



NEWSLETTER



March 2019

QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS INC

Established: 3 April 1967

OBJECTS

- (a) To broaden the scope of member clubs in their activities by combining together as a Council.
- (b) To promote the development of horticultural knowledge and interests among member clubs and the wider community.
- (c) To promote the enjoyment of gardening and friendship among member clubs.
- (d) To encourage an understanding of conservation of our national and natural heritage.
- (e) To participate in community events and projects that contribute to the beautification of our natural and built environment through enhancements to public parks, gardens, and like facilities.

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Enclosures: nil

Deadline for Next Issue: 20 May 2019

Front cover Cooktown Orchid - *Dendrobium bigibbum*
Back cover A Garden A-Fair

President's Report Phil Adam

This is the first newsletter since the March Annual General Meeting of the Council. The AGM saw the election of a new executive and committee. As is usual with these things the committee contains a number of old faces as well as some new and returning members.

As newly elected President I wish to thank those members of the committee who are not continuing for their efforts on behalf of the Council over a number of years. I feel confident that the Council's affairs have been left in a sound state and I look forward to working with the new committee in a harmonious and constructive way as we progress during the year to come.

Having been in the position for only a few days prior to writing this it comes as no surprise that there is little in the way of past activities that I can report on here. Most of these have already been covered in previous newsletters. However, I would like to focus on some upcoming events.

As usual QCGC will be presenting A Garden A-Fair on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of April which is not far away. Last year we had, I believe, a record number of entries across all the competition classes. The success of this event very much depends on the participation of members. I would like to see every club encourage as many members as possible to enter the competition. As I found out last year entering can be both fun and a valuable learning experience. I feel sure that many, if not all, of your members have some lovely plants which would be well worth showing. In addition to individual entries clubs and societies have the opportunity to enter the club competition and clubs may also book a stall where they may sell plants and other craft items in addition to providing information for visitors about their activities.

A second function coming up on 27th March will be the Presidents' morning tea. Every club is invited to send along the President or nominee. In addition clubs may send other delegates at a cost of \$10. This year the guest speaker will be Michael Connolly a management consultant with vast experience in the operation of not for profit clubs and societies. This will be the perfect opportunity to ask questions and have issues resolved. For our country members, Michael has agreed to provide notes which we will fashion into an article for a future newsletter. Rural and regional clubs and societies are especially invited to send in their questions – the more the

merrier.

We also expect to be providing a plant minding service at the Pine Rivers Plant Fair in late April and once again setting up a display for the Royal National Association Exhibition in August. Please give some thought to providing some assistance with these activities when the time comes.

Finally I would like to emphasize that QCGC belongs to the member clubs and societies. In my view, while the activities such as A Garden Affair etc are well worthwhile, they are not the only reason for the existence of the organisation. We are here to serve your interests. I would like to encourage you to give some consideration as to the types of services you would like QCGC to provide for its members. It may not always be possible to satisfy every request but if you don't tell us what you want, we may never know.

It has been a very difficult season in many if not most areas of the State for gardening in the last few months. My own garden is very dry despite the regular 15 second showers we have been receiving lately. Gardeners in other areas are even worse off. However, we are an optimistic lot and we will persevere whatever nature has in store. I wish everyone good luck with their gardening endeavours. A few good news stories of spectacular success would, I am sure, enliven everyone's spirits.

Information Update

- Items for the Newsletter are always welcome. Forward a report of your club event with separate photos via email to the Secretary.
- Whitehill Garden Club and Blackbutt Benarkin Garden Clubs have closed.
- \$1000 was donated to QCWA in December for drought relief.
- Data projector will no longer be available due to its age and the cable port is no longer compatible with modern computers.
- The Queensland Gold rose is not available for a while.
- Delegates meeting in May will be on Monday 20 due to Public holiday.
- There are a few changes to the Management Committee. Refer to inside back cover for details.
- **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MAILING ADDRESS ON THE BACK PAGE.**

Guest Speakers & Bus Trips

In an effort to increase the options for guest speakers especially, please forward a list of the speakers your club had last year to the Secretary with subject and contact details. This is particularly important for those clubs that meet outside the south east corner of Qld where options are more limited.

