

JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER

The Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.



GARDEN CLUB CONTACTS: CHRIS BAYLISS, PRESIDENT
0499049299 SUSIE PERROTT, SECRETARY: 0431294446
PATRICK MCARDLE, TREASURER 0411958440

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS



As we enjoy the glorious autumn (my favourite season) weather and prepare for another Bathurst winter, it's time to take stock. With the current restrictions on our daily lives, many people are finding that they are enjoying a slower pace of life with more time to explore new interests, revive old ones and, of course, spend more time in their gardens.

I look forward to the time when we can again enjoy meeting gardening friends each month, and we are hoping to continue meetings as soon as restrictions allow. In the meantime, your Management Committee has been continuing to meet (via email) each month to make decisions for the benefit of the Club. A special thank you, too, to those members who have shared videos and photographs of their beautiful gardens on our Facebook page – you might not be able to smell the roses, but you can enjoy a virtual tour. There are also a number of world-wide virtual garden tours on YouTube, including several in Australia. As well, we will be sharing the many useful and interesting bulletins from Garden Clubs of Australia but closer to home our own gardening writer, Fiona Ogilvie, has provided some valuable advice on potting, dividing plants and taking cuttings in this newsletter.

SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

*BATHURST SPRING
SPECTACULAR UPDATE
GARDENING BY THE
MONTH JUNE/JULY
GARDENING THOUGHTS
PLANTS FROM PLANTS
BY FIONA OGILVIE*

Special thanks also, to Judy Bayliss who has written the April/May newsletter as well as this newsletter and will be writing the Club newsletters for the rest of 2020

.Happy gardening!

Chris

All Bathurst Gardeners' Club Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. If there are any changes in restrictions we will inform you via Email, Facebook or on our Website.



Bathurst Spring Spectacular

The organising committee has been working hard and we are hopeful that the event will still go ahead. We have five gardens which will be open on Saturday the 24th and Sunday the 25th of October. On Saturday the 24th we are planning a Plant and Garden Expo to be held in Berry Park. Several stallholders have already indicated their intention to participate. We will also be hosting a luncheon on Thursday the 22nd of October to launch the Spring Spectacular, celebrate the Club's 30th birthday and welcome visitors from other clubs in the zone to a friendship day.

Bathurst Gardeners' Club Plant Stall

Please keep potting up for this stall which will be part of the Expo as it is always very popular.

Bus Guides

Dianna Baillie is looking after our bus groups this year. She will need several guides. If this is a job you would like to do during this year's Spring Spectacular she would love to hear from you. You can contact Dianna on - 0466955946 or dianna@diannabaillie.com



Bathurst Spring Spectacular

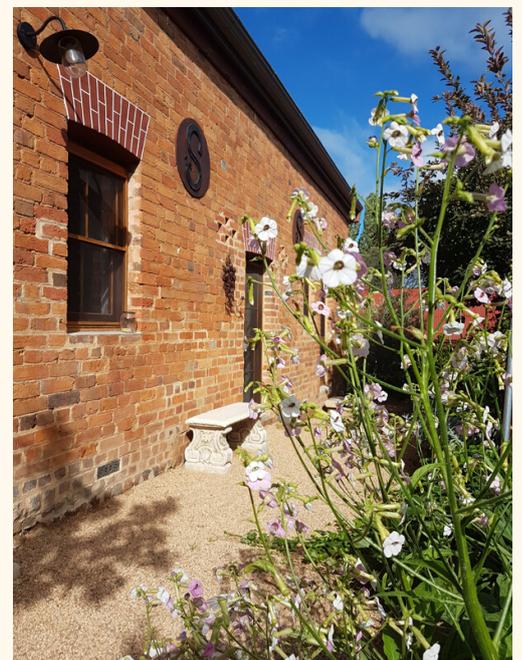
**SATURDAY & SUNDAY
24TH & 25TH OCTOBER 2020**

**Gardens open 9.30am- 5pm each day
Plant & Garden Expo Saturday only**

Sitter Co-ordinator

The Spring Spectacular Committee is in need of someone to co-ordinate the sitter roster for this year.

