



## ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

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## NEWSLETTER - July 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*

# July meeting – **Cancelled**

**August meeting – Monday Aug 30, 2021**

## **New Members**

Please welcome new member: **Maureen Gray**



## **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. For those of you who do not have email, the newsletter will be delivered as before until we can get back to 'normal' meetings



## **Propagation Group – 3rd Tuesday of the month**

Next meeting – August 17



## President's Message

It is on again or should I say off again! Covid has again reared its infective self and has once again resulted in cancellation of our Garden Club meeting, along with other events we all enjoy and look forward to. It is lucky we all have our gardens to keep us sane and busy. We were going to have the birthday bash that we missed out on in June but hopefully all will be okay, and we can have a belated birthday meeting on 30 August.

As I write this message the wind is roaring through our garden. There has been no damage, but it certainly puts an end to spending time in the garden or outside. Even if Covid restrictions hadn't forced the cancellation of many weekend activities, the fierce wind would have the same effect.

There is still a lot of clearing up chores to do around my garden. The mild summer and autumn and the plentiful rain has resulted in copious growth throughout the garden. I have been furiously cutting back and pulling out overgrown shrubs and grasses. Next week we will start pruning the roses and, this year, after a disastrous year with black spot, I will be heeding Max Atkins' expert advice and spraying with lime sulphur as soon as each bush is cut back. It will be interesting to see if it has any effect on the prevalence of black spot on the roses in the coming season.

For the photographers amongst us, there are three photo competitions coming up. The first one is the Garden Clubs of Australia Annual Photographic Award. The closing date for digital or post card entries is 1 October 2021. There is no entry fee, and the total prize pool is valued at around \$1,300. There is no time limit on when the photographs were taken or their location. There is also a junior section for young people up to 16 years old, so it is a good opportunity for the younger ones in your life to give it a go.

The second competition is also a Garden Clubs of Australia competition and calls for submission of digital photos for inclusion in the 2023 'Beautiful gardens of Australia' calendar. These are beautiful wall calendars that are available to members for purchase at around Christmas time each year. Entries for this competition are once again free and close on 15 February 2022. The 13 main photos that are published earn the photographer a \$100 prize.

The conditions for entry for both these competitions is on the GCA website at [www.gardenclubs.org.au](http://www.gardenclubs.org.au).

The third competition is a local one that is being run by the South Pacific Heathland Reserve. Entries for this competition are open from 1 September to 15 October 2021 with a public exhibition of all entries and announcement of winners, in late November. There is more information about this competition later in this newsletter.

And for those people who prefer to write as well as take pictures, don't forget that our members love to read your garden related stories. Of course, the stories are more enjoyable if they are illustrated by photos, or, if you are really clever, a drawing. Remember it is your stories that make the newsletter special and a joy to read. Send your stories to [ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com) or talk to our hardworking editor Ann about submitting your story on actual paper written with a pen.

And if you just love to read and dream, the Garden Club has purchased the Horse Island book by Christina Kennedy, the owner of Horse Island. When the book finally arrives, the Garden Club will donate it to the Ulladulla Library. This way you can borrow the book at leisure and if it is not available, you can utilise the excellent Reserve option at the library to reserve the book. Donating this beautiful book means that everyone in our community can share in the beauty and the story of Horse Island.

I hope I will catch up with you on 30 August as we burst into Spring and hopefully, out of the current Covid restrictions. Until then, take care and stay well.

Happy gardening!  
Gillian



## Finance Report for June 2021

Funds held at CBA as at May 31, 2021	\$31062.51
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$7249.24
Income	\$1096.00
Expenditure	\$4927.80
Cash Book balance as of June 30, 2021	\$27230.71
'Student' account	\$2676.28

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

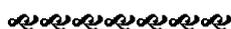


## Would you like to be a Member in Focus at one of our meetings?

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.



## 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 or dancing



### 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**

## ACTIVITIES - Debbie Kendall

Well, here we go again. Thankfully we have no trips or activities planned until late September so I am trying to keep positive that things will settle down and we can still get away in a few months' time.

