The Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc.

GARDEN CLUB CONTACTS:
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Closing Date for Contributions to next newsletter 17th July, 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The last leaves of autumn are just falling, carpeting the ground in red and gold and leaving the trees stark against a wintery sky. It's a time to prune, to build, to clean up, to repair and sharpen tools and to take delight in being proof against winter chills.

Great to take in some lovely autumn gardens: the April 'meeting on the move', visiting five gardens – thank you Jo-Dean Butcher, Kath Annis-Brown, Patrick & Rosemary McArdle, Susie Perrott and Peter & Pat Varman. In May, Alan & Mandy Wilding opened their delightful (and immaculate) newly designed and landscaped garden. And, of course, thanks to Karen Mitchell for organising the gardens.

Your Club continues to grow; nearly 170 members with many new friends, including some from the 'big smoke' who are finding what a wonderful community and environment we have here in Bathurst. Welcome to new and returning members – it's always a pleasure to meet you.

The work in the garden at Daffodil Cottage continues, thanks to Peter Varman and his team of volunteers. Special thanks also to Moira King, who has accepted the role of Assistant Treasurer and to Kate Baigent who has joined the Spring Spectacular Committee, assisting with volunteer coordination.

Your Club was again represented with a stall at the 2022 Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail, held on April 10 & 11 at the Showground. A significant amount of money was raised for the Club and several new members gained as a result. Thank you to members who contributed plants and time to make our stall successful.

Planning for the 2022 Bathurst Spring Spectacular is well advanced; we have ten beautiful gardens to offer this year and all indications are for a successful and well-attended event.

The fascinating 'Story of Worms' continues in this newsletter (thank you Don Grant), informing us of the great role that worms play in the garden, fertilising soil and improving soil structure. Thank you also, Fiona Ogilvie, for your excellent and useful articles.

See you at the "Woodies' for our next meeting on Sunday 5th June. Stay safe (and warm!)

Friendship in gardening,

Chris

Heritage Trades Trail
9th-10th April

Once again Bathurst Gardeners' Club Inc. participated in the Heritage Trades Trail. Our stand in the Showground Pavilion looked colourful and $601 from the event was deposited into our bank account. $220 was from the sale of our "Plants for Bathurst Gardens" books and $381 to the Spring Spectacular from the sale of plants. Thank you to our plant growers and all who helped over the two days.

JUNE/JULY MEETINGS
from Karen Mitchell

Sunday 5th of June at 2pm

Location: Woodies Bathurst (Central Tableland Woodcraft Inc)
Dorman Place Bathurst Off Gilmour Street (turn off opposite Holy Family Church)
Guest Presentation: The members of the Woodies Bathurst
Home Work : Clean out your shed and bring a gardening tool, let it be rusted, splinter handle or blunt. Two items per Garden club member.
Please Bring your Cup and a plate of food for all to share, chair and 2 tools. (parking is close to building)

This meeting will be both theory and practical.
Woodies Bathurst that have been operating for over 31 years with all local club members who are kindly giving their time and workshop to show and assist our club members on tool maintenance etc.
The meeting will consist of a show case of works craftily constructed by Woodies members and then a Demonstration of all that is the woodies club and given tips to maintain our beloved gardening tools.
You then can participate in small group hands on demonstration / workshops on your tools. We ask that you bring in 2 items per member. (bring more – but leave in car, just if times permits)
You will have the opportunity to talk to Woodies members throughout the afternoon if you have any questions.
Please remember to thank the woodies members as they have gone out of their way to welcome Bathurst Garden's club in to their workshop.

3rd July 2022 at 2pm
Bathurst Panthers
Piper Street, Bathurst
Don Grant will be our guest Speaker for the meeting to enlighten us on all things earth worms
As the club kindly donates the use of the meeting room we ask that club members please stay after the meeting to enjoy afternoon tea from the downstairs café or stay for dinner.

Photos from our April & May Meetings

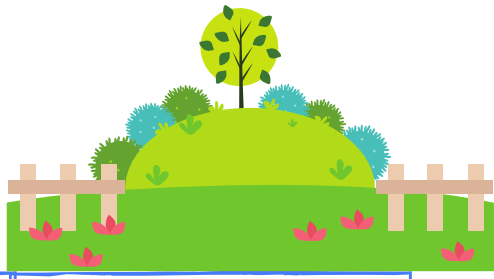
Our April meeting commenced with the formal part of the afternoon at Peace Park. Members then visited several members gardens. Thanks to Karen Mitchell for organising a lovely afternoon.

