



ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

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NEWSLETTER - May 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
- Welcome to all
- President's message
- Guest Speaker - *Wildlife carer, Anne the Possum lady, will talk about wildlife in your garden, especially possums*
- Activities
- The Milton Show – *how you can be part of the fun!*
- Garden Gems
- **Morning Tea**
- John Mallos – *Community Transport Aid - Can CTA help YOU get from A to B?*
- What/Why is this happening in my garden, Member's announcements
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Competition Results- *One Perfect Bloom*
- Today's winners

Next meeting – Monday June 28, 2021

We will be celebrating our 46th birthday

With cake and presentation of the President's award

New Members

Please welcome new members: Pattie Ryan, Debbie Walker, Tim & Margo Kay, Kaye Grant



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 – 3rd Tuesday of the month (note change of day)

Next meeting – Tuesday June 15 - venue to be confirmed.



President's Message

As we approach winter and the days are getting shorter, it is hard to find the time to do everything in the garden that needs to be done. The upside is that the days are beautiful with stunning sunrises and sunsets. And the district's gardens are beautiful at present with myriad camellias, hibiscus, and tibouchinas, and the roses go on and on, flaunting their beauty month after month. The bright orange of mandarins and oranges against the glossy green leaves of the citrus trees are equally beautiful, and I can attest to the delicious, fresh taste.

On a beautiful Thursday morning a week or so ago, Max Atkins hosted a rose information session in his garden. As most of our members are aware Max dominates most classes in the Rose competition at the Milton Show every year. Even in 2020 after his house and extensive rose garden were burnt to the ground in the Currowan fire, Max managed to successfully show his roses, that, in the short eight weeks since the fire, had recovered sufficiently to produce prize winning flowers. Max generously shared the knowledge and hints that he has accumulated over the years. I am sure everyone present learnt something new to help them understand how to grow healthier and lovelier roses. I certainly did. For newcomers to rose growing it was a great opportunity to learn the full story from an expert. I know everyone enjoyed exploring Max's lovely garden and its stunning roses. We also had a lovely Morning Tea at Vicki Weir's house next door. Many thanks to Max and Val Atkins and to Vicki for welcoming us to their homes and to the members who provided the delicious treats for Morning Tea. It was a very special morning.

I am hoping that Max will invite us back in July to give us a rose pruning demonstration.

On 29 May the Bowral Garden Club is visiting this area. The visitors will start with Morning Tea at my garden in Croobyar and follow that with a visit to Robyn and Bill Whitby's amazing bonsai display and thence to Daryl Bishop's Garden. I hope they enjoy their visit. Hopefully, we can have a return visit to Bowral in the future

The Milton Show Society is currently looking for Stewards for the 2022 Show. I have been a steward in the Jams and Jellies section for a few years now. The job involves displaying the exhibits and assisting the judge on the day before the Show opens, to select the winners in each class. We open and hand the judge each jar of jam which she tastes and decides which are the three winners. We record all the winners and note any comments that the judge wants to pass onto the exhibitor. After the Show we return all the jars to the exhibitors. I have worked with great people and learnt a lot about making better jam. I can strongly recommend becoming a Steward at the Show. It is fun. If you are interested let me know

Our newsletter Editor, Ann, is very keen to get your contributions to The Garden Thymes. We all loved reading members' stories and vignettes throughout 2020 in the Covid period. Your stories make the Newsletter special and a joy to read so please keep those stories and photos coming. Send your contribution to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com or talk to Ann about submitting a written story on actual paper.

We also need your clever gardening hints for the Shirley Smith Award. If you have a tried-and-true hint or advice that you have found successful in your garden, write it down and give it to

Ann or send it to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com. It is sure to help someone else with their gardening and it could win you the Shirley Smith Award. In November, members vote on which hint that has been published in the newsletter, they think is best. The hint with the biggest number of votes receives the Shirley Smith Award. Not only do you have the prestige associated with this Award, but you also get your name engraved on the trophy and you get a bundle of garden goodies. So, get those hints rolling in.

Happy winter gardening!

Gillian



Finance Report for April 2021

Funds held at CBA as at March 31, 2021	\$22290.71
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$7222.00
Income	\$10933.05
Expenditure	\$4742.58
Cash Book balance as of April 30, 2021	\$28481.18
'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.

