

# 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 OCTOBER 2015



*Friendship through Gardening*

## What's happening in October.

**12 October (Monday) 2.00pm:** Club Meeting: Speaker: Babette Hayes, Interior Designer: *"Stay young at heart"*.

**13 October (Monday) 10.30am:** Morning Tea and plant stall meeting at Anne and Pat Curvers', 11 Kimberley Drive, Bowral.

**17 October (Saturday) 8.00 - 12 noon:** Our major fundraising activity - The Plant Stall: Corbett Plaza Bowral.

**29-30 October (Thursday - Friday):** Overnight trip to visit Mayfield Gardens at Oberon.

## Contributions to our raffle basket

Our plant stall in Corbett Plaza on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October is our major fund raising activity. We have a basket of garden goodies we raffle off at this time and would appreciate contributions of garden needs from members, eg secateurs, plant food etc, any items useful to any gardener are welcome

If you are so minded to donate something to our raffle, please give your items to Jan Scott at the Welcome Desk.

Or you can give a monetary donation to Janice and she will fill the basket on your behalf. Thanking you in anticipation.

## What's happening in November

**9 November (Monday) 2.00pm:** Club meeting: Speaker: Margie Stuart: *"The Whys and Wherefores of Growing Garlic"*

**16 November (Monday) 10.30am:** Visit to Fifth Chapter Estate Garden: **directions from Bowral**, take Kangaloon Rd; Sheepwash Rd; cross Illawarra Hwy; next right (Walkers Rd); left into Walkers Ln; follow lane approx. 4 km to 217; turn left into winery.

**23 November (Monday) 10.30am:** Garden visit and morning tea at Glenys Lillendal's "Ashgrove" 36 Eridge Park Road, Burradoo

**Don't forget contributions of your potted plants and or conserves for our plant stall**

## Tulips

Tulip tulip tu tu  
A tutu upside down  
A bulging cup of colour  
Exploding from the ground  
Tip a tip a tu  
A graceful vase of flesh  
Dancing in the day  
Moist and sensual fresh  
Pilip pilip pil lu  
An artist's sable brush  
Dabbing on life's canvas  
A delicate fleeting blush  
Lip a lip a lu  
A lipstick the softest known  
For fairies to use at twilight  
When they are all alone.

*Janis MacElroy*

## Cast of the winning float tulip time



## The winning float



## From the President

It is Spring and it is Tulip Time in the Southern Highlands with many activities organised to showcase the Highlands from the 15<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September. Now I am told “Locals” don’t go into town during this time because of the number of tourists visiting, but I would strongly encourage you to at least visit Corbett Gardens, where Rod McTernan, the head gardener and designer, has achieved, in this his second year in the job, a magnificent display of tulips and other flowers in peak condition. It is a wonderful vista of colour and lushness.

Many of us congregated in the gardens yesterday after the “Mother Nature Hot Pink Street Parade” to receive the news that the Bowral Garden Club had won the trophy for the best float. An accolade much appreciated by the club, and an acknowledgement for all the creative work that had gone on behind the scenes in the months leading up to yesterday.

I would like to thank several non-members of the club, who’s support we couldn’t have done without: Peter Burt (from Highlands Family Chiropractic) for being so obliging and agreeing to pull the trailer with his grey commodore accompanied by our precious Muriel Stuart; Cathy from Berrima Cottage Nursery, for being so generous in lending us all the beautiful flower pots to create our award winning Japanese garden. As an aside, Cathy refused to sell the large Cherry Blossom on the back of the float to a customer, because it was the best specimen she had and she wanted to keep it for us. She did sell them another pot. How delightful also to have Sunday, Olive, Peta and Isabella join us and add youthful beauty and charm to our entry. A big thank you to the girls.

Thank you also to all our enthusiastic members who designed, created and participated in the parade. A huge thankyou to Bob B who, with the assistance of Eric and Ray B, designed, built and styled the garden float; to Judith L for a mammoth effort in designing and sewing the pink and grey jackets; to Jan for the lettering on the jackets; to Jonquil, Judith L and Glenys L for lending their kimonos; to Meg for making the girls’ kimonos; to Ursula for the lanterns; to Lorraine R for supplying the hats and to all members who attended the preparation meetings for their support, ideas and contributions.

