

Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Patrons: Chris & Charlotte Webb OAM



Friendship through Gardening

August 2019 Newsletter

What's on in August

12 August (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting. A fun afternoon planned

26 August (Monday) 10.30am:

Garden visit to Elaine Lye, 26 Boronia St, Bowral

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

Quote for the Month

"There are so many fabulous things about gardening, and the best is that anyone can do it!"

C.Z. Guest (1920 - 2005)

From the President

And so, the Wingecarribee Council strikes again. They have cancelled the Tulip Time Street Parade and turned the clock back to 1958 by re-introducing a community walk from Glebe Street to Corbett Gardens on a Tuesday night!

I felt somewhat slighted, as other groups received an email telling them of the council's decision and we, as many time participants and winner on numerous occasions, received no such email.

As a result, you can all forget about the fun we might have had playing Mary Poppins.

On a brighter note, for those of you who were not at the July meeting, our donation to the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens, was used to buy 3 Taxodium Distichum or Bald

Cypress trees. We received an invitation from Charlotte Webb to attend and participate in the planting of these trees, and a good-sized group attended and played in the dirt. It was such a fine occasion, that we've decided to donate a garden



bench where people can sit and admire our trees.



I also attended the Bundanoon Garden Seminar on 20 July. It was a very well organised function with 3 well known and informative guest speakers. These seminars are held bi-annually and if you haven't been to one, I'd think about 2021. Well worth it.

Deb

From the Editor

The blustery winds have abated (for a while at least) and glorious sunshine has ensued so I hope everyone has taken advantage of this warm weather and been out and about in your gardens – who knows what next week will bring – fingers crossed we may be lucky and get more rain.

This month's reading is about OS trip sharing to the UK with Muriel reminiscing on her trip back home and Maureen Lynch's visit to the beautiful Losely Park. Thank you, ladies for your contributions.

Plant of the Month

Taxodium Distichum (Swamp Cypress)



Deciduous tall, fast growing tree, with a symmetrical, cone-shaped habit. Red-brown bark and delicate, pale green soft leaves turning rusty-brown in autumn. Thrives in wet or swampy sites. Suits large gardens and parks. Curious growths may emerge 'Cypress knees' - roots which grow above ground level to breathe.

Source: <http://winterhill.com.au/trees/>

There are now 3 of these magnificent trees planted in the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens – purchased with our donation.

Muriel's Musings

Back in 1993 we began planning our trip to England to meet my "Rellies" Aunty Nell and lots of cousins that I only knew from their letters and photographs. Our list of things to do and buy grew longer daily. Passports, new glasses in case we should lose or break the ones we had, comfortable walking shoes to wear and break in (we knew there would be a lot of walking while seeing famous gardens), and a visit to our GP for prescriptions for Neil's medications. Here 'murphy's law' kicked in and Neil failed a fitness test for his heart condition. We were devastated, but Neil insisted that I should still go on this trip of a lifetime backed up by the doctor, family and friends who all assured me that they would take the best of care of him for the 6 weeks that I would be away. And so there I was at 5 o'clock in the early May afternoon boarding my Qantas flight home to England. Oh the wonder of flying so high and so fast, for up on the wall in front of us there was a map of the journey we were taking and a plane moving along it with details of our height, speed and distance covered. After our evening meal the passengers settled down, most of the ladies were watching the movie 'Shadowlands' on their little screens and dabbing away their tears. The menfolk were chuckling at a comedy show while I was the odd one out as I chose to put my headphones on and listen to Luciano Pavarotti singing heavenly music high in the heavens. Then as the night wore on most of the passengers fell asleep, but not me, for I was too excited and besides there was the roar of the 4 Rolls Royce jet engines - NOT COMPLAINING!

We finally touched down at Heathrow and what a welcome I received. For, as I handed up my passport to the customs officer, he looked down at me as he compared the photo of my face with the real life me. He noticed the gold medal that I was wearing as a necklace and he inquired about it. I replied "It's my father's cricketing medal and I've come home after being away for 66 years". The customs gentleman stepped down and with a sweeping, courtly gesture of his arm opened the blue cord rope and in a plummy voice said "Welcome Home Marm". Just to be told that was well worth the cost of the air fare I thought to myself.

It's not the hours that count, it's what you put into them.

Muriel

Garden Tips for August Maryanne Hewitt

Time for the spring assault!! I have noticed that there are quite a few flowering trees in full bloom and to my horror, flowers on my strawberries..... far too early!!