Additionally send in details of any bus trip destinations and guest speakers to be added or deleted. This is the best way to keep the list as up to date as possible. Lets try to get a better selection than we have currently.

The booklets will be forwarded to member clubs in September/October to assist you in organising speakers and trips for next year. Clubs wishing to get the booklets may contact the Secretary and request a copy to be emailed to them.

BUS TRIPS

Brisbane East

Add Cornubia Tropical Living 33 Daintree Rd ph 0419 204 154
Mt Cotton Mt Cotton Rainforest Gardens ph 3206 6371

Gold Coast / Granite Belt

Add Mudgeeraba Bamboo Down Under 53 Bonogin Rd ph 55 302 621

GUEST SPEAKERS

Fungi, Mosses & Bryophytes

Replace Dr Sapphire McMullin-Fisher and Jutta Godwin with Qld
Mycological Society Email info@qldfungi.org.au

Tropical gardening

Add Rene Hundscheidt ph 0418 746 180

Publicity

Club and Society Brochures and Show flyers wanted for **A Garden A-Fair** and **Pine Rivers Garden And Plant Fair** where they will be prominently displayed. They are invaluable for visitors looking for a garden club close to them or a plant society of interest to them. Bring some to Presidents' Morning Tea.

Please contact Elizabeth Parkinson to check the numbers of brochures that are currently held in stock.

Environment Report

QCGC Meeting 4 February THWAITES GLACIER – ANTARCTICA

An enormous cavity has been discovered under Antarctica's ice cap. And it has serious implications for the rate of rising sea levels.

Under the huge Thwaites Glacier in Antarctica is an unexpected, enormous cavern. It once held 14 billion tons of ice. But, in the course of just three years, it has melted and flowed into the Southern Ocean. According to a study by NASA, the void was caused by newly discovered 'fingers' of warm water flowing into cracks in the glacier caused by mounting climate change. This water then pooled between the ice and rock, eroding away the glacier above. "As more heat and water get under the glacier, it melts faster," study lead author and NASA scientist Pietro Milillo said. Not only is more ice melting than previously detected, it shows the 160km wide Thwaites Glacier is not as firmly fixed to the surface of the Antarctic continent as believed.

This means the mass of ice — about the size of Florida — can break up and slip into the sea, much faster than projected. Worse, Thwaites Glacier acts as a kind of 'door stop', preventing adjoining glaciers from sliding towards the sea. "Understanding the details of how the ocean melts away this glacier is essential to project its impact on sea level rise in the coming decades," says NASA scientist Eric Rignot. The void was found by ice-penetrating radar and a series of satellites, all of which are attempting to understand what's happening to Antarctica as the world warms.

The potential impact is enormous. Unlike much of the North Pole, an enormous amount of South Pole ice sits on land. Ice that sits on water does not affect sea levels when it melts. But new water that flows into the sea does. And Antarctica is an enormous, ice-covered continent.

Thwaites Glacier alone holds enough ice above sea level to raise sea levels by more than 65cm if it was to melt. Once gone, surrounding glaciers will have no obstacle in their path, speeding up their melting and the potential release of enough water to raise sea levels by as much as 2.4m. NASA's new study shows that Antarctica's glaciers aren't just melting around the edges. Warm water is melting them from beneath, speeding up the rate of sea level rise.

"We have suspected for years that Thwaites was not tightly attached to the bedrock beneath it," study author Rignot said in a NASA statement. "Thanks to a new generation of satellites, we can finally see the detail."

As the loss of these glaciers could result in the inundation of major cities, such as New York, new research teams are set to travel to this, one of the hardest to reach areas on Earth. The US National Science Foundation and British National Environmental Research Council have initiated a five-year field project, The International Thwaites Glacier Collaboration. It will begin its field observations later this year.