A very big thank you to the hardy souls, who in spite of the weather, turned up as agreed and with their big smiles walked beside the float. They were Noelene, Judith L, Kay L, Pam C, Josie, Lorraine R, Pat K, Elizabeth, Glenys L, Glynis O, Bob B, Eric, Clive, Michael O and myself. And how grateful am I, that after all my cursing in the morning, the rain stopped for us to assemble and walk up Bong Bong Street. And lastly thank you to all the members I saw lined up along the street and in the park cheering us on. What a terrific team effort.

For a fitting finale to our story, Bob and Noelene will now have a further addition to their theme park home, with The Tea House joining the Yellow Submarine from last year’s parade in their garden.

Thank you all for your involvement and enthusiasm.

Happy gardening.

Anne Curvers

## From the Editor

It is the rainy 4<sup>th</sup> of September as I sit preparing this month’s waffle about my garden I looked out on the fragrant hyacinths, daffodils, snow drops, azaleas, camellias, hardenbergia in fine purple behind the white of the little camellia, poppies, polyanthus, bright new

green leaves and white blossoms of the Manchurian pear, hellebores and stock, and behold one bright rose pink tulip. Despite the continuing frosts, spring is springing in my little patch delighting the senses and confirming I love living and gardening in the Southern Highlands. And 5 days later the sweet peas and stock are starting to flower and scent the garden, the tulips and forsythia are opening. There is only one more thrill, my bluebells, just in bud now.

This spring is similar to a London spring, every day the buds appear and open, the leaves increase in size as I watch, perhaps this is because we had such a chilly winter, with many heavy frosts and of course our day of snow. Whatever, it is exciting.



Carole Scott

## Garden tips for October

This must be one of the loveliest months in the Southern Highlands with the warmer days and nights encouraging growth for all the plants. Last month’s tips included watering—I wrote that after several weeks of dry weather—but no sooner had the newsletter been delivered to you than the skies opened and we were flooded with rain. The Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology is currently forecasting that ‘a wetter-than-average spring is more likely in western and central Australia, while in the east and north there is an equal chance of above or below average rainfall. Warmer nights are likely for most of Australia, with warmer days likely along the east coast and far southwest WA. The current outlook reflects the record warm sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean, and the El Niño in the Pacific . . .’ So it could be wet or it could be dry!

**Bulbs:** It’s important to continue deadheading your bulbs until the foliage finally dies away naturally. If you have noticed that some of the clumps of bulbs have flowered rather poorly this year, now is the time to dig them up and split them— but do replant the smaller divisions immediately. Every year we repeat the mantra about making sure that you let the foliage of all the bulbs die down completely and keep watering and fertilised so that the bulbs build up their stores for next year. Some people lift the tulip and hyacinth bulbs and store them away in a cool, dry place until planting next year. We leave ours in the ground and although they may be a little smaller in the following years they seem to do very well as long as the borders are well-fertilised and mulched during the summer months.

**Azaleas and Camellias:** When the azaleas and camellias have finished flowering they respond well to liquid

fertilisers or to Organic Life pellets or similar fertilisers. They can also be trimmed into shape at this time. Mulch with compost. Watch out for the two-spotted mite TSM (*Tetranychus urticae*). These tiny pinkish-red mites are related to spiders with their four pairs of legs. They cluster on the underside of leaves and overwinter in protected places. When the weather warms up they become active and their life cycle from eggs to adults is completed in a week. For this reason, mites can develop resistance to pesticides fairly quickly. The mites dislike moist humid conditions so overhead watering can be useful as a control.

Make sure that your plants are well mulched and avoid chemical insecticides—it's true that a healthy garden will have a resident population of predatory mites to keep pest mites under control. One of the problems of using chemicals is that the 'good' bugs are killed too so we urge you to use some organic strategies.

If TSM is a pest in your garden try using a high pressure hose in the early morning, three days in a row. Another suggestion is an unlikely pest control device—a hand-held vacuum cleaner. Has anyone tried this solution from the Web? Vacuum up the mites and after vacuuming, tip the contents immediately into a plastic bag and place in the freezer for a few hours. They will be well and truly dead by then. I was amused by the vision of us all down the gardens with our car vacuums pursuing these little varmint until I read a report from the Nursery Production, Plant Health and Biosecurity Project:

*One of the main reasons that TSM has become such an important pest around the world is the apparent ease with which insecticide resistance develops within both local and widespread geographic regions. There is now molecular evidence that TSM is able to detoxify a wide range of insecticidal compounds and can rapidly develop tolerance to various chemicals. The ability to detoxify chemicals is probably why virtually every chemical released for the control of TSM that is used consistently in a geographic area results in resistance to that chemical within 2 to 5 years. The extent and speed of resistance is normally correlated to the degree to which the product is applied.*

So remember to keep your plants healthy by feeding, mulching and watering and avoid chemicals.

