



BULLETIN June 2019

Important

Please bring the following information to the attention of your committee and all club members.
Please read it out to all your club members at your next meeting and/or add it to your newsletter.

GCA's Convention on Norfolk Island 14-18 October 2019

Bookings are still open - to date 280 registrations have been confirmed for the convention, but places are still available! There are still seats on flights from both Sydney and Brisbane but don't delay as these will book up quickly.

The theme of the convention is *Gardening Norfolk Island Style: Convicts, Community and Coral* and a wonderful week of gardens, unique history and natural beauty awaits!

Contact Maria Massey at Norfolk Island Travel Centre for details.

Ph: 0011 6723 22502 Email: maria@travelcentre.nf

<https://gardenclubs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GCA-Norfolk-Island-2019.pdf>

The Garden Clubs of Australia - Awards

**Outstanding contribution by an individual to gardening and/or horticulture
(The President of The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc. Award)**

Nominee should have:

- demonstrated a long-term contribution to gardening and/or horticulture through writing, public speaking, teaching, broadcasting, exhibiting, judging or organising events. This could be at a local, state, national and/or international level.

Outstanding service by an individual to The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc. (The Margaret Davis Award)

Nominee should have:

- a commitment to GCA by assisting or organising Information, Zone or Friendship Days;
- shown support for National Conventions;
- been an active Zone Coordinator and/or served on the GCA Committee; assisted with special GCA events, e.g. Awards, AGMs : promoted GCA to the wider community.

Outstanding service by an affiliated club to the local Community. (The Eleanor McLeod Award)

Nominated Club should have:

- demonstrated an involvement in projects both practical and educational to benefit the community with public projects such as garden expos, community garden competitions, town and/or city landscaping, parks, botanic gardens, community gardens or projects such as preservation of historic gardens or areas in the community, assisting schools to establish gardens as learning areas, or mentoring groups.

Outstanding service by an individual to their local Community. (The Doris Killian Award)

Nominee should have

- shown an involvement in projects both practical and educational to benefit the community with town and/or city landscaping, parks, botanic gardens, community gardens or projects such as preservation of historic gardens or areas in the community, assisting schools to establish gardens as learning areas, or mentoring groups.

Outstanding service by an individual or affiliated club to the Environment. (The Wendy Hansford Award)

Nominee should have

- shown an active, inspiring and committed role in protecting the local environment ie residential or public area.
- demonstrated their ability to communicate and educate the public in the understanding of environmental issues.
- been involved in activities such as bushcare or bushland regeneration or similar ie residential or public area.

Achieving excellence by an individual in Floral Art. (The Joan O'Brien Award)

Nominee should be

- an active member of a floral art group
- instrumental in promoting floral art through judging, producing manuals, training judges, demonstrating and/or organising workshops;
- experienced in club, regional, state, national and/or international displays or demonstrations;
- capable of producing prize-winning arrangements.

Outstanding contribution to Gardening/Horticulture by a young Gardener. (GCA Young Gardener of the Year)

Nominee must be nominated by an affiliated club or a member of an affiliated club and be 30 years of age or

younger in the year of nomination.

Nominee should have one (1) or more of the following

- exhibited an interest in the protection and conservation of natural resources in their environment.
- contributed at either a club, local, regional or state level by participating in activities such as exhibiting, judging, writing and speaking about gardening/horticulture.

*assisted with promoting knowledge of gardening/horticulture through organising, participating and encouraging friendship in gardening especially with younger gardeners.

Ann Williams Clark Medalian

the nominee must:

- have shown their service in years and/or activities by e.g. arranging tours, arranging social activities, serving on the committee, awards received, eg life membership of club.
- have been an all-round helper with club activities, e.g. inspiring fellow members as a gardener; assisting with activities such as being in charge of trading table, etc.;
- have promoted their club in the community; writing club newsletter or mentoring members.
- have shown friendship, goodwill and sharing of knowledge towards members and community
- be an overall contributor to the club, community and/or GCA.

The GCA 2021 “Beautiful Gardens of Australia” Calendar photograph submissions

I am sure many members have taken lovely photographs of gardens in Australia.

Why not submit them for consideration for the 2021 Calendar. They can have been taken any time in the past – not just this year.

Submissions close on the 15th February 2020 and there is no entry fee.

The simple conditions for entry are on the GCA website www.gardenclubs.org.au. There is no limit on the number of images, or when they were taken. You can email them to photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au.

Members whose images are chosen for the 13 main pages receive \$100 each, so have a go!!

The smaller “filler” images chosen do not attract a fee, but members get the satisfaction of having their image published in the Calendar along with their name.

The 2019 Annual Photographic Competition

The closing date for digital or post card entries is the **1st October 2019 with no entry fee.**

Members are reminded the total prize pool valued at around \$1,400 is the largest in Australia for a non-commercial organisation photographic competition.