- Pruning now will be OK - get things cut back as far as you want them to be, feed all with a suitable fertiliser, this may take some time to have effect as the weather is still cold. Make sure you are watering the garden we haven't had rain for a while now and some areas could be dry.
- Deadhead spent bulbs, leave the greenery for a while and feed the bulbs for next season's show.
- Repotting can be done soon, large pots particularly need the mix to be refreshed at least every 2 or 3 years, use a good quality potting mix and add some compost - just make sure the mix is well draining for pots.
- It won't be long before the insects start to hatch, ready to feed on new shoots and buds - get a fresh supply of sprays and clean your sprayers. Pyrethrum is quite good I have found, as well as Eco oil.
- Indoor plants also need to be looked at - a quick fix for the dreaded mealy bug is an artist's brush dipped in metho. Have a good look under the stems as well as in the soil immediately below the main stem of the plant - a good hiding place!! Enjoy your Garden!!



Maryann

Minutes of General Meeting 8 July, 2019

Present: 75 members and 3 visitors

Apologies: Sharon Murphy, Peta Peter, Bev Andrews, Peter Jones, Cherie Ogden, Steve and Sandy Westwood, Sue Edney, Joan Stannard, Anne Curvers, Colleen Farlow, Marion St Ledger Moss

President Deb Evered opened the meeting at 2:02pm welcoming members.

Deb introduced Guy and Rod from Wingecarribee Shire Council who took us through the planning and process for the planting of the wonderful display of tulips in Corbett Gardens for the Tulip Time Festival. Up to 75,000 tulips are mass planted under and around the mature trees in Corbett Gardens each year. This display of magnificent colour is achieved through months of planning by the team from the Council from rough drawings on paper to designs developed through computer aided software then days of bended knee manually planting the tulips. This is a precision operation with testing of the temperature of the soil to determine the best time for planting.

The Tulip Time Festival official charity partner for 2019 is Variety the children's charity. Variety's heart shaped logo will be depicted with red tulips in the gardens. The theme this year is Mary Poppins celebrating 85 years since the first book was written. Bowral is where the idea for the Mary Poppins character originated when the author P L Travers lived here during her teens.

Maryann presented Guy and Rod with a bottle of wine each thanking them for explaining the background and work involved in preparing Corbett Gardens for Tulip Time

Maryann proceeded with showing the meeting her garden tools and a demonstration on sharpening the tools which she has had for 25 years and are still as sharp as the day she bought them. Deb presented Maryann with a gift – a flowering pot of jonquils

Suzanne Kingsford thanked members for the card she had received from the Club congratulating her on being awarded an OAM for her contribution to horticulture.

Minutes:

The minutes of the 3rd June 2019 meeting were printed in the July newsletter.

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

Proposed: Deb Evered Seconded: Jenny Clegg

Correspondence In:

❖ An email from Lorraine thanking the Club for the very thoughtful choice of parting gift - "Beyond the Garden Gate" is a truly beautiful book and very generous too.

❖ Thankyou letter from Charlotte for the invite to our AGM and our donation of \$500 to the SHBG

- ❖ Email and newsletter from Australian Garden History Society, Southern Highlands Branch. They want to bring to our attention a 'Recording Gardens Workshop' to be held Sunday 28th July, 2019 10 am – 3 pm. Further information on this workshop can be found at their web site
- ❖ Email from Crookwell Garden Festival advising that "Cloverleigh" will be opening its gates (possibly for the last time) on Saturday 14th September 9.30am – 3.30pm. Address is 23 Tait St, Crookwell
- ❖ Flyers from Berry Gardens Festival to be held Thursday 17th to Sunday 20th October
- ❖ Email from Riverdale Homestead – they are holding a Rare Plants and Growers Fair on Sunday 3rd November 10 am – 2 pm
- ❖ myopengarden – upcoming events – advance notice
- ❖ email advising Camden Park Historic House and Garden Open weekend 21/22nd September
- ❖ July newsletter from Australian Garden History Society, Southern Highlands Branch – if interested in their newsletter download from their website <https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/branches/southern-highlands/>
- ❖ Mayfield Winter Festival 6 - 21 July see website for further details
- ❖ Flyers for the Camellia Show Wollongong – 21st July, 2019

Correspondence Out:

- ❖ Form posted to The Garden Clubs of Australia letting them know of change of bank account details
- ❖ Email to Charlotte Webb thanking her for taking the time to attend our General and Annual General Meeting and requesting that the donation made by the Club be put towards buying trees

