



ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB INC

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NEWSLETTER - September 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
- September Guest Speaker: Ian Austin
- M/Tea break
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Activities
- Garden Gems
- Competition Results
- Lucky Door and Raffle winners

Face Masks

The wearing of face masks is not mandated but is advisable due to our meeting being held in doors

New Members

Please welcome new member/s: Trish Worthy and Barbara Bell



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 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 have resumed, those who do not receive the newsletter via email can collect their copy from the Welcome desk on meeting day.



Propagation Group – Thurs Oct 13, see article in this newsletter



President's Message

Welcome to our September newsletter.

What a busy meeting it was last month. It was good to see lots of visitors and some new members.

As usual the hall was buzzing. The garden gems table looked very extravagant with a beautiful protea brought in by Olive Stockley. Stunning succulent displays adorned the competition table.

As a community-based garden club we are always looking for projects within the local area. Fortunately, Tracey and Kylie from Milton Public School Parents and Citizens Association paid us a visit. They told us of the difficulties Covid had created with in the school's fund-raising ability.

After quite a few years the school decided it was time to hold a fete. Why not have a plant stall! Could we help. What an astounding success. Not only did they take home lots of plants after our meeting but were promised lots more. I know I took a carload of plants to the fete and so did many members. Thank you to all those whose enthusiasm made such a successful plant stall.

Our guest speaker last month was my younger sister Judy. She presented before and after photos of her garden at Mollymook. An almost unbelievable look at the effects of a mini cyclone weaving a passage through their back yard. Undaunted they brought back a haven of beauty, tranquillity, and food sources for the local wildlife.

We know after the last few years that nothing stays the same. Our little club will be undergoing some changes next year. Without the help of our members and committee the club can't operate. Please consider helping at meetings. Become a committee member. It's easy and fun! Not only do you learn a lot but also meet fabulous members.

We have a great little club.

Happy gardening!



Sue Mc



Finance Report – Sue Hobson (Treasurer)

August 2022

Funds held at Westpac and CBA as at July 31, 2022	\$31987.55
August Income	\$20603.54
August Expenditure	\$2277.57
Cash Book and Westpac balance as of July 31, 2022	\$50313.52
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$10012.65
Student' account	\$2426.28



The GCA Annual Photo Competition 2022

The Garden Clubs of Australia Annual Photo Competition is available to all members of an affiliated club or to subscribers to ***Our Gardens Magazine***.

Entry is free.

Enter for a chance to share in the total prize pool valued at \$1,300 and including cash and products from our sponsors: *Organic Crop Protectants, Seasol International, Richgro, Yates Australia and Neutrog Australia*.

Photographs can be taken anywhere in the world at any time, with subjects related to general garden scenes, productive gardens, edible plants, flowers, floral art, trees or garden visitors.

The closing date for the GCA Annual Photo Competition is October 1st 2022.

For more information and to download the entry form, visit the GCA website <https://gardenclubs.org.au/photo-competition/>



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.

News from the Propagation Group

At the September gathering of the Propagation Group, Rhondda shared her wisdom about raising plants from seed. Hitherto we have concentrated on the skills and techniques of preparing cuttings and other vegetative propagation methods but this time we focused on seeds.

We had a collection of seeds both native and non-native from the giant seeds of the Swamp Lily to the tiny seeds of a eucalypt. We learnt to select the seed raising container depending on the size of the seed. **So**, the swamp lily seed which is about the size of a golf ball, is best raised in a 12 cm pot however the tiny eucalypt seeds are best sown in a shallow tray. A simple and readily available seed raising mix can be prepared by sieving ordinary potting mix. Of course, if you prefer you can buy a bag of commercially prepared seed raising mix. If you like to experiment, you could google some recipes and mix your own blend and discover what works best for you. Tiny seeds can be sprinkled over the surface of the seed raising medium and pressed down into the soil with the fingers. Larger seeds like cucumbers can be pressed into the soil individually.

Some native seeds particularly those from the Legume family such as Acacias and Kennedias have a very hard outer coating. These seeds are readily recognised because they are sourced from a pod on the plant, similar to a pea or a bean. This coating must be softened before the seed will germinate. In the bush this can be achieved by exposure to fire, but this is not a recommended process for using at home. Instead, simply soak the seeds in hot water overnight. Alternatively, you can nick the seed coating with a knife or abrade with sandpaper. You could also try agitating the seeds with a small amount of sand and spread the lot over the seed raising mix.

To promote germination, gently water the sown seeds and place under glass or in a tightly sealed plastic bag. Check your seeds regularly and remove them from the protection of the glass or plastic bag once they have 5 sturdy young leaves. Gradually expose them to outside conditions. After a week or so they can be carefully potted on remembering that many natives are not happy to have their roots disturbed or if they are vegetables or annuals, plant them in the garden with some protection, like a cut plastic milk or soft drink bottle with the base cut out.

