



of
ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB

PO BOX 263

ULLADULLA NSW 2539

ABN 27 046 739 527 Inc: Y070033-46

ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com

ulladullagardenclubinc.org.au

Facebook: <https://ulladullagardenclubinc>

NEWSLETTER - July 2023

President: Sue McMahon (0409 113 424)

Secretary: Linda Slinger (0400 933 685)

Treasurer: Sue Hobson (0417 939 224)

Activities Officer: Kathy Pearce (0428 439 064)



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
- Guest Speaker: NSW Fire & Rescue – Safety Visits & fighting fires in Canada
- Morning tea
- Camellias: advice from an expert – Graeme Oke
- Garden Gems
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Activities report
- Trading table
- Competition Results
- Lucky Door & Raffle winners
- This month's competition: Camellias

Face Masks

Face masks are not mandatory but are advisable as our meeting is held indoors

The next meeting is on July 31st at 9:30 am



President's Message

Welcome to our July meeting. Yes, its August tomorrow and winter only has one month to go.

August is supposed to be our windiest month. However, the weather is a bit confused. I've never been so frightened with the wind this month. My garden is confused. I have bulbs blooming beautifully and tropical summer plants thriving.

A big thank you to all who helped with our birthday meeting last month. It's just impossible to thank everyone by name but you know who you are. So much work and organisation go on behind the scenes. We had it all. Guest speaker, stalls, presidents award, life membership award, visitors, lots of members and CAKE.

I would also like to congratulate our long-term members who received their 20-year membership awards. What a wonderful achievement. We value their attendance and input into our meetings over these years.

As the weather gets warmer, more garden club activities will happen. Don't forget to register and pay your deposit or in full at time of booking. We are lucky enough to have our "square" as a payment system.

If you are at all interested in joining our garden club committee, you have about 6 months to think about it. Our AGM is in February each year. As a committee we have a meeting a month and decide at this meeting what goes on at general meetings. We also discuss any problems or difficulties as far as questions asked by members, meeting venues, guest speakers of interest and activities and events. All committee members help each other with important decisions.

Please continue to enjoy our meetings. Contribute to the monthly newsletter. Ask questions about your gardening problems, continue to vote for our monthly competition, bring in your unusual and beautiful flowers and plants for the garden gems table and contact anyone on the committee if you have ideas that will help us all.



Happy gardening!

Sue Mc

Life Membership and President's Award



Ulladulla and Districts Garden Club Presidents Award 2023

The recipient of the president's award should have:

* Demonstrated a long-term contribution to gardening within the club by public speaking and organising events. This could be at a local club or state level.

* Demonstrated an involvement in projects both practical and educational to benefit the community with public projects such as garden expos, community garden competitions or areas in the community, assisting schools to establish gardens as learning areas, or helping organise plants for stalls at school fetes.

* Been an active helper of a floral art group instrumental in promoting floral art through visiting and demonstrating and/or organising workshops; capable of producing prize-winning arrangements each month for garden club in house competitions.

Plus, so much more.....

It is my great pleasure to introduce the 2023 Presidents AWARD recipient.

DEBBIE KENDALL





After being away for the past 4 months it was so lovely walking into our June Birthday meeting and being greeted by so many Garden Club friends. There was definitely a party atmosphere in the room.

When our President, Sue, announced that she had some special presentations including three 20-year badges to present, the President's Award and a Life Membership, I was so taken by surprise when presented with not only the President's Award but a Life Membership. Because I am usually at a loss for words when not prepared, I feel I didn't say enough to thank those who have helped me over the years.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge and thank Valerie Tranter, our past Activities and Events Officer. As Val's offsider for a number of years I learnt so much from her energetic and valuable experience in organising the Garden Club's Day and away trips and events. We had some fun times together.

In my role as Activities Officer, I have enjoyed our trips and the company of so many members who also came along to experience our day and away activities. I thank all the members for their participation and patience, particularly when perhaps some things didn't go quite right, and their encouragement to push on.

Thank you to my wonderful husband Mark who provided advice and support (and wine) in our planning for activities. Extra special thanks to Ann Keegan and Maree Nolan who have always been there to lend a helping hand and advice when needed.

