



ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

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NEWSLETTER - June 2022

President: Sue McMahon (0409 113 424)

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 to Country
- Welcome to all
- President's Message
- Health & Welfare
- June Guest Speaker: Helena Law,
Gooloo Creek Wildflower Farm
- M/Tea break
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Activities
- Garden Gems
- Competition Results
- Lucky Door and Raffle winners

New Members

Please welcome new member/s: Judy Hay



Get Well Messages

If you are aware of a member who is not well, or needs cheering up, **please let Chris Turner know on 0415 398 254**



Banking Information – please note new details

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

Westpac Ulladulla Branch
BSB 032701 Account No 269025

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

You can also pay at meetings using our new EFTpos facility – see our Treasurer at the meeting.



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. As our monthly meetings are resuming, those who do not receive the newsletter via email, can collect their copy from the Welcome desk on meeting day.



Propagation Group – see article in this newsletter



Vice President's Message

As I write this message, we have enjoyed a week of beautiful sunny weather although the nights have been a bit on the chilly side. The winds of a week or so ago have dried out the sodden ground and gardening is possible once again and to have winter sunshine as well is a gardener's dream.

Much of the gardening to be done, however, is to pull out all the dead natives. They have not enjoyed the months of rain and waterlogged soil; it is not to their taste. Lavenders and culinary herbs like rosemary, sage and thyme haven't survived the long wet either. Never mind! Spring will come fast enough, and we can stock up on plants at all the nurseries we will visit on Garden Club trips that Debbie has planned.

Our President, Sue is moving this week and last week the Propagation group gathered in her garden to dig out some of her beautiful plants. Apparently, the buyer of the house is not interested in the garden and is happy for any or all the plants to go. Strange but true! So, we gathered ferns and palms, bromeliads and hippeastrums, kangaroo paws and cuttings. But we did not take any pots or the plants in them. These will all be relocated to Sue's new garden in Lake Conjola where she cannot have a garden, but she can have as many potted plants as she desires. It will take a couple of moving trucks to get all the pots from Mollymook to Lake Conjola. There are an awful lot of pots.

Hopefully, you manage to buy some of Sue's bromeliads from the Trading Table at the next Garden Club meeting.

On 16 June the Garden Club Secretary, Gill, along with the rest of the committee, hosted a Morning Tea to welcome the new members to the Club. In the past New Members' morning teas were held every 6 months or so but Covid put an end to that. Thankfully the tradition has been revived and new and old members enjoyed getting to know each other on Gill's deck in the sunshine overlooking Lake Conjola.

Our next meeting on is on 27 June and it is the Garden Club's Birthday meeting. The Garden Club is 47 years old. The Club is getting on in years but as we all know, birthdays are for celebrating so we will have cake and the annual President's Award will be presented.

We will see you there!

Happy Gardening!

Gillian (on behalf of Sue whose computer is packed in a box)

Finance Reports – Sue Hobson (Treasurer)

May 2022

Funds held at Westpac and CBA at April 30, 2022	\$24797.98
May Income	\$2805.87
May Expenditure	\$3013.38
Cash Book and Westpac balance as of May 31, 2022	\$24500.47
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$7261.99
Student' account	\$2426.28



Thank you to Colleen Ringe for sharing ...

On the 6th June I had the pleasure to visit 2 private gardens in Cobargo and Brogo. This was a Meet and Greet afternoon through the Facebook group called Riverina Plants and Gardening. The weather was glorious and the gardens lovely. The surprise was a white and a pink luculia. The pink one was still small but covered in flowers, the white one was in shade and at the end of its flowering, such a lovely plant.

The 2nd garden is owned by a couple who have moved from Robertson where they ran the Garden club there and had a magnificent garden which has been featured in the Highlands magazine. They have only been in Brogo for 7 months but the work they have done already in the garden was amazing. They have agreed that our GC can visit if we ever go down that way. It was a lovely day and if anyone is interested in joining the FB group it is open to everyone.



Activities - Debbie Kendall

Thursday, 11 August: Soup Day - An enjoyable and relaxing day when the Committee cooks up a delicious variety of soups for you to enjoy.

- There will be a lucky door prize, raffles, and trading table.
- If anyone would like to sell their craft, home grown produce etc. please come and see me.
- We also plan to have a slide show of highlights from past Garden Club trips and events. If anyone has photos they would like to include in our slideshow (can even be a garden highlight from your own holiday) please email to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com

Time: 11.30 am – 2.00 pm

Venue: Lake Conjola Community Hall, Lot 7025 Lake Conjola Entrance Rd.

Cost: **\$10 pp** – includes a variety of soups, bread rolls, tea/coffee & cakes/slices. Contributions towards the sweet treats would be appreciated.

