OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

The Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.

GARDEN CLUB CONTACTS: Chris Bayliss, President: 0499 049 299, Susie Perrott, Secretary: 0431 294 446, Terri Crumpler, Treasurer: 0423 709 484

DECEMBER 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ALSO CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Yay! We will be getting into the Christmas spirit with our last meeting of the year being held at ***12 noon*** at Belvedere, 87 Morrow Place, Robin Hill. See more information below in the President's Ramblings.
Main thing is to bring your cutlery, plate/s, a cup and a chair. And don't forget your hat!
Sarah will be bringing along her market stall of leadlight Christmas gifts and decorations to sell. The gifts will be garden related of course!

SNEAK PREVIEW OF SOME OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

- GREY WATER INFORMATION
- LOTS OF AGM INFORMATION
- SPRING SPECTACULAR REPORT
- LET'S GET DROUGHT HARDENED BUT PRETTY

President's Ramblings

What a great result for the 2019 Bathurst Spring Spectacular - $23,500 dollars raised for a number of local charities! Congratulations to Sarah Fairhurst and her Spring Spectacular Committee; twelve months of hard, dedicated work have certainly paid off. Also, a big thanks to all who took part in making this event a success; the garden sitters, plant stall volunteers, caterers and musicians but most of all, our wonderful garden owners in creating the amazing gardens on show for the weekend.
As the drought continues, albeit with some recent welcome falls of rain, please take advantage of the free Water Smart Gardening Workshops at Rahamim Ecology Centre, 34 Busby Street, Bathurst during November and December. To register, contact Bathurst Regional Council on 63336111 or go to www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au and follow the link to water restrictions.
This year's AGM will be held on Sunday, December 1st, commencing at ***12 noon*** in Karen & Scott Mitchells's garden – 87 Morrow Place, Bathurst, followed by lunch. The Club will be providing cold meats, salads and sweets. Members will need to bring a chair, mug and lots of Christmas spirit (not necessarily the liquid kind) as cold drinks will also be provided.
Please consider nominating or volunteering for a management, organisation or helpers position – everyone has something to offer!
Best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.
'Friendship in gardening' - Chris

'SLEEPING CAT' AT BISHOP'S COURT ESTATE IN THE POTAGER GARDEN

Gardening by the Month

AN EXTRACT FROM THE "PLANTS FOR BATHURST GARDENS" BOOK. CONTRIBUTED BY GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS AND COLLATED BY JUDY & CHRIS BAYLISS. THE REVISED EDITION IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR $15 AT GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS AND CHURCHES GARDEN CENTRE.

DECEMBER

Ornamentals

Plant summer and autumn annuals eg. Petunias, and keep weeded and mulched.
Dead head roses and watch for sucker growth below the graft.
Finish pruning spring flowering shrubs and Evergreens.

Watering

Water as per our Extreme water guidelines for 30 mins on Wednesdays and Sundays between 6pm and 9pm. Try and water as deeply as possible. Use grey water to subsidise fresh water but not on edibles.
Mulch, mulch, and more mulch to assist with evaporation issues.

DECEMBER cont...

Vegetables

Continue with successive sowing of autumn maturing vegetables eg. Tomatoes, beans.
Keep all crops weeded and mulched.
Make first sowing of winter vegetable seeds eg brassicas

Fruit Trees

Keep up deep watering.
Apply netting if birds a problem.
Spray as required.

JANUARY

Vegetables

If going on holidays during January get someone to harvest your crop as this will extend the life and maintain hygiene. eg. Tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, zucchini.
Continue to apply liquid fertilizer fortnightly.
Still possible to plant late maturing tomatoes and beans.
Plant seeds of winter crops eg. Cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli but remember to keep the seeds moist and in the shade.
Onions and garlic should have been harvested and stored in a dry, airy position.

JANUARY cont...

Fruit Trees

Protect apples and pears from codling moth.

Ornamentals

Dead-head roses for an autumn display.
Climbing roses which have finished flowering should have old canes removed.
Check roses for black spot and continue protection spraying.
Deep watering and fertilizing for roses and clematis.
Dead-head annuals.
Prune wisteria by removing new long whippy canes.
Early flowering petunias can be cut back to get an autumn flowering.

