

APRIL 2021/MAY 2021
NEWSLETTER

The Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.

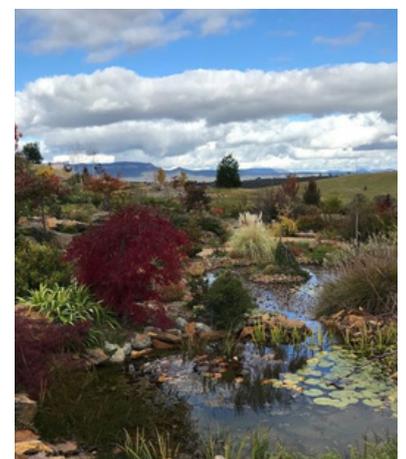
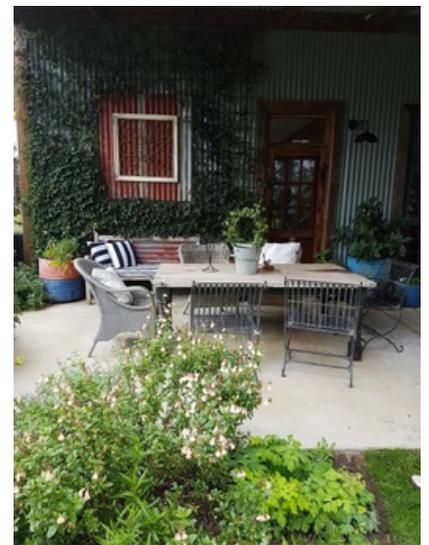


GARDEN CLUB CONTACTS:
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**A Sneak Peak of
What's Inside**

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**A Selection of Photos from the
Trip to "Hartvale" and
"Highfield Garden".**



Closing Date for Contributions to next newsletter 15th May, 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



President's Annual Report – 2020 Annual General Meeting (Postponed to 21st March 2021 due to Covid restrictions on gatherings)

It was around this time last year (23rd March, 2020) that we went into lockdown as Covid -19 cases spread in Australian communities. For many people, the restrictions caused disruption and inconvenience to their daily lives; to others, particularly older folks, it was a time to slow down, reflect and devote more time to interests closer to home, and to gardening in particular.

Since that time, our Gardeners' Club has adapted; the newsletter has kept members informed and entertained with news and articles, the Management Committee and Spring Spectacular Committee have continued to meet regularly (albeit by email during the lockdown), our Club Constitution has been revised and, despite the effects of the drought and the restrictions, we managed to hold a successful Plant and Garden Expo. in October 2020, with proceeds of over \$5 000 donated to local charities and organisations, as well as our 30th Birthday celebration at Greens on William with George Hoad as guest speaker. A small, but dedicated group of members has also continued working regularly on Daffodil Cottage garden throughout the year, maintaining this beautiful and peaceful space for clients having treatment there.

Following the lockdown, no Club meetings were held from March 2020 until February 2021 and restrictions on the number of visitors permitted in private gardens meant that our February and March 2021 meetings were limited to fifty attendees. Covid restrictions also resulted in planned trips in 2020 being cancelled, but a 'mystery' tour of local gardens in October 2020 and a trip to two beautiful gardens in Hartley in February this year were well attended.

With 2021, there has been an influx of new members, many relocating from the Greater Sydney area, no doubt attracted by our relaxed country lifestyle and the many benefits and attractions of living in the Bathurst community, which bodes well for the future of our Club as new ideas, energy and enthusiasm will keep our Club growing and vibrant.

Planning for the 2021 Bathurst Spring Spectacular is well underway, with eight beautiful local gardens opening as well as the Plant and Garden Expo. which promises to be bigger and better this year. Over the years, the Club has raised well over \$150 000 for local charities and organisations, making a wonderful contribution to our community.

Finally, I would like to thank members of the Management Committee and the Spring Spectacular Committee for their outstanding work and commitment during a very difficult year. I would also like to thank all the members who assisted at meetings and in many other ways, as well as all our wonderful members who continue to support our great Club, with a special thought for those who are unwell or have family members who are unwell.

I wish all members a happy, healthy and successful 2021 and look forward to welcoming you to meetings again this year.

'Friendship through gardening'

Chris.

Meetings for April and May

- **To comply with current Covid restrictions numbers are limited to 50. Please contact our Secretary Susie Perrott by phone or SMS (04 31 29 4446) to advise of your intention to attend.**

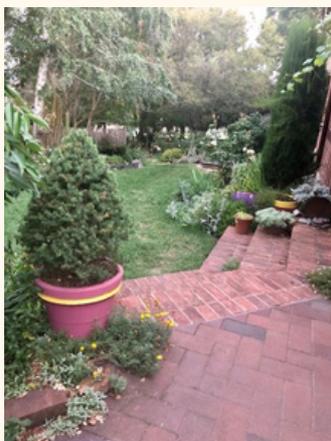
4th April 205 William Street, Bathurst

Barbara and Norm McTaggart

Barbara and Norm have excelled themselves in drought proofing their beautiful garden by installing under verandah water tanks and using their grey water within their garden.