Thank you to all the members who helped at our various events such as Soup Days and Garden Visits/Coffee Mornings, particularly Linda Slinger who reliably organised our morning teas.

Thank you also to our wonderful hardworking and supportive Committee members, past and present. I really miss our camaraderie.

I encourage all members to take the opportunity to participate in future activities and trips while Kathy Pearce carries on as Activities Officer – there are some interesting plans ahead.

I am very humbled by, and appreciative of, my Awards and recognition.

Thank you to all!

Debbie Kendall

Visitors:

Welcome to Jan Powell from Laurieton and to Val Trantor and Lindy Bonser. It was so good to see you again.



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.



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

The Newsletter is distributed to members via email each month. Members who do not have access to email can collect their copy from the Welcome desk on meeting day.



Propagation Group

The Propagation Group is meeting on Thursday 10 August at 1:30pm at Yumaro Nursery, Ulladulla. Please see further details on Page 8.



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. Craig, Fees

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



Activities Report – Kathy Pearce

Soup Day at Lake Conjola Community Hall on August 30th at 11:30 am – cost \$10.00. Bring your own bowl, coffee mug and spoon. Members who wish to have a craft stall, please let Kathy or Sue know. Plus, if anyone can help with a slice, please let Alison at the Welcome table know.

The trip to **Narrandera** is from 24th – 27th Oct leaving on Tuesday at 7:30am.

Wednesday 25th – Narrandera Garden Club and the Town and Country Open Gardens

Thursday 26th - travel to Bilbul to visit Bortoli Winery “Emeri Gardens”

Friday 27th – travelling home via Junee and Cootamundra with arrival at Ulladulla around 5:30pm.

Cost may vary depending on the number on the bus, however, it will be between \$660.00 to \$700.00. Deposit can be paid at the next meeting. Single rooms are very limited and to those who have placed their names on the Expression of Interest will be given priority.

It will be a fairly full-on couple of days so anyone with mobility issues may need to think seriously about coming as we will be on uneven ground at times.



Guest Speaker for June: Jane Stochel

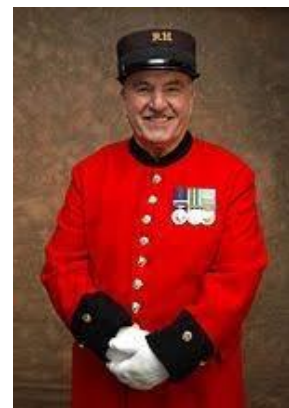


Jane Stochel has had a long love affair with the Chelsea Flower Show but a dodgy knee and a prohibitive air fare meant that 2023 saw her on WhatsApp guiding her photographer cousin and her daughter around the show to get the shots she needed. These provided the basis of a brilliant slideshow and commentary about the Royal Horticultural Society’s flower show at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

She also provided some insight into the history of the hospital which was built in 1692 during the reign of Charles II to provide relief and succor for veterans of the British Army. In March 2009, the first women were admitted in the hospital’s 317-year history as pensioners. If pensioners travel away from the hospital, they are expected to wear the distinctive scarlet coat.



Taking place on the lawn of the hospital, this year it took 8000 people 25 days to complete the 36 show gardens. Over the 5 days of the flower show, 145,000 people attended, consuming 32,000 pints of Pimms,



9000 glasses of champagne and 42,000 cups of tea. A truly magnificent feat. A third of the gardens at the show featured weeds, as there is a move towards rebranding them as ‘resilient plants’. Plants such as dandelions, forget-me-nots and pimpernel provide nectar for bees and other insects. By allowing these plants to thrive, predatory insects are invited into the garden e.g., wasps which feed on everything from caterpillars to aphids. While the Plant of the Year was the Agapanthus (Black Jack), the UK Press declared 2023 the Year of the Weed.



