

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2016

Well, another year has passed, and I am pleased to say that our Club is still attracting new members. Our variety of events has been well attended and we continue to enjoy some great speakers.

Speakers

We started off the year with a DVD on the Chelsea Flower Show, February was member Joan Brown on Tulips, March was Barbara Cooper on Fuschia's, April was Anne Elliott talking about Slow Foods, May was Stuart Read on the history of Paul Sorensen gardens, June was Lyle Clinton about bees and Woodford Honey, July saw us celebrating our Harvest Festival, Ingrid Nemetz joined us in August talking about Hellebores, September Murray Clark on the history of Tulips, October was Rob Stanton showing us some wonderful photos on where we had been on our trips, and November was David Thurston on Carnivorous Plants.

Social and Touring

This year our wonderful trips began in February with a visit to some local gardens, in March we visited Wendy Whitely's garden in Lavender Bay, April was Wild Meadows garden in Little Hartley and Gairloch garden in Oberon, May was to the Bonsai Nursery in Dural, June was our lunch at Zest, July was Eryldene garden and house in Gordon, August was a Magical Mystery tour, in September we visited the Nan Tien Buddhist Temple and Botanical Gardens in Wollongong, nothing in October due to the Leura Garden Festival, November was a Millthorpe garden ramble finishing the year in December enjoying our Christmas lunch at Everglades.

Garden Rambles

On our rambles this year we visited the lovely gardens of Beryl Price, the Railway garden, Noel Roscoe's, Don's garden "Cherrydell" together with Trish Fewer's, Marilyn and Richard Landon's finishing at Robyn Stone's. My thanks to everyone for inviting us to look at such wonderful gardens.

Community Involvement includes

- Leura Station Garden
- Rotary Garden at Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival
- Donation to the Rural Fire Service.

Once again, my grateful thanks to:

Our hard working Committee, Nick de Brett, Terry Goulden, Lorraine McMiles, Caroline Stanton, Joan Brown, Richard Landon, Liz Cunningham, John Greenway and Beryl Price. We could not function without them.

And our many wonderful volunteers:

- Joan Brown and Helen Benezon and their many willing helpers in the kitchen
- Margaret, Jean and Merle on the Trading Table
- Roz, Irma, Marlene and Neil plus others in the Railway Garden
- Di Jones, our greeter at the front desk
- Trish & Bill Fewer, for our excellent Library
- Noel Roscoe, for sharing his gardening knowledge every month
- John Greenway, our Newsletter editor and raffle ticket salesman
- Terry Goulden, who not only looks after our finances but our website
- Lorraine McMiles, who rescues us when Noel is unavailable
- Rob Stanton, our driver
- Marilyn Hawkett who does a great deal helping Richard with our tours; and
- Caroline Stanton for arranging our raffle prizes.

And importantly, the members for coming to the meetings and participating in so many activities. You all contribute to a happy and friendly Club which I hope will continue for many years to come.

Thank you

Ann Norman President

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Thank you

Ann Norman
President

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2018

How time flies, another year over and our Club continues to prosper and is still attracting new members. We have enjoyed various events which were well attended, and have had some delightful guest speakers.

Speakers

We began the year with member Irma Mahling with tales and slides of her travels around parts of Australia, followed by Klaus Eckhardt on roses, then George Oehm on Australian native orchids, David Colbourn from the Australian Carnivorous Plant Society, James Adams from Engalls Nursery on all things citrus, Mirva Crinnion from Fothergills Seeds, Liz Benson on gardening with birds, Sarah Ryan on perennial borders, and finishing the year with member Lorraine McMiles showing us how to make floral Christmas decorations with a magnificent display of examples.

Social and Touring

Another year of wonderful trips starting in February with a visit to local gardens, then Bayview Gardens, Sydney, in May it was the other side of the Mountains covering Emu Plains, Bilpin and Mount Wilson, June saw us heading West visiting tiny villages and backtracks with morning tea in Lithgow and lunch in Bathurst, July was a Winter lunch at the Alexandra Hotel, then a Magical Mystery tour, September was a trip to Cowra Japanese Gardens, October saw us visiting Rhododendrum Garden in Blackheath, Hillandale garden and nursery in Yetholme and Hassan's Walls Lookout, then the long awaited Riverboat Postman Cruise on the Hawkesbury River, finishing the year with our Christmas lunch at the Alexandra Hotel.

