



November 2022 Newsletter

Upcoming Club Meetings and Events

November

10 November: Sue Kingsford dedication 10.30 am Harper's Mansion.

14 November (Monday) 2.00pm: Club Meeting: Uniting Church Hall, Bowral.
Speaker: Judith Oysten – 'The Historic Rose Lady'.

18 November (Friday) 11.30am – 4.00pm: Highlands Garden Society Bowral Inc. in association with Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society Rose Show to be held Mittagong RSL.

28 November (Monday) 10.30am Visit to Julianne Allan's Garden – 2 Blackett Pl, Bowral and Deb Evered's Garden 10 Blackett Pl, Bowral.

December

5 December (Monday) 12 noon Christmas Party at Mittagong RSL Bookings essential. Cost \$40 Pay cash/card at November meeting or Bank transfer to BSB: 802-101 Acc # 100009286. Please include your name and Xmas 2022.

President's Message

A triumph of optimism. That's how I would describe our October garden visit. We weren't sure if the owners would be waterlogged or completely washed out and we weren't sure if members would be deterred by the weather forecast or distance. But the owners, Diane Davis and Jayne Blundell, were optimistic and 28 brave souls, 5 of whom were not members of our club, ventured north and had a fabulous morning.

My Dad always said "The hardest part of the job, is picking up the hammer..." My goodness, how many times did I hear that, but he was right. The hardest part of doing anything is to start, or as my friend says, "The most effective way to do it, is to do it!" So, here endeth the lesson in optimism 'cept to say there should be more of it!

*I*n the next few days, you will receive an email asking you to vote on the venue for our meetings. I would like to make this a

compulsory vote, as this is the only way to get a democratic vote of all members. I'd ask you to carefully consider each of the points and submit your vote as soon as you can. We need to notify the preferred venue of our plans for the following year. Progress on the Program is well advanced and we need a decision before it goes to print. This will be the defining vote.

*C*hristmas is on the way and the Committee has decided to revisit the RSL Club in Mittagong for a Christmas lunch as we did last year. It was a successful day and very well priced.

The date will be Monday 5th December at 12 noon and there will be a cap on numbers as the Club is renovating some of their rooms.

Bookings will be essential and first registered will be the lucky ones to attend.

*T*he sun has poked its head out a couple of times now with a promise of things to come. Enjoy....

Deb

What's on.....

From 27 October to 19 November:

Moidart Open Garden, 21 Eridge Park Rd, Bowral.

Peonies and Roses

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 9am to 2pm

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



From the Editor

Whilst some of our plants haven't enjoyed the rain, others have. Each branch on my weigelia is full of blossoms, the azaleas have done extremely well this year and the clematis have thrived. The last of the spring bulbs are flowering, ranunculus, freesias, native gladiola and the hippeastrums are coming forth.

And now the roses are coming into their own. If you did the best by them over winter, pruning, spraying with lime sulphur and feeding, then you will be rewarded with beautiful blooms. I have Double Delight, Mr. Lincoln, Sophie's rose, Eyes for You and Just Joey already flowering.

Happy Gardening!



Azalea – 'Gretel'

Roz



Eyes for You - Rose



Plant of the Month Bleeding Heart

The bleeding heart plant (*Lamprocapnos spectabilis*) gets its common name from its puffy, heart-shaped pink flowers that dangle from long, arching stems. Beneath the heart shape is a protruding white petal that looks like a drop—hence the "bleeding" in bleeding heart. In fact, the bleeding heart flower's meaning is said to be about unrequited or rejected love, as well as love and romance in general.



Bleeding hearts are shade-loving woodland plants that bloom in the

cool of spring. After flowering for several weeks, the plants often become ephemeral, disappearing for the rest of the summer if exposed to too much sun or heat. But the roots stay alive, and bleeding heart will come back every year—regrowing either in the autumn or next spring.

Once established, it's fairly easy to take care of a bleeding heart plant. It's not overly prone to pests and diseases. And it has a bit of drought tolerance, though it still prefers moist soil for the healthiest growth. *Be mindful about where you plant it, as bleeding heart is toxic to people and pets.*

Source: <https://www.thespruce.com/growing-bleeding-heart-plants-1402834>

"A garden is a silent, loyal friend and a great listener."

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

Garden diaries

by Erica Spinks

Do you keep a garden diary? I started one when I moved to this house and garden, mainly so I could keep track of what I had growing and where. It's been so useful.

I say 'it' but my diary has been through several reinventions. I waver between wanting an online one so I can use it on my computer or phone and wanting one written on paper. At present, I use a combination of the two and this is how it works.

Every day I write the minimum and maximum temperatures and the weather conditions in my A5 day-to-a-page paper diary. I also make a quick note of what I've done in the garden that day (there are way too many notes that say 'rain – no gardening today'), what seeds emerge and when flower buds open. If I buy new plants, I make a note of that, too. It's quick and easy to jot down my observations.

