

### Theme for the month: autumn arrived



### From the President

#### President's Report AGM 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

As many of you will already know my three year term as your President comes to an end at this AGM. Let me say to one and all that it has been a privilege. It has been a time that was enjoyable, busy, fun, frustrating and informative, but most of all it has been a time for deepening "friendships through gardening". But now, as it is customary it's time to hand over the reins to another, to lead a team with both old and new faces. I step down fully confident that the best of Bowral Garden Club is still yet to come.

Over the past 12 months we have heard from great guest speakers on a range of topics from Neutrog Products (Paul Dipuglia), "Growing Peonies" (Dominic Wong), "The Rose and how growing roses can save the planet" (Paul Kirkpatrick), "All About Roses" (Suzanne Kingsford), "Christopher Lloyd-Gardener/Cook" (Lyn Esdaile), "Growing Maples in the Southern Highlands" (Dr Simon Grant), "The Benefits of Composting" (Curley Charlwood) and "The Garden at Harper's Mansion: creating a garden to enhance a heritage property" (Chris Thompson). We are much indebted to these wonderful speakers for giving so generously of their time, and willingness to share their knowledge, experience and ideas.

Charlotte Webb has kindly agreed to keep with tradition and be the AGM's guest speaker this year. Charlotte will speak on "The Art of Trough Gardening". I am always very grateful to both Chris and Charlotte Webb for being so actively involved in the club activities .....not distant patrons.

During the year we visited the gardens of "Inhope Peony Farm", "Gardenalia", "Perennial Hill", "Coombewood", Suellen Hall and Meg and Clive Probyn. We were so appreciative of our hosts' generosity in sharing their garden ideas with us. We also visited the Berrima Cottage Nursery and had a pruning demonstration at Retford Park. In October we had a very successful two night bus trip to Nimmitabel. Day trips were organised to Eryldene Camellia Garden, Gordon, to Rookwood Cemetery and one that included "Silky Oaks" garden, Mount Annan and Thornton Bros Nursery.

We had a lot of fun being under-water creatures as we participated in the Tulip Parade with our "Under the Sea" float winning the best float trophy. We celebrated Christmas with a most enjoyable luncheon at Briars.

A big thank you to all members who contribute words or photos to our newsletter and website. Both are very important avenues for the club in disseminating information to all our club members.

Bowral Garden Club continues to go from strength to strength. The clubs finances remain solid but more importantly it continues to enjoy a very active and friendly membership. BGC at present has a membership of 179 members, including 9 honorary members. Membership fees and money raising activities have ensured the club has been able to meet all its financial obligations and enabled the club this year to make

donations to Dignity, Challenge House, Hay Runners, SES and Eryldene.

The smooth operation of any club is the result of a dedicated committee and I am very grateful to all the committee members for their commitment, hard work and support. At this AGM Jan, Kristine, Carole, Deidre and Catherine will not be standing for re-election. A very special thank you to them for their immense contributions as committee members. Committee members who will be standing for re-election are Deb, Lorraine, Maryann, Judith, Glenys and myself for a transitional period as Vice President. A very big thank you for all your hard work and support. Finally, we have two members, Ros and Elaine, who will be seeking your endorsement to be new committee members.

A very big thank you to all, for your ongoing involvement and for making this such a vibrant and friendly club.

*Anne Curvers.*

## From the Editor

I am pleased to be handing editing our newsletter to another member, Kate Mitchell. I have enjoyed putting our regular newsletters out for you and thank all who presented us with entertaining and informative articles for our enjoyment. We owe thanks to our regulars, Meg, Chris and Muriel and of course to our hard working Presidents, in my time Meg and Anne. I wish the new team very best wishes and look forward to receiving a fresh set of newsletters.