Garden Rambles

Our first ramble in January was to Gynia Favot and Karen & Karl Perkins gardens, February & March were too hot, April was Caroline Stanton's. Rambles are suspended during the winter months, and we recommenced in October visiting Barbara Thomas's impressive garden, finishing the year with a visit to Chris Morsby's beautiful garden.

Community Involvement

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Rotary Garden at Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival
- Donation to the Rural Fire Service

I would like to sincerely thank our Committee for their hard-work and support who are Nick De Brett, Terry Goulden, Lorraine McMiles, Caroline Stanton, Richard Landon, John Greenway, Beryl Price & Marlene Hausfeld.

And of course our other wonderful helpers –

- Joan Brown and Helen and many others in the kitchen
- Margaret & Merle on the trading table
- Roz & Neil Sing, Marlene & Neil Hausfeld and Irma Mahling and others in the railway garden
- Caroline Stanton for finding our raffle prizes
- Di Jones, at the front desk,
- Maureen Bailey, for looking after our excellent library
- Noel Roscoe, for his wealth of gardening knowledge every month
- John Greenway, our newsletter editor and raffle ticket salesman
- Terry Goulden, who not only looks after our finances but our website
- Lorraine McMiles, who willingly stands in when Noel is unavailable
- Rob Stanton, our driver
- Marilyn Hawkett for helping Richard with our tours,

Without you all we would not be able to function.

And last, but not least, you the members for turning up at meetings and participating in our activities. You keep our happy and friendly club operating, which I hope will continue for many years to come.

Thank you

Ann Norman

President

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019

Well here we are another year gone, with our Club continuing well and still attracting new members. Through the year we enjoyed many trips, a mid-year luncheon in July, a special morning tea in August and a Christmas lunch in December.

Speakers

Our 2018 wonderful guest speakers began with Helen Caughey on garden preparation when absent for some time, February was Bernadette Scott on Bio Security (weeds) followed by Jo Anne Allan on worm farms, April saw the return of Liz Benson this time talking about Banksias, May was Peta Trehar on her own garden "Woodgreen", June was Tony Curry on Camellias, September was Susan Bell on plantings for cityscapes, and in November we had Dominic Wong on Peonies.

Social and Touring

Our trips started in February with a visit to local gardens rarely open to the public which included Craignish, Trevlyn and Misty Vista, March was to The Secret Garden & Nursery, April to Hill End & Sofala, May was to Mt Annan Botanic Garden stopping at Flower Power Nursery on the way home, June was Chang Lai Yuan Chinese Gardens, Doonside, July was our luncheon at Mountain Heritage, August was the Magical Mystery Tour which was to Bathurst Church's Nursery, Mount Panorama, Blayney and Carcour with lunch at Mt Victoria, September was enjoying the daffodils at Rydal, October was Galston open gardens and in November gardens in the Southern Highlands and we finished the year with our delicious Christmas lunch at Everglades.

Garden Rambles

Our first ramble was not until March and this was to members Lyn Jones and Jacquie Ashdown's lovely gardens, April was to Chris Wilcox's beautiful garden, May was to Noel Higgs very pretty small garden in Katoomba. Rambles were then suspended for the winter months, and we recommenced in September with a visit to Chris Morsby's and Caroline Stanton's gardens, as there was no speaker in October we visited three gardens Chris Wilcox's, "Cherrydell" and Trish Fewer's and we finished the year in November visiting Barbara Thomas's impressive garden.

Community Involvement includes

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Rotary Garden at Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival; and a
- Donation to the Rural Fire Service

I would again like to sincerely thank our hardworking Committee for their support who are Nick De Brett, Terry Goulden, Lorraine McMiles, Caroline Stanton, John Greenway, Marlene Hausfeld, Margaret Kristiannson, Erica Honey, Richard Landon & Neil Sing who has replaced Richard organising the tours.