Bayside Garden Club

Jillian Mahoney

Bayside Garden Club ended 2018 on a festive note with a Christmas Lights bus trip, hiring two smaller buses which facilitated quicker exit and entry at all stops and easier manoeuvrability for the drivers.



We received a very warm welcome at the Sandgate Uniting Church (Deagon) with its colourful display of lights and Christmas items throughout the grounds and inside the church. Food and craft were for sale but the true Christmas message shone through.

Fairies (mature women dressed the part and having a ball) greeted us at a multi storey unit block at Redcliffe which was ablaze with coloured lights. Not to be outdone, Santa Claus boarded the bus and promised to keep us in mind on Christmas Eve.



On the way home, we drove past private homes with beautiful Christmas lights. A much appreciated finishing touch to a great night out was a gift of shortbread and chocolates as we left the bus.



Sincere thanks to our hard working bus trip co-ordinators, Lorraine Wittenberg and Rosy Ngtuere, for organising all our outings and to the cheerful drivers at Brian's Bus Charters for providing safe transport throughout the year.

L to R: Lorraine Wittenberg, Lance Procter (driver), Rosy Ngtuere, Mick Woulfe (driver)

Note: Christmas lights photos sourced from the internet

QCGC End of Financial Year Report

The financial statements of QCGC were examined Bruce Cunneen, FCPA, Honorary Auditor.

“I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion. I have received all the information and explanation which I have required and in my opinion the financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial performance for the financial year.”

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2018

	31-Dec-18	31-Dec-17
THESE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY:-		
CURRENT ASSETS		
float catering officer	0	0
Westpac Bank Indooroopilly	4,095	1,889
Westpac Cash Reserve Account	12,623	12,562
Float Raffle	50	50
Float Petty Cash	150	150
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	16,918	14,651
outstanding cheque	100	
	16,818	14,651
FIXED ASSETS		
Plant and Equipment - at Cost	1,917	1,917
Accumulated Depreciation	1,516	1,221
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	401	696
TOTAL WORKING & FIXED CAPITAL		
NET ASSETS	17,219	15,347

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the Year ending 31 December 2018

	2018	2017
INCOME		
Bus Trip Income	-	-
Donations		
Function A Garden Affair	4,017	4,914
Function Christmas Awards	4,083	3,497
Function Fashion Parade	1,801	1,655
Function Friendship Days	417	515
Function Presidents Morning Tea	686	772
Government Grant	1,230	240
Interest	82	77
Regional Friendship Day	-	-
Subscriptions	3,275	3,325
kitchen hire	403	648
Special Projects	292	2,405
Sundry Income	986	
TOTAL INCOME	17,272	18,047
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Audit	100	100
Bank Charges	-	
Bus Trip Expenses	-	
Catering (Meetings)	277	82
Computer Expenses		-
Depreciation	295	1,197
Donations / Grant Kilcoy	1,000	-
Filing Fees	54	52
Flowers Cards Gifts /Donation CWA	1,007	32
Function A Garden Affair	2,353	2,312
Function Christmas Awards	3,670	2,883
Function Fashion Parade	654	800
Function Friendship Days	369	337
Function Regional Friendship Day	-	
Function Presidents morning Tea	540	582
General Expenses	1,364	1,061
Honoraria	-	-
Insurance	411	397
Internet	165	165
Maintenance Equipment	390	
Newsletter Expenses	1,109	672
Postage Post Box Rental	492	754
Printing & Stationary	919	853
Promotional Expenses	-	-
Telephone	41	43
Trophies Prizes	-	
Kitchen exp.	5	49
Special Projects		7,023
Sundry Expenses	170	
TOTAL EXPENSES	15,385	19,392
NET INCOME	1,867	
NET LOSS		1,345

Twin Towns & District Garden Club

Gwen Barnes

In December, our garden club decided to have a fund raiser for the 'farmers drought plight'. We associated this community event with the garden club motto 'Growing together'.

The Club collected donations of money and product to put together pamper packs for the Country Women's Association Kingscliff branch, for distribution to the worst affected drought area families by the CWA.