Have a wonderful wander through their beautiful garden; you would never think you are in the centre of town.

Two access points: One off William Street and flat access from Rocket Street via the Driveway.



2nd May, 27 Logan Street, Eglinton

Ian & Wendy Reid

For those who have not been to this garden your will be surprised by what can be created in a small area.

Plant layering and quirky items throughout, will tantalise your creative side.

We thank you Ian and Wendy for allowing the Club to view your garden as we have had to put off many times due to Covid. BUT NOT NOW!!!!



Calendar for 2021

MONTH	MONTHLY MEETINGS	OTHER BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB ACTIVITIES	OTHER GARDEN CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS EVENTS
APRIL	Sunday 4th April. 2pm. 205 William Street, Bathurst	Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th April Heritage Trades Trail	
MAY	Sunday 2nd May. 2pm. 27 Logan Street, Eglinton	Thursday, 13th Trip to "Nooroo" and "Wildwood Garden"	
JUNE	Sunday 6th June, 2pm Talk by Allan & Elizabeth Ross (Details in next Newsletter)		
JULY	Sunday 4th, 2pm		
AUGUST	Sunday 1st, 2pm		
SEPTEMBER	Sunday 5th, 2pm		
OCTOBER	Sunday 3rd, 2pm	Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st. Bathurst Spring Spectacular Plant & Garden Expo(30th)	



Trip Report - 24th February

Thirty nine members of the club had a lovely day out on the 24th of February. We visited two beautiful gardens, "Hartvale" at Hartley and "Highfields" at Little Hartley. Both are relatively new gardens and members were amazed at their growth in such a short time. The crew of "Better Homes and Gardens" visited "Hartvale" for two days just after our visit. We were told it should go to air on the 9th of April so watch out for it. At "Highfields" members purchased LOTS of plants from "Clover Hill Rare Plant Nursery". The day was topped off by a delicious Devonshire afternoon tea.



Here is a great opportunity to get some experience in Horticulture

David Kennedy is looking for 'Highfields Garden Angels' to help with the up keep and ongoing progress of the gardens.

This is not just weeding! There will be many other interesting projects for people to be involved in and they can say they have had a part in Highfields.

It would involve one day a month, anything from a few hours to a day, up to the person. We will supply lunch and of course there will be free plants!

This is a great opportunity for gardeners to learn knowledge and be a part of this gardens growth and in the making of a different garden.

People can contact us via the website www.cloverhillrareplants.com or ph 0419 133 154



TRIP TO MT WILSON AND BILPIN THURSDAY 13TH MAY

I have organised a visit to "Nooroo" at Mt Wilson and "Wildwood Garden" at Bilpin for **Thursday the 13th of May**. The Autumn colours should be at their peak then. We would love to have your company! Lots of opportunities for plant purchases and a bonus of 20% off plants and giftware at "Wildwood Garden".

Transport - Car Pooling

Morning Tea - Included- at "Nooroo" (Please bring a foldup chair just in case.)

Lunch - Included in the cost of the trip at "Wildwood Garden"

Cost - **\$53pp** (this includes garden entry to "Nooroo" and "Wildwood Garden", Morning Tea and Two Course lunch with bottomless tea/coffee.)

Please deposit to Bathurst Gardeners' Club Account - BSB - 637 000 Account Number - 713853828 by Direct Deposit or at the Greater Bank. Can also be paid at the April or May meetings. NB. We now have facilities for card payments at meetings.

For more information and to book to attend please phone or SMS me on 040971005 or jcbayliss@bigpond.com.

Bookings are essential for morning tea and lunch catering purposes.

More information such as departure times when you book.

Judy Bayliss (Trip Organiser)



FROM THE SECRETARY - SUSIE

- **RSVP's to meetings:**

Thank you to everyone for cooperating and RSVP'ing for our monthly meetings. Unfortunately, this will continue until the COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings at private residences is lifted from the current limit of 50 visitors.

Please contact on 0431 294 446 to let me know if you would like to attend. Attendances are on a 'first in' basis. The limit on numbers each month creates a waiting list of members wanting to attend.

If you have RSVP'd to attend a meeting and find out you can't attend, please let me know so I can move members on the waiting list to the attendance list.

Everyone has responded very well to these conditions and I would like to thank you all for your ongoing cooperation.

- **Open Garden at Nooroo:** Church Lane, Mt Wilson Ph: 0475 662 018

E: noorobm@gmail.com

This is a truly spectacular garden covering eleven acres of maples, nyssas, dogwoods, oaks, chestnuts, ash and cedars which are underplanted with many bulbs and many other species. A garden most worthy of a visit particularly if you autumn gardens filled with scarlet, gold, and indigo in the peak of autumn. The colours are at their best in April and May. It's not very far and is a perfect day trip.

The Autumn garden is open from Friday 2nd April to Monday 14th June 10am-4pm at a cost of \$10.00 pp and school children can visit for as little as \$2.00

Enjoy **(ALSO SEE JUDY'S PROPOSED TRIP ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE)**

- Fabulous Heirloom fashion on display in Miss Traill's House Sun 21st March 10am to 4pm. Refreshments available in garden. Charges apply.

