



**BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC**  
**"Friendship Through Gardens"**  
**PO Box 25 Bundanoon 2578**

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month,  
9.30 for 10.00am

February 2018 Newsletter

From the President

Dear Members,

Welcome to a new year of gardening. I trust you had a joyous Christmas, an enjoyable break with family and friends and 2018 brings happiness and good health to you and yours.

This year we have invited guest speakers who will cover a wide range of topics related to our gardens. We will also trial a more practical event where the speaker will be followed by your active participation.

This year there will be a big change over in our committee. This provides a great opportunity for you to use your talents and skills to benefit the Club.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

*Judy*



Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker this month is Audrey Tabner who will speak on Fuchsia.

Audrey is a long term member of Goulburn Garden Club who has given many years of service not only to the Club but also to the Goulburn Community. She is a recipient of the Garden Club of Australia's Ann Williams Clark Medallion.

Audrey's love for, and knowledge of Fuchsias is well known in the District and indeed throughout the Southern Highlands, where she has shared her knowledge and enthusiasm with other Garden Clubs.

BGC Newsletter

Dear All,

Over the last five years I've thoroughly enjoyed creating the monthly BGC newsletter, but now I'm ready to hand it over to another member at the AGM. The role description is simple - there are no set rules - just do it your way. Through your research you'll learn a lot more about 'all things gardening' and also improve your computer skills. I would be very happy to discuss my approach to anyone who is interested in writing the newsletter in 2018.

*Lyn*

Annual Subscriptions

Membership fees for 2018 are set at \$20 (to be voted on at the AGM) and payment is due before 3 May 2018.

Members may make their payment at the February, March or April general meeting. Write your name on an envelope and include \$20 - no form is needed unless your details have changed.

Pay by electronic transfer into the BGC account at BDCU as follows:

BSB: 802-101

Account No: 358047

Account Name: The Bundanoon Garden Club

Include your name and the word 'membership' in the transaction reference. **Thank You**

Bundanoon Garden Club Life Members

The following members have received life membership for their contributions to our Club.

Norma Davies, Jean Foskett, Laurel Hones, Noelene Hutcherson, Margaret Murty, Lofty York, Norma Waldon, Graeme Whisker, Marian Talintyre, Cosette Morris and Marina Beaumont.

**LIFE MEMBER**



Library

Unlimited borrowing of gardening books and the latest magazines for members! See Gabi or Robyn if you have a gardening book you would like to recommend.

## **FEBRUARY FRIENDSHIP GARDENS**

*Open Saturday from 10.30am-1.00pm.*

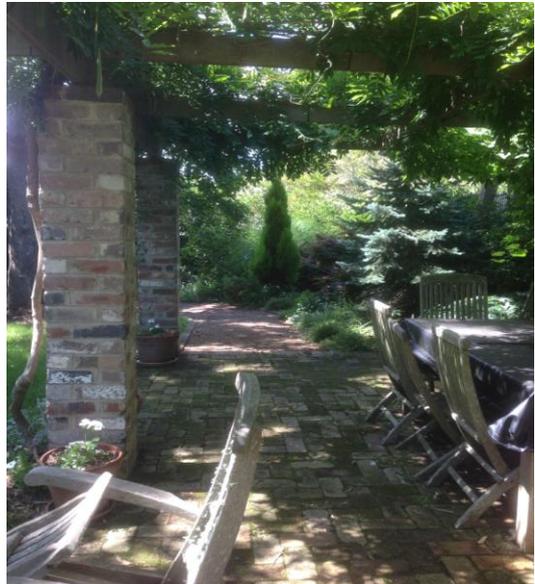
*Please wear your garden club badge and sign the attendance sheet in order to be covered by insurance.*

### **THIS MONTH WE VISIT TWO GARDENS IN VIEWLAND STREET.**

*At number 13, you will find Renate and Gerhard Fricke waiting to greet you in their well tended, shady garden displaying a mixture of natives and exotics as well as mature specimens including crepe myrtle, lily pilli and a strawberry tree. As you stroll through the garden you will also find segregated gravel fish-shaped gardens and other imaginative ideas to take home.*



*Step into garden at number 10 and join Di Curtis in the coolness and shade of the giant horn beam, liquid amber, claret ash, magnolia grandiflora, Japanese maple and fat Albert Blue Spruce. These trees also provide shade and shelter to hydrangeas, fuchsias, and many woodland plants growing beneath.*



### Rosters

*Each month we ask for volunteers to assist with the running of the general meeting. Tasks include setting up the tables for morning tea, bringing a plate for morning tea, helping with hall set up, working on the library, assisting on the welcome table, stacking chairs at the end of the meeting and kitchen duties. **If you are happy to contribute, please print your name on the appropriate roster on the stage. Many thanks are coming your way!***



### *Dear Members,*

*As many of our committee members have advised they will be retiring at the AGM in March, there are up to eight positions to be filled. Becoming a member of the Garden Club committee is a rewarding, enjoyable experience, and not too time consuming. We encourage all members to consider the valuable contribution they can make to the Club in 2018. Nomination forms are available from the Club's web site or from the welcome table at the next general meeting.*