**22 September 2021, Wednesday: Day Trip to Bowral Tulip Festival & Red Cow Farm, Sutton Forest.** This trip is full with a waiting list.

**Cost: \$60 pp** includes coach, plus entry to Tulip Festival and Red Cow Farm. Lunch at own expense. Final payments extended to Meeting on Monday 30 August.

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.**

**Final payment due by 30 August 2021.**

**Please also advise of any special dietary requirements as soon as possible**

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**Save the Dates for the following Open Gardens/Events planned for later in the year:**

**Open Gardens:**

**28 September 2021:** Judy Hamilton, Anker Avenue, Mollymook Beach

**15 November 2021 (Note change of date):** Two Gardens - Elizabeth Stayt and Judy Thurecht, Bannister Head Road, Narrawallee.

**1 December 2021:** Rose Richardson, Seaspray Street, Narrawallee.

**Christmas Lunch:**

**Tuesday 14 December 2021, Mollymook Golf Club**



## **About the fauna in my garden – thank you Daryl Bishop**

The virus is still taking its toll in the rainbow lorikeet world. Following their decimation in the first couple of months (when my group reduced from 30 to 5), another decimated group joined them, and the group increased to 13. I am now down to 4. I have checked with others up and down the coast and the position is the same. For these creatures there is, unfortunately, no vaccine.

I have a camellia hedge which always looks lush and inviting. It is about a metre thick and over 10 feet tall and quite dense. One morning last week, when I was weeding in the area, I heard a very muted 'peep' and after some discreet searching, found a nest in the hedge which contained 2 youngsters. I backed off immediately but kept on weeding as if I wasn't interested. An adult wattle bird was hanging around, so I moved away, and she soon disappeared into the hedge, and I heard more muted 'peeps'. It is great that life just goes on regardless of floods and fires, wars, and epidemics.

For years a family of catbirds has considered my garden to be part of its territory. Some months I only see the adult male, then he is joined by a female and later by the addition of 2 or 3 young. Then they all disappear for a couple of months and the cycle starts again. He is always careful to check the area before the rest of the family comes in. One morning – disaster! He had obviously been doing his checking but was not careful enough and had been killed by next doors cat which also considers my yard to be part of its territory. I thought I probably wouldn't see the family again but two weeks later the female came back with her young ones and continued to visit every day. In the past, the family was very unobtrusive but now they joined the other birds vying for their share of the morning and afternoon treat. Time went by and one morning I found that my intake of catbirds had now grown to 11. The new ones were very clearly two families and they all interacted as if they were familiar with each other. They have been coming in ever since. The strange thing is that there is no sign of the families breaking up and the young going off on their own. What were once juveniles are now adults; there is no difference between male and female except that some behave a little differently, I can't tell them apart. Some of them are showing signs of wanting to take the relationship to the next stage ie., they are coming up on to the deck when they see me, something the original family never did; they will start checking to see what I am having for breakfast and try to charm me into sharing it with them. Who knows what the future will bring!

### **About Catbirds (which are members of the bower bird family)**

There are several different types, but the local catbirds are known as green or spotted catbirds. For ease, I will just refer to them as catbirds. The territory of this catbird covers the mid to southeast coast.

Unlike other catbird types (which live mainly in the Qld rainforests, this one no longer builds bowers). The males do, sometimes, toss down some leaves in a ring or circle but having done so, makes no further use of this site. Also, unlike most of the bowerbird family (the males of which are eternal seducers), this catbird is monogamous and believed to mate for life. It still goes off for an annual jaunt with its male mates but then goes back to the family.

Catbirds are about the size of a peewee but more sturdily built. Their backs and wings are olive green, the rest of their bodies are speckled and a mix of green/white/brown. They hop rather than walk and when standing still, spread their legs as if for better balance. They are not brightly coloured but are pleasing to look at. The only calls I have heard them make are like the one a cat makes when it is not happy. Males and females look alike while the young are slightly lighter green.

