



Wentworth Falls Garden Club Inc

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc

11 January 2018: Edition No 309

From the President.....

A Happy New Year to you all. Welcome back for another year of friendship and gardening. I hope the speakers we have arranged provide the membership with enough variety and interest. Please let Anne and I know of any topics you would like to explore as we are starting to work on our list for July to November.

We welcome Liz Benson today to speak about 'Banksias'. I commend to you the current exhibition at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, 'Cloth: From Seeds to Bloom'. Beautiful fabric designs, which draw inspiration from the Australian Bush, including banksias of course, are displayed. The exhibition closes on January 28th.

Our Christmas lunch seems a long time ago now but thanks are due to Sharon for finding the new venue at Leura Golf Club. For those who couldn't make it, the meal and service were very good and the company was excellent! It has been booked again for our Christmas lunch this year.

I trust your Christmas experiences were happy ones with family and friends. Mine was spent in Hawaii, an enjoyable and relaxing experience. The palm trees, pool, hibiscus, bougainvillea and crashing waves seemed far distant when I was mowing my lawn last week but the roses, hydrangeas and my golden elm are just as beautiful. We stayed in Kona on Big Island with its rich volcanic soil, home of the coffee industry. A visit to a coffee plantation to see the trees and follow the process from coffee cherries to beans to brew has given me so much more respect for what is in my coffee cup, now I know the complexities of the process to get it there.

In the 'My Garden' segment at today's meeting, Susanne Rix will be talking about the Edible Garden Trail in March. I look forward to hearing how the plans are progressing. Good luck with all your veggie/fruit growing too. Recent rain has been most welcome and given everything a real boost to reward our efforts although the recent hot weather has been a challenge.

Carol

Club Tours and Functions

Friday 9 th March	Bathurst Begonias & Miss Traill's House – lunch and house tour. Cost approx. \$45. Give your names to Carol this meeting if you are interested. Final numbers and payment will be taken at February meeting.	Departure TBA
Tuesday 16 th October	Mahratta House revisited, spring garden tour, morning tea, Lisgar Garden and lunch at Hornsby RSL. Costing TBA.	
Thursday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch (on our normal Thursday meeting day) at Leura Golf Club.	
	<u>Please note: We will not be organizing a trip to the Clarendon Plant Fair this year.</u>	

Guest Speaker today is Liz Benson; her topic is "Banksias".

Liz Benson was a founding member of the Central Blue Mountains Garden Club and involved with all their activities. After having worked as a High School Science teacher for thirty years, for the last decade Liz has been employed by the National Parks Service and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Sydney, Mt Annan and at Mt Tomah as an education officer and outdoor guide. She is a keen bushwalker and lover of nature. Liz spoke to us in October 2016 about making our gardens more bird-friendly and we welcome her back today to inspire us with more about planting natives.

**Blue Mountains Edible Garden Festival and Trail
3rd and 4th March 2018**

Why:

- To encourage growing edible produce in home gardens, school gardens, community gardens and public spaces.
- To build an annual festival highlighting the sustainability of edible gardens in a time of changing climate.
- To showcase sustainable practices such as mulching to conserve water, re-cycling and composting to build soil fertility and reduce landfill, companion planting to reduce weeds and encourage bees etc.
- To illustrate ways of creating beautiful gardens and saving money by growing edible plants.

How:

- There will be a garden trail where visitors can visit at their own leisure over the weekend.
- A secret garden trail using a small community bus to visit gardens where the homeowner would prefer to have small groups visit at set times.

Who:

- The event is under the auspices of Slow Foods Blue Mountains and organised by a team of dedicated gardeners.

Where:

- Little Hartley to Glenbrook, with a festival centre at the Katoomba Community Garden.

GET INVOLVED.

If you would like to have your edible garden included in the trail (or the secret trail), more information, or to join the mailing list please contact: Susanne Rix at ediblegardenfestival@gmail.com

Next Meeting

8 February 2018

Guest speaker:

**Peta Frullani, Landscape Designer &
Horticulture Consultant
"Garden Design & Plantings"**

Hall set-up and pull-down:

Daniel Murphy and Bill Avery

Morning tea

Margaret Peoples

Bring a plate:

Margaret Peoples and Susan Hummel

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. Meetings commence at 9.45am 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. For Club Welfare matters, please contact Lea Nelson Ph 4784 1101 or email leanelson@ozemail.com.au.

Wentworth Falls Garden Club contact details:

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