General

Watch for caterpillars and two-spotted mite.
Experiment with pest repellent plants eg. Garlic, pyrethrum
Continue with mulch, mulch and more mulch, but check that mulch has not compacted to a water repellent barrier. Water everything as deeply as you can within water restriction regulations.

Susie's Snippets!

COLLATED BY SUSIE PERROTT, GARDEN CLUB SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Membership fees will be due at the December meeting. These can be paid at meetings, or posted to PO Box 1049 Bathurst 2795, or paid by Direct Deposit. The Club's Bank details are: BSB 637 000 ACCOUNT NUMBER – 713853828 (Greater Building Society). The fees are $15.00 per member per year or $20.00 if joining as a new member (includes $5.00 joining fee).

JANUARY MEETING: There will be no Gardeners' Club meeting in January 2020. A newsletter will be sent mid-January and will include details of the February meeting. Details will also be posted on our web page.

GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA CALENDAR: This beautiful calendar for 2020 is now available from our Treasurer, Terri Crumpler. It is a great Christmas present so get in early!!!

GREYWATER USE DURING EXTREME AND CRITICAL WATER RESTRICTIONS:
Following on from our October meeting where we had a visit and talk about current water restrictions from Russell Deans (Waste and Water Manager-Bathurst Regional Council), we have received a Greywater Fact Sheet. The Greywater Fact Sheet is on the next page for your convenience. Web page addresses at the bottom of each page of the Fact Sheet lead you to more detailed information about water
restrictions, including; Greywater policy, Application Form for Permit to Access Bulk Water, Groundwater Domestic and Stock Bores, Residential Water Restrictions Exemption form, Water Saving Checklist, Extreme Water Restrictions Brochure (Council distributed this to all households via letterbox drop and was also available at the last 2 Gardeners' Club meetings) and the NSW Private Water Supply Guidelines.

FACT SHEET
GREYWATER

WATER Let's make it last.

September 2019

Greywater Use During Extreme and Critical Water Restrictions

There are health risks associated with the use of greywater. Please read the following fact sheet for more details.

What is Greywater?

Greywater is re-usable wastewater from washing machines, showers, baths and basins. The use of greywater can help households to reduce the amount of drinking water being used for watering gardens and is a valuable resource.

What is Blackwater?

Blackwater is water that has been used in toilets, urinals, bidets and kitchen sinks. Blackwater has to be treated and disinfected before it can be reused. Never use water that has come into contact with the toilet or any other toileting fixture such as a bidet or urinal. Furthermore, water that has been used to wash soiled nappies is also considered blackwater, and cannot be used.

What are the Benefits of Greywater?

Greywater benefits include:

- It is a relatively easy and safe source of water to access and use
- It is a good source of important nutrients for many plants

What is Bathurst Regional Council's Greywater Policy?

Council's Greywater Policy covers the use of greywater through:

- Manual bucketing
- Greywater diversion
- Greywater treatment

A copy of this policy is available at **www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/waterrestrictions**

Residents who already have a greywater diversion system in place or may be interested in such a system should refer to this Greywater Policy in the first instance.

When to Use Greywater?

The manual bucketing of greywater does not require a Council approval, but it should be noted that under water restrictions greywater can only be used at the following times:

- **Between 6am and 9am and 6pm and 9pm on any day** (Eastern Daylight Savings Time)
- **Before 10am and after 4pm** (Eastern Standard Time)
- **Greywater must be used within 24 hours of it being collected**

What to Consider When Using Greywater?

There are some things to consider with regard to the use of greywater, the first is that it contains contaminants, some of the common contaminants in greywater include:

- Salts
- Food materials
- Household detergents, soaps and chemicals
- Bacteria and other disease-causing microbes

Web: www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/waterrestrictions Email: waterrestrictions@bathurst.nsw.gov.au
Hotline: 6333 1683

WATER Let's make it last.

BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL

WATER Let's make it last.