Birthday Celebrations

Trish Moon provided a quick trip down memory lane recalling the early days of the Garden Club. The meetings were very formal and held at the Surf Club. Christmas and birthday functions provided entertainment with member Gary McConnell coming one year as a bag of Dynamic Lifter. At Easter, the club provided a decorated float with a throne for the princess. As the club has grown, it has hosted the Garden Clubs of Australia convention, provided trips both long and short and coffee mornings which have been a feature of the club activities from the beginning. One stand-out feature has been the introduction of the Student Fund. However, without the volunteers none of this would have happened. While committees steer the ship, it is the volunteers who provide the steam to keep moving. Friendship through gardening is our statement and that is what is being achieved.

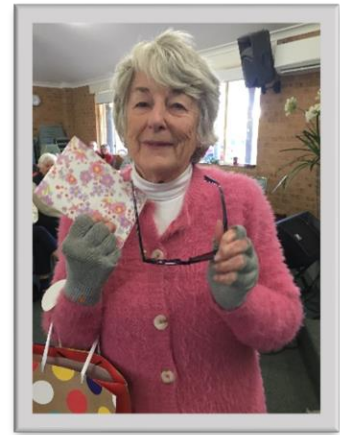
20-year member awards



Ann Joy



Lindy Bonsor



Dot King

And so many goodies to choose from...



Annette Cliffe - Art for Heart



Denise Hanninen - cushions



Olive Stockley – card art



Elke Smith-Hill – rugs & teddies



Jane Stochel - Linens



Sheila Gallant - Bead Me Up

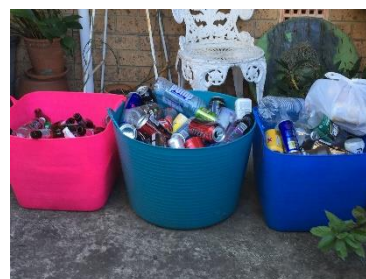
Member in Focus: Elke Smith-Hill



Elke Smith-Hill hails from Munster in Westphalia, northern Germany. Arriving in Australia with little English, she got a job with the German Retirement Village in Parramatta as a personal carer. She subsequently worked in three other retirement homes, culminating as a manager of a high dependency Dementia Unit.

When supermarket chain, ALDI, entered the market in Australia, Elke helped to set up ten of their stores, working 60 – 70 hours a week. She then took up the role of Deputy Manager at the Ulladulla ALDI store where she worked until she retired. As a result of working in that industry, Elke is acutely aware of the amount of good food that is binned each day. She is an avid recycler and is passionate about recovering and reutilising as much food as possible to avoid wastage.

So, her curiosity was piqued when she passed the Little Free Food Pantry outside the Ulladulla Scout Hall. Thinking it was another little Library, she found on further investigation that it was a pantry where members of the public could donate excess products for other members of the community.



Started as a Special Project by a young Venturer Scout, it now has over 1000 members and provides support boxes for those needing relief from the current cost of living crisis. Started in September 2022, it is now a registered charity that is in partnership with the Scouts with a mission to end hunger and reduce food waste. It is based on the Scouts Global Goals for sustainable food development. After she checked on Facebook, Elke discovered that the Virtual Food Pantry (as it was then known) had been formally recognised as a charitable Food Rescue location and as a result of this, she became one of the first members to join being very aware of need within the community.

The key message that Elke wants to advertise is that this venture is not about charity or welfare – it is all about food rescue and reducing waste. It has a mantra of: take what you need, give what you can.

With organisations like Coles, Woolies and Second Bite providing products for the community as well as South Coast Paddock to Plate providing meat products, Fat Cat Community Animal Services donating dry and tinned dog food and Foxy in the Plaza and Heritage Bakery contributing bakery items, the distribution falls on the shoulders of Melissa Johnson. In four days, there can be 40 banana boxes of donated products, frozen meats, bakery items and bulk items clearances. With assistance from Scout mums, boxes of food are made up and provided to households in need.

