



## ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

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## NEWSLETTER - April 2021

**President:** Gillian Boyd (0402 209 399)

**Secretary:** Gill Evans (0414 738 373)

**Treasurer:** Sue Hobson (0417 939 224)

**Activities Officer:** Debbie Kendall (0412 069 520)



*The opinions and descriptions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Ulladulla & Districts Garden Club Incorporated (the Club). The Club does not accept any responsibility for any advice or treatments recommended by any of the writers expressed in any of the articles presented in these pages*

### Agenda

- Acknowledgement of Country
- A BIG welcome to all
- President's message
- Guest Speaker- Joanne Collins, Physiotherapist from Milton Hospital speaking on **Safety when Gardening**
- Activities
- Garden Gems
- Morning Tea
- What I am doing in my garden this month/Members' announcements/I need help in my garden
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Competition Results
- Today's winners

## **New Members**

Please welcome new members: Bill and Sharyn Lampard, Jane McLennan, Nolan Harvey



## **Get Well Messages**

If you are aware of a member who is not well, or needs cheering up, **please let Sue McMahon know on 4455 2739**



## **Banking Information**

If you would prefer to pay electronically for membership or trips etc. you can - details as follows:

**BSB 062-646**

**Account No 00900912**

Please ensure you enter your surname and what the money is for in the description space i.e. Keegan, Fees



## **Contact Details**

If you have recently changed your address, telephone number or email address, please ensure that you let a committee member know. This will ensure that you will receive your newsletter via email if you have requested this. All personal details are kept strictly confidential.



## **Morning Tea**

**Please think about bringing your own mug for m/tea** – this not only helps with the environment but also keeps our costs to a minimum. A mug with a lid would work best, as this would alleviate spillage and a possible injury. If you do use a disposable cup, please make sure you put it in the bin before you leave. We have had a lot of spills while packing up when cups are left on the floor.



## **Insurance**

Please note that guests, (non-members), are not covered by the Club's Group Personal Accident Policy on coach trips, therefore, these are restricted to financial members only.



## **Newsletter**

Will be distributed to members via email each month. Now that we are back meeting again, those members who had their newsletter posted or hand delivered to them during 2020 will now need to collect their copy from the front desk when they come to the meeting.



## **Propagation Group – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month**

Next meeting – Thursday April 22 - venue to be confirmed.



## President's Message

I have spent the last week cycling around the central West of NSW from Mudgee to Dubbo and back again along a different route, via the back roads and through Conservation areas on fire trails. I enjoyed seeing the forests of kurrajongs, eucalypts and cypresses with understorey of wattles and wildflowers. There were lots of birds and a surfeit of crows feeding on all the dead mice on the roads. And the live mice scurried quickly across the road, safe with bicycles approaching. The mice were also scurrying around the old hotels we stayed in which was not quite as easy to tolerate.

In the Central West Autumn has definitely arrived with the leaves changing colour and the nights cold and icy. On our arrival home, the change in colours was not evident but the nights are certainly cooler. The garden is also very dry as the autumn sunshine and dry air takes its toll on the soil moisture; some rain would be very welcome.

It is good to be experiencing the 'normal' Garden Club events again. I understand the Open Garden Sue Caine's new home in Dolphin Point on 14 April was a great success. I look forward to seeing Sue's garden in a couple of years to see how it has grown and matured. The day trip to the Rectory Garden at Bodalla was a true advance towards normality as we were finally able to travel in a group, by bus. As always Deb organised a special and happy day for members of the Ulladulla and Districts Garden Club. We are so lucky to have Deb, and her loyal assistant Mark, to check out and organise these events for us.

The Committee is reviewing the operation of the Trading Table reward system. We all love to buy plants from the Trading Table and to encourage and reward members for contributing plants for sale, there has been a reward system in place. Under this system, people supplying plants to the Trading Table are given credits that can be redeemed for bags of potting mix. The reward system has been in place for about 6 months, not including the Covid year, so it is time to review how it is working. The Committee is very keen to hear your comments and thoughts. Please send an email to [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com) or have a chat to a Committee member about your views on the reward system for the Trading Table.

As always, we look forward to receiving your photos and stories for the *Garden Thymes*. The lovely photos of your special plants and garden features, and your personal stories, help make the newsletter engaging and enjoyable. Keep them coming to [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com).

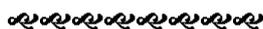
Happy gardening!

