



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

A Sneak Peak of What's Inside

- February and March Meeting Details p.3
- Trip to two gardens on 24th February p.5
- Gardening by the month February/March p.8
- Fiona's article on plants with silver leaves p. 9-10

A Selection of Photos from the Christmas Function

We also had this special visitor who wanted to join in the fun.





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year and welcome to 2021 –a year in which we might (hopefully) be able to return to some semblance of normality, although for keen gardeners, springtime and summer always bring the promise of hope and new, colourful life. COVID restrictions are still in place to keep our community (and particularly our older citizens) safe with a limit of 50 daily visitors to households, with people over 70 and those with pre-existing medical conditions advised to further limit visitors and take extra care at all times.

We are planning to resume meetings in gardens (subject to restrictions), but we need members to inform Susie of their intention to attend as numbers are presently limited to 50. I am really looking forward to welcoming members back to meetings after nearly a year.

Our Christmas gathering was a great success with many members enjoying fellowship, fine food and drinks at 286 Gormans Hill Road (photos on the Newsletter cover) A special thanks to Committee and other members who assisted with catering. It was great to catch up with friends again and enjoy 'friendship through gardening'. Also, Judy has organised our first trip for the year; a visit to two lovely gardens at Hartley (transport by car pooling). See page 5 for more details, but please remember that bookings for this trip are also essential for catering purposes.

Our Annual General Meeting (postponed from December) will now be held on Sunday 21st March in the Panorama Room at Panthers Club, followed by an Special General Meeting to approve changes to our Constitution in accordance with requirements of Fair Trading NSW. You will receive notification of the proposed changes and I urge you to read the proposed changes carefully and attend both meetings. With regard to the Annual General Meeting, nomination forms for members of the Management Committee are included in this Newsletter and I would encourage members to consider nominating for a position. (See pages 6 and 7 for forms and a description of positions.

Please remember that Membership renewals (\$20) are due by the end of March and may be paid online, in person at the next two meetings or by cheque. (online BSB 637 000, Account 71 3853828, cheques to P.O. Box 1049, Bathurst 2795). Also, nominations for friends to join the Bathurst Gardeners' Club Facebook Page are welcome, but nominees must belong to Bathurst Gardeners' Club to join the group.

The Bathurst Spring Spectacular Committee is working towards the 2021 event, with a number of local gardens already signed up and with plans for a bigger and better Plant and Garden Expo. on the weekend of 30th and 31st October, so start thinking about propagating for the Monster Plant Stall and setting these dates aside to volunteer for garden sitting or the Expo. Also, check out 'Charlie', our Defence Community Dog, funded through the 2019 Spring Spectacular, who graduated in December 2020 and has gone on to support an ex-serviceperson.

Finally, a big thank you to Fiona Ogilvie for another informative contribution to our Newsletter – silver-leafed plants make a great statement as well as being drought-tolerant!

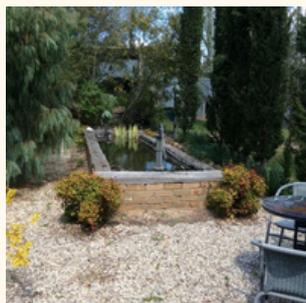
See you at our next meeting,

'Friendship through gardening'

Chris

Meetings for February and March

SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 2PM



"Tranquility", 16 Station Street, Locksley Lorraine and Ted Inwood

From the Great Western Highway at Kelso take 2nd exit at roundabout to Littlebourne Street.(Oberon Road). After 7km turn left onto Tarana Road, After 14km turn right onto Station St at Locksley.

"Tranquility" garden is approximately 2 acres of gardens with winding paths throughout, leading to different plantings, ponds, mosaics and lead lighting. Started some 25 years ago, it was never planned to be as large but the fences just kept being moved out into the paddocks as they wanted to develop new gardens and structures.

SUNDAY 7TH MARCH, 2PM

265 Bloomhill Road, O'Connell

Maureen Allen

From the Great Western Highway at Kelso take the 2nd exit onto Littlebourne Street (Oberon Road). After 18km turn right onto Beaconsfield Road. After 3.8km turn right onto Bloom hill Road.

