

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

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2024: Edition No 380**

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

## **A letter to garden lovers .....**

It has been an interesting week for me.

On Monday I went into hospital to have a minor procedure. Corrective laser surgery, which is minimally invasive, with a 2-night stay being the way to go. I should have been right to attend a meeting on Wednesday evening, you would think.

But no, the night shift nurse was not happy with my recovery and conferred with the day shift nurse who agreed: the catheter would not be removed at 6.00 am as planned and they would contact the surgeon who turned up at 5.00 pm and agreed I should stay another night.

So, I had a third night to observe our hospital system in action and my verdict is that we are fortunate to have so many competent and empathetic staff manning the system. The nurses who looked after me were drawn from all nations. Recent immigrants and first-generation immigrants all looked after me and I have no complaints. All these nurses were accompanied on their rounds by a nursing student who took my readings, did the injections and even did the ultrasound and told me I had passed the 3 tests and with the consent of the surgeon I could go home.

My surgeon, who is an associate professor and top man in his field, has a name that suggests he is also from immigrant stock, like all of us who are not of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.

The unavoidable conclusion is our hospital system could not function without immigration. I am told our aged care system is similarly reliant on immigration for staff.

My room had a view over a park with some beautiful deciduous trees just coloring up. When I asked if this was my room, (I thought it was a closet), the nurse joked I could have another room with a view over the rooftops of the other hospital buildings.

As we age, we are all likely to come into contact with the hospital system and aged care system. One of the reasons of particular relevance to gardeners is falls. 77% of injury hospitalisations and 71% of injury deaths of people over 65 years of age are due to falls. For me I will have to stop getting up on the roof and blowing leaves and twigs out of the gutters, and pay a younger person to do this job, even if they cannot do it as well as me.

Take care and keep active in your garden.

## **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

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.**



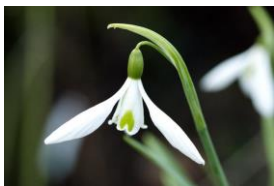
## Today's Speaker is Peta Trahar, Horticulturist and Co-founder of the Collectors' Plant Fair



Peta Trahar was raised in Tasmania, lived in Mosman in Sydney and now calls *Woodgreen* Angus Stud, at Bilpin, home. Peta is a graduate of Ryde School of Horticulture. Her experience includes working as a landscape lecturer, writer, garden judge and selector for Australia's Open Garden Scheme, now closed. Her career as a landscape designer has given focus to the development of her nursery, *Town and Country Gardens*. Time is now spent propagating and selling her interesting plants and opening her garden to visiting groups. Past memberships include the Australian Institute of Horticulture and the Australian Institute of Landscape

Designers and Managers. Her garden is a wide collection of unusual plants displayed with an eye to colour and texture. The garden has featured on ABC's *Gardening Australia* and Channel Seven's *Better Homes and Gardens* as well as in several gardening magazines. They include *Your Gardens*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *The Garden Clinic Magazine* and the *ABC Garden Magazine*. Peta contributes an article to the GCA magazine, *Our Gardens*, each quarter.

Peta was the co-founder of the highly successful Collectors' Plant Fair. In 2005, together with Beth Stokes, Peta was awarded NSW Horticulturist of the Year and the National Award of Excellence "for promoting horticulture, particularly the use and conservation of rare and unusual plants through the organisation of the Collectors' Plant Fair."



Today, Peta will tell us about Galanthus - English Snowdrops - Tiny treasures for your winter garden.

# WINTER IS COMING

## Events to look forward to

When	What	How Much?
Thursday, 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 12:00	Lunch at the Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls	\$30.00 per person due by 13 <sup>th</sup> June

### July 2024

### Annual General Meeting

**11<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Guest speaker:** Graham Jurd, Central Blue Mountains Garden Club will present an introduction to Ferns.

**Hall set-up:** Wendy Cayless  
Marie Armstrong

**Hall pull-down:** Carla Toscano  
Caroline Gardner

**Morning Tea – bring a plate.**  
Liz McCowage  
Gweneth Day

*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](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 [leanelson2780@gmail.com](mailto:leanelson2780@gmail.com)