And of course our other wonderful helpers –

- Joan Brown and Helen and many others in the kitchen
- Margaret & Merle on the trading table
- Roz & Neil Sing and their team in the railway garden
- Caroline Stanton for finding our raffle prizes and running the question & answer segment
- Di Jones, at the front desk
- Maureen Bailey, for looking after our excellent library
- Noel Roscoe, for his wealth of gardening knowledge every month
- John Greenway, our newsletter editor and raffle ticket salesman
- Terry Goulden, who not only looks after our finances but also our website
- Kerrie Lee for helping to write receipts
- Lorraine McMiles, who stands in when Noel is unavailable
- Rob Stanton and Neil Hausfeld our drivers; and
- Marilyn Hawkett who helped Richard and Roz Sing helping Neil with our tours,

and of course, you the members, who turn up at meetings and participates in our activities, we could not function without you all. You keep our happy and friendly club operating, so let's strive to continue for many more years to come.

Thank you

Ann Norman

President

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020

(for the year ending 31/12/2019)

Can you believe it, another year gone, our Club continues to go well and is still attracting new members, albeit not as many as previous years. Through the year we enjoyed many trips, a luncheon in July, a special morning tea in September and a Christmas lunch in December.

Speakers

We had many interesting and informative speakers again in 2019 who included Kerry Brown telling us about the Katoomba Garden Brigade, Jane Anderson on Bees, Liz Benson on Ferns, Piercarlo & Christine Cuneo about Greenhouses and Bulbs, Peter Hey on Cliveas & Rare Plants, Joyce Stone on Orchids, Mary Moody about her trip to the Himalayas, a DVD on National Trust Gardens, Frank Allett on Waratahs and Jackie Anstis on Herbs.

Social and Touring

Our tours began in February with a trip to Lithgow with many interesting stops, March the Japanese Garden at Auburn, and Government House at Parramatta, a wonderful day had by all, April was to Oberon, May to Silverdale/Thirlmere, June visiting Camellia, Geranium and Cactus Nurseries in Dural, July of course was our luncheon, August a Camellia garden in Caringbah, September Bowral and Berrima, October Bathurst for the Spring Garden Festival, November saw us visiting Little Hartley and Bilpin and to end the year our Christmas luncheon at The Chalet, Medlow Bath.

Garden Rambles

Not many rambles this year, but our first one was to Coral Josic in Stuarts Road, Katoomba, then the Hospital Garden, Caroline Stanton's, Lorraine McMiles and due to very inclement weather unable to go to Rob Roy in Blackheath Street, Leura and our last one was to Gregory Carty, Third Avenue, Katoomba.

Community Involvement includes

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Rotary Garden at Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival; and a
- Donation to the Rural Fire Service

I would again like to sincerely thank our hardworking Committee for their support who are Marlene Hausfeld, Terry Goulden, Lorraine McMiles, Caroline Stanton, John Greenway, Margaret Kristiannson, Erika Honey, Neil Sing and Diane Winkworth.

Thanks must also go to our other wonderful helpers –

- Lorraine McMiles, who steps up whenever help is needed
- Terry Goulden, for looking after our finances and our website
- Erika Honey, Helen and many others in the kitchen
- Margaret & Merle on the trading table
- Roz & Neil Sing and their team in the railway garden
- Caroline Stanton for purchasing our raffle prizes and running the question & answer segment
- Di Jones, at the front desk
- Maureen Bailey, for continuing to look after our excellent library
- Noel Roscoe, for his wealth of gardening knowledge every season
- John Greenway, our newsletter editor and raffle ticket salesman
- Kerrie Lee for helping to write receipts
- Rob Stanton our equipment genius
- Rob Stanton and Neil Hausfeld our drivers
- Roz Sing helping Neil with our tours;
- All those who supply plants for the trading table; and
- Everyone who helps set up and clear away, particularly Margaret Kristiannson and Daniel Murphy.

And last, but certainly not least, all the members who support the Club by attending meetings and participating in our activities, we could not function without you. Let's strive to continue for many more years and keep our happy and friendly club operating.