Gillian

## Keeping everyone COVID safe for our meetings

At our monthly meetings, we must make sure everyone is protected and safe from COVID infection. It is frustrating but essential that we all closely observe the following rules:

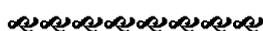
- Please do not come to the meeting if you are feeling unwell.
- Bring your own pen.
- Before entering the venue, register with the Services NSW app using the Church's QR code. If you do not have a smartphone you can manually record your details.
- Committee members will take your contributions for the Garden Gems, Competition and Trading tables and deliver them for you.
- Once you are inside the venue go to the Welcome Table as usual to record your attendance. This is for insurance purposes.
- After recording your attendance, move around the room in a clockwise direction to get your raffle tickets and view the Garden Gems, Competition and Trading table. The library will not be operating.
- Once you are seated, please remain in your seat until Morning Teatime.
- Morning tea will be served individually from the serveries in the kitchen.
- You may prefer to use your own mug otherwise all tea and coffee will be served in polystyrene cups. Biscuits will be served in individually wrapped packets.
- Hand sanitisers will be located at the entry and at strategic points in the meeting area. Please sanitise your hands regularly.
- COVID Monitors will circulate around the room to make sure we all observe social distancing.
- And please, no singing and dancing!



## Finance Report for March 2021

Funds held at CBA as at Feb 28, 2021	\$15348.11
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$7222.00
Income	\$7964.80
Expenditure	\$1022.20
Cash Book balance as of March 31, 2021	\$22290.71
'Student' account	\$2676.28

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Sue Hobson



## Would you like to be a Member in Focus at one of our meetings?

We would love to hear from any member in our club who can share their journey with us – it doesn't have to be garden related, or it can just be some photos that you can share with us – it is up to you.

You could be a new member or a long-standing member whose garden has evolved significantly since they last presented. Don't be shy as we can assist with your presentation.

If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experiences with the club, please contact Colleen Ringe.



**Guest Speakers at our March Meeting were Frances and John Hepburn**, representatives from our local Bushcare Group, who gave a very informative and entertaining talk titled "Local Bushcare - What IS it all about". Their talk included information on invasive weed identification and removal and some recommendations on what we can all do to help. Frances advised that Bushcare follows an Action Plan which is approved by Council before proceeding with any projects.



## About the fauna in my garden – Daryl Bishop

### Of Mice (*Mus Domesticus*)

These articles are supposed to be about Australian fauna, so I am justifying the current subject by stating that the common mouse migrated to Australia back in the 1700's with the first Europeans. If your ancestors had migrated to Australia over 200 years ago you would certainly be considered to be Australian, so why not the mouse!



I actually got interested in the subject after hearing about the recent mouse plague currently facing farmers, so I delved a bit further. Who would have imagined that a tiny creature of no more than 10-15 grams could wreak such havoc as this one sometimes does; and why don't we seem to have mouse plagues in cities?

This mouse is commonly called the 'European' or 'tramps' species. (Australia also has other types of mice which are indigenous). This mouse has accompanied humans almost everywhere in the world; as humans have migrated, so has the mouse. They have diversified and, in some cases, have developed into new species.

The Australian version of the domestic mouse does not, despite the name, restrict itself to urban areas. A large feral population exists, and it is these which can develop to plague proportions. When sufficient food (such as cereal crops) is available, breeding intensifies to keep up with the food supply. This, of course, is self-defeating – once the food supply disappears (either by depletion or removal), most of the mouse millions die of starvation. Since 1960 in Australia, over 20 mouse plagues have been recorded. The build-up of mouse numbers in these cases is, of course, at the expense not only of the farmers but also of small native rodents.

These mice also take advantage of bush-fire damage. Bushfires kill off many of our small native animals, leaving the burnt-out areas to be taken over by the much more resilient 'house mouse'.

In Australian urban situations, the house mouse is opportunistic and will fill any and every niche available. Sexual maturity is reached at about 8 weeks. Litters usually consist of 4-8 young but in good times can increase to 12. If it is edible, a mouse will eat it and survive. It is incredibly clever in discovering food sources (permanent or temporary) and actually getting at that food source. They love garden sheds which can contain anything from bird seed, fertiliser pellets etc to flower 'bulbs' (all considered very tasty). The shed can be a mouse gourmet delight. They love to burrow and can get access to whatever they want through incredibly small spaces.

Some companies have made fortunes producing/selling mouse baits and traps and other deterrents. Despite all the technology pitted against it, the mouse survives.

When we migrate to Mars, I am sure *Mus Domesticus* will go with us!