*Carole Scott*

## Garden tips for June

When we first moved to the Southern Highlands in August 2008 I kept a gardening diary. It's so interesting to read about all the jobs we did and plants we planted each day. A few plants, for which I had great hopes, later turned up their toes, for example, a beautiful orange-flowered *Rhododendron sect. Vireya* 'Simbu Sunset'. We bought it at the Sydney ABC Gardening expo in September 2008 but it only lasted two years before it expired. All the other rhododendrons have survived in that border but I was really upset about the demise of that one. In June 2009 it had produced beautiful flowers and I was looking forward to it growing into a substantial plant. I hope I am more sanguine now about the loss of plants. Once June 21-22 have come and gone, the days will start to get longer again. Hooray! I'm always glad when the year turns the corner. What sort of winter are we going to get this year? Last year was so very dry so we had to water more than usual. Now we have the irrigation system in place I won't need to worry so much but we will adjust the computer timings so that it gives the plants a deep drink a couple of times a week.

**Planting trees:** Now is the time to think about planting those bare-rooted fruit and deciduous trees. It's the easiest (and cheapest) way to purchase them and, as they are dormant, so much less stress on the trees. The nurseries will be very happy to check them over with you and perhaps help you prune them back before you pop them in your car. Don't forget to ask about the pollination requirements for the fruit trees

**Moving Plants:** If you have any trees or shrubs in an unsuitable place in your garden, this is the time to move them. Water the soil the day before you intend to remove the plant so that the ground is softened. Make sure you dig the hole where you are going to shift it and then dig a wide trench round the plant to be moved so as not to

damage the roots. Tie up the lower branches to protect them and to keep them out of the way while you're digging. Always keep in mind the need to reduce the stress to plant roots and to try to keep the root ball intact. We moved three *Philotheca myoporoides* last week—they had grown beautifully but not in a sensible space. It was my fault that they were planted there originally so I shall feel very bad if they don't survive.

**Weeding and mulching:** At this time of year, we continue weeding all the borders in turn, starting with the ones filled with bulbs. As we clear each area up, we mulch, cheerfully knowing that the weeds won't appear for some weeks until the weather gets much warmer.

**Bulbs:** The last of the bulbs should be planted immediately. I had an offer I couldn't refuse from Tesselaar's—half-price tulip bulbs—so I bought some and we now need to urgently plant them all. They even sent me a free gift of Dutch iris. Everywhere we plant bulbs we pop in a few annuals to help us remember where we've been! The jonquils will be out this month and brighten up the garden but we will have to wait a while for the daffodils.

**Rhubarb:** If you don't have a rhubarb plant, this is the time to plant a crown or two and they should be available in the garden centres. They like soil enriched with old manure, fertiliser and blood and bone. The established plants enjoy a mulch of manure and a dressing of blood and bone.

**Camellias:** How lovely the old hedge of *Camellia sasanqua* has been this autumn. It is made up of four different species and flowers from March to October. All the *Camellia japonica* plants are laden with buds—particularly 'Lovelight' and 'Moonlight Bay'. It is important that whether you are growing camellias in sun or shade, you should make sure their root systems are covered with a decent layer of organic matter such as leaf mould, well-rotted cow manure or compost. This needs to be renewed periodically throughout the year by adding more to the top. Don't dig the mulch in round the camellias as it damages their roots and stresses the plants. I try to remember to check for two buds close together and to disbud the second bud, then the remaining flowers will be larger.

**Daphne odora and Pieris japonica 'Temple Bells':** Our plants are full of buds but the ones down the bottom of the garden haven't enjoyed the dry weather. The watering system will make a difference next year. They also need mulching with manure and compost. The scent in that area of the garden is simply lovely.

**Clivias:** Clive is very happy about his seedlings—now there are 21 plants growing from 31 seeds planted, he says. We were given a large pot of *Clivia* from friends who moved house. That produced another fifteen or so plants. Now is the time for us to split our old plants and dig out the agapanthus adjoining the patch to replace with the offsets.