As I cruise around the garden, I take photos of changes. This helps me compare year to year. I've found that, although there are similarities between when trees and shrubs change in the local area, it's not always the same in my garden's

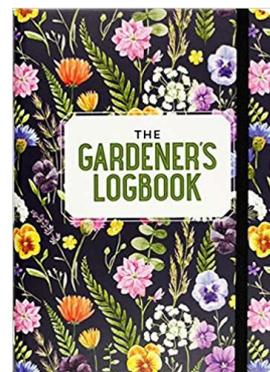
microclimate. Of course, I could print and paste these photos into my paper diary but that seems wasteful when I can copy them into an app on my computer.

Because I find it handy to be able to search for things in my diary – things like 'where did I buy dahlia bulbs in 2020' - I consolidate everything into my app. I use OneNote, mainly because it's a free app and can synchronise between my devices. I can add text and photos and easily search it. I can also draw in it. There are many other online journal apps available if that's your preference.

Udating OneNote is something I do at the end of each month. I've set up my OneNote notebook so that each month has a folder and each date has a page in the folder. I like to compare the same dates in previous years, so each date page has entries from multiple years. That's how I can see at a glance, for example, that on 9 October in 2020, the top temperature was 15.1, while in 2021 it was 24 and 2022 was 12.9!

Do you keep a garden diary and how do you organise it?

Erica



Can we help Dawn?

Many thanks to Catherine Kyngdon for the following suggestions for Dawn:

Dawn, we are not sure where in the Highlands you are, but here are some ideas – Lilac bushes, hydrangeas and Mexican Orange Blossom shrubs could be considered along with structural plants like Red Maples that also provide colour and/or plants that provide "drama" like grass trees (Xanthorrhoea Australia) or cycads.

Beautiful pots displaying otherwise sun-loving plants could be introduced at certain points in the garden of the wedding. "Instant gardens" of advanced seedlings in pretty or dramatic pots could also provide colour. House plants might do well outside for the duration of the wedding - especially those with variegated or interesting foliage.

Preserving and protecting our Shire's history

Here's a behind the scenes look at some unique restoration works currently underway in the Camelia Gardens located within the Bowral Train Station precinct. Council staff have joined forces with heritage consultants, camelia specialists, irrigation professionals and expert masons to conserve and restore this unique part of Bowral's history.

Works in this old garden involve installing a modern electrical supply and irrigation system, restoring and retrofitting the heritage lamp posts, levelling of the existing gardens beds and repairing the original trachyte stone walls

All works are being carefully undertaken so as not to disturb the near ninety-year old camelias originally planted in the mid-1930's.

The protection of this heritage camelia garden is the latest component of the Station Street Renewal Project.

Now if the rain would only give us a break!

I have included this in the Newsletter as a vote of thanks to Bill Parker and his troop from Camellia's R Us for working with the Council to help beautify Bowral.

Deb

Treasurer's Report as at 29th October, 2022

Opening Balance:	\$17,306.13
Income	2,785.00
Mayfield Refund	-4,575.00
Expenses	-486.62
Closing Balance:	\$15,029.51

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, Pam Mildwater

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*

November in your Garden

by Annette Lane

Tough Times

Keeping a garden thriving through constant wet, cold conditions without sunshine has been challenging. With the hope of warmer weather to come GARDEN MAINTENANCE is the catch phrase of the month.

- Remove all drowned and spent plants.
- Replenish your soil with compost and pelletised fertiliser.
- Take a bag and wander around your garden removing diseased leaves and beheading spent flowers.
- Mound your soil when planting replacement seedlings and shrubs in case the rain episodes continue through summer as predicted.

Mulch with Care.

The best way to assist your garden through either a long hot summer or a wet, windy one is by maintaining a layer of mulch over the soil. Keep mulch from direct contact with plant stems to avoid moisture building up which encourages fungal disease.



Smell the Roses



November is the height of the rose season. Pick plenty of blooms to enjoy indoors. Keep removing dead flowers which lightly prunes the plant to keep the show going well into summer. Fertilise and make sure there is a layer of mulch over bare soil in rose beds.

Squash or spray aphids that appear on new growth.

Recipe for Natural Pest Control.

An all-round solution for the control of common pests such as whitefly, aphids and caterpillars

2L water	5ml dishwashing liquid
2 onions, chopped	1 garlic clove, crushed
2 hot chillies, chopped	

Cover all ingredients with 1 litre of the (warm) water and let stand overnight. Pour into 5L Pure Sprayer, ensuring straining filter is in place. Discard solid ingredients and remove filter. Add remaining 1L of water to sprayer.

Spray the plants' stems, and the tops and undersides of leaves.

Cosset Clivias.