# Noticeboard

## FEBRUARY

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

### NSW FLORAL ART ASSOCIATION

Floral Art Competition and Demonstrations  
Mittagong R.S.L. Club, Old Hume Highway, Mittagong

25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

### BEGONIA AND FRANGIPANI WEEKEND

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> - 10am to 4pm and Sun 25<sup>th</sup> - 10am to 3pm  
Bloomin' Greenery Nursery 226 Annangrove Rd  
Annangrove 2016 Gold Coin admission  
displays, stalls, demonstrations, refreshments

## MARCH

3 – 4 & 31- 1<sup>st</sup> April

### RETFORD PARK OPEN GARDEN WEEKENDS

1325 Old South Road, Bowral 10AM-3pm.  
Phone: 48611933

11<sup>th</sup>

### ROSE SOCIETY OF NSW WORKSHOP

CWA Rooms Winifred West Park, Old Hume Highway,  
Mittagong. Bookings essential by March 6 Cost: \$30  
includes morning tea and light lunch.

26<sup>th</sup>

### WILD MEADOW

Little Hartley, NSW  
A garden of floral meadows and woodlands  
9.00am – 3.00pm Cost: \$8 pp

## APRIL

14<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>

### HUNTER VALLEY GARDENS, POKOLBIN

A fantastic program of activities including a giant  
Easter egg hunt will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

### OPEN GARDENS CANBERRA

A'Beckett St, Watson ACT Open 10.00am – 4.00pm  
This suburban oasis features a natural water pool,  
productive veggie & herb garden, orchard, native  
plantings and an outdoor room with fire pit. Cost: \$8

### RED COW FARM

7480 Illawarra Hwy, Sutton Forest  
Open daily until 20 May 2018  
Entry: \$10 Adult, \$8 seniors & Groups, \$4 Child (4-14)  
No Picnics / No Animals Allowed

### GARDENALIA

May Street, Robertson -Supporting Diabetes NSW Open  
on the last weekend of the month until May 2018  
Entry: \$8 per person

### HARPER'S MANSION

Wilkinson Street, Berrima  
Entry: House, Garden & Maze \$8 for adults, \$7 seniors  
Accompanied children under18 free  
Garden & Maze only \$5 Adults &  
Open Weekends & Public Holidays  
10.30am – 4.00pm

### SHBG AUTUMN GARDENS AND PLANT FAIR

Saturday 21 April - Sunday 22 April , 10am - 4pm  
Southern Highlands Botanical Gardens, Cnr Kangaloon  
Road and Old South Road, Bowral  
PH. Peter Scott 0427 240 246

A vast array of rare, unusual and hard-to-find plants will  
be available for purchase at the Plant Fair at the  
Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens. These plants have  
been raised locally by the SHBG Plant Growers Group.  
The nursery is open from 9am to 4pm Saturday and  
Sunday. Coffee is also available.

### THE OPEN GARDENS

Experience some of the larger gardens in the district that  
merge with pastoral surroundings, and explore smaller  
town gardens. This year's gardens include:

Prittlewell, Fitzroy Falls

Robertson Park, Glenquarry

Bellagio, Bowral

Wilderwood, Burradoo

Heidi's Garden, Bowral

Cost; \$35 all-weekend pass entry to all 5 gardens and free  
entry for school children



# Summer Gardening Tips

**1.** A thin layer of organic matter (shredded wood, pine straw, a mix of grass clippings and shredded leaves, etc) shields the soil from the sun, prevents moisture loss from evaporation and stops stormwater washing fertiliser away. It also helps soil in the long run as it decomposes and adds to your soil structure. In cooler, moister climates, place granular fertilisers such as poultry manure on the soil and cover with mulch. If you have plants growing among hungry trees, water the foliage with a soluble fertiliser with added seaweed so they can absorb the nutrients directly, rather than the tree roots getting to them first.

**2.** Apply potash around the base of fruit tree and water in.

**3.** Water plants deeply during hot weather and apply water directly to the ground rather than getting foliage wet; water sitting on the leaves can lead to disease. While it is best to water plants in the early morning, if watering in the afternoon, allow time for foliage to dry out before sunset. This reduces the risk of mildew and other fungi attacking leaves. Mildew can attack roses, pumpkin, zucchini and cucumber. Spray plants weekly with a solution made from one part cow's milk to ten parts water. Repeat after heavy rain or irrigation. This remedy won't reverse mildew damage, but it's an effective preventative.

**4.** Magnesium encourages robust growth and the production of energy in plants. Gardenias and roses in particular benefit from supplementary magnesium in summer. Also apply it to cymbidium orchids to help initiate flower buds. Add 1 heaped tsp of Epsom salts to 4.5L of water. Either spray the foliage, or water it in at the roots.

**5.** If the leaves of citrus, banksia, grevillea, camellia or azalea become stunted and mottled yellow, now is also the time to boost the iron content of soil by applying iron chelates. This acidifies soil and adds iron necessary for healthy growth. It takes a month or so to see a result.

**6.** Camellias should be watered deeply once or twice weekly during very hot weather as they are setting buds at this time of year. Left to dry out, could result in bud and flower drop later.

