



LEURA GARDEN CLUB INC

friendship through gardens since 1955

JUNE 2023

leuragardenclub.org.au

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Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at

St Alban's Hall, Megalong St, Leura from 9.45am

PRESIDENT'S REPORT The Autumn season finally produced brilliant and spectacular colour, as winter has begun to emerge with its cold and windy days. While raking up a multitude of leaves today to use as mulch, my thoughts turned to other jobs like weeding, pruning and a general tidy up for what always seems like an endless wait for Springtime.

Elizabeth Ginsberg and **Kerrie Lee** represented our garden club at the Leura Harvest Festival handing out leaflets about our club. A big thank you to them for their efforts.

Noel Roscoe gave us an extensive list of jobs and preparations for "Winter in your Garden". Noel also bought along his medal presented from Garden Clubs Australia for his club work and opening his garden for the Leura Garden Festival.

Gardeners live long happy lives. At our May meeting we sang 'Happy Birthday' to **Ellis Davidson** for his upcoming 97th birthday on 22 May. Ellis has been propagating and supplying plants for the sale table for many years, for which we are most grateful.

Robyn Bible spoke about her 49 year journey and obsession with Geraniums and Pelargoniums. Robyn had a table loaded with a healthy selection of Pelargoniums and these were for sale at the conclusion of the meeting.

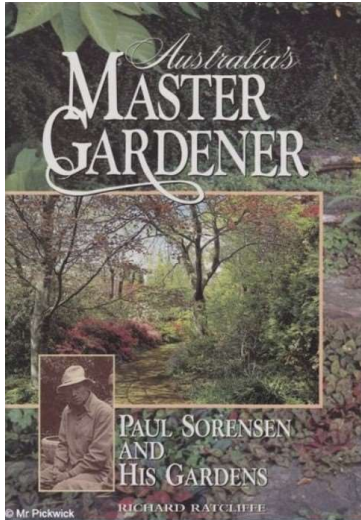
We had a 19 strong turn up for a tasty lunch at Leura Chinese Restaurant, and a few managed to make it to Sublime Point Lookout.

We welcome and look forward to working with **Bryn Hutchinson** who has joined our committee as assistant treasurer. Happy Winter Gardening ... **Lorraine**



If you haven't paid your \$20 2023 sub, it is overdue. Please pay by EFT to Bendigo Bank: BSB 633 000 A/c 198 427 734 – narration NAME + SUBSCRIPTION or pay at the June meeting.

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER	JUNE GARDEN RAMBLE
Michael Barnes from <i>Iris Australis</i> at Bilpin. Michael is President of The Iris Society of Australia – an expert's talk.	The June ramble and luncheon venue will be announced at the June meeting.
RAFFLE WINNERS	WELFARE
Merle Hansard – potted wallflower Shan Jones – potted cyclamen	If you know of someone who needs a card please contact Kerrie Lee 4757 3176



FROM THE LIBRARY - we are very fortunate to have a copy of this beautiful book in our library. There are still a couple of secondhand copies to be had – price \$US180 plus shipping!

AUSTRALIA'S MASTER GARDENER: Paul Sorensen and his gardens by Richard Ratcliffe.

This is a lavishly illustrated study of the life and works of Paul Sorensen the noted NSW garden designer. Ratcliffe examines Sorensen's character, the gardens he created and the philosophies which inspired his work. The book includes maps of some of his gardens, a list of trees typically found in his gardens, a comprehensive list of gardens which he designed, a bibliography and an index.

FROM OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS - A favourite of **Roz and Neil Sing** is their *Luculia pinceana* *Pink Spice* gifted to them by former LGC members, **Richard Langdon and Marilyn Hawkett**, back in 2017.



Luculia pinceana is not as well known as the more common and larger *Luculia gratissima* but it is worth searching for. It grows about 3m high and has beautiful compact, rosy pink tubular flowers in a tight head much like a hydrangea. The flowers have a very sweet, delicious musk-jasmine fragrance that can be smelled several metres away. It is frost tender to 5 degrees and is best grown in a warm sheltered position in filtered light in slightly acidic soil rich in organic material. It needs summer watering. It is an ideal addition to a garden where rhododendrons and camellias already successfully grow. Roz and Neil finally finally found a location for their *Luculia* after a couple of tries. It thrives under their oak next to rhododendrons. Roz worked on **Noel Roscoe's** advice, don't throw out a plant until you have tried at least 3 locations. Roz reports it took a couple of years for the *Luculia* to forgive her after each shift as *Luculias* don't like to be moved.

The *Luculia* is in flower for about 6 weeks from late April providing colour in an otherwise dull spot in the garden during winter. So far the only pest problem has been an annual infestation of a leaf-roller caterpillar – a couple of sprays with Natrasop 10 days apart is sufficient control.



Lorraine McMiles sent in a couple of photos of her maples. As we all know, it has been a particularly good year for colour. Why do leaves colour in autumn? As night length increases, chlorophyll production slows down and then stops. Eventually all the chlorophyll is destroyed. The carotenoids and anthocyanin present in the leaf are then unmasked and show their colours. Best colour is produced when the weather is dry, sunny and cool. If it's a cloudy, damp year colour vibrancy suffers.