Once the Clivias have finished flowering it is TLC time. Trim tatty leaves and remove old flower stems. Feed established plants with Seamungus pellets.

Crowded Clivia clumps can be split and separated. Water well after replanting and don't fertilise for at least 2 months.

The Vegie Patch.

- Sow sweetcorn.
- Keep picking peas and beans as this encourages plants to produce more pods.
- Cover berry producing plants with netting or mesh to keep the birds away.

Bee Friendly.

Plant heat loving lavender, salvia and rosemary to treat the little pollinators.

French lavender flowers are a particular favourite of the honey bee. It grows well in a terracotta pot or along a garden border.



Hopefully my garden articles have assisted you and increased your love of gardening.

Cheers,
Annette



Mayfield Gardens, Oberon

By Susan Hand

September and October were going to be very busy but should have been enjoyable. Two weeks in the Kimberley early September, then four weeks preparing the garden for a National Trust visit, a full day on show for around 200 guests and then a rewarding bus trip, including Mayfield at Oberon and a special opening of Hartvale, and Highfield at Little Hartley.

The Kimberley trip was great, and our garden was starting to look spectacular for the Sydney guests, but then the National Trust cancelled their tour and then came the disappointing cancellation of the bus trip to Mayfield.

This has been a depressingly wet year, with more rain predicted, but it looked like Saturday 16th would be sunny and bright at Mayfield. We needed to do and see something different. Let's do the trip ourselves!

We booked accommodation in Oberon for Friday night so that we could get an early start at Mayfield on Saturday, enjoy the sunshine and be back in Bowral that evening. Hartvale would have to wait for another day when it was open to the public.

Ray's bus trip had planned a stop at Taralga, so that's the route we took. Down the highway to Goulburn and turn right towards Oberon and Bathurst. After less than an hour and a half we reached the pretty little town of Taralga with its interesting speed warning

signs. A good place for a break and a quick cuppa. From Taralga it was again less than an hour and a half to Mayfield.



Saturday was bright and sunny, as predicted and we made the short 10-minute drive from Oberon to Mayfield to be first in when it opened at 9am. Blue skies, bright yellow canola fields and new spring buds. In we go!



Mayfield is open 363 days of the year and, at around 16 hectares, is part of the larger 65 ha estate of the Hawkins family. Their private garden is usually only open to the public for a limited period during the Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter Festivals. Our visit during the Spring Festival meant that we were able to enjoy both the smaller Mayfield Garden and the larger Hawkins Family Garden.

There is so much to see so it is worth visiting their website to plan your visit but let me give you a glimpse of our day at the gardens. Being there at opening time allowed us to park in the area closest to the café and bistro and shuttle bus stop. One enters the garden through the Hydrangea Walk with mass



plantings of various hydrangeas interspersed with maples.

Although the hydrangeas were not in bloom it heralded the delights we were to see as we gently climbed and meandered up the rolling hills through Camellia, Viburnum, and Woodland Gardens to the Hawkins Homestead, Glasshouse and Potage Walled Garden. At the end of the Hydrangea Walk is the Obelisk – with the adjacent glamping site privately situated behind the immaculate hedge.



Moving further into the garden we passed stands of maples and rhododendron and beds of hellebores, hostas and daffodils, to name a few.



To our right was the 2.5-hectare Water Garden but we decided to visit that on the way back down to the Mayfield Café where we had a booking for lunch.

We wandered up the reasonably gentle paths – observing the sign to be wary of snakes on the stone walls! – to Mayfield Lake. From the Blue Stone Bridge we could already see the Mayfield House.

After visiting the Grotto, we walked into the Hawkins Family Garden passing the Chinese Pagoda on the island in the lake.



Then pass the Birch Walk and through the Floral gardens to the Croquet Court with its wisteria-covered arbour and Rose Garden.



*H*Heading back down towards the café, we went through the Creek Gardens, enjoyed the Sunken Garden Rooms, visited the Valley of the Ponds before entering the Water Garden. If the area around the house was reminiscent of the Devonshire Estate, then it was easy to recall Monet's Garden at Giverny at the Water Garden at Mayfield.



*F*From the Wisteria arbour, we then walked up the Amphitheatre and to the top of the Cascade & Temple overlooking the main house. From this point the area around the main house was very reminiscent of Chatsworth House in the Derbyshire Dales.



*W*We were lucky with the weather, and the drive up and back was manageable, but for me a 3-day trip so that a variety of other gardens could have been enjoyed would have been a better option. Mayfield is definitely a garden to be visited as it is quite an amazing achievement. Hopefully I will see it in another season especially when the herbaceous border in the Hawkins Garden is completed.

Around the walled potage garden, the espaliered fruit trees displayed many different patterns.

Susan



The maze, one of the largest of its kind in Australia was inviting, but we suspected it may take some time to find our way in and out!