Gabrielle Darlington has been doing a fantastic job but is in the process of moving to the Swansea area. She is extremely organised and has everything set up and ready to go. She is also happy to help if she is available. For a role description talk to Chris 0499049299. We would love to hear from you if you can assist.



GARDENING BY THE MONTH

JUNE

General

Time for a general clean-up while many of the plants are dormant. Good time to make physical alterations or construct "hard" landscaping features.

Vegetables

Just because days are cooler don't let plants dry out. Keep an eye out for pests. Plant onion seedlings "on the shortest day and harvest on the longest".

Ornamentals

Hydrangeas can be pruned for the next 2 months - prune to 2 fat buds. Make cuttings of prunings. Plant deciduous trees. Do not prune any shrubs except to remove dead, broken or crossing branches. Dahlia tubers can be lifted, divided and placed in a dark, dry area, free from frost, but can be left until October if area is well drained.



JULY

This is the coldest, darkest time of the year, often with many days unfit for outdoor work.

Vegetables

Check for weeds. Gently till exposed surfaces. Do not mulch in this cold weather. Not too late to plant late maturing onions. Feed cabbages etc. with liquid fertiliser.

Ornamentals

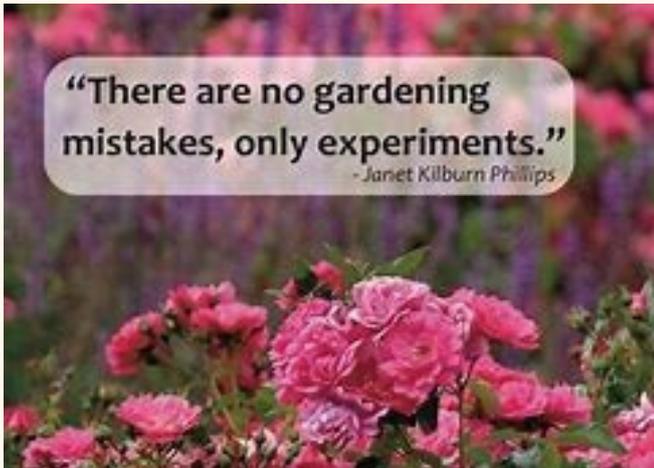
Remove some flower buds from spring annuals to improve later display. Feed with liquid fertiliser.

Prune roses in late July or leave until early August. Spray with protective fungicide. Prune wisteria and other deciduous climbers. Prune clematis to second set of buds and fertilise with slow release.

General

Check all garden tools; replace or sharpen blades; change oil; sharpen secateurs. Do your regular hygiene checks eg. Remove infected leaves, remove weeds.

SOME GARDEN THOUGHTS.



Club Meetings

When we get the Green light to have our Monthly Meetings again we have some fantastic gardens meeting venues all lined up ready for your enjoyment.

Until then happy gardening and keep warm and safe.

Don't forget to look at the Garden Club Facebook page and look at fellow Garden club members doing virtual garden tours, feel free to join in and post pictures of your garden or current projects.

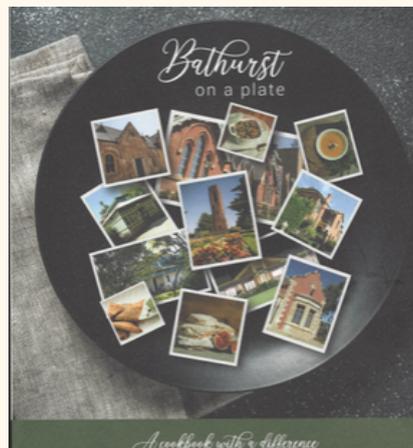
Karen Mitchell (Monthly Program Organiser)



TRIP REPORT

It is hoped that the trip to Castlemaine Festival of Gardens will still go ahead. I have been in touch with the organising committee and they will make a firm decision about the event at the end of June.

Judy (Trip Organiser)



Bathurst Gardeners' Club member Lola Godwin has contributed to the publishing of this lovely cookbook. All profits go to Cancer Council. If you would like one contact Lola on 6332 4713 Cost is \$35.

