



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

8th June 2023: Edition No 369

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

A message from the President.....

As winter slowly creeps into our bones and the plants become dormant, thoughts turn to preparing the garden for the colder months ahead. It's time to clean up diseased plants by removing leaves that show signs of rust, mould or are just unsightly; it's also a great time to rake up and compost the autumn leaves, remove invasive weeds, and prepare the soil of the vege patch by testing the PH of the soil and adding a good layer of well-rotted compost. I've heard most pests and diseases die in the cold frosty mornings, but one of the joys of winter is flowering camellias especially the japonica variety. This tree flowers from autumn to spring with large generous flowers in a variety of colours. What's especially likable about camellias is they are hardy, suffer very few pests, have lovely glossy green leaves when not in flower, and seldom need a lot of work once established. They make a good wind break, are showy and flower prolifically, if happy in the chosen spot. They will grow quite happily in pots, also as a feature tree and even be encouraged into a hedge. Camellia sasanqua is a smaller variety and blooms in autumn, and partnered with hydrangeas can mask the woody, bare appearance of their companion. Camellias have a life span of 100-200 years with the oldest planted in China dating from 1347. They really give you your money's worth.

In the past few weeks we've experienced sunny, pleasant days and this trend is set to continue for some time. I hope you've planted your tulip bulbs, along with jonquils, daffodil and anemone and I put in some gladioli this year. I'm really excited to see how they grow. Generally, gladioli represent moral integrity and remembrance; I often wondered why Barry Humphries, aka Dame Edna Everidge, chose this flower as her favourite. It's a stylish, stately, satisfying flower that's great in any display.

We're in need of someone to volunteer to purchase Lucky Door Prizes and for the Q&A, or My Garden/Not My Garden segments of General Meetings. It's not arduous, it's not onerous, it involves approaching members, and putting in place a few simple steps to make it happen. There's a job description available if you think you'd be willing to do it for one year to see how you manage. Please give it serious consideration.

I do hope you'll join us at General Meetings when the colder months set in; excellent speakers have been engaged for the second half of the year and a few social outings are planned when spring emerges from the cold, wintry days.

See you on June 8th.

Until then, stay warm, and enjoy the rest of autumn.

Janice Light



News of the Wollemi Pine in Japan

Last month, Marjorie showed a picture of a Wollemi Pine planted by Graham Ross in Japan. Read about its current situation [here](#).

Today's Speaker is Tony Matson – CutAbove Tools

CutAbove Tools has been owned by Karen and Tony Matson since April 2010. They have concentrated on providing a quality range of products at a sensible price. Products are sold directly to the public, via garden centres and trade customers, such as florists, wholesale nurseries and garden maintenance contractors. Most of the products are obtained from Taiwan and Italy.

Although Karen has a background in teaching and Tony in science and business, they have developed a passion for the garden industry. They have travelled Australia extensively with the business and have seen many different growing conditions. They don't spend as much time in their well-established garden as they would like, but are always finding space to put more plants in.

ALL Executive and Committee positions become vacant at the AGM in July 2023, next month. All positions are open for nomination.

This year, Janice is stepping down as president as required by the club's constitution. Ronah and Merilyn are not standing for re-election to the Committee.



We must have a President for the club to exist. We need club members to manage the library and arrange for speakers at our meetings. Someone arranges the morning tea at every meeting. Someone needs to arrange for members to talk about their gardens or a garden they have visited. Someone needs to manage membership, and someone must produce this newsletter. We can't operate without a secretary or a treasurer. Someone must set up the projector, screen, computer, and sound system at each meeting.

You expect all these things to happen, and they do, but they need someone to do them.

Maybe, this year, that someone is you!

The club needs members to join our committee to contribute further to the effective operation of the club; you are invited to nominate for either an Executive or Committee position.

The Committee members meet once a month to review and discuss the club's operation, future functions, speakers, finance and how we can best serve the club members. We invite you to consider how you could join the Committee and help your club.

Please see Gai for a nomination form or any enquiries.

July General Meeting

13th July 2023

Guest speaker: Gary Kimball – “What happens to the stuff in your green bin”.

Hall set-up: Sed Mayne
Vic Tuite

Pull down: Sed Mayne
Vic Tuite

Morning Tea – bring a plate.
Marjorie Gunasekara
Kerrie Lee
Barbara Thomas

Plates should be ready to serve.

Club Information

All members and visitors are asked to sign in upon arrival. Members should wear their club name badges to all club meetings, events and rambles. To take part in club events and rambles 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 9.30 am for a 9.45 am start and finish around noon. The library and the plant stall are open before the meeting and at morning tea. \$5 entry fee.

The joining fee is \$35. Thereafter, an **annual subscription is \$25 due in July** each year. Payments can be by direct debit to Wentworth Falls Garden Club Account: BSB: 062-559; Acct: 28003852.

Ensure your **name** is included with your remittance.

Wentworth Falls Garden Club contact details:

Email: wentworthfallsgardenclub@gmail.com

Website: www.wentworthfallsgardenclub.com

For Club Welfare matters, please contact Trish Fewer
Ph 4784 2570 or email treab2@bigpond.com