A Rainy Day Further North

The forecast was bad, really bad, but off we went.

Diane Davis from Thirlmere, and Jayne Blundell from Tahmoor very kindly offered to open their gardens for the club. They, nor we, could have anticipated the rain that was to fall so far this year. They're an optimistic couple and worked tirelessly for months to get their gardens ready. On the morning of, I rang them and



were told not to stand too still, for too long, or indeed we would be transplanted!

I spotted a frangipani tree growing inside the back gate and questioned how it went in this climate. "Just fine." was the response. Well, of course it does, it wouldn't dare not. Then, there are beautiful Camellias opposite...



suggested might it be a bit wet? "She'll be right" I was told, "just bring your wellies"

We had a great visit, initially in the drizzle and ultimately in



Patty admired one of Diane's

Salvias and hey presto, there you are, here's one to take home, about a metre high! Diane is the Queen of Salvias.

the rain! The gardens are not for the faint-hearted, they are large and packed full of different and seductive plants. They cry out "Grow me, grow me"



Diane is a great propagator and is always moving things. We



Jayne's garden is also large and has its own pond/lake, on purpose, not just a recent rain event. Glenys admired a Water Iris growing in it and was rewarded at the end of the visit when Jayne's husband Dave, dug her out a huge clump. "There you go..."



Bushes are allowed to grow happily, not restricted and the combinations are very pleasing.

I was amazed at the difference in climate between Bowral and these "T" towns. Jayne



had rows of Hippeastrums in full flower, whilst mine only have small budding leaves. Sadly, we had just missed the standardized wisteria, it must have been delightful. And hiding behind a



fence are the healthiest orange trees laden with fruit.

Thank you Diane and Jayne, friendship through gardening and a love of sharing, all personified today. Thanks also, to

all the members and non-members who braved the elements to make this a fun day.



The front garden has a fabulous obelisk with a brilliant white large petalled Clematis and there was also an arch with a beautiful peach rose growing

alongside. Both were in flower, whilst the Bowral ones are still on their way.

Deb



HIGHLANDS GARDEN SOCIETY BOWRAL INC.

In association with

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL ROSE SOCIETY

Rose Show

Friday 18 November 2022

To be held at Mittagong RSL Club
Bessemer Street, Mittagong

*Entries are welcome from members of the Societies
and the public*

Staging of exhibits between 9.00am and 10.00am

Judging will commence at 10.00am

Presentation of trophies and awards—11.30am

Public viewing of exhibits 11.30am—4.00pm

Enquiries and schedule available from:

Rose Exhibits - Ray Bradley (T) 0416 191 905 (E) rbb1945@bigpond.net.au

Floral Art - Judy Keast (T) 0429 481 927 (E) judykeast2576@gmail.com

Guidelines

1. With the exception of Floral Art, all entries must come from plants which have been cultivated by the exhibitor for at least **three months**.
2. All entries, except Classes 22, 23, 24 and Floral Art should be exhibited in green exhibition vases provided by the Society or, if insufficient available, 300ml soft drink bottles which will be available on the day of the Rose Show.
3. Any work created or practiced at a workshop prior to exhibition is ineligible for entry.
4. NND means not necessarily distinct (i.e. they may be the same or different cultivars). D means different cultivars or varieties.
5. With the exception of Floral Art classes, every exhibit must be accompanied by a plain white 'business/visitors' card showing the exhibitor's name on one side and, if known, the species or cultivar, together with the Class Number, on the other side. Cards must be displayed with the name of the exhibitor facing down.
6. Exhibitors may seek advice of the stewards about the tabling and classification of entries and must respect their decision as final.
7. Exhibits may be prepared on tables provided for that purpose but must not be prepared on display tables.
8. The Judges' decisions are final.

Prizes

1. The McLeod Trophy will be awarded for the Champion Exhibit of the Show and will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
2. A Trophy for Reserve Champion Exhibit will be awarded for the Reserve Champion Exhibit of the Show and will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
3. The Novice Shield will be awarded for the Champion Exhibit in Classes 19, 20, 21 and 22 and will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
4. A Trophy will be awarded to the Most Successful Exhibitor of the Show and will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
5. A Trophy will be awarded to the Champion David Austin Rose awarded by the judge and will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
6. A Trophy, sponsored by the Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society, will be awarded for the Champion Miniature Rose exhibit
7. The Deidre Hill Trophy will be awarded to the overall winner of the Floral Art Section and will receive a champion ribbon and certificate. The perpetual trophy will be held by the exhibitor for one year.
8. Certificates and a ribbon will be awarded for the Most Successful Exhibitor, Champion Exhibit, the Reserve Champion Exhibit, the Novice Shield, the David Austin Classes and the Champion Floral Art.
9. A certificate will be awarded for the first placed entry in each Class and certificates may also be awarded for second and third placed entries depending on the number and quality of exhibits.