

The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc

Newsletter No. 3



ABN 74 058 867744

www.gardenclubs.org.au

'Friendship through Gardens'

Secretaries: Please email this directly to your committee & members.

Ann Williams Clark Award

A Post from Facebook



Adelaide Botanic Garden

As we come to the end of National Volunteer Week, we'd like to acknowledge and celebrate the achievement of Judith Bail.

Judith was recently awarded the Garden Clubs Of Australia 'Ann Williams Clark Award' for her long-standing (since 2008) and outstanding service to the Friends of the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide.

Among her many contributions, Judith is heavily involved in organising and working at events which support and promote all three of our Botanic Gardens across South Australia, and she often braves early starts and inclement weather in order to do so!

Congratulations Judith, well deserved!



What they said...

Mother's Day flowers

In 2008 the **Murray Bridge Social Garden Group** started a tradition of making Mother's Day posies for residents of Resthaven in Murray Bridge.

The flowers and greenery are very generously provided, by our Members, from their gardens.

Saturday morning, we meet in the Clubrooms. We are a very well-organized team with trestle tables set up in a U shape, flowers on the right, greenery to the left and wrapping cellophane and ribbons in the middle. Members make up the posies with flowers and greenery then pass them to the wrapper and for the final touch, the ribbon, where the ribbon is matched to the colour of the flowers to finish the posies.



President, Ken Wells is at the back right, his long-suffering Secretary 'me' in the front in pink, Vice President Ann Potter behind me, holding a yellow flower, our Committee and helpers, one being a Founding Member and Patron, Yvonne Lablack (front 3rd from left).

It is amazing the variety of flowers and greenery after everyone has added their contribution. We take great delight in the making of the posies. It is a fun morning.

The posies are delivered to the residents of Resthaven, complete with a card wishing a Happy Mother's Day from the Murray Bridge Social Garden Group.

We usually make 40 posies for Resthaven resident and a few extra to be given to our Mothers, placed on Mother's graves and elderly neighbours.

This is one of the ways the Murray Bridge Social Garden Group gives back to the community.

This year, due to the Corona Virus, we were unable to make our posies but they will be bigger and better next year.

Wendy Osborne, Secretary, 0438 447 278

'Weebly' Website Maker

Weebly is a Website Builder where you can create your club website, blog or online store. Just login with an email address, select a theme and start creating.

With Weebly's website builder you can add club photos, experiment with colour backgrounds to make the website suit your needs and reflect your club's activities. Combine text, images and video to add impact to your message. Customize headers create a unique look and feel for your club.



Drag, drop and build "elements" are easy to use. Want to add text? Drag the "text element" onto a page and start writing. Want a photo? Drag the "photo element" onto the page and upload your photo.

The free version of Weebly has all the features necessary for your club however the Weebly name will be included in the website address. For a small yearly cost, you can have just your club name and access to many other features.

I, Suzanne, have been using this website building program for years and can recommend it.

www.weebly.com

NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK 11-17 October 2020, "Dig In & Celebrate!"

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now."

We are encouraging every garden club, school, community group, local council, to plant a single or pair of trees or a small forest.

- Talk to your local council about planting a tree in the park.
- Encourage local schools to add a shade or fruit tree.
- Plant one in your garden, street or neighbourhood.
- How about a large pot on the balcony?

The driving force behind National Gardening Week is passionate gardener and The Garden Clubs of Australia President, George Hoad.

"Over the past 3 years, garden clubs and groups across the country have embraced Australia's National Gardening Week, celebrating in a variety of innovative ways – my aim is for the week to flourish and develop into the future, enriching the lives of all".

Help celebrate gardening in any way you choose. Throw a garden party, visit a local park, join a garden club, plant a tree, visit your local nursery or just spend a day relaxing on the lawn – the list of possible activities is endless!

For more information contact George Hoad on 02 6550 5890 or Email: ghoad@internode.on.net





Calendar 2021

Here is a sneak preview of next year's GCA Calendar photos for you to enjoy.