They usually mate from September to January. Their nests are bulky deep cups made of large leaves, twigs and vines placed in an upright fork in a dense short tree or large shrub 2-3 metres above ground. The female will lay 1 -3 eggs. During breeding, the male actively defends the nest. Only the female incubates the eggs but both parents feed the young and supervise them.

They spend most of their lives in the lower canopies or amongst the ground leaf litter. They seem to favour low shrubby areas. At night the pair roost in separate trees which are near to each other.

They are said to be mainly fruit eaters but that they include insects and their larvae, 'some' leaves and flowers, frogs, and nestlings of small birds in their diet. They steal the meat I put out for the peewees and kookaburras, so I know they are meat eaters too. I also know they love watermelon!

Just as they have evolved from bower builders, I think these birds are evolving from being rain forest dwellers into suburbanites. I know that other coastal people are receiving regular visits from groups of them. They are no longer secretive but mix freely with other birds in their gardens of choice.

In my garden they always appear out of the lower plant canopies where, I assume, they are busily hunting insects – that certainly makes them welcome visitors.



## South Pacific Heathland Spring Photo Competition

For those who don't know the South Pacific Heathland Reserve, it is a 14-hectare reserve in south Ulladulla stretching along the coastline from Dowling Street to Pitman Avenue, overlooking magnificent, wild Rennies Beach. The Reserve is crisscrossed with paths that take you from end to end and along diversions to lookouts over the Rennies Beach. Surfers love it as it is the perfect lookout spot for checking out the surf before deciding if it is worth clambering down the cliff paths with surfboard underarm. Bird and wildflower lovers equally relish the Reserve for the stunning birds, insects and plants that proliferate throughout the coastal heathland and woodland landscape.

The Heathland Reserve is Crown Land and is managed by a group of community volunteers with the grandiose title of Land Managers. This year the Land Managers successfully applied for a grant to launch a Spring Photographic Competition. The competition aims to attract more people to the Reserve and to share its beauty with the community at large.

Photos must be taken in the Reserve. Entries are free and open from 1 September to 15 October and are invited from experienced Photographers, Casual Photographers and young people aged 12 and under. Photos can be Macro close-ups, Life form-either bird, animal, plant or insect, or Landscape. Winners will be announced at the Public Exhibition of entries at the Dunn Lewis Centre on 27 November. For the conditions of entry, please email [southpacificeathlandreserve@gmail.com](mailto:southpacificeathlandreserve@gmail.com).

For people who would like to enter the competition but are not super confident in their nature photography skills, there will be a couple of familiarisation sessions held in the Reserve prior to the September opening date. At these sessions, experienced nature photographers will lead the participants through the Reserve and offer tips and advice on how to make the very most of the myriad photographic opportunities in the Reserve. More details of these sessions will be available as the date approaches and the Covid restrictions have eased. However, you are welcome to register your interest in attending by contacting [southpacificeathlandreserve@gmail.com](mailto:southpacificeathlandreserve@gmail.com).

So, think about snapping the perfect entry. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know this unique Reserve better and to share its beauty with others. And you may even win a prize!



## Diary of a thwarted orchid lover - Anonymous

I thought it was time to let you know what was happening with my orchid.

As you may remember after a painful failure in the fine art of orchid growing, I purchased a very 'hardy' orchid at the end of April at the orchid vendor in Mogo village while on a Garden Club trip to the Rectory Garden at Bodalla.

I study the orchid regularly. I am following the instructions to the letter (I think). It is sitting in its pot on a rock in a sheltered position, with filtered morning sun, and moisture from the rain and occasional spray of water from the watering can if there has not been any rain for a while.

