



of

ULLADULLA & DISTRICTS GARDEN CLUB

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NEWSLETTER – April 2024

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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
- Guest Speaker: Chris & Rob – Succulents & Plant balls
- Garden Gems
- Activities report
- Morning tea
- Member's Announcements/Q & A – your garden questions answered by the Brains Trust
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Trading table
- Competition Results
- Lucky Door and Raffle winners

Face Masks

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

The next meeting is on April 29th at 9:30 am





PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

President's report April 2024

Autumn is finally with us. I think, the best season of the year. I love the cool mornings, the sunny days, and the promise of nights where you can pull an extra blanket on to keep warm.

We've had rain. Lots of rain. As I type I can hear rain on the roof. It doesn't rain it pours for a few minutes, stops, and then starts again.

My garden is loving it.



My trellis is overflowing with new growth. The bougainvilleas are heading for the sky. As you all know, I've been away for a while. Seems like my health problems are a little better. I hope so as I miss garden club meetings and seeing all members.

I certainly have a great committee. They've kept the club functioning while I've been away. Nineteen years ago, when I joined the garden club, I was like many new members today. I loved the meetings plus all the fun activities; however, I was a "hand sitter". Didn't volunteer for very much let alone be on the committee. How wrong was I. After over 12 years in various committee positions, I'm really happy to say it was a great decision. Think about it! You won't be disappointed.

Don't forget, we also have raffles, trading table plus competitions and garden gems at each meeting. This gives you a chance to not only show off what's in your garden but to share your skills using the plant or flower of the month. Bring your own cup or mug for morning tea.

Happy gardening to everyone. Sue Mc (President)



Visitors

Welcome to our visitors: Shirley Bulmer, Marelle Campion



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.



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.



Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, then it doesn't matter

Mark Twain





Guest Speaker – Marg Condie

With no guest speaker available for this month, Marg Condie stepped up to the plate to add some more light on her life in the Garden Club.

With Val Tranter as her guide and mentor, Marg was coerced into roles that no other person except Alison Austen and Lorraine Schachter were prepared to take on. As Welcome Ladies, they often found themselves dressed as Fairies or as

Daffodils or the Village People when on bus trips. Actually, to see Alison in a police uniform made me wonder whether she could be charged with impersonating an officer, she looked so realistic. For the Cancer Council Big Morning Tea, Val taught Marg, Lorraine and Alison the ritual of a Japanese Tea Ceremony. They looked the part in flowing kimonos and black wigs. Unfortunately, the seriousness of the ceremony was lost on the spectators who dissolved in giggles for most of the time.

On a trip to Tasmania, everyone had to bring a gnome which then travelled everywhere with them. Marg's gnome managed to get a berth with the captain of the ferry that cruised down the Franklin River. Judging by the look on the captain's face, he certainly had never had a passenger like that before.

For Hawaiian Night, an Elvis impersonator was employed. He sang his heart out and then managed to get so inebriated that he had to spend the night in his car.

For the Orange Convention, it was necessary to hire a smaller bus than usual. Unfortunately, the shock absorbers were so bad that a stop was needed for everyone to buy cushions to absorb the shudders.

Marg was able to expand on her story in the March newsletter with photos showing the various transformations of her garden. Despite the invasions of kangaroos and the family dog's desire to aerate all parts of the garden, she has ended up with a garden that is full of memories and provides peace and enjoyment for herself and her family.



GROWING NEW ROOTS – Propagation Group News

The Propagation Group has decided to broaden its activities to include more general discussion and exchange of ideas on all aspects of gardening. It will be an opportunity for people to learn more about plants and gardening and also share their knowledge and expertise.

Meetings are held at 1.30pm on 2nd Thursday of each month at Merilyn Ellerton's wonderful garden. Merilyn's address is 236A Princes Hwy Milton. Merilyn's house is accessed by a service road on the eastern side of the highway opposite the caravan park.

We will be discussing what do to in the garden leading up to winter and our plant in focus will be tree dahlias.