## Building Chris's Potting/She Shed – Nolan Harvey

Planning major renovations at home, my wife Chris had the idea of recycling the porch roof that went off the master bedroom, to cover her potting area. But post the renovations, the roof became an extension of our BBQ deck.

**So** – what to do about the promised potting shed and my return to Chris's good books.

**Plan** – lots and lots of planning and changing of minds; very frustrating for me but Chris always says you can change your mind as often as you like but once it's done, its done, and you can't change it anymore – best to get it right!

**Finally** – we agreed that simple is best and to use as much recycled material as we possibly could

**Problem** – where to place the shed in our renovation decimated backyard with an ever-encroaching pumpkin vine making its way down and out of the yard.

**So** – minds changed many, many times (again) with final agreement of vegetable garden on the right side and shed on the left side of the backyard.

**Construction** – unfortunately Chris had to go to Wagga for an extended stay before I could start, so the final design was left to me with many text messages and photos going back and forth.

I decided on 6 new posts cemented into the ground for 4 beams bolted to the posts and left-over hardwood for the floor and small balcony

**Problem:** not enough modwood so had to use decking boards halfway across the floor which had to be painted.

**Problem:** one was not straight

**So** – how to fix it? Answer – live with it and call it eclectic!

**Roof** – recycled Colourbond\* donated by our wonderful builder which was also used on the front and back walls, painted by Chris.

**Windows** – recycled from the buyback shop at the tip.

**Cladding** – the cheapest fence palings from Bunnings.

**Door** – rescued from a caravan park after the Lake Conjola Floods

**Deck and Balustrade** – recycled oregon and battens from our original house

**Bench** – recycled kitchen island bench from old house

**Shelving** – bits and pieces and offcuts

**Paint** – left over from renovation

**Outside work area** – recycled pallets and oregon shelving

**Timeline** – 8 weeks but still a work in progress



**What's next:** path around shed, water tank, raised beds for vegetable garden using recycled baths and old raised garden bed, front garden (the big one needs lots of planning, changing of minds and as much advice as we can get).

**Chris's appraisal:** what a fantastic achievement for a man who has never built a single thing in his life. I love it and will use it every day.

## ACTIVITIES - Debbie Kendall

**Tuesday, 1 June 2021: Day trip to Horse Island, Bodalla.** This trip is full, with a waiting list. Remember: Due to the size and terrain of the property it has been strongly recommended that you need to be physically fit and able to get yourself around.

**Departing Ulladulla Civic Centre 8.00 am for Horse Island.** Arriving about 10.00 am, we will spend approx. 2 ½ hours viewing the property with morning tea provided around 11.00 am by Christina Kennedy. Lunch will be at the Moruya Golf Club. As we need to pre-order our menu choices I will be in touch once menu options have been advised by the Golf Club. We will also have a quick stop at the Moruya Garden Centre before heading home.

**Cost: \$75 pp includes coaches, garden entry, lunch. Full payments due at the April Meeting.**

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**Monday 11 Oct – Thursday 14 October: 4 days/3 nights trip featuring visit to Mayfield Gardens, Oberon.** This trip is full, with a waiting list.

The trip will also include a visit to the Secret Garden & Nursery, Richmond; tours of Nooroo and Windyridge Gardens, Mount Wilson; Highfield Gardens, Little Hartley; Morning tea cruise on the Nepean Belle Paddlewheeler.

**Cost: \$740 pp twin share - \$890 single rate – includes coach, dinner, bed & breakfast at the Nesuto Leura Gardens Hotel, light lunches; garden entries.**

**A deposit of \$200 is due at the April meeting with final payment due by 30 August 2021.**

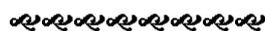
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**Open Gardens: Monday, 8 November 2021 – Save the Date,**

Elizabeth Stayt and Judy Thurecht, have kindly offered to open their gardens in Bannister Head Road, Narrawallee. More details to follow.

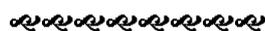
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Other Activities are planned for the coming months, but dates and details aren't finalised as yet so watch this space.



## Photos for Newsletter

Do you have a photo you love of your garden or a plant or animal in your garden? We would love to share it with our members through the newsletter so please don't stop sending them in. They are a wonderful addition to our newsletter. Send them to [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com.au](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com.au) or directly to me at [annkeegan@bigpond.com](mailto:annkeegan@bigpond.com)



## Visit to Sue Caine's garden – April 17, 2021

Many thanks to Sue Caine for opening her garden in Dolphin Point to members on Wednesday 14 April. We all enjoyed a relaxed morning catching up over a cuppa and it was lovely to see what Sue has achieved in such a short time in her new home. Sue's garden, while quite large, is an easy-care garden consisting mainly of native plants and includes many of her eclectic garden ornaments and mosaics from her previous home.



