

## **Wentworth Falls Garden Club Inc. Minutes – General Meeting**

**Thursday 12 October 2023. 9.45am. Wentworth Falls School of Arts Hall.**

### **President – Duncan Leys**

Q&A book. Advised Geraldine Sternberg will answer gardening questions.

- Welcomed members.
- Welcomed five visitors.
- Welcomed new members: Christopher Dowell, Sue Ebzery, Peter Sternberg.
- Thanked Janice Light WFGC representative at GCA AGM. Report to Committee.
- Advised Sylvia Beresford donated her drawing *Red Spanish Onion* as raffle prize for WFGC Christmas Lunch. Tickets will be sold commencing Nov GM.
- Committee.
  - One vacancy at present.
  - As at AGM 2024 standing down from Committee:
    - Treasurer Henry Nelson, Public Officer, past President. Committee member for 15 years.
    - Communication Officer Sed Mayne, WFGC Web and Newsletter.
  - Remaining on committee but standing down from present position.
    - Carol Conway – Guest Speaker Coordinator.
- Duncan spoke briefly of personal experience with climate change. Noted impact now of drought on his garden following flooding 2022. AV display of extensive drainage work.

### **School of Arts Hall – Members Safety – Duncan Leys, Kevin Hummel.**

- Duncan Leys. SoA Emergency Exit Staircase.
  - Duncan and Secretary Gai Horrocks met with BMCC Amanda Rogers. BMCC is giving ongoing consideration to the emergency exit stairs off hallway between main hall and kitchen.
  - The folded table previously blocking staircase has been replaced by two large orange cones. Members will be advised of updates.
- Kevin Hummel. Risk Assessment Matrix.
  - Kevin presented an AV overview of general matrix used to review and assess hazards/risks and hierarchy of control. Noted removal/isolation of hazard.
  - SoA hall Emergency Exits noted. All exits in good working condition.

### **Secretary – Gai Horrocks**

Advised members:

- New lightweight tables are in place. A big Thank you to BMCC.
- Ramble today. Sign in at entrance to garden.
- GCA calendars distributed.
- Event Bookings. Ronah collecting payment. Mt Annan, Christmas Lunch.

- Thank you to WFGC members who volunteered for Leura Garden Festival.
- Peter Shoemark advised excellent numbers attending LGF.
- Campbell Rhododendron Garden Blackheath open and a beautiful display. Tea Rooms open Thurs – Sun.
- ABC Gardening Australia filming at Rhododendron Gardens Tuesday and Wednesday 17 -18 October. The Tea Rooms open to public on those days.
- Millthorpe Garden Ramble Sat 4 Nov.

### **Treasurer - Henry Nelson**

Cash Balance @1<sup>st</sup> Sept: 2023: \$8,802.11

Income: \$1,606.80. Expenditure: \$350.25

Cash Book Balance @30<sup>th</sup> Sept: \$10,058.66

Available Funds: \$6,988.66

Move acceptance of financial report: Henry                      Seconded: Geraldine Sternberg.

### **Welfare – Lea Nelson**

- Card of Condolence to Lucille Frank.
- Thinking of You card to Vic Tuite.
- Advised passing of former WFGC member, Lizzie Bond.

Merino Magic fertiliser available for order today. \$7 per 10 kg bag.

### **Membership – Kevin Hummel**

- 53 attendees at GM.
- 5 visitors.
- 5 apologies.

### **Library – Belinda Coates**

- New book *Peonies, The Imperial Flower*. Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall.
- Advised Silent Auction today.
- Free Gardening Australia magazines available in Library.
- Thanked members for return of surveys.

### **Events - Duncan Leys**

- Parramatta trip full. Lunch beverage request list circulated.
- 2024 Events. Proposals.
  - Possibility of hiring two BMCC buses: a 20-seater, a 14-seater.
  - Extra seats will be offered to other GCA BM Zone garden club members.
  - AV overview of possible events:
    - Chinese Garden of Friendship Darling Harbour with Yum Cha/seafood market lunch.
    - Rookwood Cemetery.

- Show of hands gave positive response for each event.

### **Guest Speakers – Carol Conway**

- November Speaker – Joyce Stone Blue Mountains and Penrith Districts Orchid Society. Cool-growing orchids and their care.
- Ramble today at home of Peter and Geraldine Sternberg.

### **My Garden – Avila - Geraldine Sternberg.**

Geraldine gave overview of Avila and invited members to ramble in her garden. Thank you to Peter and Geraldine who so generously share their garden.

### **Q&A**

Geraldine answered members' gardening questions.

### **Morning Tea**

#### **Guest Speaker**

#### **Margaret Jackson Maple Springs Nursery and the Gory'u Japanese Garden.**

Margaret certainly wetted our appetite for a visit to Maple Springs Nursery at Little Hartley.

Maple Springs Nursery is over 8.5 acres. It has one of the largest collection of Maples in Australia with over 250 varieties of Japanese Maples as well as conifers, cold climate trees and shrubs.

Hartley Valley was chosen by Alan and Margaret as the perfect location for Alan's obsession with all things Japanese. Gory'u Japanese Garden demonstrates the major elements of a true Japanese Garden: Water, Ornaments, Spaciousness, Borrowed Scenery, Peace and Tranquillity, Plants, Material and Bridges.

### **Lucky Door Prize.**

**Meeting closed: 11.55am**

**Next GM: 9 November 2023**