There is no time limit on when the photographs were taken or where in the world they were taken.

Entry details are on the GCA website www.gardenclubs.org.au or can be requested from the address below.

Entries can be emailed to photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au or posted to Paul Lucas at 62 Timbertop Drive, Rowville, Vic 3178

Dig In & Celebrate! National Gardening Week: 13-19 October 2019

Here are a few ideas and activities that we have come up with to celebrate National Gardening Week – if you can add to the list please don't hesitate to contact us. Email - president@gardenclubs.org.au

Herbs in the garden or planted in pots

Herbs are easy to grow and useful in the kitchen – plant up a sunny spot in the garden or gather a collection of pots and enjoy the flavours!

Recycle/upcycle quirky containers

Old paint tins, tool boxes, gum boots, shoes make great herb pots or succulent displays

Create unusual signage in the garden or veggie patch

Use some old bricks, pavers, roofing tiles, rocks and waterproof permanent marker or paint to make unique markers for your veggie or herb patch

Make a scarecrow

Lots of fun for a classroom activity or rainy afternoon with the kids and a decorative feature in the garden!

Put in a Birdbath

Birds love a drink and somewhere to splash about especially in our hot and dry summers. Buy a birdbath or let your imagination go wild and create your own.

Flower garlands

Creating flower garlands is a fun activity for the classroom, garden club or group of friends and how pretty you'll look over a cup of tea afterwards.

Community Gardens

If you don't have the space to garden at home, check out if you have a local community garden. You'll get your own plot and a whole network of friends to advise and assist.

Games and garden quizzes

A fun way to enjoy the garden and educate at the same time, whether in the shade of a tree or indoors on inclement days.

Visit your local garden club

Look up your local club (The Garden Clubs of Australia can assist with locating) and go along to a meeting. Garden clubs are always looking for new members and offer everything from guest speakers, trading tables of interesting plants, floral displays, day outings and overnight trips – all with a cup of tea and yummy treats.

Create a sensory garden

Create a sensory garden at home, at school, in a nursing home, your local park – anywhere that will enhance the beauty of the place and excite the senses. When planning a sensory garden, it is important to combine plants and elements that appeal to all five senses – sight, sound, smell, taste and touch.

Plant a tree

Plant a tree in your garden, local park, school yard or bush regeneration project – the benefits are amazing! Not only from the pleasure of watching a tree grow and mature, admiring its natural beauty but the fact that it purifies the air by absorbing CO2 and other harmful pollutants and releases life giving oxygen. Trees give shade, cool our environment, provide shelter for our wildlife, prevent soil erosion and some give us delicious fruit such as apples and oranges.

Build a bee hotel

Most native bees are solitary and make their nests in a variety of places such as soils, hollows in trees, decaying wood, hollow stems – building a bee hotel is the perfect way to encourage them into your garden, your school yard, etc.

Build a compost heap

Recycle all your vegetable and fruit scraps and create a wonderful soil conditioner and plant food.

Plant up a veggie patch

If your garden or school doesn't already have a vegetable patch, why not create one!

Flower gardens

Whether in a pot or beds in the garden, the fragrance and colour display that flowers bring to a space is magical.

Enquiries to George Hoad ghoad@internode.on.net

Profile; Jo Saxon-Keith, Committee Member



I always wanted to be a gardener but didn't get the opportunity until my retirement years. Following a career in residential construction, real estate and human resources, I retired to work harder than I ever thought possible as I spent the next decade creating the 'Gardens of Lucindale' in the beautiful Huon Valley in southern Tasmania. As a child I was fortunate to be surrounded by colourful gardens, and as I worked in my garden, with creativity flowing, I gradually realized the extent of gardening knowledge that my mother had indelibly etched in my brain. My love of gardening has given me the most amazing and unexpected pleasures. To nervously design a substantial lake, then watch that hole in the ground fill to become a haven for wildlife is a very special emotion.

Also special is the realization of my own strengths, the sense of pride in my achievements, and the close friendships formed with fellow gardeners from all walks of life. It is this love of gardening and all that comes with it that has me enjoying the opportunity to serve on the GCA Committee. The idea of nurturing and sharing my love of gardening with all members and affiliates of GCA, plus the opportunity to encourage non-members to participate, is challenging and exciting. Happy gardening!

Queen's Birthday 2019 Honours List

Congratulations to immediate past GCA president **Ken Bradley OAM** for this great honour and recognition of his years of service across a range of organisations.

Congratulations also to a great friend of the GCA, past RHS NSW president **Cecily Rogers OAM** for services to horticulture and floral art.

Sue Kingsford, well known rose enthusiast from the Southern Highlands of NSW, has been honoured with an OAM for her services to horticulture. as has **Bernard Pryor**, world-renowned iris grower from Tasmania, for his services to horticulture and to the community.

Attachments: nomination forms for GCA Awards, previous AGM minutes, notice of 2019 AGM