Thank you

Ann Norman

President

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

(for the year ending 31/12/2020)

Another year gone, and what a year it was. I sincerely hope our Club continues to go well and will still attract new members.

Social & Touring

Of course, no trips were able to be taken in 2020.

Speakers

Our speakers were Lloyd Sharp in February on edible heritage plants and Justin Morrissey from Toolo.

Garden Rambles

We started rambles again in October when we visited Cherrydell, in November we had a lovely visit to members Sue & Ron's garden Rob Roy, and in December we were able to have a delightful Christmas lunch in Noel's garden.

Community Involvement includes

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Rotary Garden at Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival; and a
- Donation to the Rural Fire Service,
- and recently joined the Leura Community Alliance

I would like to finish by thanking our hardworking Committee for their help and support who are Lorraine McMiles, Caroline Stanton, Terry Goulden, Murray Bailey, John Greenway, Margaret Kristiansson, Erika Honey, Neil Sing and Diane Winkworth.

Thanks, must also go to our other wonderful helpers –

- Erika Honey, Margaret Kristiansson and many others in the kitchen
- Margaret & Merle on the trading table
- Roz & Neil Sing and their team in the railway garden
- Caroline Stanton for purchasing our raffle prizes and running the question & answer segment
- Di Jones, at the front desk
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- John Greenway, our newsletter editor and raffle ticket salesman
- Kerrie Lee for helping to write receipts
- Rob Stanton our equipment genius
- Rob Stanton and Neil Hausfeld our drivers

- Roz Sing helping Neil with our tours; and
- Chan Carroll for the newsletter backpage.
- All those who supply plants for the trading table; and everyone who helps set up and clear away, particularly Margaret Kristiannson and Daniel Murphy.

And last, but certainly not least, you the members who support the Club by attending meetings and participating in our activities, we cannot do without you. Let's strive to get our happy and friendly club operating again.

Thank you

Ann Norman

President

LEURA HOME GARDEN CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022

(for the year ending 31/12/2021)

As acting President following the resignation of Ann Norman in November 2021, the committee appointed the Vice President (Lorraine McMiles) to that position until the 2022 Annual General Meeting elections are held. We are of course sad that Ann has stepped down as President after 8 years in that role, we will miss her serving in that capacity. Ann will continue in the role of 'Welfare Officer' and participate where needed. A Presentation will be made today as a 'Thank you' for her caring service to the Garden Club a journey of 21 years membership and a Life Member.

Approaching a second year of the Covid Pandemic we have had to adjust to Government directives as to circumstances under which we could meet as a club. 2021 we managed 6 months of meeting days and a Christmas luncheon on Noel Roscoe's tennis court.

We were sorry to lose some members - Judith Fritz, Richard Clare and Jeanie Collison, and Emily Darley who lived to 102 years old,

SPEAKERS

A variety of Speakers have once again given us food for thought, A trip to Melbourne to look at Parks and gardens and the International Flower & Garden Show, Dianna van Gaal from Antonias Irises gave us information on growing Iris. Also bought along Iris tubers for sale. Liz Benson spoke about the Wollomi Pine. In April. Peter Bennet and Charlie Brown from Katoomba Fire Service spoke about the Megalong Valley Fire Recovery. In June, Derek Arnaiz - Vertical Tree Management a local Arborist and Consultant gave a presentation on tree care. A good start to the year, before we were unable to meet safely, and lockdown meant we stayed at home for months and we put into practice our home gardening skills. Unfortunately, Speakers for 2022 have been reluctant to commit themselves to public meetings.

GARDEN RAMBLES

Thank you to Members Caroline Stanton, Marian Haire, Chris Morsby who have opened their Gardens for us to ramble around in the earlier part of 2021. We would like to visit more gardens now that you have maintained them during lockdown.