What was a bare 3-acre paddock now has many pathways which lead past beds of Roses, Iris and perennials creating a lovely cottage feel around the home. The lower end of the garden features a pond with newer plantings of Crab Apple, Flowering cherry and Silver Birch underplanted with bulbs and hellebores creating a peaceful park-like setting.

- **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. As both these gardens are out of town if you require a lift please let Susie know when you book in.**



An Update on our Defence Dog "Charlie"

Charlie was sponsored with funds raised from the 2019 Spring Spectacular. He has now graduated and is with his new owner.

Charlie came to the program with high separation anxiety after being rescued from the pound. He barked and whined a lot, but through the help and patience of the trainers at Bathurst Correctional, Charlie has become a friendly and outgoing dog.

Plum Sauce

If you have plum trees and are like us you have an abundance of plums this year. We have several varieties and will have plums from now well into Autumn. I have used this recipe for years. It is from the "Commonsense Cookery Book". Very easy! If you have a Mouli it is easier than putting it through a strainer. *Judy Bayliss*
An old recipe so you may wish to convert the pounds to kilograms and the pints to cups or litres

INGREDIENTS

6lb plums
3lb white sugar
1/2 teaspoon of pepper
1/4 teaspoon of cayenne pepper
2 pints of vinegar (I like Malt)
1 tablespoon of salt
1 onion
1 tablespoon of ground ginger

METHOD

Wash plums
Place all ingredients in pan/ saucepan;
stir till sugar dissolves
Boil until stones separate from the fruit
(they will come to the top. I find it
usually takes half to three quarters of an
hour)
Strain through a coarse strainer and
bottle in warm jars.
Seal when cold.



The Bathurst District Historical Society Committee are searching for a person who would be prepared to look after the heritage garden at Old Government House just for a couple of hours each month for around \$40.

They wondered if someone from the Garden Club may be interested or whether you may know of someone, possibly an apprentice, who would gain from the experience that you may recommend.

Contact Pauline Barker pbarker8@optusnet.com.au 6337 9381

From Secretary Susie

Searching! Searching! Searching!

To add to the BGC Archives, I am looking for a Garden Club of Australia 'Our Gardens' magazine. It is Number 75 from Summer 2018. If you have this magazine and are willing to donate it to Club Archives, please contact Susie on 0431 294 446.

SUMMER SEEDS:

Our seed bank has been a great source of joy over the last year, as people share seeds, take them home, nurture them, then see them bloom – it is always a delight. The seed bank always needs replenishing with fresh seeds so if you can collect seeds and bring them to the seed bank that would be most appreciated. Please give them to our Seed Bank Coordinator or Susie Perrott at our meetings.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

It is the season to pay our annual membership. If you have already paid, we thank you very much.

Membership is due by 31st March and this is the last newsletter reminder before that date.

Your membership can be paid at our February meeting, posted to PO Box 1049 BATHURST 2795, or by EFTPOS: BSB 637 000 Acc No. 713853828 with your name as a reference

Annual Membership Fee is \$20.00 per person.

We look forward to you continuing as a member this year.

Norfolk Island Sustainable Tour in August 10th-17th 2021:

An exciting 7day tour of Norfolk Island escorted by horticulturalist / sustainability expert and media presenter Adam Woods. Cost is \$2,339.00 pp twin share and includes: Return 'seat + bag' airfare pp, transfers, 7 nights twin share accommodation, 7 days car hire, and various sustainable tours and activities throughout the week.

Please contact Norfolk Island Travel Centre on: Free call 1800 1400 66 (Aus), Phone: International +6723 22502 or email Dianne on: diane@travelcentre.nf

Trip Report

I have organised a visit to two gardens in Hartley and Little Hartley for Wednesday 24th of February.

We will stop at Lithgow for a BYO morning tea before visiting "Hartvale". We will then travel to "Highfields" for our BYO lunch before exploring the garden and having Devonshire afternoon tea which is included in the cost.

Transport - Car pooling

Morning tea and lunch - BYO (Please bring a fold up chair and perhaps a small picnic table).