**Pruning:** In order to maintain good plant shapes, prune the following as soon as they have finished flowering: boronia, callistemon, ceanothus, ceratostigma, choisya, diosma, forsythia, mint bush, ornamental peach and plum, philadelphus, protea, spirea, wattle and wax-flower. Keep new vigorous growth on spring-flowering creepers, like jasmine and wisteria, under control. Prune climbing roses when they have finished flowering. Flowering cherry and crabapple should not be pruned but any damaged branches can be cut back.

**Roses:** Roses are now growing quickly in the warmer weather. Watch out for early aphids and rub them off with your fingers or use a tissue soaked in detergent. Feed the roses every six to eight weeks and water very thoroughly at least once a week, avoiding wetting the foliage.

**Lawn care:** Spring is a good time to seed a new lawn or fill in bare patches, particularly those made by rabbits digging out the roots. (For some reason we have no rabbits at all in our garden and this has been the case for the last three or four years. We asked the neighbours what was happening and they all said they didn't know but we wondered if someone has been using poison on the Gib.) Top-dress low areas with sand and re-sow the bare patches. Use a low nitrogen fertiliser. Mow regularly and water well when necessary.

**Pelargonium and geranium:** Lots of people's favourite plants in the garden—and they are often at their best in October and November. They will last all through the summer if you deadhead regularly and water. Preferring well-drained soil in a sunny position, they are tolerant of a little shade. One piece of advice that is worth repeating—try not to be too heavy handed with the fertiliser because you will find that your plant produces masses of greenery but few flowers. There are some lovely new varieties in the nurseries and garden centres.

**Australian Species:** We love the mixture of exotics and Australian plants (both indigenous and from other States) and this month is an excellent time to seek out a new addition. *Telopea truncata* (Tasmanian waratah) is one I want to plant. It's a medium shrub with scarlet flowers in summer. There are so many beautiful plants—and Kristine Gow has been a wonderful propagator for us!!

**Composting:** We seem to generate a lot of green waste from our 1 acre-plus block. Nasty things like horrible weeds go in the Council bin but everything else we make into mulch for the garden. Two green bins are used for the kitchen waste and the number of worms inside them is astonishing. Delicious mulch for planting time. We also have two large structured bays made with wood and zinc sheets, one of which is currently empty as we used all the mulch for the front garden last week. Next to the bays is a cleared area on which we pile the weeds and prunings for the first stage of the system. It all gets raked out and the lawnmower runs over it prior to being put in one of the bays. We use lime and manure to speed up the production of the composting process. Then we have two other areas of composts—one right at the bottom of the garden and another half-way up.

If October is a time for pleasurable hard work—weeding, seeding and planting—it's also a wonderful time for admiring your garden and taking photographs. It's time for scattering seeds of annuals among the perennials. I've been scattering poppy seeds on the mulch so I'm intrigued to see what will emerge.

Happy gardening!

Meg Probyn

## From the patch

### Bush, Sugar Snap and Snow Peas

#### *Pisum sativum*

I could be wrong, but I get the impression that Spring has just about arrived and it is just about safe to start planting vegetables that could be affected by frost. One of the easiest and most prolific of all spring vegetables is the humble pea. Whether you are happy to grow Dwarf Bush Peas and spend the few minutes shelling or for instant use and gratification, Snow or Sugar Snap peas.

Peas require a bright sunny position, in soil which has very good drainage and a pH closer to neutral or even slightly alkaline. Consequently, an application of Lime or Dolomite is always a good idea. Also, like most legumes, Peas require more Phosphorus than other plants but in return will fix atmospheric Nitrogen in to the soil which will be great for all those leafy nitrogen hungry crops which will follow. Apply a side application of Blood and Bone or an organic fertilizer to boost growth.