Our next Propagation Group gathering is on Thursday 13 October at 2 pm. Watch out for the email confirming the time and place and what you need to bring along with you. Rhondda is to guide us with the techniques of tip cuttings of soft wooded easy plants such as fuchsias, begonias, salvia and may be some more unusual plants that we haven't yet tried.



August Guest Speaker

Judy Hamilton and her partner Brian Horsell, environmentalists and amateur gardeners have lived in Mollymook for the last 7 years and described the story of their garden, how it began, what they added to it and how it was destroyed and rebuilt.



Initially they were particularly drawn to the number of mature trees and the large number of birds which frequented the garden. Their garden provides a sanctuary for these birds and many other wildlife creatures. They continued to design the garden, free from chemicals, as a refuge providing habitat for the local wildlife which gave them both great joy. On 29 July 2020 an east coast low with 150km an hour wind gusts smashed the mature trees in the garden destroying them. They loved their garden and were distraught by the loss of tree habitat for the wildlife and the destruction of all their hard work. The devastation was in their faces every day. They talked of leaving and didn't know if they had the energy to rebuild and mourned the loss of their mature trees. Their friend, an arborist, who helped them with the trees, reminded them a garden was all about recovery, rebirth and regeneration and encouraged them to build a new garden, just as beautiful but in a different way.

They began the new garden, built a pergola for shade and to block the view of neighbours, planted clumping bamboo and, with the wet weather and lack of shade from the big trees, the new garden flourished.

The garden is different without the mature trees although they have planted new ones and they love it again.



September Guest Speaker is Ian Austin (Alison's husband) who will discuss bees.



Birthday flowers

October	Callistemon Harkness (Gawler bottlebrush)
	Clianthus formosus (Sturt's desert pea)
Exotic	Lily of the Valley
November	Actinotus helianthi (Flannel Flower)
Exotic	Lily of the Valley



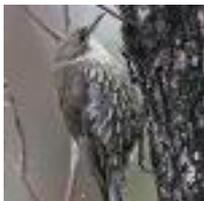
What's happening in the Wildflower Reserve - Anne Eggins

Two wonderful happenings to report this month. The first is that the Waratahs are blooming again. Maybe not as red as last year, probably due to all the water they have been drinking lately. We saw 31 opening beautifully. Could be a good reason to join us on Saturday, 1st of October for our regular guided walk. Starts at 10am at the Warden Street entrance. It is free, easy and takes less than 90 minutes.

The second event had nothing to do with the Trustees of the Reserve, but we are very pleased that it happened. The local bird watching group visited the Reserve and found plenty of bird life. They make a list of sightings and then add photos from their files. We have printed some of their findings because all of these birds live near you and you may have wondered what they are called.



Grey Butcherbird



White-throated Treecreeper



Spotted Pardalote



Brown Gerygone



Silveryeye

Activities – Debbie Kendall

Thursday, 29 September: Day trip to the Illawarra Rhododendron and Rainforest Garden – morning tea on arrival; Free time in Kiama– bring or buy your own lunch; visit to Burnetts on Barney Garden Nursery,

Note: it is recommended that you wear suitable footwear as the ground can be rather soggy up on the escarpment.

Unfortunately, our visit to **Bamboo South Coast** has been cancelled but hopefully it will be on the agenda for next year (Members registered for this trip have been advised by email).

Depart: 7.30 am Ulladulla Civic Centre - notify Debbie if you require pick up along the Highway

Return: We aim to be back at the Civic Centre by 5.30 pm

Monday 10 Oct – Thursday 13 Oct : 4 days/3 nights trip featuring Mayfield Gardens

Departing: **By 8.00 am, Ulladulla Civic Centre, Princes Highway**
Please be at the Civic Centre by 7.30 am to allow for bags to be packed
Don't forget to advise me if you require pick up along the Highway

Parking: As there is no secure parking at the Civic Centre you will need to organise transport to our pickup point.

Information sheet: Please see Debbie at the Activities Table if you haven't received one.

Theme Night: We will be having a "Black & Gold" theme night on our last night (Wednesday), so use your imagination and throw a couple of extra items into your suitcase (of course it's not compulsory but it's a lot of fun) plus a Black & Gold theme Trivia Competition.

Medical Forms: These are to be completed, placed in a sealed envelope with your name on the front and handed to Debbie prior to departure. It will be returned on arrival home or only opened in the case of emergencies. Please collect one from the Activities Table. Don't hesitate to call (0412 069 520) if you are unable to pick one up.

Travel Insurance: It is recommended that you consider taking out travel insurance in the case of any unforeseen circumstances.

Don't forget to wear your badges.

Wednesday, 23 November: Open Garden/Coffee Morning, in Rose Richardson's Garden, 16 Seaspray Street, Narrawallee. From 10.00 am – 12.00pm

Thursday, 8 December: Christmas Lunch, Mollymook Golf Club
Register now at the Activities Table

Cost: Members \$55; Non-Members \$59 – Full payment due by mid-November

REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS: If you need to cancel any of our coach trips or functions it is Club Policy that 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.



