

Welcome to 2022 and the new look GCA Bulletin. The President and Board of GCA extend to all our affiliates and their members every good wish for a year filled with '*Friendship Through Gardens*'.

Bulletin Circulation dates 2022

In 2022 the GCA Bulletin will be circulated to affiliates quarterly. Circulation will occur in the weeks commencing 21 February, 23 May, 22 August and 21 November.

The President and Board of GCA are keen to ensure that all members of affiliates are connected with the operations of the GCA. While the Bulletin contains some information which relates to operational matters, we ask Zone Co-ordinators and Club and Society Secretaries to assist us in achieving our objective by sharing the non-operational information in this and subsequent Bulletins with your Committee colleagues and membership.

GCA Board Appointments and Resignations

Congratulations to Shirley Haslam, Director of Resources and Development who has been appointed to the GCA Executive stepping into the role of Honorary Secretary following the recent resignation of Jo Saxon-Keith. A new Director of Zones South West will be appointed in the coming weeks following Heather Pryor's resignation from the GCA board earlier this month. We express our thanks to both Jo and Heather for their contribution to GCA.

GCA National Convention – Townsville 11 – 16 September 2022

Registrations are now open with an early bird draw of a scenic helicopter flight over Townsville, if you register by Thursday 31 March 2022! There is an educational and fun packed program with opportunities to extend your stay to take advantage of the many optional extras made available at reduced prices to convention attendees.

Townsville was recently named in the Green Destinations 2021 Global Top 100 for the second year in a row, so as we say, '*Beautiful One Day – Perfect the Next*'. Come and see why! To find out more contact Shirley Haslam for a Registration Package at townsville2022@gmail.com or by phone 0438 253 312 or download from the website: www.gcaconvention2022.com

Our Gardens Article Submission Deadline Dates 2022.

The autumn 2022 edition of *Our Gardens* is now available. Contributions for future editions of the magazine from affiliate members are encouraged and welcomed by our editor Judy Horton and the Magazine Committee. Short In Touch submissions (100-150 words with 1 or 2 captioned images) about club activities should be forwarded to carolyn.dawes@bigpond.com and Diary Dates entries should be forwarded to Wendy Whitham wendysw@optusnet.com.au. Please contact Judy Horton at editor@gardenclubs.org.au before submitting articles to ensure space is available.

Deadlines for the submission of content for the next four editions are Winter - 1 March 2022, Spring - 1 June 2022, Summer – 31 August 2022 and Autumn 2023 – 11 November 2022.

Tesselaar Free Postage Offer

Our Gardens subscribers may have noticed the Tesselaar free postage offer on the back cover of the autumn edition of the magazine. This offer valid until 6 May has been extended to all affiliate members. A free copy of the current catalogue containing a selection of spring flowering bulbs to enhance your gardens may be requested by phoning 1300 428 527 or visiting the website www.tesselaar.net.au. To take advantage of the free postage offer which is available on one order only use the code FRPOG. Why not plant some bulbs, photograph your garden in Spring and enter the GCA Annual Photographic Competition?

2021 Photo Competition

Congratulations to all winners of the 2021 Photo Competition. The winning entries may be viewed in the Autumn edition of *Our Gardens*. Why not start taking some photos which could be submitted for the photo competition later this year?

GCA 2023 Calendar Competition

Thank you to all who have entered their beautiful photos for the 2023 Calendar Competition. Entries have now closed and been forwarded to our judges. The winning entries will appear in the 2023 calendar which will be available to purchase in late 2022.

Forms

Thank you to all affiliates who have completed Form 2, Form 4 and Form B in recent times and returned them on or before time. Your assistance with completing all sections of the forms is greatly appreciated by our Membership Secretary, Insurance Officer and Treasurer and makes their difficult and time-consuming jobs much easier.

All the information needed to complete these and other GCA forms is contained in the Garden Clubs of Australia Forms table which was circulated with the December Bulletin and is available on the GCA website.

Form 2 Insurance Renewal 2022/2023

This form should have been received by the Insurance Officer by 19 February. If you have not submitted this form already it must now be completed, signed and submitted as a matter of urgency. Failure to submit or late submission may result in the incorrect charge for insurance cover being debited to your club or society's bank account. Completed Form 2 should be emailed to insurance@gardenclubs.org.au or posted to Insurance Officer, The Garden Clubs of Australia, 27 Westmorland Drive Leeming WA 6149.

Form 4

If your Annual General Meeting has been held in February then it is time to submit your completed Form 4 to the Membership Secretary. All details on Form 4 must be completed even if current office bearers are remaining in position for 2022. It is imperative that the GCA holds current contact details for each affiliate as Insurance Certificates will be mailed or emailed according to the details submitted. Completed Form 4 should be emailed to membership@gardenclubs.org.au or posted to Membership Secretary, The Garden Clubs of Australia, 27 Westmorland Drive Leeming WA 6149 no later than 15 March.

Any change to contact details for affiliates at any time must be submitted using Form 4. No other form of advice including email without a completed Form 4 is acceptable.

Form B

Affiliates who change banking details must complete Form B and submit it to the Treasurer. Completed Form B should be emailed to treasurer@gardenclubs.org.au or posted to Treasurer, The Garden Clubs of Australia, 11 North Terrace, Dapto NSW 2530.

Penny Whipp
Director of Communications