

'Our Gardens' Magazine

A reminder that Form 3 should be submitted to Rob Horton by the end of November to ensure delivery of the magazine to Affiliate members in 2023. This quarterly magazine is excellent value at just \$15 per year when ordered through clubs and affiliated organisations. *(Form 3 attached)*

GCA 2022 Photo Competition

The 2022 photo competition has been judged. First place winners receive \$150 each, second place winners receive \$100 and third place winners receive \$50. The 3 highly commended photos all receive a \$50 box of products from our sponsors. As the competition costs nothing to enter, these prizes are well worth sending your digital photos to photocomp@gardenclubs.org.au. The 2023 photo competition closes on 1 October 2023. The entry form is attached and on the GCA website. *(entry form attached)*

GCA 2023 Calendars

2023 calendars are still available by following the directions on the website or using attached order form. You can also enter photos for the 2024 calendar until 1 Feb 2023. If your photo is chosen for a main page, you will receive \$100 from Bartels. We ask that all the scenes in the calendar are from places in Australia. *(Order Form attached)*

GCA Facebook page

Our Facebook page "Garden clubs of Australia Inc." is for GCA members only, so follow the prompts, answer the questions, then you can begin to see what's going on in garden clubs all around Australia. If you are happy putting your photos on Facebook you could also enter them in either the 2023 photograph competition or submit for inclusion in the 2024 Calendar.

GCA National Convention 2023 – Lake Macquarie 10-15 September 2023

Toronto and Districts Garden Club is planning a wonderful range of activities to share with you at the next Garden Clubs of Australia Biennial Convention and AGM from 10-15 September 2023.

Lake Macquarie is a unique coastal city in NSW, enviably positioned around one of Australia's largest saltwater lakes. Located just 90 minutes north of Sydney by road or rail and within easy reach of Newcastle to the north and the renowned Hunter Valley wine country to the west, both just 40 minutes away as is Newcastle airport.

Come and enjoy Friendship through Gardens, our coastal and lakeside garden environments and knowledgeable and entertaining guest speakers.

Links to our conference registration package will be available on our website www.torontoanddistrictsgardenclub.com.au and on our dedicated convention website www.gagc2023.com coming soon.

Find us on Facebook: Toronto and Districts Garden Club Inc which is located in New South Wales.

For further information contact the secretary Ann Watkins, secretarytdgc@gmail.com

World Association of Floral Artists (WAFA) World Show – Canberra 2027

The Australian Floral Art Association has been successful in bidding to host the World Flower Show in 2027. Planning is underway and information on this exciting event will be progressively posted on www.wafa-australia.org

Important GCA Forms that all Affiliates need to submit by the following dates:

(All Forms attached)

Form 1. Re-Affiliation Tax Invoice/Re-Affiliation Due by Direct Debt - Only needs to be submitted if there are changes to the Clubs Bank details. Please submit to the Treasurer by 1 January 2023.

treasurer@gardenclubs.org.au

Form 2. Insurance Renewal 2023/2024 - All Affiliates need to return this annual form to the Director of Insurance by 19 February 2023 to ensure accurate cost of premium. insurance@gardenclubs.org.au

Form 3. GCA 'Our Gardens' Magazine Subscription Form – ensures the continued delivery of this quarterly magazine. Please submit to the Subscriptions Officer by 30 November 2022.

subscriptions@gardenclubs.org.au

Form 4. Affiliated Club's Postal Address & Registration Information – ensure your Clubs details are up to date by completing this form within 1 month of your club's AGM or whenever any changes happen.

Please submit to the Membership Secretary at membership@gardenclubs.org.au

GCA Educational Idea to Share with your Members

As you know, Australia is very rich with its flora, counting around 24000 species of native plants. It also ranked third in the world in having the most endemic species of flora. Each Australian state has its own official flower and has a history behind it. Follow this link to bring the history and meaning of each flower to light to make people familiar with their floral emblem.

<https://blog.flowersacrossmelbourne.com.au/australian-state-flowers-their-history-and-what-they-mean/>

This makes a great presentation and discussion for your Club Members.

GCA Awards – Ann Williams Clark Medallion – 'Outstanding Service by a Member of an Affiliated Club'

A club can nominate a valued club member for this medallion. Endorsed by the GCA Committee, it is available all year. A club is entitled to apply for one each year (at a cost of \$55 including P&P) with an optional badge (\$10). Nomination Form attached.

GCA Annual Awards -

These Awards are currently undertaking a revamp and we are also introducing a new Award! All the details will be released in February 2023 through the Bulletin and the GCA Website.

The prestigious Annual Awards are an opportunity to recognise a club member, a young gardener or club who has achieved excellence in the gardening world. Closing date for nominating is Wednesday 31 May 2023. The Garden Clubs of Australia (GCA) encourages all affiliated clubs to nominate. Winners will be announced at the AGM in Toronto.

Sue Mowle

Director of Communications | Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

Email: communications@gardenclubs.org.au

Website: www.gardenclubs.org.au

'Friendship through Gardening'