*Meg Probyn*

## Muriel's Musings

They say you are getting old when you say "I can remember when", so I must be very old for most afternoons, while indulging in my 'Armchair Inertia' hours, my mind drifts back to times long past & sitting here this Mothers' Day afternoon, I'm remembering how

in the olden days we would wear a white button hole flower, generally a Chrysanthemum, to celebrate the special day. I always associate Chrysanthemums as the fragrance of autumn, even their leaves have a fragrance when crushed and inhaled. Down the years fashions keep changing, not only our clothes styles, we have changes in what flowers we grow in our gardens. Hands up those of you who still plant Mignonette, Stocks, Carnations, & Matholia (night scented stocks) for their delightful perfume. Pansies (for thoughts) were grown in every garden there were even special float bowls to display them at the centre of the dining-room tables. In the 1930s there were even fashionable dog breeds!! Fox Terriers earned their keep as Ratters & watch dogs, Pomeranians were 'Ladies dogs' as they were such dainty little balls of golden fur while the menfolk enjoyed the company of their Airdales & curly coated Retrievers. Most nights between the evening meal & bedtime card games were played to pass the time. Neighbours would call in to play Euchre or 500, cribbage was a game for two, Patience was for a single player though we children played Clock Patience & Old Maid. Do we still make Rainbow Cakes?? It's an age since last I saw one, or a Marble cake. A steamed steak n kidney pudding was comfort food on a cold winters day & Ooh for a Blackberry pie with melt in your mouth pastry & dollops of clotted cream or Quince Dumplings drizzled with butter & a generous sprinkling of brown sugar and a dollop of clotted cream!! It's a wonder that I've made it to 92 AND 6 months, but then it was all fresh food & no preservatives added in those days.

My thought for the day.

*Here's to the days that are yet to be, here's to the work that lies ahead, to the joy in striving constantly till the last miles paced, and the last word said.*

Muriel Stuart

## **BOWRAL GARDEN CLUB INC.**

Minutes of General Meeting 14 May 2018  
Uniting Church Hall, Bendooley St, Bowral  
Present: 79 Members & 6 Visitors

Apologies: Michael & Veronica Launders, Wendy Gamble, Lindsay Orr, Peta Peter, Maureen Lynch, Maryann Hewitt, Doug & Lois Morrison, Judith Lewis, Judy Foy, Jane Harris, Judy Martin, Kathy Watson, Niki Rebay, Helen Fisher, Ron Mohaesi, Heather Johnston, Jacqui Mortimer  
President Anne Curvers opened the meeting around 2pm and welcomed members and guests reminding them to switch phones off.

Our guest speaker this month was Chris Thompson from Harper's Mansion in Berrima. Chris gave a very informative talk about creating the garden at Harper's Mansion and how to enhance a heritage property. She spoke of the building of the house and the various owners throughout the history of the property, and the many iterations of the garden itself.

Harper's Mansion is the 5<sup>th</sup> most popular National Trust property in NSW with over 7000 visitors per year, a wonderful family day out with the gardens and maze.

It is presently owned by the National Trust and Chris finished her talk with a plea for more volunteers to keep the place open and running smoothly. There were maps, brochures and a book available and also questions from the floor

Margaret Parkinson presented Chris with a thank you gift and commented on the historical and political intrigue of her talk

Minutes : The April Meeting Minutes were printed in the May Newsletter. Anne moved that the minutes of 9 April 2018 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed: Anne Curvers Seconded: Pamela Payne

Correspondence In:

Thank you cards from Jenny Clegg & Margie and Curly Charlewood

Letter from Ian Pryor, Uniting Church Bowral, notifying the Emergency Evacuation Plan had now been addressed and thanked the Garden Club for pointing out this shortfall. Our thanks go to Maryann Hewitt who pointed this out.