The May meeting was held in the beautiful garden of Alan and Mandy Wilding. The Autumn colour were magnificent as were the lovely treats Mandy provided for afternoon tea. Thank you Alan and Mandy

Our hard working raffle ladies Dianna & Larraine.

Thanks to Don Stafford for the photos.

Calendar for 2022



MONTH	MONTHLY MEETINGS	OTHER BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB ACTIVITIES	OTHER GARDEN CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS EVENTS
JUNE	Sunday 5th at 2pm Woodies Bathurst Dorman Place Kelso (off Gilmour Street)		
JULY	Sunday 3rd at 2pm Panthers Bathurst Guest Speaker - Don Grant on all things about earth worms		
AUGUST	Sunday 7th at 2pm Panthers Bathurst Details in next newsletter.		6th-7th Narrabri Garden Club Floral Art Design Competition & Workshop
SEPTEMBER	Sunday11th at 2pm Details in next newsletter. *Note Charge of Date due to Father's Day		10th-11th & 17th-18th Daffodils at Rydal 17th -18th Canberra Spring Bulb & Camelia Show
OCTOBER	Sunday 2nd.	Saturday 29th - Sunday 30th Spring Spectacular	9th - 15th National Gardening Week 22nd-23rd Cowra Garden Club Open Gardens

From the Secretary - Susie

NOVEMBER 9TH 2022

Following on from our last meeting, Chris and Judy Bayliss have very generously agreed, (should there be sufficient interest) to bring together a group of Club members to go to the **Jacaranda River Cruise in Sydney on WEDNESDAY November 9th 2022.**

As with recent trips, it will be 'travel to and from the destination by your own means and expense', whilst still enjoying the experience and the company of other Club members.

Chris and Judy will handle the Cruise reservation/booking and subsequent payment.

If you are genuinely interested in coming along please RSVP to me by THURSDAY 9th JUNE 2022 on susieperrot@iprimus.com.au, or on 0431 294 446.
CRUISE DESCRIPTION:
See the most beautiful harbour in the world with breathtaking Jacarandas in full bloom.
Departing from the King Street Wharf, this two-and-a-half-hour harbour cruise is an icon in Sydney's Spring calendar. A commentary for the cruise is by gardening expert Graham Ross.

CRUISE ESCORTED BY GRAHAM ROSS DETAILS:

- Date: Wednesday 9th November 2022
- Cruise lasts two and a half hours
- Departing from the King Street Wharf
- Boarding commences at 1.15pm
- Cruise departs Wharf 1, King Street Wharf
- Complimentary tea and coffee, muffins and cookies served on board

CRUISE PRICE:

Adults $80.00, Seniors 75.00, Graham Ross Garden Club Clinic members $65.00

Tickets ARE transferable (if you are unable to go, someone can go in your place)

Tickets are non-refundable within 7 (seven) days of the cruise date

PLANT ETIQUETTE:

Our recently introduced 'Question Time' at our meetings has resulted in members bringing along samples of plants for our experts to identify the issue. When bringing examples, please make sure that they are contained in an air-tight bag/container so they can be viewed without removing from the container. This will help prevent the possible spread of the disease/pest to the hosts garden. Always remember to take your sample home after the meeting and dispose of it appropriately. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

INSULATION TOP TIP:

In our cold area, the water in outside water pipes and taps can expand, and split the pip, causing water loss and flooding. Prepare for extra cold spells by insulating taps and pipes with layers of hessian, bubble wrap, or some other type of flexible insulating material. It can be easily removed in spring once the danger of frost is over. (Ref ABC Gardening Magazine June 2022)

EVENTS IN COMING MONTHS:

AUGUST 6th-7th

NSW Floral Art Association in conjunction with Narrabri Garden Club, is conducting demonstration with a workshop and floral design competition. Narrabri Bowling Club, Narrabri. Gwen Hartley will be demonstrating some unique Indian techniques.
For Info. secretary@nswfloralartassociation.org.au,
or phone Deidre Hill on 02 4887 1254.

SEPTEMBER 10/11 and 17/18 - DAFFODILS AT RYDAL
SEPTEMBER 17th -18th
The Horticultural Society of Canberra Spring Bulb and Camellia Show. Lancaster Hall, Wesley Centre, Forrest. Saturday 11am-5pm, Sunday 11am03.15pm. Entry by gold coin donation. Plant stall. Info: www.hsoc.org.au,

OCTOBER 9th -15th - ALL STATES – 2022 NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK

OCTOBER 22nd – 23rd
Cowra Garden Club open Gardens. Gardens open from 10am-5pm. Admission $15.00 per adult for the two days. Tickets available at the Cowra Visitor Information Centre.