Ways to Reduce Health Risks When Using Greywater

It is important to be aware of the health risks attached to the use of greywater, some suggestions to reduce health risks are included below:

- Use lower risk sources of greywater, such as water from the shower, bath and laundry rinse cycle.
- Don't use greywater on vegetable gardens
- Don't use greywater if any member of your family is suffering from gastroenteritis
- Don't irrigate your garden with greywater in wet weather or if the soil is already wet
- Don't allow greywater to form pools or ponds in your garden. The microbes will thrive, creating an offensive smell and a health hazard
- Don't allow your pets to drink greywater
- Take all steps to reduce public access to areas irrigated with greywater
- Keep children away from garden areas irrigated with greywater
- Make sure your swimming pool and any other water features, like ponds and birdbaths, are safe from greywater runoff.
- Encourage all the family to wash their hands before eating.
- For more information please refer to NSW Health web site **www.health.nsw.gov.au**

Consult with a licensed plumber before you attempt to alter any plumbing in your home and any use of greywater other than manual bucketing may be subject to Council and other approvals.

Practical Suggestions for Safe Garden Use of Greywater

There are several practical suggestions that can assist with the use of greywater in the garden:

- Ingredients in cleaners and detergents that can harm or kill plants include total salts, sodium, chloride and boron. Check product labels carefully.
- Never hose, spray or mist untreated greywater. Greywater should be applied directly to the roots of the plant, not the foliage.
- Different plant, including natives, can tolerate differing amounts of nutrients. Consult with your local nursery for further information.
- Water your garden, in accordance with restrictions, with fresh water to help prevent the build-up of salts in your soil.

September 2019

Web: www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/waterrestrictions Email: waterrestrictions@bathurst.nsw.gov.au
Hotline: 6333 1683

Annual General Meeting 2019

All positions within the Club will be become vacant at the AGM, so members are asked to please consider nominating themselves or other members to be Office Bearers of the Bathurst Gardeners Club Inc., or an Assistant or Organiser. All positions are valuable and the Club cannot run effectively without the ongoing support of the Members who hold these positions.

All the positions with a brief description of each is listed below.

OFFICE BEARERS/COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: (Nomination form required)

President: Chairs meetings and general Club organisation

Vice President: Assists the President and takes over in the absence of the President

Secretary: Takes the minutes at committee meetings, attends to correspondence, maintains membership register

Treasurer: Looks after Club finances and bookkeeping, including those of the Spring Spectacular, and prepares the end of financial year statement for the Office of Fair Trading

Ordinary Member/Publicity: Attends to publicity matters for the Club and represents Club members

Ordinary Committee members (2 required): Attends Committee of Management meetings, representing Club members (total of 3 Ordinary Members)

ORGANISERS AND ASSISTANTS:

Assistant Secretary: Takes over in the Secretary's absence

Assistant Treasurer: Helps the Treasurer

Spring Spectacular Coordinator: In consultation with the BGC Committee of Management, coordinates the Bathurst Spring Spectacular team to plan and run the annual event.

Newsletter Writer/Editor: Writes, prints and posts the newsletter to Club members

Monthly Program Organiser: Arranges the monthly meeting locations well in advance, confirming with garden owners a week prior to the meeting

Seniors Visits: Coordinates care home visits to Club Member gardens

Daffodil Cottage WB Coordinator: Arranges and coordinates working Bee's as necessary

Trip and Tour (T&T) Organiser: Arranges transport, accommodation and itinerary for trips away

Assistant Trip and Tour Organiser: Assists the T&T organiser

Gift Organiser: Buys gifts and presents them to garden owners/speakers at meetings

Afternoon Tea Organiser: Brings and sets up urn, tea, coffee, milk, sugar, tables at meetings

Seed Bank Organiser: Keeps seed bank, accepts and prepares donated seed, brings to meetings.

Attendance Book: Brings to each meeting, records location and attendance numbers

Raffle Organiser: Buys raffle prizes and sells raffle tickets at meetings

Facebook Administrator: Looks after and places items on the Club Facebook page

Archivist: Looks after all previous Bathurst Gardeners' Club information

Web Administrator: Looks after and updates information on the Bathurst Gardeners' Club website

Assistant Web Administrator: Assists the Web Administrator who takes over in the absence of the Web Administrator.

The nomination form for Office Bearers/Committee of Management is on the following page.

If you would like to nominate yourself or anyone else for any of the positions please contact the President, Chris Bayliss on 0409 710 055 or the Secretary, Susie Perrott on 0431 294 446.

Nominations should be with the Secretary no later than Sunday 24th November 2019.

NOMINATION FORM and DRAFT minutes of the 2018 AGM are on the following pages for you to read prior to the 2019 AGM, and the 2019 Agenda is also attached.

