



Wentworth Falls Garden Club Inc.
Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

AGM July 2022,
PRESIDENTS REPORT

This report for the year 2021-22 serves not only to remind us of the challenges due to COVID -19 which caused the cancellation of five general meetings but also reminds us of the many creative strategies and initiatives that the Committee took to ensure the membership remained connected. To that end, the 2021 AGM, normally presented in July, was held in September via Zoom, a cloud-based video conferencing tool that also allowed for Committee Meetings and the pleasure of a virtual ramble in October of a member garden. All ably produced and filmed by Susan Hummel and Carol Conway.

In this 2022 report I'd like to pay tribute to the collective creativity of the Committee and the way in which great ideas not only emanated from busy minds, but were also put into action. In November 21, members were visibly relieved to be meeting socially and without COVID restrictions during the Permaculture lecture presented by Rowe Morrow. This lecture was part of the Random Rambles comprised of The Toddler, The Adolescent and The Mature- three member gardens in various stages of growth. In spite of the inclement weather and the heavy rainfall that persisted well into 2022, *Random Rambles* was well attended and appreciated as was the Christmas Lunch held at the RSL that concluded the activities for 2021.

General meetings ^{were} commenced in February 2022 with renewed determination to keep the club viable and active. Numbers attending meetings have been lower than normal but we are optimistic that as the year progresses, members will return as more control of COVID-19 is gained. It was necessary to keep events and outings to local businesses and Everglades at Leura was the venue for an autumn tour of the garden followed by a well-prepared and enjoyable lunch. This event was well attended with the tour guide enlightening us on many issues Everglades has faced and the ongoing problems of up-keep and maintenance of such a large property. TAFE and YULEFEST lunches are always well attended and these will remain part of the activities in future years. At February General Meeting, much fun and enthusiasm was evident during a Garden Trivia formulated by Carol Conway. Carol is also responsible for the line-up of lecturers for each general meeting. We met Sue Carney- whose passion is Bees, Judy Horton- presented Great Gardens of the World, Lachlan from Birches of Leura spoke about permaculture, and due to the incapacity of Peta Trahar due to COVID, Susan Hummel stepped in with a video and lecture in April on *All things Roses*. The newsletter, a welcome sight in our inbox, is prepared each month by Sed Mayne. It carries information relating to upcoming meetings and also posts the volunteers for crucial jobs required at each general meeting.

Duncan Leys and I attended a BMCC meeting at which news of an upgrade to the School of Arts theatre is imminent. Retractable seating will be installed to improve the space available for broader activities, and technical and lighting refurbishments will allow for a new dimension to visual presentations. On a sad note, I'd like to mention the passing of Karen Ives, who worked tirelessly for over 52 years at the Blue Mountains City Council as hall supervisor. Her sudden death was a great shock to all of us on the Committee who had worked with her.

In conclusion, the Committee is confident that with COVID somewhat behind us, we can look forward to new and thoughtful ways to keep WFGC a force to be reckoned with. In spite of the past two years with the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, Wentworth Falls Garden Club is in positive territory, please support your Committee as we strive to ensure the club remains not only one of the largest in the Blue Mountains with a membership of 111, but also a fresh and vibrant part of the community.

Thank you for your attention

Janice Light

President