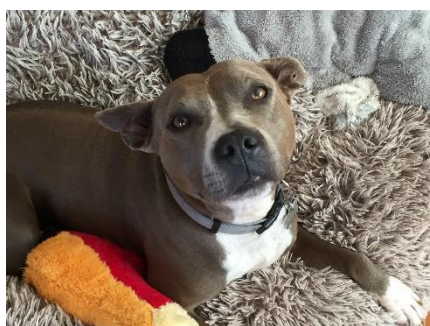


While social media is one way for people to help each other, Elke believes it is vital that you know your neighbours. That way, people can help people who may be reluctant to ask for assistance.

Elke says there are a number of ways to access the Little Free Food Pantry:

1. Become a member on Facebook or connect through Messenger
2. Meet in person at the Little Free Food Pantry – 57 St Vincent St, Ulladulla
3. Get in touch with Melissa directly at Melissa.I.Smith@nsw.scouts.com.au
4. Know your neighbours – excess food production can be offered or received.

While food wastage reduction is foremost in Elke’s mind, she has a number of other activities to keep her busy. Aside from her garden, which has a productive vegetable patch (currently in hibernation), a large banana palm which produces good crops each year and a variegated leaved cumquat tree, there are splashes of colour from a trellised rose and other flowering plants.



Prior to COVID, she would make an annual trip back to Germany for nine weeks with other shorter trips around Australia. Elke is also a keen walker, regularly clocking up 20,000 steps with Trixie, her rescue dog. She is a keen crafter, making rugs and teddy bears as well as being a member of Probus, a recorder group and U3A. More than enough to keep her on the go!

(Ed note: When I put my donation into the Little Free Food Pantry last week, I found a lovely big cauliflower which provided the basis for a delicious cauliflower soup.)



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



Australian Birthday flowers

Happy Birthday to all our members born in July

Native

Dampiera Diversifolia
Bossiaea

Kangaroo lobelia
Pea flower



Exotic

Carnation, snowdrops



From the Editor

I don't know what it is about Cornflowers but every time I plant them, I shift. Time and again, after planting them and watching them flower, I have moved to new houses, new states and even new countries. I have some in my garden at present that have self-sown so it will be interesting to see if I am on the move once more.

Spotlight on: Cornflowers

Cornflowers are also known as Batchelor's buttonholes and in folklore, cornflowers were worn by young men in love. If the flower faded too quickly, that was taken as a sign that the man's love was not returned. In the past, it often grew as a weed in cornfields, a broad term that included fields of barley, rye or oats although it is now becoming endangered in its native habitats.



If you want your cornflowers to bloom in summer, they should be sown by late spring. In moderate climates though it is possible to sow seed in early Autumn for flowers in the Spring. They prefer full sun and neutral, moist and well-drained soil. If they do not get enough sun, they can become quite leggy. Mix the seed with that of Cosmos and Shirley poppy for a cottage garden look. The petals can be used in foods, either fresh or dried. They can be added to salads, drinks and desserts as garnishes.

My contact details are:

Email: katecraig562@gmail.com

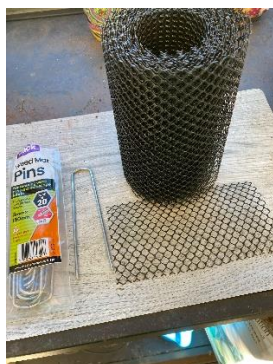
Mobile: 0477 894 007



Shirley Smith Award 2023

As there is a theme of recycling and reusing, how about resending some of the tips that you have been sent in previously. Get them to the Editor and you too could be the winner of the 2023 Shirley Smith Award. Simply send your entry to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com.

Top Tip:



To deter those pesky blackbirds that seem to delight in digging up newly planted seedlings, use gutter guard cut to appropriate size to place around the seedlings and secure with weed mat pins. Cover with mulch of your choice. They get the message fairly quickly!



Growing new roots – Propagation Group News



What's happening in Propagation group?

The next gathering of the Propagation group is on Thursday 10 August at 1.30 pm at the Yumaro nursery, Warden Street, Ulladulla next to the Ulladulla Leisure Centre. The Nursery has been undergoing significant building works so it will be interesting to see how it has been transformed.

If you would like to join us at Yumaro for good company and to learn propagating skills, please contact ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com and you will be included in the mailing list to remind you of our get-togethers every

second Thursday afternoon of the month.

