



# Wentworth Falls Garden Club Inc.

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

14<sup>th</sup> November 2019: Edition No 330

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this land: the Darug and Gundungurra people.

## *From the President.....*

GCA President George Hoad, in the Spring edition of *Our Gardens* magazine, addressed the issue facing many garden clubs across Australia of attracting new and younger members. Our club website shows where we fit in to the national results from the recent GCA Membership Survey, in the More... > Reports section. (Look in What's New!) You, the members, are our best source for new members. Please take an extra couple of flyers for next year's Speaker Program to encourage new neighbours or old friends to give us a visit.

We currently have 123 paid up members but several more long-time members have not renewed membership this year. Thanks to Lea Nelson for letting them know we are missing them and enquiring if there are ways in which we can help them find it easier to get to meetings. George makes the point that the older members of each and every garden club have a wealth of practical, hands-on knowledge through a lifetime of gardening experience. At WFGC we are very lucky to fall into that category and thank them for their willingness to share that expertise.

On the same subject, my daughter brought to my attention an article by Jamie Feldmar in the BBC Generation Project, title: [Gardening could be the hobby that helps you live to 100](#). I can't summarize it here but enter the heading and it should come up. Evidence points to gardeners living longer and being less stressed, pointing to both the mental and physical benefits of gardening. Australian researchers following men and women in their 60s found that those who regularly gardened had a 36% lower risk of dementia than their non-gardening counterparts. Sunlight, fresh air, exercise, being in nature and social support networks such as garden clubs are not going to protect us from aging but gardening does appear to improve our quality of life as we age.

Happy Christmas and keep on gardening!

*Carol*

### GCA 2020 Calendars

If you ordered the GCA calendar last meeting please see Gai to pick up your order



Spring is well and truly here. Give your garden a boost with Merino Magic. See Lea Nelson with your new order. Available for \$6 / 10kg bag, to be picked up from Leura.

## *Club Tours and Functions*

*Club tours and functions are available only to members and must be booked and paid for at a club meeting.*

Today, 14 <sup>th</sup> November	We have a <b>Garden Ramble</b> after the meeting today. Please see Gai for the direction slip.
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch at Mountain Heritage, Katoomba. Cost \$45.00 Members and \$55.00 for Guests. <b>Bookings can be made at this meeting. This will be your last chance to book.</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Garden Ramble venue TBA. Put in your diary...bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the garden after the January meeting.



## *Our Speaker today is Dianna van Gaal.*

Our speaker today is Dianna van Gaal from Antonia's Irises. Inspired by her mother Antonia van Gaal, the gardens were established in 2013. Antonia's Irises is located beside the café at the Beekeepers Inn, 2319 Mitchell Highway, Vittoria, between Bathurst and Orange.

The cool climate central west region of NSW provides ideal conditions for growing bearded irises. Dianna grows tall (70cm to 1m) and medium (40to70cm) varieties. Most varieties bloom during the months of October and November. Dianna categorizes her irises as Early, Mid and Mid to Late blooms so you can have colour in your garden throughout the whole of Spring. Today we will hear practical and expert advice on growing great irises in our own gardens.

## GCA AGM on Norfolk Island

Kevin and I attended The Garden Clubs of Australia AGM and Biennial Convention 14-18 October 2019 along with 300 others from every state in Australia and the ACT. The Norfolk Island Garden Club organised visits to nine gardens, each unique and revealing the different aspects of gardening from beautiful flower beds, tropical oases, luscious vegetable patches, growing fruit trees from seed, marcotting or grafting up to a 10 acre property growing vegetables for the local market. Along with the AGM where reports from this year and elections for the following year were held, the program included three speakers, covering the topics Norfolk Island Plantings: a Historical perspective, Norfolk Island Flora: Then and Now and Nepean Island: It's history as a quarry and convict work place. A highlight of the week was the Famous Fish Fry dinner on Friday night on the cliff top overlooking a beautiful sea and magical sunset.

**Susan Hummel**



### Future Meetings

#### **12<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

Christmas Lunch

#### **9<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

##### **Guest Speaker:**

Peta Trahar: landscape designer, horticulturist and co-founder of the Collectors' Plant Fair will enlighten us about Hydrangeas

##### **Hall set-up and pull-down:**

Bernie Turner and Gregory Carty

##### **Morning tea**

Judy Bonner and Geraldine Sternberg

##### **Bring a plate**

Barbara Fox and Lea Nelson

### **Club Information**

All members and visitors are asked to sign in upon arrival. Members are asked to wear their club name badges to all club meetings, tours and functions. To take part in club functions and tours you must be a *bona fide* club member. General Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, from January to November, at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts Theatre, Adele Ave (cnr Great Western Hwy), Wentworth Falls. Check-in at 9.30am and finish around noon. The library and plant stall are open before the meeting and at morning tea. \$5 entry fee.

Joining fee is \$30. Thereafter, annual subscription is \$20 due in July each year. Payments can be direct debited to Wentworth Falls Garden Club Account: BSB: 062-559; Acct: 28003852.

Ensure your name and the word "Sub" is included with your remittance.

##### **Wentworth Falls Garden Club contact details:**

Email: [wentworthfallsgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:wentworthfallsgardenclub@gmail.com)

Website: [www.wentworthfallsgardenclub.com](http://www.wentworthfallsgardenclub.com)

**For Club Welfare matters**, please contact Lea Nelson

Ph 4784 1101 or email [leanelson@ozemail.com.au](mailto:leanelson@ozemail.com.au)