Put your hand up to volunteer, make new gardening friends and have fun whilst you are at it!

Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.
Nomination for Membership of BGC Committee
Office Bearers and Ordinary Members

I wish to Nominate:

Members Name: .....

For the Position of: .....

Proposes by: Name: .....

Signature: .....

Seconded By: .....

Signature: .....

I am willing to accept this nomination:

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Telephone: .....

Email: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

Forward this completed form to:

The Secretary Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.
PO Box 1049
BATHURST NSW 2795

OR Email to: bathurstgardenersclub@gmail.com

Completed Nomination forms must be delivered to the Secretary at least 7 days before the AGM on Sunday 1st December 2019: *i.e By Sunday 24th November 2019.*

BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DECEMBER 1ST 2019 AT 12 NOON AT 87 MORROW PLACE BATHURST (ROBIN HILL)

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the President
2. Present/Apologies
3. Acknowledge Life Members Present
4. Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM Minutes of 2nd December 2018
5. Treasurers Report
6. Presidents Report
7. Election of 2020 Positions- Conducted by Returning Officer
   a. Office Bearers
   b. Organisers and Assistants
8. Address from the Incoming President
9. Business Without Notice/Other matters
10. Raffle draw
11. Meeting Conclusion-Incoming President
12. Invitation to enjoy lunch and fellowship with other members
13. Next meeting
14. Meeting Closure

MINUTES OF THE BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT MISS TRAILL'S HOUSE AND GARDEN ON SUNDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2018 AT 2PM.

1. PRESENT:
As per attendance book

2. APOLOGIES:
Fiona Ogilvie

3. WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT:
The President welcomed all Gardeners' Club members, new Members and in particular acknowledged the following who were in attendance:

- **Life Members:** Spencer Harvey, Lyn Burgett, and Jenny Meenahan, Judy Bayliss
- **Past Presidents:** Spencer Harvey, Barbara Piddington, Chris Bayliss, Shirley Burrow, and Peter Varman

4. INDUCTION OF NEW LIFE MEMBER:
The President spoke about a member who had been in the Club for many years and had contributed as President, on the Executive Committee, and the Spring Spectacular Committee undertaking various roles. He was one of the driving forces in recreating the Classic Victorian Garden at Old Government Cottage. He has continued to coordinate working B's at the Cottage and also Daffodil Cottage and been involved many other projects including the BILS Project.
The President then invited Peter Varman to accept the Life Membership.
Peter expressed gratitude for the Life Membership and thanked the Club.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM OF 4th DECEMBER 2017:
Copies of the minutes from previous AGM held on Sunday 4th December 2017 were circulated to members at the meeting. Minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Peter Varman and seconded by Kathy Annis-Brown.

DRAFT

6. **TREASURES REPORT**:
The Treasurers Report for the year ended 30th November 2018 was circulated to those present. The report included the Bathurst Gardeners' Club status and the Spring Spectacular status.
Moved by the Treasurer that the report be accepted, seconded by Elizabeth Gilchrist.
The Treasurer thanked the Assistant Treasurer for guidance and assistance over the past year.

7. TRIP REPORT:
The Trip Coordinator outlined the trips taken this year i.e. – to Nutcote and Wendy Whitley's Garden and the Robertson Garden visit in October. He noted that much fun was had by all and trips and thanked all those that attended.

8. BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB SPRING SPECTACULAR COORDINATOR'S REPORT.
The spokesperson for the Spring Spectacular said that the weekend was a great success again this year with 19K raised and distributed to various charities. The organizing committee needs more members, and in particular people to help with arranging the catering and also liaising with the Visitor information Centre about coaches Eight gardens have already been selected for 2019 which is pleasing. Plans for next year are running smoothly. All those on the Committee, helpers, sitters were thanked.
The survey conducted during the Spring Spectacular indicated that visitors were looking for an 'experience' so consideration is being given to include more music and perhaps introducing sculptures /art etc.