Sow the seeds at least 5-6cm apart and about 5cm deep. With Snow and Sugar Snap peas I find it is a good idea to install your trellis before or just after you sow the seed. This will reduce the impact or possible disturbance you may cause to the fragile young plants.

Sow into a moist seed bed and water lightly after sowing but do not water again until germination has occurred. Peas are very susceptible to rots and will not be happy with too much water.

Harvesting the peas regularly will encourage a larger and more continuous crop. Also don't forget the sugars in Peas are nearly all converted to starch within the first hour of picking. So with Peas, fresh is definitely best.

And when the crop has finished simply dig the plants into the soil as they make great green manure crop.

#### **Pests & Diseases**

Fungal wilt and powdery Mildew are the main problem and these can be controlled to some degree by careful well timed watering. Humid weather is a real problem which has no real solution. Spraying is really a last resort although a diluted milk solution used as a spray can be beneficial for Powdery Mildew.

#### **Pea Trivia**

Snow Peas are thought to have been in cultivation in the Thai Burma border region for around 12000 years, one of the oldest of all cultivated vegetables.

Sugar Snap Peas were developed by an American Calvin Lamborn in 1960 by crossing Snow Peas with dwarf bush peas.

Peas contain less protein than other legumes but are a good source of Vitamin C and fibre.

Peas have been used in a dry for since ancient Egyptian times.

Less than 5% of all peas grown are sold fresh, most are frozen.

#### **Pea Varieties**

Pea Snow climbing, Peas Snow dwarf, Pea Snow Yukomo Giant,

Pea Sugar Snap Climbing, Pea Sugar Snap Dwarf

Pea Greenfeast, Pea Golden Pod, Pea Purple Podded Dutch, Pea Novella

#### **Things to plant in October**

Now is also the time to plant a huge number of vegetables including

Cabbage, Lettuce, Mustard Greens, Peas Snow, Spinach, Radish, Shallots, Tomatoes, Potatoes, Carrots, Beetroot, Squash, Zucchini, Pumpkin, Beans, Chard,

#### **A Vegetable Thought**

"I always eat my peas with honey;

I've done it all my life.

They do taste kind of funny but

It keeps them on my knife."

*Anonymous*

Congratulations on the Tulip Time float. You all looked like you had just stepped off stage from the Mikado!!

*Chris Webb*

#### **Kristine's Corner**

Eucalypts.....argghhh I hear most of you murmur. Messy, dangerous, ugly, way too big for any garden. Don't blame the poor gum tree, we have either moved into their territory or we planted the wrong species in our garden in the first place. And to add insult we blame the tree for the cost of removal and the mess they make with shedding of bark. With over 700 species there has to be at least one to suit your garden.

They provide food and habitat for so many species but still not considered often enough in the urban landscape. Any time the decline of some species of birds and bats etc. is mentioned, the decline of nesting hollows is one of the

reasons attributed to the decline. It may take 80 years to create an appropriate hollow.

There are several available commercially. *Eucalyptus curtisii*-a real stunner with smooth salmon pink trunk, large clusters of cream flowers, lime green leaves, slender habit, requires some protection from heavy frosts and only grows to 3 metres.

If you get a little windy at your home on occasion, plant "Little Sally" *Eucalyptus moorei*. Weeping foliage, cream blossoms, olive and silver smooth bark, often multi-trunked and only grows to 3 metres in exposed locations. A good tree for small or narrow areas is *Eucalyptus apiculata*, slender upright habit to 4 metres, white flowers, silver and green smooth trunks and spectacular when bark is shed.

An easily sourced variety sold in local hardware stores is *E. wimmerensis* "Honey Pots". Producing masses of cream flowers, provides light shade, survives heavy frosts, wind and is a food source for honey-eaters, wrens and tree creepers. It may grow to 4-5metres but being a mallee doesn't mind being lopped and will become multi stemmed. Koalas have been sighted recently in the highlands and if you have the room why not plant some food source trees for their future survival. The species list is easily found on the net or at your local library.

Soldiers returning from war wrote they knew when they were close to home because they could smell the eucalyptus tree before they could see it. What is more Aussie than the fragrance of gum leaves in summer. So next time when you are cursing this much maligned species spare a thought for nature and an iconic local.

Many of the species mentioned may be purchased in local nurseries, hardware stores and a huge range is available at Yarralumla Nursery ACT.