SOCIAL AND TOURING

Was put on hold as the community bus was unable to take our usual 20 because of social distancing. When Covid goes away we hope to recommence the Bus tours. We are in need of someone to organise tours.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (includes)

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Rotary Garden Katoomba Hospital
- Leura Garden Festival
- Leura Community Alliance
- Donation to Rural Fire Service

GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEE

Our sincere thanks to those who generously and tirelessly serve on Committee, and executive positions, giving their time and expertise Ann Norman, Murray Bailey (Secretary), Chris Morsby (Assist Secretary) Marian Haire, (Finances/web), Duncan Leys (Assist Finances) + (Railway Garden co-ordinator), Kerrie Lee (Raffles) Margaret Kristiansson, (Membership/MorningTeas) Irma Mahling, (Welcomer), Lorraine McMiles (Vice/Acting President).

GARDEN CLUB HELPERS

We have a wonderful group of members who help out at meetings and events

- Caroline Stanton who does the News Sheet, and sharing her garden knowledge in question time
- Chan Carrol for the back page of the news sheet.
- Margaret Kristiansson membership and looks after the kitchen and helpers
- Welfare Ann who looks after our cards.
- Merle Hansard and Margaret Brown on Plant Stall, and for those who propagate plants for Merle to sell.
- Kerrie Lee and Daniel Murphy look after the Raffles
- Maureen Bailey who looks after our library
- Rob Stanton for looking after the technical equipment
- Duncan Leys and his Railway Garden team. Thank you Roz and Neil Sing for your generous help in the garden for a few years and for organising 'touring' when we were able to use the Community Bus .
- Margaret Brown at Katoomba Hospital Garden
- Kerrie Lee who looks after the raffles and helps Marian with receipts

- Our thanks to Irma Mahling, Di Jones, and Kerrie Lee who welcome us and look after the front desk
- Noel Roscoe for sharing his gardening knowledge and the use of his tennis court for our Alfresco Christmas Party.
- Dedicated members who assist with setting out the chairs and tables then putting them away at the conclusion of each meeting

Thank you for your support at meetings and activities when we are able to meet, without you we would not have such an interesting club. If you have a talent and wish to participate, come see me for a chat.

Thank you

Lorraine McMiles

Acting President, Leura Home Garden Club, AGM Tuesday 15th February 2022

LEURA GARDEN CLUB



PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

(for the year ending 31/12/2022)

As we look back on 2022 we are reminded that Covid is still among us and we remain wary of our health and well-being. We were sorry to lose Dianne Jones to illness and miss others who have not been to our meetings in a long time. We trust you will return soon and join our merry band of gardeners. Our name is now officially Leura Garden Club. A special thank you to Murray for his work on the Constitution and standing orders and for procuring a grant for a computer and projector, for his sterling job as Secretary this past 3 years.

GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEE

Our sincere thanks to those who generously and tirelessly served on Committee, and executive positions, giving their time and expertise, especially Murray Bailey (3rd year Secretary), Neil Sing (Assist Secretary) Marian Haire, (2nd Year Finances/website), Duncan Leys (Assist Finance + Railway Garden), Kerrie Lee (Raffles, welfare) Margaret Kristiansson, (Membership/Morning Teas and tours) Chris Morsby (Technical set up for speakers and tours) Lorraine McMiles (1st year President)

GARDEN CLUB HELPERS.

We have a wonderful group of members who help out at meetings and events. Irma Mahling and Kerrie Lee who welcome us at the door.

Marian Haire has been busy with the transfer of banking from Westpac to Bendigo Bank (following the Westpac bank moving to Springwood.) Modernising and streamlining the way we do payments with direct debit, setting up the archiving of our records, procuring a grant to install a watering system to the railway garden - Leura Public School liaison as to how we can assist the school. Hellebore seedlings were donated to fill a garden bed. Further ways to help are under discussion.

-Roz Sing who does the monthly News Sheet and Chan Carol sharing her garden knowledge on the back page and website, along with other items, photographs of interest from members.

-Margaret Kristiansson who looks after the kitchen with her helpers. Keeping our Membership records up to date. Of late has taken on the task of possible bus tours along with Chris Morsby in 2023. We are sorry to accept her resignation from the committee after 5 years service.