Feel free to invite your partner or a friend. BYO mug and spoon.

Any profits from our Soup Day go towards funding our Community Projects.

Tuesday, 30 August: Garden visit and Coffee Morning – Judy Hamilton, 39 Anker Ave, Mollymook.

Thursday, 29 September: Day trip to the Illawarra Rhododendron and Rainforest Garden; Burnetts on Barney Garden Nursery, Kiama; South Coast Bamboo, Coolangatta

The Illawarra Rhododendron & Rainforest Garden is located on the escarpment above Wollongong, at Mount Pleasant. Set in four hectares of rhododendrons, vireyas, azaleas and camellias, the gardens are a beautiful and peaceful place to relax and take a stroll. We will have morning tea on arrival.

Following our visit to the Gardens free time in Kiama to have lunch – bring or buy your own.

A quick visit to **Burnetts on Barney Nursery** in Kiama - 10% discount on purchases

On our journey home we will visit **Bamboo South Coast** on Bolong Rd, Coolangatta. This is an expansive nursery stocking many rare colourful plants, bamboo and Indonesian imports. They are also landscape design and construction specialists. Viewing is by appointment only.

Depart: 7.45 am from Ulladulla Civic Centre

Return: 5.30 pm Ulladulla Civic Centre

Cost: \$45 with a **deposit of \$20 at the time of booking.**

REFUNDS/CANCELLATIONS: As we are now able to confidently plan future activities post COVID, it is timely to remind members of our Club's Refunds and Cancellation Policy. If you need to cancel any of our coach trips or functions we will do our best to refund money or partial money paid. However, this may not be possible once funds are committed to payment of coach and venue bookings.



Guest Speaker for our May Meeting was club member Dr Anne Eggins

Garden Club member Dr Anne Eggins talked about her career as a science teacher and her many years with the Education Department before taking early retirement and purchasing a home in Ulladulla with long-time friend, and Garden Club member, Jean Allen.



Anne entertained members with a history of her time as a teacher in Australia and overseas, explaining how she eventually ended up in Ulladulla. Anne showed photos of how she and Jean have developed their garden from "bare roots" to the beautiful garden it is today. Sadly Jean passed away a couple of years ago, but not one to take it easy, Anne has recently purchased acreage at Termeil which she is looking forward to moving to once her Ulladulla home is sold.

Our Guest speaker for June is Helena Law who will talk about the effects the fire had on proteas and waratah and their recovery and the effect of the recent heavy rain.



Our Vice President Gillian Boyd presented Daryl Bishop with a beautiful cyclamen as a thank you for her wonderful contributions to our newsletter over the last 5 years in her "About the Fauna in my Garden". I know that I enjoyed typing each article and I learned so much from each one.

Thank you, Daryl, for sharing your knowledge and broadening ours – Ed



Visitor contributor ...

My friend, Sharon Beckley (from Cornwall UK) was staying with me and came to our May meeting as a visitor. This is a photo of her rose at home in St Austell. I thought I would share it with you ... Ed



Last Report – Elvina James

We didn't see you on the walk in the Ulladulla Wildflower Reserve on June 1st. The weather wasn't very pleasant with cold westerly winds, but the small group present enjoyed the camaraderie. Those plants that were flowering put on a great show and there were no twigs falling while we were there. During our walk we were able to see several species of ground orchids, pixie caps, cobra greenhoods, painted caladenias, and helmet orchids. Acacias (wattles) were everywhere, prickly moses, sweet-scented wattles and sunshine wattles. The hairpin banksia also put on a great show for us. We also saw plenty of mountain devil or honey flowers which mean there was plenty of nectar for the honeyeaters and insects. So sorry you missed it.

It is interesting how quickly our bushland can recover after a bushfire. Our native plants have a number of different ways of recovering after these tragic events. Our gum trees have what is called epicormic shoots located under the bark and after the fires these shoots are triggered and push through the bark. These shoots can be seen up and down the trunks of the trees giving a feathery appearance.

Many of our plants have assistance from underground eg lignotubers, rhizomes, tubers and bulbs. These mechanisms also have some forms of nutrients to assist in the regrowth of the plants. One essential ingredient to assist in this process would be rain.

Some of our plants have a lignotuber which helps the plants to regrow following the fires. Some examples of these are our waratahs and mallee growing forms of eucalypts.

Our ground orchids, which appear to be a frail species of plant compared to shrubs, have rhizomes tubers and bulbs underground. These aid in the regrowth following the bush fires. This may not happen immediately but many in the next season or two. After flowering season, many of these plants die back any way. When rain comes, they soak it up and resprout.