*Eucalyptus martini* a great moonshine choice for Australia Day festivities.

In a blender mix handful of ice; 50+ml gin; 12 ml lime juice (native preferably) and 25ml eucalyptus water. To make the eucalyptus water boil for one minute 450gms sugar, 3 gum leaves; 500ml water. Cover with plastic wrap for one minute then allow to cool. **CHEERS!**

*Kristine Gow*

#### **Muriel's Musings**

The weather in Canberra was glorious, and the tennis and golf played was of a very high standard, and our evening get-togethers were quality family time. This year was a milestone in our togetherness as it was our 25th family gathering, the grand children and great grand children of James William Campbell Crawford Stuart from the Isle of Bute are a sentimental lot and do they know how to put on an evening Celidh.

We returned home only to learn that there was a delay with the making up of our kitchen cupboards, however, Wayne painted the ceiling and new walls, and Peter came and measured up for the new floor covering. There is a saying that "Gardeners don't have nervous breakdowns as they are optimists" and I kept reminding myself of that as I kept saying, "Oh, I will find somewhere to put it" as I had to re-locate another piece of furniture so that yet another tradesman could make his way through to the kitchen with his ladder and/or tool box.

The cupboards and benches finally arrived, though not without incident. The delivery men found that the corner unit wouldn't go through the angle of the dining room door! After much measuring this way and that, it was decided to leave the unit in the dining room until the CARPENTERS arrived the next morning so THEY could

take it apart and reassemble it. Next morning I needed all of my gardeners optimism when THEY arrived and only turned out to be a HIM. By mid- morning he had managed to install the corner unit in its place and then the tiler arrived with buckets of grout and an electric grinder to cut the tiles. When he had finished he told us that in 24 hours we could have the electrician back to connect up the power points, range hood and down light, and with a beaming smile told me that I would then be able to move everything back into my new kitchen.

To this day I'm very happy with my now OLD, NEW KITCHEN.

*My thought for the day  
What cheese would you use to hide a little horse??  
Mascapone.*

Muriel Stuart

## Gilgandra

On our numerous trips to Gilgandra to visit our son and his family, we are constantly delighted with all the windmills we see. Gilgandra is called the "The Town of Windmills", as interestingly, the Castlereagh River which runs through Gilgandra is an "upside down" river where the sand is on the surface and the water flows underground. This natural phenomenon brought about an abundance of windmills supplying Gilgandra residents' houses and gardens with artesian water.

As we are remembering our brave soldiers who fought in the Great War 100 years ago, I thought I would write about the Coo-ee March which originated in Gilgandra. On our last visit to Gil we decided to take a look around the Coo-ee museum and there I found some interesting facts. Following the disaster in Gallipoli and heavy casualties in France in 1915 recruiting figures were down. Two of the Gilgandra's leading businessmen, Mr Bill Hitchen and his brother Dick had an idea that a group of young men should set out from Gilgandra on a route march to Sydney, recruiting men in each town along the way, "For King and Country". This was the first of the recruiting marches organised in NSW. The Army authorities doubted that it would be successful and also thought it would be rather costly, so they did not originally give the march their support.

On 10<sup>th</sup> October 1915 Mr Bill Hitchen and a group of 24 men set out on the recruitment march to Sydney, this was the beginning of the famous Coo-ee march and the realisation of a dream come true for the Hitchen brothers. The whole town turned out to farewell the men as they set off on their long journey. The men were welcomed at every town and village they passed through and more recruits joined the march, by the time they reached Sydney their ranks had swelled to 263. The marchers were fed and sheltered by the people of the towns they passed through until the Army eventually realised the recruiting value of the march. Equipment was eventually given generously by the Military and food and accommodation was also sourced for the growing number of recruits.

On 12<sup>th</sup> November 1915, a little over a month after leaving Gilgandra and having marched 320 miles, the 'Coo-ees' made a triumphant entry into Sydney where the 263 recruits, also now known as "The Snowball Army", were given a great reception as they marched through Martin Place accompanied by bands and cheered by close to 100,000 Sydneysiders.

These men were sent as replacements to various battles in France and sadly many never returned.

### A verse by Jack Moses:

*"When Britain called for soldiers,  
with back against the wall,  
Gil co-eed for the Coo-ees  
and they answered the call,  
They buckled on their armour  
and hastened to the fray  
And took the fences in their stride  
along the Castlereagh".*



Noelene Bailey.