The members gave generously with \$315 dollars being collected, along with product donations. This money went towards buying products to make up 50 pamper packs for the families just in time for Christmas.

Photo from left; CWA President Jacquie Strudwick, TT&DGC President Monika Ross, TT&DGC Publicity Gwen Barnes, CWA Secretary Vicki Turner.

We also participated in another community event, the 'Quota Creative Christmas Tree Competition' held at Tweed Civic Centre.

We entered a Christmas Tree in this annual fundraiser along with around 25 other community clubs, businesses, and schools, and guess what? We, as a club, took out first prize for the Community section. The 'Tweed Police' took out the business section and Pottsville community school won that section.

The public were asked to vote for people's choice. We were runner up, with first place going to a local school.

The tree was built by member Jeff Greber and the theme and trimmings thought up by his wife and member Gayle Greber. About twelve members got together to make floral arrangements in pots to adorn the tree, then later after the show to dismantle.

We are already thinking about next year's tree with lots of ideas. Just a different fun way to help our community, with all proceeds going to Charity.



Photo from left: Gwen Barnes, Publicity; Monika Ross, President; Lesley Fydler, Vice President; Rewa Jarman, Newsletter; Gayle Greber, Welfare; Rhonda Pettigrew, Guest Speaker; Gayle Gillies, Member. Absent helpers were Lola Gray, Linda Marshall, Christine Hassall Secretary, Geoff Greber, Martin Pettigrew.

Tribute to Merle Bradbury

Robyn Pugh

Merle was a member of Indooroopilly garden club for 57 years. She joined in 1961, a year after the garden club began, along with other young mothers with small children.

Merle was enthusiastically and willingly involved in all of the activities of the club; a quiet, cheerful, kind and valued friend to members. Her great expertise was Floral Art. We members in the Garden Club have always been in awe of Merle for her great talent and her willingness to help us less talented individuals who, despite having two able hands, could not reach the standard that Merle set.

She has been the president of the club six times, in 1967-69, 1982-84, 1986-88, 1998-99, 2005-8 and the last term in 2014-15, She won most of the awards for floral art and numerous other awards for her beautifully cared-for plants and flowers and always came up with very original themes for floral art.

Merle wrote many articles for the garden club newsletter over the last 57 years including an historical account of our Indooroopilly Garden Club. Merle enjoyed many trips with the members of the garden club and other garden lovers.

Merle was a very active supporter of QCGC. She

was one of the many talented Floral Artists from Brisbane garden and floral art clubs who decorated venues for the Warana Festival, the 1982 Commonwealth Games and created floral displays at the Red cross Flower Show in the City Hall and in the Wool Pavilion at the Ekka in the 1960s and 70s.

In 1981 Lady Ramsay, Patron of QCGC and wife of the then Governor of Queensland Sir James Ramsay, contacted QCGC with a request for volunteers from garden clubs and the floral art society to do floral arrangements at Government House on a monthly roster. Merle, was part of the team of 3 floral artists from Indooroopilly Garden Club cheerfully



Merle with the Dr Jarvis Nye Trophy

creating arrangements for 27 years.

“A Garden Affair”, the annual show by QCGC always had her floral art exhibits and she assisted with her club’s display.

Merle became Mrs Garden Club in 1984-5, promoting QCGC to other garden clubs as an ambassador.

In 1986 Merle assisted with a 2-day flower show celebrating our club’s 25 years, raising money for the Glass House at Mt Coo-tha Botanic Gardens.

In 2012 Merle received an award from QCGC for Most Contribution to a Garden Club.

Vale Merle Bradbury, a much loved and admired member of Indooroopilly Garden Club.

Merle died on 6th Feb 2019 aged 83 years.



LEAFMORE GARDEN SOCIETY INC.

10th Biennial Winter Garden School

Leafmore Garden Society is running its 10th Biennial Winter Garden School on 12 - 13 June this year in Toowoomba. This year’s Winter Garden School promises to be as inspiring and enjoyable as previous schools.