So far, after 3 months of just being, and patiently waiting for the Spring, my orchid has not changed. It continues to look healthy and best of all, it is still alive. Spring isn't too far away so I am hoping that in 3 more months I will have a much more exciting entry in my diary for you to read



## Shirley Smith Award 2021

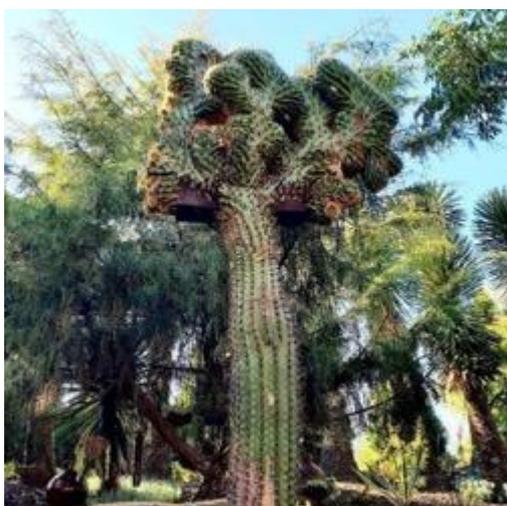
Unfortunately, no tips received over the last month – putting those thinking caps on and share them with everyone.



## Recent trip to Melbourne – thank you Debbie & Mark Kendall

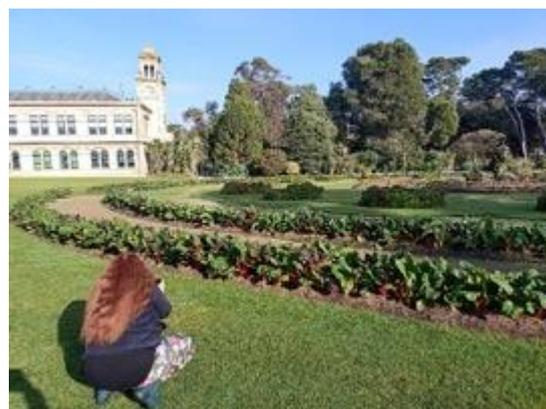
Mark and I recently managed to travel to Melbourne to visit children and grandchildren that we, like many others we know, haven't seen since early 2020. We duly applied for our permits and travelled to Melbourne while regional NSW was still an orange zone, went straight to a COVID testing station on arrival then isolated until our negative results came through 18hrs later.

We shared our time between our two daughters, Louise and Lisa, who live on opposite sides of Melbourne. Both are very keen gardeners and plant collectors, and they were looking forward to taking us to their favourite unusual nurseries. Louise took us to Roraima Nursery situated in Lara near Geelong. Roraima, set within two acres of amazing display gardens, specialises in unusual, exotic, drought-tolerant and architectural plants which include a variety of natives, perennials, ferns, palms, and bottle trees. It also has a range of unique metal sculptures made by a local artist. See website [www.roraimanursery.com.au](http://www.roraimanursery.com.au)



Besides being a plant nursery with the usual, but also the unusual selection of plants, the owner's display garden is well worth a visit. We also learnt while we were there, that this garden and its story will be featured on an upcoming episode of Gardening Australia. Keep an eye out for that.

We also visited Werribee Park with its magnificent heritage-listed Werribee Mansion and formal gardens. An interesting feature of the large open area in front of the Mansion was an extensive formal winter planting of thousands of rainbow chard plants. An interesting and inventive way to fill a spot in your garden in the quieter winter growing months.



Werribee Park is also home to the Victoria State Rose Garden which has approx. 5000 roses. While this isn't the best time to see roses, there were still quite a few in bloom and it was a lovely setting for a quite stroll and a relax in the rotunda located in the centre of the garden.



Volunteers were busy with the huge task of winter pruning. One of the volunteers said this year's pruning was a much more extensive task because the 2020 pruning season didn't happen due to COVID lockdown.

While staying with Lisa on the other side of Melbourne she drove us to another unusual nursery called Collectors Corner. This nursery also includes many displays of bonsai, cacti & succulents plus a vast collection of rare and unusual gemstones, minerals, fossils, sea shells and meteorites. The choice of succulents and cacti to purchase is overwhelming and most are reasonably priced but our favourite which was on display, the Monkey's Tail Cactus, (on display in this picture) at \$500 had to be left in the store – instead we bought a very, very young one at \$12.