## My introduction to our club.

On my very first visit to the Garden Club meeting, I was thrilled to be the recipient of the Lucky Door Prize which was a voucher to spend at the Berrima Nursery. After much deliberation, I chose a beautiful pink camellia "Debutante".

For the first time this year, it has produced beautiful blooms over the winter which is a joy to view through my kitchen window.

As a newcomer to the Southern Highlands, I appreciate all the helpful garden tips in the monthly Newsletter, many thanks to all.



Josephine Meincke

## "Burnima" Bombala



The recent snowfall prompted my memories of our 22 years at Bombala in our historic home and property "Burnima". We farmed 2 thousand acres and three acres of 100 year old radiate pines which surrounded the homestead and protected the garden.

The garden was park like with many lovely trees, golden chain, dogwood, English oak, variegated box, elders, prunis, Manchurian pear, golden Cyprus, beech, broome, liquid amber, flowering crabapple and not to forget the magnificent golden elm in the middle of the front lawn, which provided a giant umbrella on the front lawn. Our youngest daughter, Amber, would set up her Barbie dolls to play under the shady branches. It was also home to our 8 peacocks who would sleep up high away from the foxes.



We cleared a lot of vegetation amongst the old pines and to our delight up came hundreds of bulbs, bluebells, grape hyacinths and forget-me-nots. When the snow falls were heavy, the branches of the pines would crack, hence out came the chain saw, a lot of work dragging out the branches to form a mammoth bon-fire when the season was right. We averaged 3 snow falls each year.

A brick wall surrounded the tennis court which had honey suckle and wisteria growing wild.

In 1994-August 1995 we were invited to be in "Australia's Open Garden Scheme", this really had us on our toes, 200 visitors asking us the history of the house.

Burnima was built for Henry Tollemache Edwards in 1896 for his family. It was originally 16 thousand acres, after the war years it was divided into soldier Settlement blocks of 600 acres. Adrian and I were the third owner in 100 years.

We were told by locals, many of whom had worked there when they were young, there were 3 gardeners and house staff. We were given photos of a productive orchard and extensive vegetable garden, which we never resurrected. The old house had servant's quarters at the back and the old bell system was still intact.

Our two older girls had their fairy-tale weddings there, and the photos on the magnificent staircase were truly beautiful.

Memories are lovely as one grows older... We must say we are happy at Burradoo with a smaller home that faces north to take in the winter sun and 1 manageable acre with 80 rose bushes.

There is a plaque amongst the roses which quotes:

*The kiss of the sun for pardon  
The song of the birds for mirth  
You are nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on Earth.*

Suellen Hall

## The joys of gardening in the Southern Highlands

Having developed my love of gardening as a child in Brisbane and then spending the last 20 years in Sydney, I

arrived last November in the Highlands a total novice at cool climate gardening owner, nonetheless, of an acre of established and very overgrown garden here. So it is with great humility I write this piece to be read by my experienced gardener friends at BGC. So here I go, the story of the joys and mistakes in our first 10 months here. Day 1: 1st breakfast - the magic of overlooking a garden of rose blooms. 'I think I am in paradise!!'



Mid December: our ride-on mower was delivered. Hurrah! At last as the grass was now so long. But on its 'maiden voyage' we discovered a ground-out stump covered in mulch. Oh no... down into the hole it went...bogged!

On that same day I discovered a gorgeous Cecile Brunner rose in the front garden coming into bloom. My parents in Brisbane had had one of these which we all loved, however, after 52 years it had succumbed to root rot, here was my chance again.



Next lovely surprise...king parrots peeping over the guttering one day then peering through the bathroom window next morning for any sign of life.....'yes hello we live here too'. Soon joined by crimson rosellas and the occasional Eastern Rosella (we think). So tame and so funny.



Next the big challenge- clearing overgrown vegetation. First the decision as to what goes and what stays. In came 2 men and a chainsaw to help us. After 4 days, much noise and perspiration, a skip that did not even make a dent, a bobcat and 14 truckloads to the recycling centre, we had the bones of our garden again... and light!!! Oh I needed that beer.. ahhh!

But the birds not happy ☹



As autumn approached, we were thrilled with flushes of camellias of many different colours. I wonder why those have not flowered yet?! So I soon learnt my sasanquas from my japonicas.