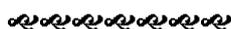
If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experiences with the club, please contact Colleen Ringe.



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 and dancing!



To control codling moths in fruit trees, hang a couple of opened necked jars filled with sweet sherry in your apple, pear persimmon etc. trees around late September. This will attract the moths and they will die happily in the sherry before laying any eggs near your fruit . Change the sherry on a regular basis for best results.

Morris Holmes horticultural consultant gardener.

Codling moths lay their eggs on leaves on developing fruit as flowering finishes. When the eggs hatch the caterpillars burrow into the fruit. Apply Success Ultra from early flowering onwards and destroy any affected fruit. Trap migrating caterpillars in corrugated cardboard bands wrapped around the tree trunk. "Information from Yates Garden guide."

Marie O'Connell

ACTIVITIES - Debbie Kendall

1 June 2021, Tuesday: Day trip to Horse Island, Bodalla.

Departing Ulladulla Civic Centre: 7.45 am for Horse Island. Please note that due to ongoing roadworks on the Princes Highway we are hoping to depart the Civic Centre a bit earlier than originally planned. Travelling with Kennedys Coaches in 2 x 24-seater minibuses, we will have a quick comfort stop in Moruya before heading on to 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 our host, Christina Kennedy. Lunch will be at the Moruya Golf Club. We will also have a quick stop at the Moruya Garden Centre before heading home.

22 September 2021, Wednesday: Day Trip to Bowral Tulip Festival & Red Cow Farm, Sutton Forest, departing 7.30 am.

The Bowral Tulip Festival is one of Australia's oldest and best-loved floral festivals. Corbett Gardens, the centrepiece of the festival is mass-planted with spectacular curated displays of 75,000 tulip bulbs and 15,000 annuals. There will be daily entertainment and over 20 stalls with a large range of handcrafted wares, local produce, and refreshments. Tickets for this event in Corbett Gardens need to be pre-purchased and entry times are limited – I have opted for a morning entry. Members will be free to spend as much time as they wish in Corbett Gardens during the morning (please note that Pass Outs are not available) and to also browse the shops in Bowral and purchase lunch.

In the afternoon we will visit the beautiful Red Cow Farm Garden in Sutton Forest. Red Cow Farm is a unique cool-climate garden set on 2 ½ hectares – it has 20 garden rooms including cottage garden, monastery garden, abbess's garden, bog garden, orchard and kitchen garden, just to name a few.

Cost: \$60 pp includes coach, plus entry to Tulip Festival and Red Cow Farm. Lunch at own expense. If you would like to be included for this trip then please register at the Activities Table, with deposit of \$20 due by June meeting and full payment due at the July meeting.

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

Save the Date

The following members have kindly offered to open their gardens later in the year:

8 November 2021, Elizabeth Stayt and Judy Thurecht, Bannister Head Road, Narrawallee.

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

More details to follow.

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



About the fauna in my garden – Daryl Bishop

Rainbow Lorikeets

This is a bad time in my garden. The virus which has decimated the flock that normally considers my garden as part of its territory, has taken its toll. This is a flock of 30-40 birds; they have visiting rights covering their morning and afternoon treats (not a meal) as I feel they need to forage for themselves but enough to bring them to my garden each day. If the treat is late, they line up on the deck railing until I appear. These birds are very gregarious, so the virus passes through the flock very quickly; the flock grows smaller by the day. At this morning's count, it was down to 12. I feel very sad as this is not just a local virus.



Although classed as nectar eaters, they can be very destructive as they also like the taste of the petals of some flowers. For example, they shredded my whole display of calla lilies, sitting there calmly chewing on the large petals, having already torn the flowers apart in their eagerness to get at them.

They are also seed eaters; sunflower seeds seem to be their favourite. However, they are not picky and will give most seeds a 'try'. I have even seen them on lawns busily foraging for the grass seed.

They also love fruit; I put a sliced apple out each day, and it doesn't last long.

There about 55 species of lorikeets spread widely in the southern hemisphere; seven of these can be found in Australia. Our local species is the Rainbow Lorikeet which has thick glossy plumage of green, purple, yellow and red. Males and females are similar in both size and colour. The immature birds are a bit duller in colour than the adults.

