

# Bowral Garden Club Inc.

(Established in 1963)

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Patrons: Chris & Charlotte Webb OAM



Friendship through Gardening

## June 2021 Newsletter

### What's on in June

#### 7 June (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting and **AGM** to be held at Mittagong R.S.L. Club.

Speaker: Chris Webb "Garden Design and Landscaping".

**Note:** This is **the first Monday** of the month due to the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.

#### 21 June (Monday) 10.30am

"Picture on the Big Screen" followed by Soup and Slices

### Membership renewals due.

**Fees are \$30.** Please pay your fees either at the next meeting – cash or cheque or post cheques to The Treasurer P.O. Box 910, Bowral 2576 or our preference is by : Bank transfer to BSB 802 101 Acc # 100009286. Please include your name and 2021 Subs

### What's on in July

#### 12 July (Monday) 2.00pm:

Club Meeting to be held at Mittagong R.S.L. Club.

Speaker: "The Orchid Man"

#### 26 July (Monday) 8.30am

Coach Trip to Camellias R Us – Glenorie and Mother Earth Nursery - Kenthurst

### From the President

A mixed 12 months. After a hiatus from March 2020, we finally got back on board with an energetic reunion in February 2021. It was great to see members skipping through the door to that meeting. I know the RSL doesn't suit everyone, but it has enabled us to meet again in a safe environment and for that we must be grateful. The Bowral Garden Club would like to have its home in Bowral and we will be working toward that.

So far, our speakers have taught us a few lessons. Matthew Ott, from Mittagong Physiotherapy and Pilates encouraged us to be kind to our bodies and don't expect more than it can deliver, while Mark Massey from Mother Earth Nursery showed us the diversity of plants and gardening with more than your average pansy or petunia. Imagination was the key. April found us personifying the idea of sharing through gardening. We invited surrounding clubs to "our place" with what, I think, was our first Friendship Afternoon. Judy Horton came and took us for a whirlwind tour of gardens all over the world. The pictures were varied and her passion infectious.

May saw John Swainston detailing how and why we should document our gardens through photography. His pictures told stories, and that's what we should all be doing.

And here we are in June, thriving, albeit still somewhat cautiously.

We've been able to visit some interesting gardens in The Shrubbery, and Susan Hand's terrific creation. The tour to Ulladulla, which was scheduled for last year, finally got away last month and you can see the pictures in the latter pages.

We are still a strong, cohesive but above all a friendly club and our membership stands at 149 members which includes 14 Honorary members.

To be honest, it's been a frustrating 12 months so I'm keen to stay on as President to kick us back on track. There will, therefore, only be one change to the committee this year. Maryann Hewitt will be taking her leave.

Maryann took on the role of Treasurer from June 2016 until August 2018 and then became our Vice President in December 2018. She also held the positions of Welfare Officer and Public Officer.

She will be missed on the Committee; her wise counsel is invaluable and the voice of reason will still be there for consultation. I certainly value that.

Ray Bradley has been nominated to take on the Vice Presidency and I hope you will endorse him in this role and the rest of the Committee members in theirs.

I really have to thank the Committee for their hard work and support. They're a good bunch and we all work well together and will continue to do so for your enjoyment and learning.

Now, let's get on and enjoy the rest of 2021.....and make the best of whatever lies ahead, looking out for one another and staying safe and well.

Deb

## From the Editor

Winter is upon us; the nights are certainly a lot cooler and morning frosts have started to fall. I've started to prune the roses, though some still have the occasional bloom, and will give them a good feed to tide them through the winter. I'm not a winter person but try to find some joy in the garden by planting some stock and pansies, marvelling at the blooms of sasanqua camelias flowering in mine (only small trees at the moment) and neighbour's gardens. I particularly enjoy watching the snowflakes pushing their way up out of the ground, the bell-shaped flowers starting to open close to the ground then opening further as the stem grows.

This edition sees Muriel back and enjoying her catch up with family. Erica Spinks puts John Swainston's talk from last meeting into practice. If you too want to share any gardening stories with the Club please send your articles to Deb.