Bring secateurs, propagation mix, pots and plant material for cuttings as well, if you want. Mostly, just bring yourself and your enthusiasm for all things horticultural

Phone Rhondda Bentley on 44564181 for more info.



Activities Report – Kathy Pearce

The upcoming trip to Mogo and Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens is at risk of being cancelled as there hasn't been a lot of interest. We will still take names next meeting until morning tea then a decision will be made. The trip is Thursday 9th May leaving at 8 am going to Mogo and staying there until 11am, then back to the Botanic Garden for lunch and time to explore the gardens, the cost of \$50 covers the bus only, we should be home by 4.30pm

On the 24th October 2024 until 27th October, we will be going to Tumbarumba. We will travel up on the Thursday, on Friday we are booked into Braymont Garden with lunch overlooking the snowy mountains. On Saturday we will attend the Tumbarumba Open Gardens event which will include the Rosewood nursery, returning home Sunday. The cost will be twin share approximately \$950 to \$1000, each for twin/ double and \$1200 to \$ 1250 single room.

Photos from Red Cow Farm visit



DOCTOR WHO?



Member in Focus - Ann Eggins

Born and brought up in Neutral Bay, Sydney, Anne spent most of the war years with her mother as her father was serving in Papua New Guinea. The photo of a year-old Anne was carried in the breast pocket of his uniform for the duration of his service. Nevertheless, it came as a shock to Anne when he returned as he was quite unfamiliar to her.



Schooled at SCEGGS and North Sydney Girls High, Anne stayed in Neutral Bay until she left to go to Sydney University. She moved to Murwillumbah as a Science teacher where she remained for 3 years then moved back to Sydney where she was recruited to work in Macquarie University to teach Science teachers. She stayed in this position for 7 years, including 4 years as the Dean of Women at the Robert Menzies College.

During this time, she was involved with teachers who were brought to Australia as part of the Marshall Plan. This enabled teachers from Commonwealth countries to stay at Macquarie University for 6 months to learn how to introduce Primary Science into their schools.



Macquarie University also had a contract with the Dept of Foreign Affairs to teach people from the Pacific, mainly Tonga and Samoa, how to become teachers. In Tonga, children who had been educated were then encouraged to teach in kindergarten classes moving up the ranks until they reached secondary school rank. Unfortunately, none of these students had any formal

training as teachers so Anne was seconded to be the person to provide the skills to teach Science. She became known as the 'Beer Can Queen' for her innovative use of beer cans as beakers, pot plant holders and electrical current carriers. The only hotel would hoard these treasures for her, prior to her arrival. Eighteen trips later to these islands, funding was cut.

Having made the acquaintance of a visiting professor from Indiana University in the US, she decided to move to the States to do a Doctorate in Science Education. Also taking the course was a nun, Marge, who was very keen on short shorts and long ear-rings, not particularly sisterly garb. Often, when they were out together, Anne would be the one who was asked what order she belonged to and had to very quickly disabuse the speaker of such a thought. After three years of study, Doctor Anne Eggins returned to Australia and took up a position at Kelvin Grove Teachers College in Brisbane. She stayed there for 2 years and was then offered a position at the NSW Education Department as the Chief Education officer – Curriculum Services.





This role covered a multitude of educational services among them The Schools Spectacular, ABC broadcast to schools, as well as having a staff of two German and two French teachers, paid by their own governments, whose job was to ensure that the delivery of spoken French and German in schools was correctly enunciated by their

teachers. She had bought a property on Wobby Beach in the Hawkesbury opposite Dangar Island. A trip by tinnie down the Hawkesbury to Brooklyn then train to her job made getting to work interesting.

However, as restructuring started to eat into budgets, Anne’s role changed and she became part of the School Science inspectorate. After further restructuring, she took on the role of Chief Education Officer Science and Agriculture, responsible for overseeing the delivery of Science from K to Y12 in all state schools. This was to be achieved with a staff of one.