## Library Report – Elvina James

Greetings to fellow garden club members. Today while writing this, it is very wintry, but it won't be long, and it will be spring.

To all those chocoholics out there – were you able to celebrate the other day? July 7 was “World Chocolate Day”. Unfortunately, I only found out after the event. Try and remember for next year.

As it is almost August, I thought you might be interested in the following:

‘August received its present name from the Emperor Augustus and was selected not as being his natal (birth) month, but because in it his greatest good fortune happened to him. As July contained 31 days and August only 30, it was thought necessary to add another day to the latter month, in order that Augustus might not be in any respect, inferior to Julius.’

Birthday flowers for August:

Australia: Grevillea buxiflora, Grey Spider Flower (these plants grow in the bush at Jerrawangala)

Exotics Primrose, violet

Those born in August are dependable, vigorous, practical, or very comical.

Some dates of Interest:

July 25 National Tree Planting Day

July 26 Arbour Day and beginning of Arbour Week

August 1 Walk in the Wildflower Reserve, meet at 10:00am at the entrance  
Horses Birthday

August 2 International Friendship Day

Jeans for Genes Day

August 13 Left Handers Day

August 20 St Steven's Day

August 27 National Meals on Wheels Day

September 1 National Wattle Day

If your wattles are not out on September 1, celebrate Wattle Day when yours are out or at a time that suits you. When you realise that there are over a thousand species of wattle around the world with one thousand of them found in Australia, you could have a celebration at any time.

Friendship Thought: A friend is someone who can touch your heart from across the world

Trivia: Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite  
July is truffle month in the ACT

Enjoy your Garden.



## Member Photos received for the July newsletter



Great Hair!  
Thank you - Linda Slinger

Looking through photos taken of my garden this year and came across this colourful pot, I am looking forward to Springtime to have the bright colours of flowers back again. Stay warm and safe all.

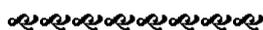
Thank you - Faye Fitzsimmons



The Competition for the August meeting is **Succulents**

### Competitions for 2021

<b>September</b>	Orchids
<b>October</b>	Roses
<b>November</b>	Symphony in White



## Garden Clubs of Australia – Biennial National Convention

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

The Townsville & District Garden Club in conjunction with the Garden Clubs of Australia wish to announce there are still some spaces available for your members to attend the GCA Biennial Convention 2021, which is being held in Townsville from 12 to 16 September.



### **Biennial National Convention**

**12-16 September 2021**  
Hosted by  
**Townsville & District Garden Club Inc.**

**'Beautiful One Day -  
Perfect the Next'**

**Great News! Some places still available -  
Registrations extended for a short time!  
Get in quick!**

- Townsville NQ is the perfect blend of tropical sea breezes, glorious winter weather, and refreshing rainforest retreats. With more than 300 days of sunshine a year, the average climate remains a tropical 28 degrees.
- It's chilled out and scenic. You can get over to Magnetic Island, head to the restaurants and bars which are close to the Convention base, go for a sunrise walk. Townsville is just a magic place.
- If I were a delegate, I know where I'd want to come!
- Timed to include Townsville Orchid Society Spring Show and Giru Agriculture & Horticulture Show.

Convention details including Program, Venues, Accommodation, Activities etc. are available on the Website [www.gcaconvention2021.com](http://www.gcaconvention2021.com) and [Facebook.com/gca2021](https://www.facebook.com/gca2021).

To request a full Registration Package please email [perfect2021@mail.com](mailto:perfect2021@mail.com) or contact Shirley Haslam Phone 0438 253 312

**Townsville Garden Club  
Convention Committee 2021**  
*'Beautiful One Day - Perfect the Next'*

In collaboration with





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

### **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

### **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)