Garden Openings/Plant Opportunities:

- Bundanoon Garden Club Ramble: Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October 2020. Open 9.30-4:30pm both days, eight private gardens will showcase their private gardens. Cost is \$20.00 for all gardens. For further information look at the website at; <https://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au>, .

- Tas Daffodils located in Glengarry, Tasmania. They have recently launched an online store so people can access their bulbs which they usually display at plant Collectors Fairs at Hawkesbury, Royal Sydney Show, and Hawkesbury Fair.

The store currently has: Daffodils, Tulips, Crocus, Hyacinths, Garlic, Muscari, Fritillaria, Allium, Specie Tulips and Miniature Daffodils

For access their Store click on: <https://tasdaffodils.square.site/>

- **Plants Needed:**

We have had some requests this month for specific plants and knowing that gardeners are such sharing people we are hoping you can help, and if you can, or have excess to requirements please let the Secretary know.

1. We are in search of 'Australia' Canna Lily. It has deep purple foliage with deep red flowers. (As pictured) Please let me know if you have any seed, bulbs, rhizomes or tubers. As many as you can spare would be appreciated.

Regarded as one of the best tall, dark-leaved cannas, Canna 'Australia' boasts large, deep red flowers from mid-summer to Autumn. They sit atop long, burgundy-black stalks which rise above the lush foliage of brilliant, deep chocolate brown leaves, beautifully adorned with jagged silver bands.

This is what they look like. Indeed, they do look spectacular!!!



Contact Susie on 0431 294 446 if you have any.

2. A member would like about 20 blue Agapanthus if you have any to spare.

They are so hardy and our member would appreciate if you could donate excess to your needs.

Please contact Susie on 0431 294 446 if you are able to help.

PLANTS FROM PLANTS

by Fiona Ogilvie

I'm sure I'm not the only gardener who loves winter, nothing's growing and we can prune and propagate to our heart's content.

Looking ahead to our Spring Spectacular, now is the time to pot up plants for the plant stall. If we each do five pots, that's a handy extra fund raiser for the club, and if we can manage ten, our hard-working treasurer will be even happier. And should the worst happen and the Spectacular is postponed, we'll have plants to swap with each other, and few things are nicer than a gardeners' get together and plant exchange.

Dividing perennials is a fast and easy way to fill a few pots. Pick your drought hardiest ones, they'll be the most popular the way water restrictions are looking.

Sedums are ultra-easy to divide, cut off their decayed flowering stems, lift the crown of tiny rosettes lying below them and separate it into small clumps, taking care to keep the roots intact.

Daylilies, pokers (Kniphofia), furry grey Lamb's Ear (Stachys byzantina) columbines (Aquilegia), long-flowering tradescantias, Euphorbia wulfenii, these are just a few of the dry climate gardener's favourites.

Semi-woody perennials can also be divided, including ever dependable catmint (Nepeta), Ballota and salvias, especially any unusual ones you might have acquired.

Don't forget that something you take for granted is often a sought-after treasure to another gardener, so never dismiss something on the grounds that everyone has it.



**Peony poppies flower
in early summer.**



**Ornamental
Grape
colours from
March to
May.**

Label pots as you go. My mind goes blank when confronted with an unlabelled plant, however recently I dug it up. Pencil lasts longer than a marker pen. Write on the side of the label with a rough surface, not the shiny side.

Winter is also the time to take hardwood cuttings of deciduous shrubs and climbers. Use older wood, brown not green, take 15-20 lengths and push one-third into a pot of half and half coir peat and compost. A pot will take five or ten, depending on its size. Cover with a plastic bag to keep cuttings damp.

Ornamental grape vines root quickly, as do Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus*) and porcelain grape (*Ampelopsis*). Deciduous shrubs include mock orange (*Philadelphus*), deutzias, honeysuckle *Lonicera tartarica*, ceanothus *Gloire de Versailles*, oak leaf hydrangea (*H. quercifolia*) and bridal veil may (*Spiraea prunifolia*) for autumn colour.

New shoots normally indicate roots, but tug gently to be sure. Cuttings can then be potted individually

Lastly, poppy seeds can be sown now for planting in spring.



**Porcelaine grape
(Ampelopsis) in March**



**Sedum Autumn Joy
holds seed heads all
winter.**