## Photo Competition for March

We had such a great response to our photo competition during 2020, the editor has decided that we will continue this in 2021, so please send in your photos to [annekeegan@bigpond.com](mailto:annekeegan@bigpond.com) or [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com)

Here are the winners for April



**Ruth Fucile** - beautiful lipstick plant



**Judy Thurecht** and her interesting Succulent

**March meeting competition** – Blossoms of Blue – and the winners were ...

1<sup>st</sup>: Sheila Gallant

2<sup>nd</sup>: Tie – Catherine Craig and Yvonne Steain

3<sup>rd</sup>: Yvonne Byatt



**Competition for April meeting** – As we are ‘back to normal’ for our meetings, the competition for April is **Hibiscus**

## Competitions for 2021

<b>May</b>	<b>One Perfect Bloom</b>	<b>July</b>	Camelias
<b>June</b>	<b>Winter Wonders</b>	<b>August</b>	Succulents
		<b>September</b>	Orchids
		<b>October</b>	Roses
		<b>November</b>	Symphony in White



## Shirley Smith Award 2021

Sadly, no tips received this month. However, I am sure that each of you has a special tip that you have used during the COVID situation that you can share with our members. Please send them to [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com) or directly to the editor at [annekeegan@bigpond.com](mailto:annekeegan@bigpond.com). I look forward to receiving lots of tips and tricks this year.



**Garden events that may be of interest to you** – (not part of UGC planned activities)

### Garden Clubs of Australia – Biennial National Convention

Sep 12 – 16, Townsville [www.gcaconvention2021.com](http://www.gcaconvention2021.com)



The poster for the Biennial National Convention 2021, hosted by Townsville & District Garden Club Inc. It features the Garden Clubs of Australia logo and the slogan 'Beautiful One Day - Perfect the Next'. The poster lists several highlights: Townsville North Queensland as a perfect paradise, the Great Barrier Reef, unspoilt rainforest, Australia's largest garrison city, and the inclusion of the Townsville Orchid Society Spring Show and Giru Agriculture & Horticulture Show. It also provides contact information for the convention committee and a list of sponsors including the Garden Clubs of Australia, UGC, and various local businesses.

**Tulip Time Festival 2021**, 17 Sept - 4 Oct 2021  
Corbett Gardens, Bendooley Street, Bowral

**Robertson Open Gardens**  
October 9 and 10, 2021

**Roses by the Seaside, 2021 National Rose Championships and Conference, Kiama**  
Sat Oct 16 and Sun Oct 17  
The Pavilion, 2 Bong Bong Street, Kiama  
<http://www.nsw.rose.org.au/rose-society-events>

**Bundanoon Garden Ramble**  
October 30 and 31 2021

**Bathurst Spring Spectacular 2021** (including plant and garden expo)  
Sat Oct 30 and Sun Oct 31  
[www.bathurstgardenclub.org.au](http://www.bathurstgardenclub.org.au)

**Birchwood (near Benalla) Open Garden**  
Sat Oct 30 and Sun Oct 31  
[www.birchwoodnearbenalla.com.au](http://www.birchwoodnearbenalla.com.au)

### Have your say ...

Is there something that you want to say about the joys or otherwise of home gardening? The newsletter is a place that you can post your views or make comments or even write a story. Don't be shy and don't think that you need to be a great writer to contribute – we can help you if you need it. Members' contributions are what make newsletters interesting. Have your say!

### Newsletter Editor, Ann Keegan, can be contacted by:

Email [annkeegan@bigpond.com](mailto:annkeegan@bigpond.com)  
Telephone 0417 690 620 or 4454 4156



### Paid Advertisement

Tony Karacsonyi, of Narrawallee, is now offering his gardening services to Garden Club members. Tony is already maintaining several gardens in Mollymook and Milton, and is skilled in weeding, planting, pruning, mulching and creating gardens. He has worked as a planter/bush regenerator, for the past 9 years for Shoalhaven City Council and the NPWS. He has Certificates 1, 2 and Part 3 in Horticulture from Ulladulla TAFE, and Chemical Certificate from North Sydney TAFE. Some members will know Tony and his wife Elizabeth, from the Milton/Ulladulla Orchid Society Shows, so if you have orchids that need re-potting, he can do that too.



**Call Tony on Tel; 0476 938 415 or AH; 4455 4552**