Her friend, Jean Allen had retired and the two of them bought a large three-levelled house at Berowra together, taking one level each. Jean retired and attended a Healthy Lifestyle course run by Hornsby Hospital. This resulted in her joining the Hillview Bushwalking Club. Jean Allen and Anne Eggins developed, nurtured and treasured this walking group for nearly two decades. Jean took over the organisation of the club and the pair spent weekends scouring the area for suitable bush walks. This was much more interesting than work, which involved a long commute and the job often involved long days and late nights so Anne accumulated her long service leave and retired early. The Club still exists and is now one of the oldest bush-walking groups in NSW.



The house at Berowra was sold and the two of them bought in Ulladulla. After Jean died, Anne decided that the Ulladulla house was too big and the garden was too small. She then had what she called ‘a moment of craziness’ and purchased 6 ½ acres at Termeil. She has had a running battle with the Wandering Jew which she seems to be getting under control with help from the CSIRO. The property includes rain forest and Anne is at the moment putting the finishing touches to a 50m wall to delineate the garden from the rain forest. While there are a number of citrus trees and many natives, there are also possums and kangaroos which are helping themselves. As well there is endless mowing. She loves it!



Nyssa tree - native to Vermont USA

And as if that isn’t enough, Anne is the Chair of the committee of the Ulladulla Wildflower Reserve and a Landcare propagator. Like the Tardis, there is more to this Doctor than one would have suspected.



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. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experiences with the club, please contact by email: ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com or to the editor katecraig562@gmail.com



From the Editor

When I was a child, I lived in a cul-de-sac with 20 or so other kids about my age. Hide and seek was our biggest game with everyone's property available to hide in. My house had a driveway lined with elderly hydrangeas that had lots of leaves and flowers at the tips but long straggly stems which made it easy for a child to squeeze into and not be found. They were all blue which indicated that the soil was acidic which makes sense given that the city I grew up in was surrounded by twenty-three extinct (or so it was said) volcanoes. Although providing hydrangeas with appropriate food and shelter produces good blooms, the ones at our place were totally neglected except for the odd vase full when visitors were due.



Spotlight on Hydrangeas

Hydrangeas are great for those semi-shaded areas that need filling in the garden. They are 'gross feeders' which means they are very hungry so provide them with extra manure or compost if required. They are also water hungry so make sure that during Summer or peak growth times the soil is kept moist or the flowering and foliage will suffer. Remove weak or spindly stems as they appear. After flowering, find the nearest pair of buds below the flower and trim to there. Do not remove stems that have not flowered as they are the flowering stems for the next year. Wait until Winter to do any more serious pruning. If you see one you like, ask the owner if they will provide you with a cutting as they are very easy to grow from cuttings.



Australian Birthday flowers

Happy Birthday to all our members born in April

- Native: Native violet Viola hederacea
- Native fuchsia Epacris logafolia

- Exotic: Aster



Shirley Smith Award 2024

When soil in pots has become compacted, no need to repot. 10mls beer diluted with 500mls of water, 2 caps white vinegar, 1 spoonful baking soda. Water once every 7 days. Loosens the soil.

Get your tip to the Editor and you too could be the winner of the 2024 Shirley Smith Award.

Simply send your entry to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com.



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.



QUIZ QUESTIONS:

1. Helianthus is another name for which flower?
2. Vanilla flavouring is derived from which flower?
3. What has varieties - beefsteak, plum and cherry?
4. What is the oldest known cultivated plant?
5. What is the largest fruit that grows on trees?

Answers on page 13



Have your say ... Is there something that you want to say about the joys or otherwise of gardens and 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!



GARDEN GEMS:



Contributors: clockwise from main picture
Aristolochia "Dutchman's Pipe" - Daryl Bishop
Amaryllis "Mrs Garfield" – John Steadman
Hoya and Begonia – Christine Sharrad
Triple Hibiscus – Elda Zamin
Alosasia plumbea "Flying Squad" – Nolan Harvey



Photos for Newsletter

Do you have a photo you love of your garden or a plant or animal in your garden? They are a wonderful addition to our newsletter. Send them to ulladullagardenclub@gmail.com



There was a great turn-out of decorated bonnets to celebrate Easter.



With the winning entry going to Faye Fitzsimmons for her delightful creation.