Roz

## Plant of the Month

### Cycnoches

You will recall Annette Lane brought this beautiful and exotic orchid to our last meeting.

Cycnoches orchids are also known as the swan orchids because of the appearance of the sculpture-like lip and column in orchid species, particularly the *Cycnoches ventricosum* and *Cycnoches loddigesii*, which ultimately looks like a little swan with



folded wings and a long neck curved backward.

**C**ycnoches orchid blooms with fancy and impressive flowers that come in a variety of colours ranging from yellow, bronze, deep red, green, and white. These orchid plants are seasonal. The first flowering occurs after the orchid plant is fully grown, which usually happens after six months, in the Autumn season. The second flowering happens sometime in winter to early springtime.

Source: <https://orchidrepublic.com/blogs/about-orchids/cycnoches-orchid-the-swan-orchid>

## Muriel's Musings

**A**pril was a somewhat teary month for me - too many sad anniversaries as well as the 5-day NBN wipe out of my computer and phone, but May has really compensated and I now have SMILE WRINKLES all over my face.

**W**ith the on/off border shut downs I have seen so little of my interstate family these past 18 months so imagine my delight when my son arranged a Mother's Day surprise weekend in Canberra. Seeing cats sleep 20 out of the 24 hours a day I didn't "board her out" for the one night but left meals and treats in all of her favourite "sunning myself" sights as well as leaving the ABC classic FM radio playing softly for company so by 8 on Saturday morning we set off. As you know Canberra is a very spread-out Capital city, there is the central suburbs and we were staying with our friend at Holder. Arrived there and dropped off our carryalls then headed south down the Tuggeronong Valley for a half hour drive to meet up with granddaughter Samantha and Alex to watch our 15yr old Liam playing soccer. The Brindabella Blues finished 2-0.

**B**ack to Holder and all afternoon and evening, friends kept dropping in. Sunday morning, after a hurried breakfast, we were off again down south but to a different sports ground to watch 13yr old Alex playing Rugby League. You can imagine how the "4 generations family support group" went off when Alex scored the winning try. After hugs, kisses and laughter we were heading an hour drive to the northern suburb of Flynn to keep a luncheon date with my "Pal Mal" - Dr Malcolm Beazley AM who is the Director of the National Education Museum at the Canberra University. We arrived with thanks to the 'sat nav' with minutes to spare.

After a delicious long lunch, it was arranged that we would go to the University to see the museum, "It's only a 10-minute drive to Building 29" said Malcolm and I will meet you there. Well 20 minutes later we were still driving around the Campus, a quick call to Malcolm and "turn right" we were there. By now you have probably cottoned on that in Canberra they only go by time taken from one destination to the next instead of how many kms. The Museum is well worth a visit.

**W**e arrived home at 7 in the evening - "tired but happy". As the saying goes... The Sun Princess was still curled up on her sheep skin, sleeping when we arrived home.

## My thought for the day

*The after glow  
of that wonderful weekend  
will last for all of my 'Sunset' years.*

*Muriel*

## Getting Up Close and Personal

By Erica Spinks

I already take many photos of my garden as a record of when certain plants flower. It's handy to document the seasons and to see the colour combinations of plants and how various foliage look when planted together.



Nigella

But, after hearing John Swainston at last month's meeting, I decided to take more up-close photos. Plants are even more magical when you can see so much detail. Looking at the fine detail of stamens and petal arrangement is intriguing. Don't get me started on seed heads - they are extraordinary! I suspect seed heads are becoming my favourite photo subjects.

I use my iPad to photograph. I find it easy to use and it takes clear photos - perfect for sharing on social media or saving for later editing if I want to adjust any colours or apply filters. Of course, I always take too many photos but that's the benefit of digital photography, isn't it? Tempting as it may be to keep every photo, I'm always careful to keep only the best ones. Deleting my dud photos is so therapeutic!

So, I echo John's words about the pleasure and usefulness of taking garden photos. Have you tried it, too? You may be surprised what you discover in seemingly ordinary plants.