They usually have only one chick and they nest usually in tree hollows. The young stay with the parents wherever they go until mature enough to fend for themselves and are then accepted into the flock whatever their sex.

The lorikeets are known as brush-tongues. They differ from wattle birds (which have long stiff bristles at the end of their tongue) in that the visible part of the tongue is covered in short bristles or hairs which allow them to really clean a plate/drink if it held something it liked. Despite what some people say, they don't care if the nectar is indigenous or exotic – if your garden provides the nectar, they will be there!

They are beautiful, ravenous, greedy, gregarious, belligerent, charming and friendly. They are fun to have around but need to be kept in their place. They hate to be left out. They have twice chewed holes in my screen door in an effort to get into my house - having worked out that this is where the treats come from. Unlike the magpies, they haven't yet learnt how to

open the screen door. Because they like to hang out in flocks, they can be very noisy, but my garden would seem empty without them.

The currawongs are back. There are normally only 2 but this year there are 6 – another change.

The domestic mouse (mus) which I talked about last month, is really making its name (in a bad way). Their plague numbers have reached hundreds of thousands and the damage they are doing is horrendous. This too will pass but farmers, following the fires, floods and COVID must be wondering “what’s next”.

The bandicoots are also back busily digging holes in my lawn each night. They must be going to other people’s lawns as well, so as they are favoured tick carriers, we should be very wary.

I have been particularly pleased during the past 2 weeks to be visited on a regular basis by a wag-tail. He is not at all shy and comes up onto the deck whenever he sees me there.

I hope he stays!



Our **Guest Speaker for the April Meeting** was Joanne Collins, Physiotherapist at Milton Hospital, who gave an informative talk on how we can maintain our fitness for gardening and how to prevent falls in the garden.

Joanne left the club with a copy “Staying Power” tips and tools to keep you on your feet.



Here is an excerpt from that publication:

Coming to grips with falls

Having a fall gives anyone a shock. Falls can affect us all, no matter what age or level of fitness. They are not an inevitable consequence of growing older – you can do a lot to reduce your own risk of falling. It is simply a matter of employing a new way of thinking about a very old problem.

The causes and cures of falls

As you get older, many changes can happen gradually so that you tend not to notice them. You can become less active, your bones become more brittle, our muscles weaker, our balance less stable and your eyesight less clear. It happens so slowly over several years that it is hard to identify exactly what these changes are.

Please see the editor if you would like to borrow this publication - it has great tips and tricks to keep us safe as we age.

Diary of a thwarted orchid lover

Hitherto I have never been inspired to grow orchids. As a child I would seek out the little native nodding greenhoods in the paddocks at the back of my childhood home, and my mother always had pots of Cymbidium orchids scattered throughout the garden and on her back deck. I was astonished when I learned that my brother was growing orchids in his garden; I think we all know that brothers do not follow such gentle pursuits. And then a few years ago I visited a garden on the road to Bendalong with the Garden Club. It was a beautiful garden. I hope it is still there. The feature that really struck me was the Sydney rock orchids tumbling over rocks at the top of a water feature. And on one of my regular visits to the Milton Rural Landcare Nursery I was struck by the stunning yellow orchids flowering in the gardens bordering the entry path. I decided I must grow Sydney Rock orchids.

So, I went online and ordered the plants. I also ordered a book that purportedly would provide me with all the information I needed to successfully grow *Dendrobium speciosum*. I closely followed all the instructions, my brown thumb marking each page as I studied and implemented the wise words. But to no avail.

After listening to our own orchid expert, Gary, at a Garden Club meeting, I moved the pot containing my orchid to an easterly aspect only to have the leaves go spotty brown and ultimately shred. So, as a last resort, I planted it in the ground. It did not last long, and I sadly farewelled my Sydney rock orchid.

But I was obviously not ready to give up. On the Garden Club visit down South last month, I was enticed by a fellow traveller to go to the Orchid nursery at Mogo. I bought another orchid. This time it is a hybrid and its label said 'very hardy'. The vendor congratulated me on my choice and provided me with advice that I hope will help overcome my very dark brown thumb.