If lignotubers, rhizomes, tubers, and bulbs are not present in the plant, then of course we have to depend on seeds. Some of the seeds are propelled in various directions when the seed pod splits open. Some plants with woody seed pods depend on the fires to open their pods so seeds can flutter off in the wind.

Fire in the bush is a necessity as many of our plants require fire for flowering. It would appear that fires put potash in the soil which aids in the plants producing flowers. Many gardeners add potash into the soil to assist in making their plants flower prolifically. Unfortunately, this is not possible in our bushland, so we have to depend on our bushies to do the job for us. Generally, it is necessary every 2-3 years.

This is a very interesting subject, and I don't claim to have all the answers. There is so much to learn about our native plants, and it is interesting that since the big fires a couple of years ago, plants and orchids have appeared where they hadn't been seen before.

Now I know that Garden Club members enjoy their gardens and other people's gardens as well. Why not enjoy our natural bushland too. Enjoy the plants and flowers in the bush and our native birds. Unfortunately, it is not possible to see the small animals through the day as most of them are nocturnal and enjoy their visits to the flowers when we are asleep.

Bye for now, enjoy your garden and the great outdoors - **Elvina**

We held a Farewell Morning Tea for Life Member Elvina James, who joined the Garden Club in 1988. Elvina is leaving Ulladulla to move closer to her family in Kempsey. Elvina formed and took charge of the Garden Club's Library and gave monthly book reports, along with lots of other interesting information, at our meetings. Past President and Life Member Lindy Bonser wrote a lovely article in last month's Garden Thymes on Elvina. We wish Elvina well when she moves to her new home.



A friendship thought from Elvina

A friend is one who can touch your heart from across the world.



Birthday flowers

July Pea Flower (*bossiaea*)
Kangaroo lobelia (*dampier diversifolia*)

Exotics Carnation, snowdrops

August Grevillea Buxiflora (grey spider flower)
Thelymitra ixiodes (spotted sun orchid)

Exotics Primrose Violet



Our Garden Project – Nolan Harvey and Chris Turner

The story so far - The potting shed was completed and filled to the brim with everything we would ever need in the garden and some that we don't.

The next plan: raised garden beds made from old baths and the paths around the garden and shed.

Outcome: the paths were made from recycled tree mulch sourced from the Lake Conjola Entrance Road dump with many trips back and forwards, it was worth the effort and free. The raised bath beds were completed and looked fantastic with their fence paling surrounds.



Problem: despite good crops of carrots, beetroot, cabbage, lettuce, radish, peas and broccolini the rain came and didn't stop so the tomatoes and later lettuce and spring onions drowned; oh darn, the baths had failed, and they were very low down so a bit hard on the ageing back.

So, what to do about these problems?

Answer: build bigger and higher natural draining beds.

How:

1. Get rid of the old beds, which was quite easy, we pulled them out, saved the timber surrounds, put them out on the front lawn and they were gone by the next morning.
2. What to build the beds from? Well luck was on our side, posts were retrieved via the Men's Shed from a property that was heading for demolition, corrugated Colourbond was sourced from a neighbour and the Men's Shed and we had saved our fence palings leaving only the frame to be bought.
3. **Planning:** After much measuring and stepping out of the area a plan was agreed on, it's a bit quirky in shape and because the area is not level some more thought had to go into the plan with some tweaks being made.

At last, construction: post holes were dug; the posts were cut into one metre lengths and buried to 300 mm which wasn't easy as they all had to be level on the sloping area. Next a wooden frame was constructed between the posts for stability and to attach the

Colourbond on the inside of the beds so that any preservatives in the posts will not filter into the soil. Next came the Colourbond, it's a lovely dark grey colour.



Problem: a few gaps on the edges, these were filled in with off cuts from the frame and a shelf was made from our recycled fence palings around the top edges to have a place to put tools and maybe sit on.

Next very big problem - How to fill such large beds with good soil? We spent some time watching YouTube; our favourite is "Self-sufficient Me" plus Chris had used a sort of layered approach to fill the baths sort of like Heugal Culture. We were lucky enough to have saved a lot of logs from a neighbour's bottle brush that was blown over. I had already cut them up into smaller logs about 400mm, we had exactly enough to cover the base of the three beds. Next very strong winds had blown small branches, twigs and leaves onto the waterfront yard of our friends, the Henderson's at Lake Conjola which John very kindly loaded into his trailer and delivered to us, again there was just the right amount to cover the three beds. Next, luck was with us again, our neighbour's nature strip had grown out of control so I mowed it for him just to get the clippings, but I went overboard and kept going past his house and down and around the corner on the councils footpath. All the clippings went into the beds which we then covered with cow manure and Dynamic Lifter and left to cure.