*Erica*

Further articles by Erica can be seen in the "Garden" section in the *The Southern Highlands Express*.

Get ready....

**Monday June 21** will see our old-fashioned

***"Slide, Soup & Slice Afternoon"***

To make this a success, we need your pictures, supposedly of gardens plants and flowers, however, I will accept cheeky pets too.

Please send your offerings to:  
[president@bowralgardenclub.com](mailto:president@bowralgardenclub.com)

There could be a prize for the best shot, so do your best

Your Committee		
President:	Deb Evered	48621407
Vice-President:	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Secretary:	Pam Mildwater	0402045516
Treasurer:	Sue Ciscato	0448112321
Membership:	Sue Ciscato	0448112321
Public Officer:	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Welfare Officer	Maryann Hewitt	0431717634
Committee:	Glenys Lilliendal, Judith Lewis, Annette Lane, Ray Bradley	

Website: [bowralgardenclub.com](http://bowralgardenclub.com)  
Newsletter Editor: Rosalyn Mulligan



## *Our Milton and Ulladulla Trip*

### *Gillian and Ian Boyd's Garden in Milton*



*Arriving at the first garden in a rural environment at Milton we were met with views of rolling green hills, a country home and garden filled with a great*

*variety of plants including exotics and natives with one corner dedicated*

*to*



*showcasing local species. Adding interest was an extensive vegetable garden*



*and fruit trees. Roses were still in bloom alongside camellias and azaleas and the first of the spring bulbs - daffodils and snowflakes. Awaiting on the verandah, overlooking the garden and rural*

*view, was an enjoyable morning tea generously prepared and provided by the Ulladulla Garden Club committee.*



*Bill and Robyn Whitby's Bonsai Garden in Ulladulla*



*In direct contrast was the second garden at Ulladulla - a small town block with little front garden except for a small lawn and one or two shrubs completely disguising the surprise awaiting us. The back and side garden were home to several hundred bonsai of all variety and sizes of both native and exotic species all beautifully displayed. The bonsai potting bench was surrounded by*



*many bonsai pots of all shapes and sizes.*

*As could be expected credit cards worked overtime as the coach was loaded with several pots and their future occupants!!!*

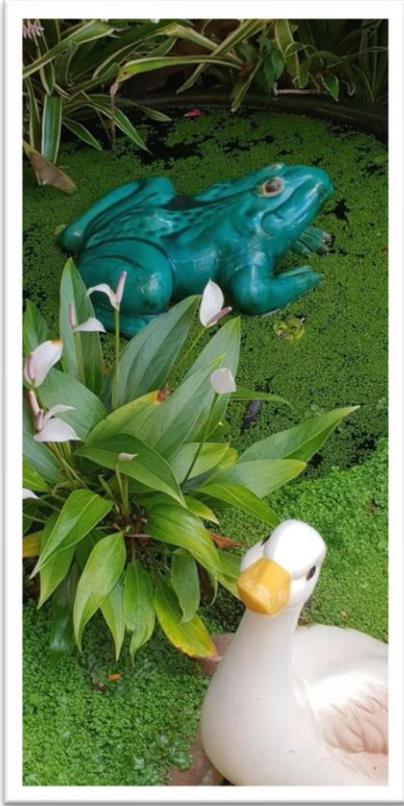


## *Daryl Bishop's Garden in Ulladulla*

*After lunch at Milton (and time for the essential retail therapy) we made our way to our third and final garden - a small suburban garden, owned and gardened by a charming, elderly gardener. The garden beds were crammed with many varieties of plants, numerous pots and hanging baskets with uncountable varieties of plants all beautifully maintained.*

*Although small, the garden is a concentrated oasis of lush green foliage featuring brugmansias, fuchsias and a variety of ground covers. Native fauna abounds with bird friendly trees and shrubs, plus water features which provide a safe haven for frogs.*





*Our final stop before returning to the Highlands was afternoon tea overlooking the ocean.*