The impressive line-up of speakers includes well-known horticulturalist and Gardening Australia presenter, Millie Ross. She will be providing ideas on gardening anywhere, with anything, and great gardening ideas from around the world. Local horticultural educator and radio presenter Mike Wells will be giving tips on how to improve water efficiency in the garden. Linda Brennan will inspire attendees to grow and cook edible flowers.

Other presenters will be giving tips and ideas on growing roses, management of soils, garden and plant photography, giving your garden that wow effect and sustainable gardening.

Attendees at the Winter Garden School will be able to purchase a range of garden related items at the trade stalls including plants and seedlings, gardening tools, decorative pots and hand-made jewellery.

There is also the opportunity to win fabulous prizes in the multi-daw raffles, the proceeds of which are donated to charity.

For the Winter Garden School program, speakers’ profiles, fees and registration form email: leafmore4350@gmail.com or call Ed Power on: 07 4632 5499.

DATE CLAIMERS

QCGC EVENTS

March	27	Wednesday	Presidents' Morning Tea
April	6-7	Sat & Sun	A Garden A-Fair
June	19	Wednesday	Friendship Day
August	28	Wednesday	Fashion Parade
November	27	Wednesday	Christmas Party

SHOWS AND EVENTS by member societies

March

17	Qld Dahlia Society*
23-24	West Brisbane Orchid Society*
23-24	Northern Districts Hort. Soc Colour on Parade Wavell Heights Community Hall, Edinburgh Castle Road, Wavell Heights
30-31	Bimer Bonsai Club Annual Show*

April

06-07	Qld Council of Garden Clubs*
06-07	Bromeliad & Tropical Foliage Genesis Christian Church Bray Park
19-20	Qld Orchid Society*
20-21	Wondai Autumn Garden Expo Wondai Sportsground

May

11-12	Qld Rose Society*
26	Herb Awareness Albion Peace Hall Windsor

June

8-9	Cactus and Succulent Society of Qld*
12-13	Leafmore Winter Garden School Toowoomba Golf Club
15	Esk Garden & Lifestyle Fair Old Esk Railway Station

Venues

**BBG The Auditorium, Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha*

QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS INC

Patron: His Excellency, the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC
Governor of Queensland

Office Bearers 2019

President	Phil Adam	0427 497 381
Vice-President	Noel Prior OAM	3359 3457
Secretary	Anne Baster	0439 720 565
Assistant Secretary	Heather Knobel	3263 2490
Treasurer	Dorothy Tyrrell	3263 2450
Publicity	Elizabeth Parkinson	0412 755 500
Committee	Delwyn Hallett	0414 720 278
	Trish McMorrine	0403 066 219
	Heather Prior	3359 3457
Newsletter Editor	Anne Baster	0439 720 565

Mail P.O. Box 5545 Stafford Heights 4053

Email secretary2@qcgc.net

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month - February to November. If the first Monday happens to be a public holiday, then the meeting is held on the second Monday.

Meetings are held in the Seminar Room, Administration Centre of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha. Each member club is entitled to have two delegates attend.

Disclaimer: Whilst every effort is made to publish accurate information, QCGC accepts no responsibility for statements made, opinions expressed or mention of commercial products by contributors.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all information in their articles. These articles do not necessarily express the viewpoint of the Editor, Executive Officers or the Committee.



QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS presents

Garden A-Fair 2019

Saturday 6 April 10am - 3.30pm

Sunday 7 April 9am - 3pm

Chaos to simplicity

SPECTACULAR FLORAL ART

DEMONSTRATIONS

HUNDREDS OF MAGNIFICENT PLANTS ON DISPLAY

PLANTS, CRAFT AND MORE FOR SALE

CLUB & SOCIETY DISPLAYS

REFRESHMENTS

PRODUCT INFORMATION

RAFFLES

**COME ALONG - BE AMAZED - FIND
OUT HOW YOU TOO CAN GROW A
GREAT GARDEN**

ADMISSION \$3 ADULTS CHILDREN - FREE



The Auditorium Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha
Mt Coot-tha Rd Toowong