Progress: the beds heated up nicely, so we have now added the scratchings from the chook pens at the Ulladulla Produce store and covered that with our own lovely worm laden compost, which was just a little wet, so we have covered the beds in sugar cane straw to settle for a couple of weeks before we add more layers.

Still to come: a bumper crop of vegetables from our back friendly, better draining beds

Next big project - the front garden.



Who do you think you are?

New member Trish Scott has assisted niece Liz Ellis (Australian netball representative) trace her family history (on her maternal side). Liz's full story can be seen on August 2 on SBS.



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.



Garden Clubs of Australia National Convention

Location: Townsville

Date: September 11-15, 2022

Registrations Close June 30, 2022

Further information can be found at www.gcaconvention.com.au



FYI only – not an organised UGC trip

Bathurst Spring Spectacular

10 Open Gardens for \$20

Sat Oct 29 and Sun Oct 30

springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.au



How is your plant knowledge?

1. What is the most common flora in Australia?
2. What of the following are not in the rose family? Raspberries, apples, grapes.
3. What is the state flower of Western Australia? What is the colour?
4. A poem written in 1905 by Henry Lawson mentions 2 Australian natives which express his love of Australian flowers? Can you name them?
5. Which flowers were known as Gilly flowers?

Answers on back page

Competition for May 2022 meeting – One Perfect Bloom - and the winners were:

1ST: Rose Richardson



2nd Tie Graeme Oke & Barbara Mison



3rd Ruth Fucile



Competitions for 2022

June	Winter Wonders
July	Camellias
August	Succulents
September	Orchids
October	Roses
November	Symphony in White



Shirley Smith Award 2022 - Hooray, we have another 2 – keep them coming in

Tip No 1

Garden Tap getting hard to turn on? Take a piece of garden hose about 14cm long. With a razor blade, cut a slit just over halfway along its length. Slip this piece of hose over the tap. The extra leverage makes turning the tap on/off much easier.

Tip No 2

Rabbits taking a liking to your favourite plant. Generously sprinkle the plant with cayenne pepper. It worked for me. Rabbits were eating just one alstroemeria (why?) in a garden with many the same

There are a lot of rabbit holes in the lawn and garden. Does anyone have an answer to that?



Garden Club Community Project - Safe Waters Community Care

The Garden Club's current community project is to help establish the garden at one of the three shelters managed by Safe Waters Community Care. Safe Waters offers a night-by-night crisis accommodation service for people experiencing homelessness in the Ulladulla area. The service is run by paid staff during the day by volunteers overnight.

Safe Waters has already established a general shelter in South Street and renovations are currently underway at the Highway shelter located at the front of the church near Pitman Street. Once the Highway shelter is complete renovations will begin on the third shelter.

The Garden Club is providing assistance with the establishment of the garden at the Highway shelter. The Garden Club has donated \$300 to help pay a gardener to develop the garden and a lemon tree to add to other fruit trees already growing at the rear of the shelter.

Safe Waters is supported by the church at the rear of the Highway shelter and Mums Real Estate . They are seeking additional donations and volunteers to help deliver this vital service in the local area. If you would like to help out or find out more, check out the Safe Waters website (www.safewaterscc.org).



Next Propagation Group meeting – Hardwood and root cuttings and division of perennials

On Thursday 7 July at 2 pm the Propagation Group will meet at Merilyn's house to learn and practice hardwood cuttings of deciduous shrubs, divisions of perennials and root cuttings of deciduous shrubs. Propagators who are skilled at these techniques are very welcome to come along and share their expertise. All new ideas are welcome.

An email with all the venue details will be sent out closer to the date. If you would like to come along to the Propagation Group, please contact ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com, and ask to be added to the email distribution list.



Plant sale

Monday July 4, 2022

10:00am – 2:00pm

Janey George
9 Craig Street
Lake Conjola

Cash only

Member Elizabeth Stayt requested that I include this poem in the newsletter as a tribute to her friend Mary Lefeure – I am sure you will enjoy it as well ...

Glory of the Garden – Rudyard Kipling

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You'll find the tool- and potting-sheds which are the heart of all
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, the dung-pits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts, and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise;
For, except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the birds,
The Glory of the Garden it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias, and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing: 'Oh, how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel-paths with broken dinner-knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth everyone.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner In the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!

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



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 or directly to me at annkeegan@bigpond.com



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

Answers to quiz

1. Eucalypts 2800 species
2. Grapes
3. Kangaroo paw - Red and green
4. Wattle, Waratah
5. Carnations.