Autumn delivered its golden glow in all its magnificence!! And the other side of the beauty of autumn...that raking agghhh!



Then came the first frosts. Never before had I had to deal with frosts. Needless to say my poor agaves I had brought with me took a rapid and decided turn for the worst. Oh dear, first casualties. I read up enthusiastically on frost-tolerant plants, both natives and exotics, for planting when the time is right. How I love Deidre Hill's book on Gardening in the Southern Highlands.

My first jonquils smiled out from between the roots of a silver birch. Daffodils followed some weeks after. And frost became snow and ice that magic day in July ☺. Our rhododendrons are now showing their rich colours. The flowering plum I planted is now a show of soft pink. I've just discovered 3 purple hyacinths. And am keenly waiting to see my tulips when they flower.

This is my new life in the Highlands and how lucky I feel I am!!!

*Margaret Parkinson*

### **The Coming of Spring**

*Amid the greening of flush springtime  
the Western sun drifts over lemon strawflowers  
brightly basking under shaded shrubs  
where golden paper daisies  
turn their gay petals to the warming light  
and here as new life rises  
proud roses slyly show  
their fragrant secret centres  
to questing bumble bees  
who lust to slake their ceaseless thirst.*

*Peter Bruce Richardson  
10 September 2015*

I have an iris named "Apollo" in my front garden and guess who keeps her company ... The sun god himself, Apollo!



*Celia Finnimore*

### **Garden visit to Meg and Clive Probyn's Garden**

What a wonderful spring morning we spent admiring this delightful garden and enjoying a welcome cup of tea and goodies.





**BOWRAL GARDEN CLUB**

**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON CELEBRATION**

To be held at Southern Highlands Wines, lower ground floor function room.

Oldbury Rd & Illawarra Highway Sutton Forest.

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon.

Cost P/P \$45.00. Payable to the treasurer no later than 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

**BOWRAL GARDEN CLUB INC**

**Minutes of General Meeting 14 September 2015**

**Uniting Church Hall, Bendooley Street Bowral**

**Present:** 78 Members, 3 Visitors

**Apologies:** Kristine Gow, Lorraine Gregory, Bernice Lichtenstein, Mary madeley, Heather Johnson, Lois Morrison, Margaret Stuart, Barbara Wilson, Peta Peter, Lindsay Orr.

**President** Anne Curvers opened the meeting at 2 pm and welcomed everyone present, especially new members and visitors. Anne welcomed our Past President, Meg Probyn and congratulated her on her new role as the NSW representative on the Australian Garden History National Management Committee. Meg Probyn and Bruce Cowan gave the photo presentation of over 65 members' photos which appeared on the big screen and included flowers, bumble bees, kangaroos and home gardens in Bowral, Mittagong, Burradoo, Moss Vale, Sutton Forest, Exeter, Manchester Square and Red Cow Farm. Also featured were many photos of other far and wide ranging gardens from Canberra, Blackheath, Mayfield, Lightning Ridge, the Kimberleys, Cairns, New Zealand, Singapore, Maine USA, the Chelsea Flower Show, Devon, Wicklow Ireland, Gallipoli, Tuscany, Henley on Thames, Hidcote Manor Garden, Stanley Garden Vancouver, Suzhou China, Normandy France, Kyoto Japan, Wiltshire and Cloucestershire. Our garden club members are well travelled! Bruce made the following comments and observations: Ask "why am I taking this photo". Your eye follows a certain direction, we look left to right. Where a formal garden was shown, the photo was in the right proportions with a peak in the centre. A brightly coloured tree was correctly taken in focus and right in the centre of the picture. On a dull day you are able to capture more detail as in the curves in hedges. Try to cut out "too much sky" in the picture so that the eye is drawn to the landscape. A perfect example of taking a photo in thirds was the picture post card shot taken of a lake with a third of the reflected water across the picture, the temple a third on the left, which gave us much to admire. As always, Keith Bailey entertained us as he thanked our guests and presented them with gifts of appreciation for their wonderful presentation.