Thank you to Janice Titcombe for sharing her beautiful Azaleas with us



The Spring Kitchen Garden

(by Judy Horton, taken from the Spring edition of the GCA Your Gardens magazine)

No matter how much or how little space you have, try to find a room to grow a few edibles. Even if your gardening is limited to a balcony, there will still be the opportunity to have some pots of herbs. Self-watering pots are good for this job because they retain a reserve of moisture in the base.

What to Plant

- Cucurbit is the general name for the group that includes cucumbers, zucchinis, pumpkins, squash. They do well if planted into warm soil in spring. Grow from seed or seedlings but if you choose seedlings, look for strong healthy plants that haven't out grown the punnet.
- Cucurbits all have separate male and female flowers on the one plant, and you won't get a crop unless the male pollen is transferred onto the female bloom (this is the one with the tiny fruit at the base). The best way to encourage pollination is to plant colourful bee-attracting flowers near the vegies.
- In early to mid-spring plant some of the in-between vegies such as silverbeet, carrots, beetroot, cabbages and Asian greens.
- After the soil has warmed, sow seeds of dwarf or climbing beans into a well-drained bed. Don't over water them or the seeds will rot.
- Plant tomato seedlings as soon as there is no more frost.
- Start a sweet potato plant. Do this by slicing one side of the tuber and laying it cut side down in a tray of water. Break off and pot off the shoots that appear and plant them out when they form roots. As the sweet potato grows, lift the runners to prevent them rooting down into the soil in multiple spots. If you don't do this, they will develop lots of tiny tubers instead of the few good-sized ones you want.

Home Orchard

- Fertilise all your fruit trees with a citrus fertiliser, preferably organic based. Don't worry if you have other types of fruits – the citrus food will be okay for them too.
- If space is tight, think about growing a climber such as passionfruit, grapes, kiwi fruit or dragon fruit against a sunny fence.
- Check the base of grafted plants for unwanted suckers sprouting from the rootstock. Remove by pulling off with a sharp tug.
- Set up fruit fly and codling moth traps and inspect them often to monitor pest populations. Add more traps if required.

Maintenance

- Keep on top of weeds that emerge in spring. Pull out seedling weeds or smother them by placing a light excluding cover over the weed (an old saucer is good for the job). Not only do weeds compete with desirable plants, but they also harbour many of the pests that will migrate to your growing vegies.
- If you are starting off frost-sensitive seedlings, protect them from late frosts by covering each small plant with a cut-off clear PET bottle. Don't forget to remove the bottle on hot/sunny spring days or your seedlings might cook!
- Install a water tank to supplement your watering during the hot months of summer.



Member contributions:

Marie O'Connell

On a recent trip to Victoria, I was lucky enough to visit Raymond Island. I went there to follow the Koala trail and came across their wonderful Community Garden. If you are down that way it is well worth a visit, a great place for a walk with many Koalas and birds in the wild and kid friendly.



Faye Fitzsimmons - This potted Orchid has flowered beautifully this year; it also has a lovely fragrance.



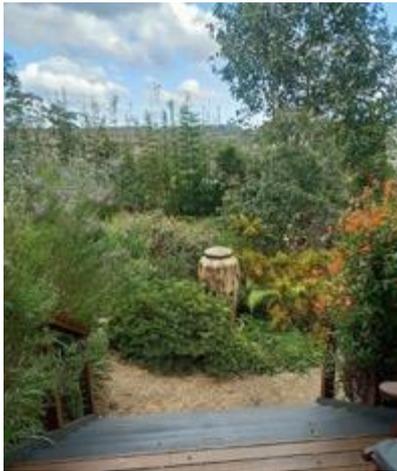
Graeme Oke presented this bowl of camellias at the Shoalhaven Camellia Club meeting – simply stunning



Diane Broadley sent in this photo of a cluster of waratahs on one stem – beautiful.

Coffee morning Tues August 30

Following our Guest Speaker's talk at Monday's August Meeting, members were invited the following day to visit Judy and Brian's garden in Mollymook Beach. It was a beautiful morning and just perfect for enjoying morning tea and a wander in this beautiful native garden.



Competition for July 2022 meeting – Succulents - and the winners were:



1st: John Steadman



2nd: Catherine Craig



3rd: Yvonne Byatt

Competitions 2022

September Orchids
October Roses
November Symphony in White



Shirley Smith Award 2022 – sorry to say that no tips or tricks were submitted this month again for us to include in the competition. Please send some in for our October Meeting.



FYI only – not an organised UGC trip

Berry Open Gardens

Thurs Oct 13 to Sun Oct 16 – 10.00am – 4.00pm on the open days

Cost: \$20 pp for all gardens and can be used over the 4 days

Individual gardens are \$7 (pay at each garden)

<https://berrygardens.org.au/berry-gardens-festival/>

Bathurst Spring Spectacular

10 Open Gardens for \$20

Sat Oct 29 and Sun Oct 30

springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.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



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