WILDWOOD GARDEN
Visit this beautiful 10-hectare cold climate garden. They have rare plants, a waterfall, lake, picnic areas, birdlife, mountain views, Café, gift shop and nursery. You can even book for lunch! Call Wayne Tapping on 0417 042 460. Entry $10.00 or $8.00 concession. 29 Powells Road Bilpin NSW.

ATTENDANCE OF NEWBORN INFANTS AND CHILDREN TO THE AGE OF 18 YEARS AND DOGS/PETS AT BGC CLUB MEETINGS.

POLICY (SUMMARY)

Newborn Infants and Children to the age of 18 years at BGC Club Meetings
In accordance with the BGC Constitution 2021, children under the age of 18 will not be permitted to attend any Club meetings. (ref Part 3 BGC Constitution)

Special dispensation is however, extended to:
a) breast or bottle-feeding infants in the care their parent/parents/significant others at meetings. This dispensation ceases when the infant is able to walk independently, even if the infant is still breast or bottle-feeding.

b) The children of garden owners when the meeting is held in their garden

Dogs/Pets at BGC Club Meetings
Club Members and/or visitors are not permitted to bring any type of dog/pet to Club meetings or Club occasions unless the pet/dog is a certified companion pet/dog.

Managing Policy Breaches:
Breaches of this policy are to be reported at the time to President of the Club who will raise the matter with the persons/individual concerned in an attempt to resolve the matter.

Should the complainant be dissatisfied with the resolution reached, Section 10/11 of the BGC Constitution - Disputes Between Members /Disciplining of members is to be activated.

Policy approved by BGC Management Committee on 1st May 2022

Autumn Colour From Fiona

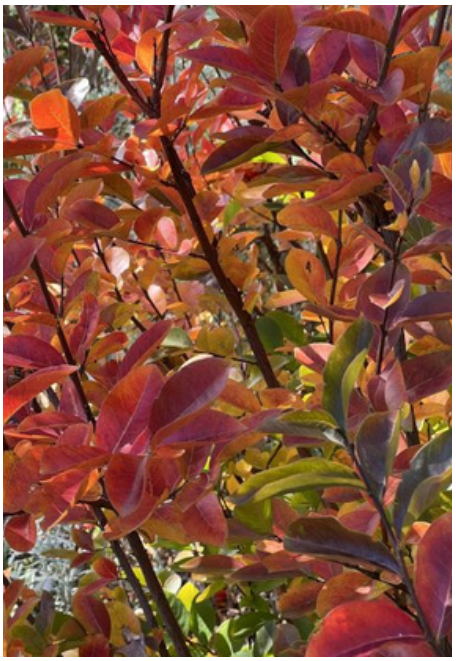
Yellow and red pigments appear in ornamental grape leaves (vitis vinifera x V. rupestris) as the green chlorophyll breaks down in cooler weather.

Autumn leaf colour has been gorgeous this year. For once we had the right combination of wet weather followed by sunshine when the nights began to cool. We're lucky in Bathurst in having four distinct seasons and autumn in the garden can be one of the most beautiful when the seasons get it right.

The most dazzling autumn tree colours come from North American and Asian trees because their leaf colour includes red. European trees are predominantly yellow in autumn; the Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia) is a rare exception.

I was intrigued to learn this when I first visited Eastern Europe. I'd hoped to see good autumn colours in the Balkan Mountains but local Elms, Oaks, Ash, European Limes and even Chestnuts were all pale yellow or brown.

The only red or orange leaves I saw belonged to introduced species: North American Black Tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica) and Asian Crepe Myrtle (Lagerstroemia indica).



The difference in leaf colour between the continents has long been known to botanists but the cause was only discovered recently. Two scientists from Israel and Finland proposed the theory that an extraordinary combination of geography, climate and insects is responsible.

Glossy leaves of many Crepe Myrtle hybrids colour beautifully in cool weather.

Black tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica) growing near the Macquarie River benefits from a high water table.

Yellow pigments are in leaves all along and are revealed when the green chlorophyll breaks down. Red, though, only appears with the onset of shorter days and cooler weather.

It's suggested that many millennia ago, trees everywhere developed red pigments in autumn as defence mechanisms against insect attack. It's true that many modern insects, aphids included, prefer yellow leaves.