**Minutes** of the August meeting were printed in the September newsletter. Anne moved that the minutes of 10 August 2015 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed: Mary Mowbray. Seconded: Pam Cornett

Correspondence In:

The Secretary, Lorraine Richardson has placed all mail on the notice board and is recorded as follows:

Mount Gibraltar Heritage Reserve announced Commemorative Trachyte Entrance Retaining Wall has now been constructed. Phone Geoff Allen 4871 3001 for escorted tour or attend on Sunday 25 October 2015 at 10 am to 12 noon. Booklet available.

Home & Garden Show Bowral 10&11 October 2015  
Bong Bong Racecourse Bowral

[www.homeandgardenshow.com.au](http://www.homeandgardenshow.com.au)

Highlands Garden August Bulletin:

[www.highlandsgardensociety.org.au](http://www.highlandsgardensociety.org.au)

Correspondence Out: Various emails advices to members.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Noelene Bailey read the financial report to the end of August 2015 and moved that it be accepted as follows:

Balance in cheque account as at end July \$9664.56 plus income for August \$2248.90.

This includes membership \$270 trading table \$70.90 and October tour payments \$1880.00.

Less expenditure for August \$1129.45

Outstanding cheque at end July was presented August \$2155.20

Balance in cheque account end August \$8728.81

Add balance in savings account #1 end August \$4637.31

Plus balance in Special savings account for SHBG end August \$1128.23

Total funds in hand as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 - \$14494.35

Those funds in hand include \$5380.00 deposits for the Tour to Mayfield in October.

A full report is placed on the notice board.

The afternoon tea takings in August were \$87.70

deposited in the special account for SHBG.

The construction of the Tulip Time Float was \$385.00.

Seconded by Jonquil Temple that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

#### General Business

Tulip Parade 19<sup>th</sup> September - walkers to meet at the Bailey's at 2.00 pm on 18<sup>th</sup> September to complete the decoration of our float.

Kathy from Berrima Nursery has kindly offered to supply any pot plants that we need.

Plant Stall 17<sup>th</sup> October 8 am to 12 noon - Corbett Plaza.

Please bring any potted plants you wish to donate to our plant stall, labled with their name and colour, a photo would be helpful. Marilyn Gleeson would like your old venetian blinds which cut up, are great to use as name tags in potted plants. Please phone Marilyn on 4869 3881

**28<sup>th</sup> September 10.30 am - Barren Grounds Nature Reserve Walk and Picnic**

*From Moss Vale take Illawarra H'way east towards Robertson. Just after Robertson turn right onto Jamberoo Mountain Road. Continue until you reach signposted entrance on right. Meet in carpark.*

**Christmas Party Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 12 Noon \$45 - Southern Highlands Wines Oldbury Road & Illawarra Highway Sutton Forest.**

**Welcome Gift** - The following new members were each given a small gift to welcome them into the club: Narelle Richardson, Carol Southwell, Catherine Tribe & Valerie Gregory from the previous month.

**Trading Table:** Pam Cornett advised we had lots of cuttings of camellias and also jams, rhubarb and magazines available. Anne thanked everyone who had brought items for the trading table.

**Show & Tell:** Anne thanked those who had brought flowers for the display table and in particular Ray Bradley for his floral arrangements. Congratulations to Ray who won three 1<sup>st</sup> prizes and a Best in the Intermediate Class Award last weekend at the Horticultural Society of Canberra.

**Lucky door prize** won by Phyllis Paananen

The meeting closed at 3.20 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 2.00 pm - Uniting Church Hall, Bendooley Street, Bowral.

**Guest speaker:** Babette Hayes, Goumet Cook and Interior Decorator "*Stay Young at Heart*"  
Lorraine Richardson



*Meg and Bruce*



*Show and tell table*



*Glenys and Judy serve afternoon tea*

<b>President:</b>	Anne Curvers	48613061
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Janice Scott	
<b>Secretary/</b>		
<b>Membership:</b>	Lorraine Richardson	48622677
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Noelene Bailey	
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Carole Scott	48624766
<b>Public Officer:</b>	Eric Paananen	
<b>Trading table:</b>	Michael Launders, Kristine Gow	
<b>Seed Box:</b>	Pamela Cornett	
<b>Front Desk:</b>	Judith Lewis, Janice Scott	
<b>Committee:</b>	Catherine Mah, Michael O'Boyle,	
<b>Afternoon tea hosts:</b>	Wendy Gamble, Glenys Lilliendal,	
	Lorraine Gregory, Marian St Leger Moss.	

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

## Tulip Time Parade