Treasurer's Report:

The financial report was read, proposed by Sue Ciscato and seconded by Susan-May Notley

Welcome Gift to New Members: Deb presented new members Rejane Shore, Kate Ballantine and Margaret Birchall with a welcome gift then Muriel Stuart welcomed our new members to the Club

General Business:

- ❖ Cowra bus trip 30 April – anyone who

has not collected their refund please see Sue

- ❖ This month's visit to Corbett Gardens is cancelled as there are now screens around the beds in preparation for tulip time. However, we will be having lunch at the Scottish Arms on Wednesday 31st July, 12 noon for 12.30. Please make sure name is on the list as we need to book
- ❖ Our tree planting at the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens was a great success with 3 Bald Cypress, Taxodium Distichum being planted. The trees look so good that the Club will donate further funds of \$500 towards a bench to view them from
- ❖ In addition, the Club will make donations to Dignity and the Drought Relief through the CWA, as we did last year. Each donation will be for \$500 to be presented at next month's meeting
- ❖ Beecroft Garden Club will be visiting next May, 2020 and we need more gardens for them to visit. So far Elaine Lye has volunteered her garden. Jonquil Temple volunteered her garden at the meeting
- ❖ Tulip time parade – we need more interest and a small working party otherwise the Club will not be participating this year
- ❖ Committee will be having raffles over the next 3 meetings for fund raising as there is no plant stall this year
- ❖ There are still some outstanding membership renewals, please see Sue – payment can be made in cash, cheque or funds transfer

Raffle: 1st prize: Sue Kingsford
2nd prize: Sandra Regtop

Lucky Door Prize: Lucky door prizes won by Pam Mildwater, Pam Cornett and Meg Probyn

Show and Tell: Each committee member had brought in some flowers and plants in an effort to encourage further members to do the same. Elaine and Jonquil spoke about their displays

Any Other Business: none

Next Meeting: 12th August, 2019 at 2 pm, Uniting Church Hall, Bendooley Street, Bowral.

Guest speaker: Phillip St. Leger-Moss unfortunately had to cancel so instead..... a surprise! – come and join in the fun

In celebration of a life well lived

Margaret Fulton (1924 - 2019)

The queen of recipes, many of which would have been used to provide cakes and slices for our gatherings



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

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Newsletter articles can be emailed to:
secretary@bowralgardenclub.com



LOSELY PARK near Guildford, Surrey, ENGLAND



This house and garden was not on our original itinerary for this trip and so it was not known to me from research. What a charmer it has turned out to be.

The story of the house starts with the purchase of the original manor during the reign of Henry VII.

The new manor was built by Sir

William More, an Elizabethan courtier. In 1689, a descendant of Sir William married into the Molyneux family and the More/Molyneux family have owned the estate ever since. The Tudor manor has had later additions and modifications, but has remained very much as it was.



We had lunch in a very old barn near the house and then spent the afternoon wandering bedazzled through the gardens.

The new section of the garden was through a gate into the walled

garden of two and a half acres, in two parts on two levels. The top section was based on the principles of Gertrude Jekyll. There were high brick walls on all sides, but within that, some of the areas were further divided by high hedges into rooms, but other rooms have lower divisions that you could look across.



In this section, there are rose gardens, vegetable and herb gardens and picking gardens. There are formal water features and vistas.



The lower section of the garden is home to the most beautiful white garden. I spent a lot of time in the white garden and I think it is one of the most beautiful white gardens I have ever seen. Everything was so beautiful and it was obviously at its peak.

Sissinghurst will always be the ultimate, but this was different and over a larger area.



The large white flowering shrub was a cornus and was twice the size of one's flowering in the southern highlands. But then, everything grows bigger in England! Especially roses!

More delights. There was an interesting building at the end of the garden which turned out to be a pump house for the moat' which stretched all the way back to the main house. It was on a lower level to the garden and had a grass walk with flowers all the way along. It was breathtaking and the reflections

in the water were perfect. There were wooden benches placed evenly along the wall to entice weary walkers and gave opportunity to admire the Monet like reflections and the utter peace of the place.

One stunning historical feature is an ancient mulberry tree that is supposed to have been planted by Elizabeth I on one of her four visits to the estate. The tree fell during the Second World War but has continued on its side and still lives and bears fruit.

Maureen Lynch