See you on **Thursday 10 August at 1.30 pm at Yumaro Nursery, Warden Street, Ulladulla.**

Gillian Boyd



GARDEN GEMS:



The blustery weather deterred even our hardest of contributors this month but nevertheless we had four lovely exhibits to admire!

*Contributors: Janey George
Christine Sharrad, Alison
Austin*



Ulladulla Wildflower Reserve



Anne Eggins

The arborists have finished making our tracks safe from damaged trees. They have done a brilliant job. The fallen logs are still in the Reserve and will slowly rot, releasing all their accumulated nutrients back into the soil.

We had just got over that drama, when a much more sinister one began. A dog walker reported that she had found a dog bait. It was a plastic tray from a super market with fresh meat on it laced with green Defender Snail bait. This stuff kills snails effectively, but it is also very toxic to dogs. We first thought this nasty action had occurred in the Reserve, but it was actually in the bush between South and Deering Streets: not far from the Reserve. We put up warning signs asking dog owners to keep their pets on a lead. Crown Lands advised us to report the matter to the Police. So far nothing further has happened except somebody destroyed our 3 "Dogs on Leash" signs. They are being replaced by sturdier versions. People and dogs, who visit our Reserve, need to be safe at all times.

Meanwhile, our wattles are in full bloom. We have 4 species flowering now, with another ready to come on show before the end of the month. Australia celebrates Wattle Day on the first of September, but around here it would be good to celebrate Wattle month in August. Come and see the green and gold. The wattles below are glowing right now.



PRICKLY MOSES

SUNSHINE WATTLE

SYDNEY GOLDEN

SWEET-SCENTED

WATTLE

WATTLE

Acacia ulicifolia

Acacia terminalis

Acacia longifolia

Acacia suaveolens



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.



Off with their heads - a guide to pruning roses

Jim Mison



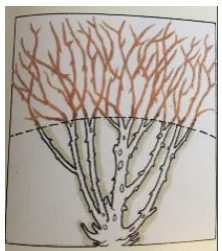
With a hundred rose bushes on his property, Jim Mison has done a bit of pruning in his time. He makes sure that he has a pair of stout gloves, a sharp pair of secateurs, (he buys a new pair each year) and a good pruning saw. Roses constantly renew themselves by producing new stems from the existing branches so inevitably older stems will die. This is the first step when pruning a healthy rose bush. The following is some of his advice when pruning.



Remove all dead wood using the saw or secateurs. Sometimes the saw can get into a tight spot and remove the dead part more cleanly. Look for any crossed branches and remove with the saw or secateurs in order to open the centre of the bush.



Remove all spindly growth as soon as it emerges as it is unproductive. If, however, it is well established cut them off as close to the branch as possible.



Check the bush and then reduce the good wood by $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ to create a pleasing shape. Cut above a growth shoot and remove all the leaves. Gather up all the cuttings and dispose of them in the rubbish bin or in the fire. Do not put them in the compost as they may be harbouring disease.



Spray the plant and surrounding ground with lime sulphur, then place a couple of sheets of newspaper under the bush and mulch. When new shoots appear, start feeding for Spring flowering. (Sudden Impact for Roses is Jim's go-to) Then again at Christmas for Autumn flowering. When cutting roses for display or dead-heading, cut right back to the strongest stem.

Before and after pruning showing the removal of crossed and spindly branches.

Illustrations: Macoboy's Roses, Stirling Macoboy



QUIZ Questions:

1. The first type of plant to evolve on earth was?
Algae, liverwort, moss, or fern.
2. The most diverse group of plants in the world are?
Mosses, flowering plants, ferns or conifers.
3. Which of the following Australian plant is not a living fossil?
Wollemi pine, ribbon wood tree, Johnson's cycad or creeping strawberry pine.
4. Which of the following statements is correct?
 - a) Plants absorb carbon dioxide and only release oxygen.
 - b) Plants absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen and carbon dioxide.
 - c) Plants absorb carbon dioxide and oxygen and release oxygen and carbon dioxide.
 - d) Plants absorb oxygen and only release carbon dioxide.
5. Which colour light is the most important for plant growth and flowering?
 - a) Blue and red
 - b) Green and blue.
 - c) Red and green.
 - d) Orange and red.