**7.** Many pesky weeds love summer heat and quickly take the jump from tiny to gigantic. It's important to pull them from your garden, because weeds steal moisture and nutrients from your plants. Many weeds also encourage insect pests and diseases to pop up in your garden. Check for black spot, cucumber beetles, grasshoppers, powdery mildew, rust and squash bugs.

**8.** Brown, bare or weed-infested lawns are symptoms of cutting lawns too low. Mow as high as the mower permits. Longer turf wears better and suppresses weeds such as oxalis and bindii. Fresh lawn clippings can be composted. Feed lawns with seaweed tonic once a month and apply one handful of poultry manure per square metre each season, before rain or irrigation. In two weeks your lawn should start to green.

**9.** Check that hoses and irrigation systems are free of leaks, and unblock nozzles and clear gutters so that every shower adds extra water to your rainwater tank.

**10.** Work in the garden before 10.00am and after 4.00pm and take water with you. Wear sun screen, a hat and sunglasses.

**11.** Freshly planted vegetable and flower seedlings are likely to need a bit of sun hardening. Shelter them with 50 per cent shade cloth, old net curtains, dead palm fronds, or leafy branches for a week or two. This helps them establish without harm.

**12.** Strategically plant a deciduous tree, vine or some clumping bamboo which will shield your house and garden from searing western sunshine.

**13.** Stand pots out of the sun, on saucers of damp sand rather than saucers of water where mosquitoes breed. This ensures roots stay cool and plants remain healthy. If potted plants dry out soak them in a bucket of water for half an hour, then drain.

**14.** Don't let hot weather keep you out of the vegetable garden. Keep up with your harvests to encourage your plants to continue producing and limit pest and disease problems. Insect pests in particular are attracted to overripe vegetables that fall off the plant and begin to rot.

**15.** Give your garden a pick-me-up during the hot summer months by adding fresh mulch, strategically placing some flowering plants, dividing bearded iris (see Marianne's notes in the October newsletter), trimming lawn edges, deadheading, trimming perennials, pulling out spent plants will make a huge difference.



References: Home Life, Better Homes & Gardens, About the Garden, The Canberra Gardener,

## CALLING ALL COOKS

*It would be greatly appreciated if members could bring a plate to Thursday's meeting as we don't have anyone rostered on at the start of the year. Many thanks.*



## Garden Clubs of Australia Inc 2018 Photography Competition

*You may enter any number of photos (taken anywhere in the world) in the following categories:*

- 1. Garden Scenes from around the world*
- 2. Garden Visitors: birds, bees, bugs, animals*
- 3. Abstract image of flowers or foliage*
- 4. Close-ups of flowers, foliage or floral/flower arrangements*
- 5. Productive Gardens or Edible Plants: fruit, vegetables, herbs*

***PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARD AT THE BACK OF THE HALL FOR FURTHER DETAILS.***



### Discounts for Members

*The following local businesses give a 10 % discount to Bundanoon Garden Club members.*

*Roses and Friends: 881 Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls*

*Highland Sand and Gravel: discount for goods ordered and paid for on meeting days*

*Bundanoon Bloomery: discount given anytime for cash purchases of plants, fertilisers and chemicals*

*Mt Murray Nursery: discount given on the last Tuesday of each month for all purchases made.*

### Next Meeting Date

*The next meeting of the Bundanoon Garden Club is the AGM and will be held on Thursday **1st March** in the hall. We hope to see you all there.*

## ***GARDEN MAINTENANCE DIRECTORY***

*The following contractors provide a range of gardening services in large and small gardens.*

*Petite Tree and Lawn Services  
0407118965 email: layne.petiteservices@gmail.com*

*Kristy Connelly: 4883 6354 or 0449 274 339*

*Courtney Whip: 0422 525 620*

*Michael Sutton: 0405 237 727*

*Steve Curtis: pruning, mowing, window cleaning, green waste removal 0427979419 A/H 48410328*

*Marc Varnhed: Total Tree Services qualified local arborist 0449 221 420 or 48834743*

*Chris Mitchell is small garden specialist and can be contacted on 0437930100*

## ***SAVE THE DATE!*** ***Collectors' Plant Fair*** ***7 & 8 April 2018*** ***Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon***

*We can't wait to make Collectors' Plant Fair 2018 the biggest and best yet. We're planning a swag of new special feature events at Collectors 2018, including workshops, growers' talks, and an exclusive picnic lunch by special guest chef.*

***Tickets on sale now***  
***Saturday entry - \$14***  
***Sunday entry - \$12***  
***Weekend pass - \$20***

***BUY TICKETS ON LINE TODAY***  
***[www.collectorsplantfair.com.au](http://www.collectorsplantfair.com.au)***

***We'll keep you posted as the Fair gets closer.***  
***Stay tuned to our website for more details.***

### Trade Table

*Donations of plants, produce, jams and pickles to the trade table are always gratefully received.*



### Contacts

***Contact the President: 48836898***

***Email: [info@bundanoongardenclub.com.au](mailto:info@bundanoongardenclub.com.au)***

***Web site: [www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au](http://www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au)***