Cost - \$28 pp (this includes garden visits and Devonshire afternoon tea.) Please deposit to Bathurst Gardeners' Club Account - BSB 637 000 A/C 713853828 by Direct Deposit or at the Greater Bank. Can also be paid at the February meeting.

For more information and to book to attend please phone me on 0409710055 or email jcbayliss@bigpond.com

Bookings are essential for afternoon tea catering purposes.

When you book in I will give you more information such as departure and return times and where we will depart from.

Judy Bayliss (Trip Organiser)

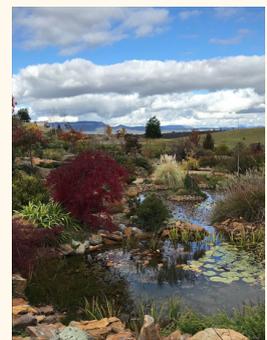
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'Hartvale' is located at the base of Mount York with gorgeous views out across the valley to Mount Clarence. Situated on five acres, and prominently a cottage garden filled with lavender, roses, penstemons, salvias and dahlias, the grounds also feature a potager garden, kitchen garden area, cute hot-house and a garden studio where Jennifer does her oil painting (see instagram [art_by_jen_edwards](#)).



Hartvale

Highfield Garden



Highfield Gardens is the new garden created by David Kennedy of 'Clover Hill' garden in Katoomba. 'Highfields' has captured the attention of the horticultural world already being included in the new book by Claire Takacs 'Australian Dreamscapes' and featuring on the front cover. This large garden is still under construction. Stage one includes 'The Dry Garden' Prairie garden, Birch Grove, Rock garden/Water garden, The long border (AKA Barry Manilow border) and the single coloured borders.

There will be plants for sale from their nursery (Clover Hill Rare Plants). The garden is open so bring good walking shoes, hat and sunscreen.

AGM AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM and Special General Meeting will be held on Sunday the 21st of March in the Panorama Room at Panthers. (This room is able to accommodate up to 80 in a Covid safe environment). The meeting will commence at 2pm. Following the meetings afternoon tea will be provided. We would appreciate if you could let Susie know by 7th March for catering purposes. This meeting was postponed from December 2020 due to Covid restrictions. At the AGM all positions will be declared vacant. If you feel you would like to contribute to the club please complete the nomination form on the next page. Nominations need to be with the Secretary by Sunday 14th March.

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

OFFICE BEARERS/COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT:

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 Committee members (2 required): Attends Committee meetings, representing Club members

ORGANISERS AND ASSISTANTS:

Assistant Secretary: Takes over in the Secretaries 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 member gardens

Daffodil Cottage WP Coordinator: Arranges and coordinates working B'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 Administrator: Assists the Webmaster, takes over in the absence of the Webmaster

BATHURST GARDENERS' CLUB INC.
OFFICE BEARERS AND ORDINARY MEMBERS
NOMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF BGC COMMITTEE

Completed Nomination forms must be delivered to the Secretary at least 7 days before the 2020 BGC AGM on Sunday 21st March 2021: i.e.: by Sunday 14th March 2021.

Forward this completed form to:

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

OR Email to: bathurstgardenersclub@gmail.com

WISH TO NOMINATE:

Members Name:

For the Position of:

PROPOSED BY: NAME:

Signature:

SECONDED BY:

Signature:

AM WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS NOMINATION:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Signature:

Date:

GARDENING BY THE MONTH

FEBRUARY

Vegetables

Continue harvesting summer crops. Remove crops as they come to the end of their life cycle to maintain good hygiene and make way for winter crops.

Prepare soil for winter crops.

Sow seeds of winter crops.

Ornamentals

Prepare beds for spring flowering bulbs.

Continue dead-heading annuals. Perennials and shrubs.

Stake and tie up dahlias and chrysanthemum.

Good time to take cuttings of many plants.

Plant seeds of spring flowering annuals.

Dead-head camellias, azaleas and rhododendron and apply organic mulch.

Lift tulips and Dutch iris.

Water roses well and apply foliar fertilizer.