- Club Member Tim Hector addresed the meeting and spoke about the recently introduced water restrictions. There was general discussion and the Membership agreed that Tim would write a letter to the Council on behalf of the Club for the signature of the incoming President.
- Club Member Barbara Piddington addressed the meeting about 'Garden Sitting' for the Spring Spectacular. She said it was a shame more people can't 'sit' as it is a great way to contribute. Each year 90 'Sitters' are needed, and Members were encouraged to volunteer.
- Clivias and aspidistra were available (free) for anyone who wanted to take home.
- Club Member Dawn Stammers said that she had been approached while 'sitting' about credit cards as a means of payment for Spring Spectacular tickets for patrons that had not pre purchased arriving at the garden. This will be considered by the Spring Spectacular Committee next year.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President noted that it had been a good year with interesting guest speakers and trips away. She said that she was stepping down from the Presidency after three years and had enjoyed the role and learned a lot. Of particular note were the Seniors Visits, Facebook Page and the Walshaw Hall winter meetings. She said she would be taking a break to pursue some of her other interests over the summer. Following thanks to the Committee and everyone else who had helped she then wished everyone a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS, ORGANISERS AND ASSISTANTS FOR 2019

The Public Officer took the floor and declared all current positions vacant. Nominations for positions were elicited and the following outcomes reached.

POSITION/ROLE IN 2019	NAME	OUTCOME
President	Chris Bayliss	Accepted
Vice President	Don Stafford	Accepted
Secretary	Susie Perrott	Accepted
Treasurer	Terri Crumpler	Accepted
Publicity and Newsletter	Sarah Fairhurst	Accepted
Ordinary Member	Peter Varman	Accepted
Ordinary Member	Shirley Faulds	Accepted
Assistant Secretary	Kathy Annis-Brown	Accepted
Assistant Treasurer	Judy Bayliss	Accepted
Assistant Publicity & Newsletter	Sarah Fairhurst	Accepted
Monthly Program	Elizabeth Gilchrist / Shirley Faulds	Accepted
Seniors Visits	Vacant	Accepted
Tours / Trips	Judy Bayliss	Accepted
Gifts	Don Stafford	Accepted
Afternoon Tea	Elizabeth Forbes/Ellen Bennetts	Accepted
Seed Bank	Liz Bush	Accepted
Attendance Book	Inez Domaracki	Accepted
Raffle	Shirley Faulds/Inez Domasaki	Accepted
Spring Spectacular Coordinator	Sarah Fairhurst	Accepted
Facebook Master	Don Stafford	Accepted
Archives	Susie Perrott	Accepted
Web Master	Chris Bayliss	Accepted
Assistant Web Master	Judy Bayliss / Jenny Meenahan	Accepted
Public Officer-Not an elected position	Jenny Hector - Appointed by the Committee in accordance with Constitution, not an elected position.	

DRAFT

11. **THE INCOMING PRESIDENT:** The President elect asked if there was any new business for discussion. There was none.

    He spoke briefly about how the Club engages in activities to promote and assist charities either by financial gifts and/or affiliates efforts and in doing so we should be non-political and non-sectarian in all our undertakings.

12. RAFFLE:

The free Christmas raffle was drawn and winners selected from a range of handy garden prizes.

13. MEETING CONCLUSION:

The Elected President took the floor and thanked the Public Officer for facilitating the Election of Office Bearers, Organisers and Assistants for 2019.
The Elected President then invited everyone to enjoy Christmas afternoon tea.
He wished all members a safe and happy Christmas and New year.

The meeting was closed at 3.20 pm.

Bathurst Gardeners Club Inc., President – Signature & Date

The Bathurst Spring Spectacular 2019

REPORT BY SARAH FAIRHURST, 2019 CO-ORDINATOR

The weekend was another great success following on from 2018 with 800+ visitors enjoying the gardens over the weekend of 26th and 27th October 2019 including Buses from Nambucca Valley, Central Blue Mountains, Leura and Young with an earlier visit on 15th October from the Canberra Horticultural Society. The event raised $23,500 which was distributed to the following organisations at a cheque presentation in Machattie Park on 13th November:

$2,000- 2BS Lions Miracle Christmas Appeal (ongoing support).
$5,000- Bathurst Community Transport Radiation Bus (ongoing support)
$7,500 (one whole dog!) - Defence Community Dogs
$2,000- headspace. Most likely the funds will used for a greenspace for youth 12-25 years to be able to feel more comfortable than meeting in a clinical room to discuss their issues
$5,000 - Lions Club Drought Relief Appeal. Vouchers from local Bathurst businesses are given to local farmers in need.
$2,000 (two scholarships) - The Mitchell Conservatorium Scholarship Programme