-Kerrie Lee looks after our Welfare, get well cards and raffle prizes with Daniel Murphy selling the Raffle tickets.

- Merle Hansard and Margaret Brown handed over the reigns of the Hospital Garden to Probus and their assistance on the Plant Stall and for those who propagate plants to sell, special mention of Ellis Davidson who donates an endless supply of potted plants.

- Liz Fox who looks after our library and currently cataloging and sorting.

- Chris Morsby for looking after the technical equipment for speakers and her role in ick starting tours this March.

- Duncan Leys and Neil Sing on the Railway Garden team. Thank you Roz and others for your generous help in the garden. The installation of a watering system by Neil and Duncan following a generous government grant.
- Noel Roscoe for sharing his gardening knowledge along with Lachlan Hart from Birches who joined us this year.

This year we also saw the introduction of our Archivist, Tony Burbidge. Records from 1955-2021 have been safely sorted and deposited to Wentworth Falls Historical Society and each five years these will be added to by our archivist. We also introduced after the garden rambles lunch at a nearby restaurant which has been enjoyed by all.

- Dedicated members who assist with setting out the chairs and tables, kitchen and technical equipment, then putting them away at the conclusion of each meeting.
- I would like to thank our Honorary Auditor Peter. J Shoemark also St Alban's Church for their assistance during covid and use of the hall.

SPEAKERS

A variety of Speakers have once again given us much food for thought, Liz Benson spoke about flower pollination, unfortunately, Liz is relocating to Canberra so we will miss her talks. Liz Bastian met us at the community gardens of Katoomba to speak about Permaculture. Duncan Leys filled in with a talk on trees after the speaker cancelled due to family covid. Oliver Kelly spoke about 'frogs and habitats' disappearing from the BM area. Neville Burns came with a Death Adder in a box to talk about snakes in the Blue Mountains. While Peter Green spoke about Biochar. In August David White spoke about the Leura Garden Festival. Our next speaker was Victoria Austin who told us about a creative response of Citizen Scientists. Robin Johnson local author spoke about his book 'The Gardener in History'. Lyndall Comptom spoke about the Cliff view Community Farm supporting food charity in Blackheath and about saving the Shipley Heritage Apples.

GARDEN RAMBLES

Thank you to Members Murray Bailey, Trish Fewer, Greg Carty, who have opened their Gardens for us to ramble around, other gardens include Cherry Dell /Don Le Quesne, Katoomba Organic garden, Wentworth Falls Lake, Honor Ave Lawson, Lake at Fairmont Resort, Planting a Rhododendron tree 'Ross Maude' at Campbell Gardens Blackheath. We would like to visit more members gardens in 2023 and hope you would welcome us to your garden. Following the Garden Rambles we visited local restaurants for lunch these included, Alex, RSL, Katoomba Hotel, Lawson Hotel, Gardeners Inn, Lily's Pad.

SOCIAL AND TOURING

Was put on hold as the community bus was unable to take our usual 20 because of social distancing. When Covid goes away we hope to recommence the Bus tours in March with Margaret and Chris organizing a trip to Black Springs.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (includes)

- Leura Station Railway Garden
- Leura Garden Festival
- Leura Public School
- Leura Community Alliance.

Thank you for your support at meetings and activities when we were able to meet, without you we would not have such an interesting club. If you would like to volunteer your talents to further the work of our garden club please don't be shy.

Thank you,
Lorraine McMiles

President Leura Garden Club
Report read at the AGM Tuesday 21st February, 2023

Presidents AGM Annual Report 2024

(for the year ending 31/12/2023 Report read at AGM Tuesday 20th February 2024)

The past year of 2023 has seen a lot of changes following the ongoing effects of covid, Leura Garden Club did not escape unscathed. Some members have moved into care or closer to family, Noel Roscoe, Kathy Bayliss, Diana and Bruce Cox, and Jane McKenna, the passing of Nick De Brett in October, some members failed to return after a COVID break, fortunately, we did welcome new members during the year.

A special thank you to our Leura Garden Club executive and committee who set aside time to generously serve us in 2023. We had about 60 members/Life members and Honorary Life Members.

