



Wentworth Falls Garden Club Inc.

Affiliated with The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc.

9th May 2024: Edition No 379

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

A letter to garden lovers

I have this week bitten the bullet and removed three shrubs that were not thriving.

It was not a decision I found easy as all three predated my thirty one years of ownership of the garden and I intensely dislike taking trees and shrubs out.

An Indian Hawthorn's and a blue flowering Rhododendron's leaves were badly affected by a mite and although I treated them with a horticultural oil many times they never got better. A multi stem Pine, where two of the four stems had died, looked on its last legs. So, I took the decision to remove them.



Having taken them out, other neighbouring shrubs now present much better and it has opened up the possibility for new plants. The soil looks to be moist with plenty of leaves around for mulching, ideal conditions for planting Camellias, of which I have three in waiting. Now I wonder why I did not take them out years ago. Removal of these shrubs gives me the opportunity and motivation to tidy up the garden beds by trimming, thinning out and mulching.

Autumn is my favourite time in the Blue Mountains, the foliage is spectacular in all the autumn colours, the mornings cool and the days mild. Ideal conditions for working in the garden.

The only downside to autumn is the raking up of leaves feels like it will never end but, of course, we can use every one to feed the next generation of our plants.

Populus grandidentata (Aspen Bigtooth) a big tree in colour will take your breath away.

Duncan Leys

The Wentworth Falls Garden Club, your club, needs your help.

This July we will be electing a new committee. As it is every year, all committee positions become vacant at the AGM and any member can nominate for a position on the committee. This year, we have several committee members stepping away from their positions on the committee.

We need members to join the committee and engage in the following activities:

- Tours and Functions Coordinator
- Website Manager
- Newsletter Writer
- Welfare Coordinator



These activities are vital to the existence of the club. This year, we invite you to step up and volunteer to assist in the management and operation of the club.

[Speak to any committee member for more information.](#)

Today's Speaker is: Judy Horton MAIH, HMA, OA, Horticulturist, Media Personality and Our Gardens GCA Magazine Editor

Judy Horton is a keen gardener and is currently horticultural editor for the Garden Clubs of Australia's magazine "Our Gardens". She has been the recipient of the Golden Wattle Award, the highest award presented by the Australian Institute of Horticulture, as well as the Allan Seale award given by the Nursery Industry of NSW for outstanding contribution to gardening media. Judy has also been awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her work in horticulture and promotion of gardening. She is a garden adviser who has had experience in retail nurseries, bush regeneration, radio talkback (Talking Lifestyle and the ABC) and garden writing. For twenty-two years Judy was Yates' Communications Manager and has been responsible for six updates of Yates Garden Guide, Australia's best-selling gardening book. One of Judy's responsibilities at Yates was to look after the company archives. These provide a wonderful overview of gardening in Australia, particularly during the 20th century. Judy's talk today, "The History of the Backyard", draws upon these archives and other resources to outline the trends, world events and social changes that have affected our gardens in that time, with particular emphasis on the ubiquitous quarter-acre Aussie backyard. This is a fun talk that will have everyone recognising something they remember from past gardens and their childhoods and will also pose a few questions about where our gardens are going in the future. Since her retirement from Yates, Judy has worked with Botanica World Discoveries. She travels with Botanica as a horticultural guide and promotes Botanica at garden shows and other gardening-related events.

Events to look forward to

When	What	How Much?
Thursday, 20 th June 2024 12:00	Lunch at the Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls	\$30.00 per person.



This meeting celebrates the 35th Anniversary of the Wentworth Falls Garden Club. We have cake!

June 2024 General Meeting 13th June 2024

Guest speaker: Peta Trahar Horticulturist and Co-founder of the Collectors' Plant Fair will tell us about Galanthus – English Snowdrops, Tiny Treasures for your Winter Garden

Hall set-up: Daniel Murphy
Carlene Martin

Hall pull-down: Daniel Murphy
Carlene Martin

Morning Tea – bring a plate.
Marjorie Gunasekara
Annabelle Fraser
Kerrie Lee

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 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 Lea Nelson
Ph 4784 1101 or email leanelson2780@gmail.com