DEFENCE COMMUNITY DOGS AND SARAH, TODD & TANYA (GARDEN OWNERS) AT CHEQUE PRESENTATION

SARAH & CHRIS HANDING OVER CHEQUE TO ANDREW PAUL OF HEADSPACE BATHURST

CHEQUE PRESENTATION TO MERRYL DAVID, PRESIDENT OF LIONS CLUB MACQUARIE BATHURST

AND LASTLY, TO GRAHAM SATTLER FROM THE MITCHELL CONSERVATORIUM

I would like to formally thank the following people and groups who made the event so successful:

Bathurst Visitor Information Centre (BVIC) such as pre-selling tickets and hosting the Sponsor Display inside; for the use of their great auditorium space for the Launch and hosting the Plant and Market stalls there too on the weekend. Their PR company did a great job in getting me radio interviews on two gardening shows and other media also. Four Spring Spectacular gardens (3 from this year and 1 from last year) will be featured in the Regional Lifestyle magazine in the next year which is terrific for Bathurst and our reputation on putting on a fantastic Garden Festival event. Our association with BVIC is building and that is a good thing for the Club.

2BS Radio are wonderful for letting us meet each month at their offices and for doing so much free advertising, radio interviews etc which gets the Spring Spectacular event known in the public arena so well.

Members of the BGC SS Committee- the brains behind the event. Thanks to each and every one of you for your support especially when I was overwhelmed by the volume of work needing to be done. Next year there should be enough people on the Committee to get things done a little easier. Coming to my aid by picking up things from printers and sponsors etc was really helpful when I suddenly got a job at the wrong time! I really appreciated your support at this time.

Elizabeth Forbes who did an enormous job arranging all the music in each garden.

Gabrielle Darlington did an amazing job arranging garden sitters for 10 gardens as well as BVIC and Plant Stall Volunteers- not an easy job!

Dianna Baillie for doing an amazing job with Publicity, including radio interviews and at least 6 or 7 publications.

Peter Varman and his trusty side-kicks **Ted Reedy** and **Don Stafford** (& for photo taking) put up signage arrows into impossibly hard ground and delivered Sponsors boards and various other things all around town to the Garden Owners.

Peter Hanneman found 32 generous sponsors and we thank each of them for their valuable contribution

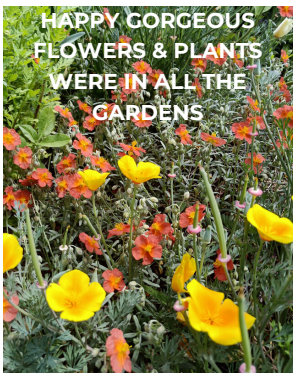
Plant Stall attendants at BVIC- what an amazing job you did with rain, sun and wind on Saturday and a new location to get the feel of.

Chris Bayliss assisted in many things such as photo taking, collecting monies, organising the insurance for the event which covered many areas including musicians, artisans, market stall holders as well as the general public.

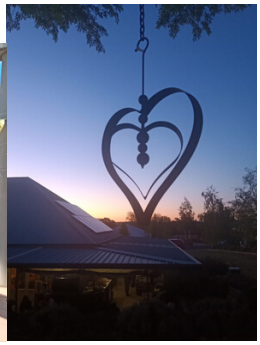
Judy Bayliss and **Terri Crumpler** for counting the monies, and balancing the accounts. What a big job!

Garden Sitters, without you-smooth running of each day would not have occurred and with the bizarre weather on Saturday to contend with you certainly had your hands full. Many other helpers such as **Tim Hector**, husbands, wives etc. who helped in some way at the Plant Stall, Launch and throughout the year as their partners concentrated their efforts on bringing this event to its wonderful conclusion.

Sadly I can't fit enough photos in this issue to reflect the spirit and style of the Spring Spectacular so will just give a snapshot and hope that you have your own photos and memories. I look forward to seeing how the next Spring Spectacular in 2020 shapes up and although I'm stepping down as Spring Spectacular Co-ordinator I will still be on the Committee looking after Social Media and will finally get my chance to be a Volunteer Sitter which I've never done in my whole 3 years at the Club as I've had other Committee jobs to do!