Ulladulla Wildflower Reserve



Ann Eggins

Most of the reserve is flat, but there is a gentle slope up towards the ridge top which separates our town from Burrill Lake. The trees up on the ridge are very susceptible to Westerly winds so, it was not surprising to find a few logs across that track after the recent windy and wet weekend. Our monthly working bee, fortunately was the next Wednesday. Most of the timber was light and easy work for the chainsaw. One log, however was very different. It was tough and heavy. It took 3 men to clear away the sawn section of about 2 metres. Sadly,

it was one of our turpentines!

Turpentines (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) don't usually get damaged by wind and rain: they are about the toughest trees around. This one was young, with a trunk diameter of about 15 centimetres. Its problem was that it had been severely burnt when the RFS decided that the reserve was a fire hazard. Its bark was a charred mess and possibly its roots had been weakened by the intense heat. It is very sad to lose a young Turp. They are fabulous trees, both beautiful and useful. You probably know them well, because the biggest examples around here are growing at the front of the Primary School in Green Street. They are only found on Australia's East from Batemans Bay to the Atherton Tablelands in North Queensland. There is a huge one, 56 metres tall, growing in Cessnock, which is believed to be over 300 years old.

The solvent, turpentine or turps, does not come from our trees. They don't even smell like turps, even though many old timber mill managers were so sure that they did have that distinctive smell. This was investigated by Joseph Maiden (1859-1925) who was the Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens for 28 years. He visited the South Coast and spoke to timber cutters about the smell of turpentine trees. They laughed about how they had to trick local mill managers into accepting their turpentine logs by tipping turps over them so they could pass the sniff test. They probably contributed to the myth. There is a characteristic that our turpentines have in common with the real turpentines, which grow in the Mediterranean region: they are fire resistant. This is because both species contain very volatile oils, which evaporate in the heat of a fire and catch alight, thus using up the oxygen which the fire needs. Perhaps Moses' burning bush was a real turpentine.

Our turpentine logs rapidly gained a world-wide reputation for survival in sea water as long as their bark is intact. The Sydney wharves and London docks bear testament to that. Some turpentine piers in Sydney Harbour have been doing their job for over 100 years. The logs were one of our first export products, because they made excellent ballast for returning British sailing ships and could be sold at a good price.

We hope that the rest of our turpentines are not going anywhere. If you would like to join our working bee, just be at the Warden Street entrance at 10am on the second Wednesday every month. Bring your gardening gloves and enjoy 90 minutes of productive activity with fantastic companions in a beautiful place.

TURPENTINE *Syncarpia glomulifera* Flowers and Fruit



Competitions for 2024

April	Potted plant
May	One Perfect Bloom
June	Winter Wonders
July	Camellias
August	Coastal Colour
September	Orchids
October	Hippeastrums
November	Roses

Competition for the March meeting was
"Shades of Red"
And the winners were:



1st Catherine Craig



2nd Marg Condie



3rd Patricia Kilborn



3rd Yvonne Byatt



QUIZ Answers:

1. Sunflowers
2. Orchid
3. Tomatoes
4. Emmer wheat or hulled wheat, tritcum dicoccum
5. Jackfruit, artocarpus heterophyllus



Some Events you may be interested in attending but not organised by our Garden Club

Bundanoon Garden Ramble – October 26 & 27 2024

- Wander through eight gorgeous gardens
 - Browse the plant and gift stalls
 - Explore all Bundanoon has to offer.

Contact: email bundanoongardenramble@gmail.com



TULIP TIME 2024

**Friday 13 September to
Monday 30 September 2024**

Tulip Time will return to Corbett Gardens in Bowral for another year of beautiful blooms!

TICKETS

Tickets will go on sale mid 2024. If you have any questions, please contact us on dsh@wsc.nsw.gov.au





The Lifestyle assistant at Arcare has contacted the Garden Club regarding some assistance for their residents who are interested in gardening. Their plan is to purchase some raised garden beds that the residents can plant and maintain. This would be an ongoing activity where volunteers visit and interact with the residents. If you are interested in participating in the proposed project, please call Rose Lyons on 0438 084 007



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