Then 35 million years ago as glaciation set in and the earth cooled, trees and insects migrated south. This was easier in North America and East Asia, where the main mountain ranges run north to south, than in Europe where the vast barriers of the Pyrenees, Alps and Tatra Mountains run east to west.

American and Asian trees retreated to Mexico or Vietnam and moved north again as the ice sheets melted. But European trees were trapped between the glaciers and the mountains and many species became extinct.

As the predatory insects died out with the trees, the red pigment was no longer needed in autumn and the European trees that survived ceased to create it.

If you're looking for trees and shrubs with good autumn colour, on the whole those from Asia tend to be drought hardier than those from North America.

Chinese Pistacia loves a hot dry summer and colours reliably in autumn

Fiona writes the weekly gardening column for The Land

https://www.theland.com.au/

The Story of Worms
Don Grant

Part 2

In this Part 2 I would like to draw on some work of Duncan Carver, an expert on worms, and discuss Worm Classification. It is a tad boring but a good start before we look at other topics including the benefits, use and application of worms and their products. It is certainly an important topic for anyone wanting to get into the 'worm business', and something everyone involved in worm composting should be at least familiar.

The biological classification system was devised by scientists as a means of categorising and grouping all living organisms and - as stuffy and boring as the entire thing may seem - it is incredibly important. This system provides us with a universally accepted name for every living creature (all those identified thus far) - and in our case, every variety of earthworm.
Why is this a big deal? Let me illustrate with an example.
The 'Red Worm' - our little composting friend - is known by numerous common names. Aside from Red Worm, it is also known as Red Wiggler, Tiger Worm, Brandling Worm, and Manure Worm - just
to name a few. If you travelled to Peru (just a random country off the top of my head) and asked people about 'Manure Worms', they very likely wouldn't know what you were talking about - or they would tell you about their own version of the 'Manure Worm' (some Peruvian worm that happens to live in manure). Not a notable example - but hopefully you see where I am going with this.
The scientific name for Red Worms is Eisenia fetida - that is it!
There is only one scientific name (there are some exceptions to the rule). However, this is the one name that is globally recognised as identifying this variety of worm. Do not get me wrong - common names are helpful too. After all - not everyone knows the Latin name for every (or any) organism they encounter. Nevertheless, all common names should be accompanied by a Latin name to help eliminate any potential uncertainty.
As I alluded to, there can be exceptions to the one-scientific-name rule.
From time to time, Latin names can be changed by scientists for distinct reasons. When this happens, invariably there are still going to be people (even scientists) who refer to the organism by its original name. A prime example in the worm composting world is the European Nightcrawler. It is now known as Eisenia hortensis, but the former name, Dendrobaena veneta, is still used widely - and is perfectly acceptable.
Let us now take a quick look at the classification hierarchy for earthworms. If you are looking for a fairly effortless way to remember the main groups, keep the following sentence in mind: "King Phillip Came Over From Granada Spain". The groups then are Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family,
Genus and Species. There are plenty of sub-groups as well, but for our purposes this will be detailed enough. Here is the breakdown specifically for the Red Worm (Eisenia fetida):
Kingdom: Animalia - all animals.

Phylum: Annelida- (includes the earthworms, leeches and other worms).
Class: Oligochaeta- (often referred to as a subclass) segmented worms with "few hairs".
Order: Haplotaxida
Family: Lumbricidae
Genus: Eisenia
Species: Fetida (formerly spelled "foetida")
Lumbricidae is one of the important earthworm families and includes many well-known varieties such as Lumbricus terrestris (Canadian Nightcrawler), Lumbricus rubellus (also referred to as a "Red Worm" - yet another indication of the importance of scientific names), and Eisenia hortensis (European Nightcrawler).
Two other important families from a worm composting standpoint are Eudrilidae (which contains Eudrilus eugeniae, the African Nightcrawler) and Megascolecidae (which contains Perionyx
excavatus, the Malaysian Blue Worm).
Aside from providing each organism with its own unique name, the biological classification system also shows us which organisms are closely related. The Red Worm and the European Nightcrawler
for example are very closely related, as indicated by the fact that they share the same Genus name - Eisenia.
So, there you have it - worm classification in a nutshell.

Thanks to Don Grant for his interesting two part series about Worms. Don will also be speaking at our July meeting

Reminder

You can use your Bathurst Gardeners' Membership Card for discounts at the following businesses

- **Churches Garden Centre 10% discount on all but seedlings**
- **ANL 10% discount**

Thanks to Brian Fox for this lovely photo of Maple -"October Glory".