LYN & LARRAINE AT WORK AT THE PLANT STALL WITH LOTS OF BUYERS AT BVIC



THE SUN SETS ON ANOTHER SPRING SPECTACULAR AT WHITE HOLLOW

Let's get drought hardened but pretty

WRITTEN BY FIONA OLGIVIE, GARDEN CLUB MEMBER AND GARDEN COLUNIST FOR 'THE LAND' NEWSPAPER

Gardening with hot, dry summers is challenging, especially now with draconian water restrictions. But you can have a lovely garden if you choose the right plants (sadly, these don't include lawn grasses but think of the time you're saving!)

Many drought- and frost-hardy plants will survive on minimum or no extra water once established, especially if planted in autumn: March if it rains, April if it doesn't.

Every garden needs a deciduous tree for summer shade and winter sun. White Cedar (Melia azedarach) has sweet smelling lilac flowers, out now, followed by yellow berries like small beads. Silk Tree (Albizzia julibrissin) is the Tablelands gardener's Jacaranda, with ferny leaves, fluffy pink flowers and a broad, spreading canopy. For autumn colour, Chinese Pistacia (P. chinensis) has brilliant, red/orange/gold autumn leaves, and Golden Rain Tree (Koelreuteria paniculata) has golden autumn leaves and bronze seed pods like teeny lanterns.

GOLDEN RAIN TREE IN FLOWER

PISTACHIA CHINENSES WITH BRILLIANT RED/ORANGE/GOLD AUTUMN COLOUR

MELIA AZEDERACH

Evergreens include many lovely small wattles. Weeping Acacia vestita; neat, bushy and local to our area; A. buxifolia; and another weeper, graceful A. boomanii are all easy and beautiful.

A. VISTITA (OR HAIRY WATTLE OR WEEPING BOREE) L & R PIC

LOQUAT WHEN FRUITING

My favourite exotic evergreen is the Loquat tree with leathery leaves, golden orange fruit and a striking, architectural form when mature.

At the large, deciduous shrub level you can't beat a smoke bush, Cotinus coggygria for its bushy, rounded habit, summer flowers like puffs of smoke, gorgeous autumn colour and bone hardiness. Good cultivars include purple 'Royal Purple' and 'Golden Spirit' with brilliant, lime yellow leaves, brightest in early Spring.

LEFT PICS:
COTINUS COGGYGRIA
'ROYAL PURPLE' AT A
DISTANCE AND CLOSE UP'

RIGHT PICS:
COTINUS COGGYGRIA
'GOLDEN SPIRIT' IN
AUTUMN COLOUR
AND AT A DISTANCE

Other large deciduous shrubs include Beauty Bush (Kolkwitzia amabilis) with small, pink bell flowers in November and Bridal Wreath May (Spiraea prunifolia) with dense, double white flowers and red/orange autumn leaves.

Sacred Bamboo (Nandina domestica) is a tall (2m.), slow-suckering evergreen, with white spring flowers and scarlet berries in autumn.

Indian hawthorn (Raphiolepis) is one of the best all-round, medium evergreen shrubs with glossy foliage and white or pink spring flowers. Nurseries offer plenty of choice, from 1-4. tall, including R. indica, R. umbellata and various forms. Abelia x grandiflora has smaller leaves and scented summer flowers, great for hedging. A semi-evergreen honeysuckle, Lonicera fragrantissima, also has scented flowers in late winter.

Hardy, low-growing shrubs include Phlomis fruticosa with whorls of bright yellow, pink or mauve flowers; curry bush (Helichrysum angustifolium) with shiny, silver leaves smelling of curry; and Ceratostigma plumbaginoides, with cheerful blue flowers and brilliant autumn leaf colour.

NANDINA 'DOMESTICA'

HELICHRYSUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM (CURRY PLANT)

PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA

No ceanothuses you're wondering? No choisyas. No cistus, no gaura, no catmint.
No room!
More next time.

Bye! Fiona

CHURCHES
GARDEN CENTRE
A.B.N. 25 070 518 035
141 SEYMOUR STREET BATHURST NSW 2795
PHONE: (02) 6331 1806 FAX: (02) 6331 9388

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Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.
PO Box 1049, BATHURST NSW 2795
Contact: bathurstgardenersclub@gmail.com