Enquiries to Lyn Haley 02) 6368 5851

- **Garden Clubs of Australia: Biennial Convention** - Townsville QLD- September 9th to 19th 2021:

Registration is due by 11th June 2021

The Convention is for 5 days and also includes 3 pre and 3 post days of garden related activities.

The GCA Annual General meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th September as part of the program.

The BGC Committee of Management has agreed to pay the registration fee of \$350.00 for 2 members to attend. All other expenses would be met by the individual attendee.

Please let me know if you would like any further information about the 2021 GCA Convention.

GARDENING BY THE MONTH

APRIL

Continue to apply liquid fertiliser to autumn and winter crops until the frosts.

Plant broad beans and peas now. Probably best to leave snow peas until later.

Plant spinach and silver beet.

Sow onion seeds in punnets.

Renew strawberry plants.

Ornamentals

Trim evergreen shrubs such as pittosporum, euonymus and conifers.

Good time to move or plant camellias, rhododendron and azaleas.

Observe in the nurseries the colouring of autumn leaves so you can make an informed choice of new plants.

Remove summer and autumn annuals including residue from vegetable area. Add clean material to the compost heap.

Plant spring annuals including sweet peas.

Complete planting of spring bulbs.

Continue removing old foliage from hellebores and aquilegias.

Tie up chrysanthemums.

Watering

Adjust watering systems to use less water in the cooler months.

Keep compost heaps damp.

MAY

Vegetables

Check the brassicas ie. Cabbage etc. for cabbage white butterfly.

Plant seed of late maturing onions.

Prepare area for onion planting in middle of June. Remember for onions "Plant on the shortest day and harvest on the longest".

Ornamentals

Do not prune any plants now.

Good month for repotting shrubs.

Do not buy packaged roses where new growth has commenced.

Disbud japonica camellias.

Prepare well drained area or pots for planting of summer flowering bulbs eg. lillium, hippeastrum, sprekelia or narines.

Give spring flowering annuals eg. Pansies half strength liquid fertilizer.

Compost

Collect autumn leaves as they fall and mix with grass clippings in compost heap.



"Hartvale" at Hartley

Grouping plants is one of the keys to a beautiful garden. Blending colours, shapes and textures is an endless challenge but from the moment you walk through the gate at Hartvale, you know you're in a garden where the owners, artist Jennifer Edwards and builder Peter Kube, have got it right.

Hartley winters are cold but deciduous trees, chosen with an eye to leaf colour and shape, allow the winter sun. Golden Robinia (R. 'Frisia', 10-12 metres) and Golden Ash (Fraxinus 'Aurea', 7m.) have pinnate leaves (leaves consisting of small leaflets each side of the stalk) that contrast effectively with simple foliage of maples and purple prunus.

Two Judas Trees with heart shaped leaves, to 12 centimetres across, are planted side by side, *Cercis canadensis* (12m.) which turns yellow in autumn, and gorgeous 'Forest Pansy' which changes from burgundy in spring and summer to orange and gold in autumn.

It's always a treat to see Snow Pears (*Pyrus nivalis*, 10m.) instead of the ubiquitous Manchurian Pear, inherently weak trees with wood that often cracks and splits from an early age. Snow Pears have silvery, glaucous green leaves, white spring blossom, dark red autumn colour and a neat, conical shape.



1. Purple salvia 'Black Knight' with flowering elder.

Hartvale's shrubs are a blend of evergreen and deciduous and include pittosporum, Japanese box (*Buxus microphylla* 'japonica') and sweet smelling, summer flowering *Abelia x grandiflora*, with silver and grey artemisias, lavender and *Westringia* 'Jervis Gem'.

A deciduous elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) with white flowers bloomed alongside purple salvia 'Black Knight'. Late flowering roses included gold 'Just Joey' and velvety, mid-red 'Cardinal'.

Jenny admits that apart from vegetables she's too impatient to grow annuals from seed while there's plenty of choice at local nurseries. Tall, pink and white cosmos daisies and delicate Queen Anne's Lace (*Amni majus*) are underplanted with nasturtiums, marigolds, multi-coloured snapdragons (*Antirrhinums*), yellow and gold California poppies (*Eschscholzia*) and scarlet begonias in a tub.

Salvias are a late summer feature, with overflowing clumps of red and white 'Hot Lips', deep pink forms of *S. involucrata* and sky blue 'African Skies'. Other perennials include coneflowers (*Rudbeckia*) in many colours, white and dark pink Butterfly Bush (*Gaura*), colourful dahlias, some with purple leaves, *Sedum* 'Autumn Joy', penstemons, agastaches, pink and red (*Kentranthus ruber*) and spiky leaved irises and *montbretia* (*Crocsmia*).

This glorious garden is a stunning example of what two people with imagination and hard work can achieve in three years.



2. Queen Anne's Lace underplanted with nasturtiums.

3. Lavender, gaura and Salvia 'Hot Lips'.



Fiona Ogilvie, Gardening Writer for The Land