Just a reminder: there is a new way to view and order the calendar this year.

Check out the last **Bulletin** for more information.



TIPS AND TRICKS

Tips from '*Companion Planting in Australia*' by Brenda Little.

Banana skins: The skin of the banana is surprisingly rich in calcium, sodium, silica, sulphur, magnesium and phosphates. Tucked under the top-soil around rose bushes or geraniums, it is one of the simplest and quickest ways of providing valuable plant food.

Conversation Starters

Here's an idea to get your members chatting, from the GCA "Ideas for club activities".

Importance of Fauna and Flora in the Landscape

- How to accommodate birds/animals/insects etc in our environment?
- How should gardens be designed for the above?
- Attracting/keeping the flora and fauna.
- Confronting the decreasing numbers of birds, bees, friendly/beneficial insects in the garden
- What to do when there are reptiles in your garden?
- Making gardens attractive to birds and beneficial insects
- Weird and wonderful world of insects.
- What to do if you find them in your garden?

And Another Story



Paterson Allyn Garden Group, NSW have been meeting via Zoom during the lockdown. For our May meeting we were treated to a virtual tour of Fig Tree Farm in the Dungog Shire. This garden features numerous fig trees and brachychitons.

The blossoms of the kurrajong are exquisite and they have flowered profusely over summer.

A recent project has been the planting of a small rainforest which will give some respite from the hot summers.

Christine Walker, Secretary



143 GCA Clubs Identified on Facebook!

That's right. The number of clubs identified by you and your members, is growing. Only 580 more to go. Here are the links.

GCA Club Activities: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2249602565338673/>

GCA Gossip Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/562479981146811/>

How to Grow Tomatoes!

An old man lived alone and wanted to dig his tomato garden as he had done every year, but it was very hard work for the aging man as his only son, Cyril, who used to help him, was currently in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Cyril,

I am feeling pretty bad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. If only you were here my troubles would be over because I know that you would dig the plot for me. Love, Dad.

A few days later he received a letter from his son:

Dear Dad,

Whatever you do don't dig up that garden, because that's where I buried the bodies.

Love Cyril.



At 7am the next morning police arrived at the old man's house and dug up the entire garden. However, they didn't find any bodies, so they apologized to the old man and left. That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Dad,

Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.

Love Cyril

Kind Regards

Suzanne Bushell (Communication)

0439 882 684

communications@gardenclubs.org.au

Who's Who

The Management Committee of the Garden Clubs of Australia

NAME	POSITION/RESPONSIBILITY	EMAIL
HOAD, George	President/Functions	president@gardenclubs.org.au
SAXON-KEITH Jo	Secretary	secretary@gardenclubs.org.au
CAIRNS Frances	Treasurer	treasurer@gardenclubs.org.au
EMERSON, Lorraine	Vice President/Functions	vpresident@gardenclubs.org.au
LAMBERT David	Snr Vice President	davmarlam1@gmail.com
BRUUN, Glenys	Director of Zones	glenysbruun@bigpond.com
BATEMAN, Eric	Web Site	gca.web.wa@gmail.com
RUCKERT Greg	Social Media/Governance	socmedia@gardenclubs.org.au
CHOWN, Jeanette	Judging	phillchown@bigpond.com
DOBSON, Elizabeth	Awards	awards@gardenclubs.org.au
KITT, John	Planning	planning@gardenclubs.org.au
LUCAS, Paul	Photo Comp &Calendar	photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au
McLOUGHLIN, Deirdre	Membership Secretary	membership@gardenclubs.org.au
BUSHELL Suzanne	Newsletter/Bulletin	communications@gardenclubs.org.au
HORTON Judy	Magazine	editor@gardenclubs.org.au
GRAHAM Janice	Proof Reading	janicegraham061@gmail.com
BONSER Lindy	Committee member	gottagarden@scoastnet.com.au
LANE Greg	Insurance	insurance@gardenclubs.org.au