I have followed the advice to the letter and when Spring has sprung, I will discover whether I should pursue this orchid strewn pathway.

I will let you know what happens.

Anonymous



How sweet it is ... thank you Marie O'Connell

After purchasing 3 organic sweet potato plants my daughter Shelley planted them in her plot at the Murramarang Community Garden; the result is many kilos of large, sweet potatoes.

This is her first effort after purchasing a plot at the garden this year, so along with salad vegetables and a few flowering plants to encourage the local bees you can imagine how keen she now is to plant potatoes for the coming season!

Happy gardening!

Marie O'Connell



Wollongong Botanic Gardens Day

On Sunday 30 May, 10am to 4pm we will be celebrating the 'power of plants' at Botanic Gardens Day at Wollongong Botanic Garden.

Costa Georgiadis and Clarence Slockee from ABC Gardening Australia will also be here on the day as part of our 50th anniversary celebrations!

Activities (all free) include:

- Guided tours
- Self-guided trails
- Exhibitions
- Garden Demonstrations
- The Tree Musketeers Show
- Kids Scavenger Hunt

We thought you might be interested in sharing this with your members and communities.

For mor details visit the following webpage wollongongbotanicgarden.com.au/bgday

We hope to see you at the Garden soon!



Rose Information Morning

Max Atkins conducted a Rose Information Seminar at his home in Milton, on Thursday 20 May, for a small group of members keen to learn more about roses and their care. It was very informative and appreciated by those present. Max provided good detail on the history of roses, use of fertilisers and the management of pests. Many thanks Max.

The lovely morning was topped off by the generosity of Vicki Weir, Max's neighbour, who opened her lovely home and hosted morning tea for those present. Thanks also to Ann Keegan and Chris Turner for their morning tea contributions and help on the day.



Milton Show Ladies Auxiliary

The Milton Show Society's Ladies Auxiliary is keen to hear from anyone who may be interested in joining us to help keep our local show simply the best! I know that there are quite a few Garden Club members who are already involved in the show as competitors and stewards. The Ladies Auxiliary help fund prize money at the show by fundraising events during the year, run the pavilion during the show, and generally help wherever and whenever we are needed. Our next meeting will be on Wed 16th June at 5.30pm. We meet in the Showground office (green building near the entry gate) at the showground.

If you would like to join us or would like more details, please call Rhondda Bentley on 4456 4181.



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 or directly to me at annkeegan@bigpond.com



My potted Herb Garden outside my back door is plentiful at the moment, I just love this time of the year for gardening. Faye Fitzsimmons



Shirley Smith Award 2021

Sadly, no tips received again 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 or directly to the editor at annkeegan@bigpond.com. I look forward to receiving lots of tips and tricks this year. Your could be our winner.



Photo Competition for May

Please send in your photos to annkeegan@bigpond.com or ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com

Only one entry received this month - a beautiful dahlia tree – thank you Lorraine Schachter



April meeting competition – Hibiscus – and the winners were ...



1st Catherine Craig

2nd Robert Kilborn

3rd: Patricia Kilborn

The Competition for May meeting is One Perfect Bloom

Competitions for 2021

June

Winter Wonders

September

Orchids

July

Camelias

October

Roses

August

Succulents

November

Symphony in White



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

Garden Clubs OF AUSTRALIA

Biennial National Convention
12-16 September 2021
Hosted by
Townsville & District Garden Club Inc.

GOOD TO GO **'Beautiful One Day - Perfect the Next'**

- Townsville North Queensland - a place where all of Australia's most iconic landscapes merge in a perfect paradise.
- From the awe of the Outback to the magic of the Great Barrier Reef.
- Discover the wonder of immersing yourself in unspoilt rainforest or enjoy endless summer days on a tropical island - it's all here for you to discover.
- Australia's largest garrison city with Australian Defence Force Bases and fascinating Military history to explore.
- 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 and Facebook.com/gca2021.

To request a full Registration Package please email Rose2021@gca.org.au or contact Shirley Haslam Phone 0438 253 312

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

Sponsors: Queensland Government, Garden Clubs of Australia, BMWEB, Rydges, Queensland Government.

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

Birchwood (near Benalla) Open Garden

Sat Oct 30 and Sun Oct 31

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
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