A appeal from SHBG asking for a letter of support for their new Fern Garden

My Open Garden - List of Open Gardens on the notice board

Flyer advertising Robertson Open Gardens & Spring Fair 13 - 14 October

Advertising for Merribee House & Garden in the Shoalhaven - Tour next year

Advertising for The Secret Garden in Richmond NSW  
Garden Lovers Cruise in SA. 6 August 2018

Flyer advertising 'Blues in the Gardens' at the SHBG  
Sunday 27 May 11am - 3pm

Deb asked members to write emails of support for Perennial Hill Garden in their bid for permanent opening times

Mount Murray Nursery flyer advertising their sale 18 - 21 May

Correspondence Out:

Thank you to Retford Park team from Lorraine Richardson

Thank you to The Grants at Coombe Wood from Deb Evered

Support letter to SHBG from Anne Curvers

## **Treasurer's Report:**

In Maryann Hewitt's absence, Deb read the financial report for April 2018 and asked that it be accepted.

Balance of General Trading as at 1/4/18 - \$3644:52,  
Deposits For April - \$466:00 Withdrawals - \$2986:59.  
Account Balance 30 April 2018 - \$1123:93  
Bonus Saver Acc as at 1/4/18 - \$8096:14, Deposits & Interest - \$60:00 + \$12:68. Account Balance 30 April 2018 - \$8156:14. Total funds of both accounts - \$9280:07.  
Proposed - Deb Evered. Seconded - Noelene Bailey

### General Business:

Membership Renewals: Subscriptions are now due for the coming year. Please see the girls at the Membership table and pay as soon as you can

Anzac Day: A wreath was purchased by the Garden Club and laid by Catherine Mah and Kathy Watson. A vote of thanks from Anne

Bus Trip to Canberra: Please see Jan Scott, at this meeting, if you wish to go on the trip to Canberra 16 June 2018. Cost is \$40. If you prefer to do a direct transfer please let Jan know.

Lucky Door Prize: Mount Murray Nursery has kindly donated lucky door prizes again, thank you

Trading Table: Thank you

Any Other Business:

Annette Hume mentioned the SHC Hospice Fashion Parade and Champagne High Tea to raise money for the local Hospice. This will be held in the Annersley Ball Room on Wednesday 23 May at 1pm. Tickets are available online.

Jonquil Temple alerted us to the plight of the Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo. There will be a release of 6000 Sheoak trees in September and she is urging the planting of these

trees as they are the staple diet of these endangered birds. If anybody would like one or two, please see Jonquil.

Next Meeting: Monday 4 June 2018 AGM at 2pm at the Mittagong Senior Citizens Club, Queen St Mittagong



Chris Thompson



Kristine's last day on trading table



Glenys always happy for morning or afternoon tea  
There was an article about our Glenys in the Southern Highland News congratulating her for her very successful 17th Biggest Morning Tea having raised now more than \$20,000.00 for cancer research.

Money raised from Australia's Biggest Morning Tea will fund vital programs within the Highlands area such as *Improve Your Long Game* at the Highlands Golf Club, *Eat It To Beat It* and *Sun Smart* throughout schools. The money will also support services such as the Southern Highlands General and Practical Support service and Southern Highlands Patient Transport bus.

### Payment options:

1. Cheque payable to Bowral Garden Club Inc., or cash. Please place your payment in an envelope marked with your name.

You may post your cheque to  
The Membership Secretary,  
PO box 910, Bowral, 2576.

2. Direct deposit to BDCU Account Bowral Garden Club, BSB 802 101 A/c No 57038. Please make sure you include the following reference information: 2018 subs and your name.

### Social Liaison: Jan Scott

Please contact Jan Scott at the Welcome Desk or by mobile phone 0418215036 to notify the Club of a member's change of circumstance and welfare.

Thank you, Anne.

<b>President:</b>	Anne Curvers	4861 3061
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Janice Scott	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Deb Evered	48621407
<b>Membership:</b>	Lorraine Richardson	4862 2677
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Maryann Hewitt	
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Carole Scott	
<b>Public Officer:</b>	Maryann Hewitt	
<b>Committee:</b>	Kristine Gow, Judith Lewis, Catherine Mah, Glenys Lilliendal, Diedre White	



Website: [bowralgardenclub.com](http://bowralgardenclub.com)