Answers page 16



Did you know that...

Having passed the Winter Solstice, the days will start to get longer until the Summer Solstice on December 22 which is just peachy for us humans. But did you know that for some plants, day length is really important. Many plants that measure day length respond by going dormant or by putting resources into bulb or tuber generation. But there are some, like primulas and polyanthus, that use short-day length to flower by using long periods of uninterrupted darkness to generate that flowering. However, the popular winter-flowering Zygocactus plays night length off against temperature so that the higher the temperature, the longer periods of darkness are required. So, if your indoor Zygocactus is not flowering, you may need to turn down the heat or turn off the lights earlier. For edible gardeners, both dill and coriander seed sown in late Summer or planted after the Winter Solstice will produce a better plant and a longer crop.

Source: Robin Powell, Gardening Writer, SMH



Photos for Newsletter

The progression of a Foxtail Agave flower



Contributor: Janey George



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



I was walking in the bush and I saw a lizard on his hind legs telling jokes. I turned to the person next to me and said, "That lizard is really funny!" He replied, "That's not a lizard. He's a stand-up chameleon."



Competitions for 2023

July	Camellias
August	All Things Native
September	Orchids
October	Roses
November	Fun with Foliage

Competition for the June meeting was “Winter Glory” and the winners were



1st Sheila Gallant



2nd Sue Hobson



3rd June Harris



QUIZ Answers:

1. Algae
2. Flowering plants
3. Johnson's cycad
4. C. Plants absorb Co2 and O2 and releases O2 and Co2.
5. A. Blue and red.



Walk the walk

Chris and I had not explored Millard’s Creek Walkway since moving here from GyMEA in 2017 and had been encouraged by others to “do the walk “as we would find it interesting. So, one afternoon we set off and found a really peaceful sanctuary that at times made you feel totally removed from an urban environment and transported to the bush. Even so we passed or were overtaken by cyclists and walkers who use the track as an easy commute into town and how refreshing everyone said “hello or giddy “. Being quiet you could hear animals and birds scurrying in the leaf litter below or between the trees.



Another thing I particularly liked was the information signs dotted along the track adding to the immediate interest of a particular spot. The track itself was completely free of rubbish or discarded litter until we reached the end at Village Drive to see someone had pushed a shopping trolley into the creek! I, unfortunately, couldn’t pull it out and that was the only blight we saw.



Research from the library gives an interesting insight into the walkway with the history going back to 1841 with Moses Campbell purchasing the land and then on selling the property to Richard Millard in 1854. A further sale was made to Edward Farleigh a tanner from Sydney. The property has had several businesses: a general store, drapery, butcher, motor mechanic, dress shop and holiday letting and restaurant; there was also established a tannery hence the need for the weir that was built in 1898 with the tannery operating until 1939. Of course, indigenous people’s history goes further back. Overall, a very worthwhile walk.



Contributor: Nolan Harvey



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!



ARBOR DAY or NATIONAL TREE DAY.

National Tree Day is a celebration of trees and the many benefits they have in society from many different perspectives, such as health and wellbeing to environmental sustainability.

Also known as Arbor Day (or Arbour Day in some countries) it is a secular day of observance in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant trees. Co-founded by Planet Ark and Olivia Newton-John in 1996, the event has grown into the biggest community tree-planting and nature protection event in Australia.

While every day can be Tree Day, we dedicate the celebration of Schools Tree Day and National Tree Day on the last Friday and Sunday in July. In 2023, Schools Tree Day is Friday 28th July, National Tree Day is Sunday 30th July.

Tree Day is an opportunity to engage with your community and help protect the local environment for years to come.

Trees provide vital food and homes for our unique Aussie wildlife. Not only do many of our iconic animals, like koalas, possums, fruit bats and birds, eat different parts of trees, they also use trees and forests for shelter by building their homes in branches and tree hollows.





Branch manager and assistant branch manager

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