

- **Affiliates Profiles**

It is of critical importance that GCA have up-to-date contact details and membership numbers of all Affiliates. Unless this information is current in the GCA database you may be overcharged when insurance premiums are direct debited or have inadequate insurance cover. In addition, magazine subscription amounts may differ.

The GCA has revised the annual registration forms which will be distributed later this year. It is essential that all Affiliates complete the forms, as soon as possible after receipt, and email or post them to the GCA Membership Secretary. Your assistance in these matters is greatly appreciated.

- **Zone Co-Ordinators**

Our Joint Directors of Zones are working on the final stages of updating a new Zone Co-Ordinators Handbook which will be launched at the GCA Convention in Townsville. It is anticipated that the new handbook will be of assistance with liaison between ZCs and the Clubs within their zones and with communication with the GCA Committee.

- **'Join a Garden Club' brochure.**

Affiliates across the nation were sent a sample of a new 'Join a Garden Club' brochure. Further supplies of the brochures are available from secretary@gardenclubs.org.au. Many clubs have reported that by placing the brochure at plant nurseries, council offices, garden centres etc. or using them at garden-related functions resulted in their welcoming a number of new members. As this is a GCA initiative, the brochure is supplied free of postage costs to Affiliates.

- **Annual Awards 2021**

The closing date for the GCA Annual Awards is July 11, 2021, so there is still time to apply for one of these prestigious awards.

The application form and details for completing the one-page nomination are on the GCA website. If you would like the forms emailed to you or have questions about the application process please contact Elizabeth Dobson, GCA Awards Coordinator.

Phone: 0400 116 463 Email: awards@gardenclubs.org.au

- **The 2021 Annual Photographic Competition**

The closing date for digital or post card entries is the **1st October 2021 - with no entry fee.**

The total prize pool is valued at around \$1,300.

Remember there is no time limit on when the photographs were taken or their location.

Entry details are on the GCA website www.gardenclubs.org.au

Consider entering your children/grandchildren and even great grandchildren (as one member has done!!) up to 16 years old in the Junior Section.

- **The GCA 2023 “Beautiful Gardens of Australia” Calendar photograph submissions**

The photographic quality of the Calendar always relies on members and magazine subscribers submitting lovely digital images of Australian gardens.

Submit your entries to: photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au. The closing date is the **15th February 2022 - with no entry fee.**

The simple conditions for entry are on the GCA website www.gardenclubs.org.au or email Paul Lucas photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au / ph. 0401 033 116.

There is no limit on the number of images you can submit, or when they were taken.

The total prize pool is \$1,300 with members whose images are chosen for the 13 main pages receiving \$100 each.

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

- **Queen’s Birthday Honours**

Congratulations from the GCA Executive, Committee and Affiliates to our immediate Past President and Gardening Week Ambassador, **George Hoad** who, in the recent Queens Birthday Awards was awarded an **AM** for his contribution to the "**Residential Horticultural Industry and the Community**". George richly deserves the award for his contribution over many years in imparting knowledge and pleasure to gardeners all over Australia.

Hearty congratulations also to **Hazel King** for her **OAM** for services to “**Horticulture and History**”. Hazel contributes a full page spread in every edition of “Our gardens” magazine with her “Tips for the Garden”, sharing her years of knowledge of gardening and horticulture.

- **More Good News**

The closing date for the GCA convention registration has been extended to June 30. For full details contact [Shirley Haslam](mailto:Shirley.Haslam@GCA.org.au) on [0438 253312](tel:0438253312). Don’t miss the opportunity to attend GCA’s premier event.

Lynne Faux – Communications Officer.