Fruit Trees

Watch for bird invasion; apply netting.

Lawns

Water deeply once a week; keep mower blades high.

General

Water deeply and regularly.

Mulch, mulch and more mulch.



MARCH

Vegetables

Continue to apply liquid fertilizer either foliar or root. A mixture of seaweed extract and fish emulsion works wonders.

Plant any of the brassicas eg. Cauliflower; broccoli, kale. Cabbage.

Fruit Trees

Some apples and pears will be ripening. Harvest now to avoid bird damage. Pick pears while still firm and allow to ripen indoors.

Ornamentals

Divide and plant bearded iris.

Deadhead annuals and perennials as the flowers fade.

Tidy up shrubs like lavender and rosemary.

Prepare ground (or pots) for spring flowering bulbs.

Any annuals past their best should be removed and the ground prepared for the spring flowerers.

If your ground is prepared you could plant pansies, poppies, snapdragons and primulas.

Remove old foliage from hellebores.

Not too late to give camellias a dose of potash.

Lawns

A light application of fertilizer. Water in well.

New lawns can be established now either from seed or turf.

Mulching

Last chance to apply an organic mulch while the soil is still warm.

Thank you to Fiona for this interesting article on silver leafed plants

Silver leaves are fabulous additions to planting schemes. Used on their own in contrasting shapes and textures for an outback effect or placed here and there among different shades of green, either way they look great.

They are also purpose designed to handle drought. Some have a waxy coat that reflects sun, others are covered in greyish fuzz that directs rain to their roots. Many will survive a Bathurst summer with no extra water.

Woody silver-leaved plants are ultra-easy to propagate. They will even grow from a stick poked in the ground so you can create hedges or topiary with no budget worries.

My first silver shrub was *Artemisia arborescens*, heat- and frost-hardy, grown from cuttings from a Newbridge friend. It survived in our Rockley garden and came with me to Glanmire and I never tire of it, I love its aromatic smell. One spring I put in a row of 30 x centimetre cuttings to cover our south-west facing house wall and by autumn I had a lovely informal hedge, unworried by shade from the gutter.

'Powys Castle' is a low growing form with more finely cut leaves. Chris and Judy kindly gave me a clump last spring and its numerous offspring are doing an excellent job of taking over my new paddock garden.



'Powys Castle'

Tree germander (*Teucrium fruticans*) has small, oval leaves and pale mauve flowers for many months. Kept clipped it makes an excellent formal hedge. Old Man Saltbush (*Atriplex nummularia*) has larger, oval leaves and is even tougher.

Cotton lavender (*Santolina chamaecyparissus* = cypress-like foliage) is a low growing edging plant with lacey leaves. Slightly taller curry plant (*Helichrysum italicum*, syn. *H. angustifolium*) makes a neat mound and smells strongly of curry. No use for flavouring, it has a bitter taste. 'Dusty Miller' (*Jacobaea maritima*, syn. *Senecio cineraria*) has velvety, oak-leaf shaped leaves and can sometimes be found on the cut flower stand at Rankin Street IGA. Easy to strike but needs shelter from frost.



'Dusty Miller'



'Stachys
Little
Ears'

Lambs' Ears (*Stachys byzantine*) has smoother, bigger leaves than woolly *S. lanata* but rarely flowers. Beryl Harvey gave me adorable 'Little Ears', small leaves and spikes of mauve flowers. *Dichondra* 'Silver Falls' has tiny, satiny leaves and is good for retaining walls or hanging baskets.

No self-seeding red, white or pink and white 'Angels Blush' campion (*Lychnis coronaria*). No *Phlomis*, *Ballota*, *Correa* 'Dusky Bells'. No spiky plants: irises, *Beschnoria yuccoides* or *Puya venusta*. No room!

Fiona Ogilvie, Gardening Writer for The Land



Planning is well under way for this year's Bathurst Spring Spectacular. As we plan to have open gardens and the 'Plant and Garden Expo' we will need lots of helpers. Put the date in your diaries. Also, keep potting up those plants to sell on our Bathurst Gardeners' Club Plant Stall.