President-Lorraine McMiles (2nd Year)

Secretary/Railway Garden/Bus-tours-Neil Sing (1st Year)

Assistant/secretary-Elizabeth Ginsberg (1st year)

Treasurer/Website-Marian Haire (3rd year)

Assistant Treasurer- Bryn Hutchinson (1st year).

Welfare/Raffles-Kerrie Lee

Elected members Leys, Chris Morsby, and Margaret Kristiansson stepped down due to other commitments. These positions remained unfilled. Margaret remained as Membership secretary and Chris remained as technical officer.

Garden Club Helpers

Without volunteers at meetings and events, things would become chaotic. Marian Haire successfully transferred banking from Westpac to Bendigo Bank, modernising payments for Direct Debit. A successful application procured a government grant for a bird bath for Leura public School. Marian is also Webmaster, having set up and operated the LGC Website.

We needed archiving of our club records from 1955 to 2023 Wentworth Falls Historical Society was very helpful in setting this up. Tony Burbridge stepped in as our club archivist looking after our current records.

The monthly News Sheet editor is Roz Sing doing a wonderful job and we are grateful along with the back page contributors Chan Carol and others for sharing interesting gardening information.

The railway garden coordinator Neil Sing and team have been looking after the gardens and have been happy with the installation of a watering system, Neil always welcomes new members to help with weeding and pruning.

Margaret Kristiansson despite health issues looks after the membership rolls and the new emergency numbers roll in case of illness or accident contact numbers.

At meetings, a group of helpers set up chairs and tables and put them away before we go. Chris Morsby prepares technical equipment for speakers. Kerrie Lee is a welcomer at the door, looks

after our welfare, gets well cards, and raffle prizes along with Daniel Murphy sells raffle tickets, Daniel is currently a returning officer at our AGM.

Irma Mahling and Gynia Favot look after catering morning tea, serving us a welcome tea or coffee and biscuits.

Merle Hansard and Margaret Brown, look after the sale table, receiving plants from members to sell. Special mention of Ellis Davidson who in his mid-nineties supplies many plants to sell. We have also had a legacy of garden books from Emily Darley's estate for sale.

Liz Fox who has had a busy time with donated books to the library, now has a great selection to borrow and enjoy.

Bryn Hutchinson has been assistant treasurer and has also been our resident horticulturist speaker and had stepped into Noel's shoes with *This month in the garden* information.

I would also like to thank St Alban's Church for the use of the hall. And also our Honorary Auditor Peter J Shoemark.

SPEAKERS 2023

An interesting variety of speakers have informed and entertained us each month. Sharon Baldwin, Author and Publisher of Books in Lawson came in January. Robin Johnson gave a practical workshop on grafting and propagating cuttings. In March Brenda Lyons came from Oberon to speak about Daffodils.

Robert Trinajstic from Hedge and Arbour spoke about Garden Design. In May Robyn Bible spoke about Geraniums and Pelegoniums. Michael Barns and Barbara levy from Iris Society in June. Matt Stevens from Sun Valley followed in July telling us about Hollowlog tree nests and creating hollows for wildlife. Our own Bryn Hutchinson spoke about his time doing trial gardens at the Royal Botanic Gardens. Sue Cunningham BM Conservation Officer filled the gap in September, and spoke about escaping weeds from our properties. In October Graham Jurd spoke about Ferns. November Jo Anne Allan from BM Recycling spoke about Bins and what goes in which bin.

Garden Rambles/Lunch

With the introduction of lunches after garden rambles we have had a popular response to lunch meetings after garden rambles.

January Garden ramble to Joyce Roofing Lawson for raised garden beds followed by lunch at BM Hotel Lawson. February, we visited the Leura Railway Garden followed by lunch at Alexandra Hotel. March lunch was at Leura Cafe. April Autumn Drive around Wentworth Falls Circuit and lunch at Pie Shop. May a walk to Sublime Point with lunch at Leura Chinese Restaurant. June lunch at Katoomba RSL July -Big Morning Tea/ lunch Alexandra Hotel. August Robin Johnsons home in Blackheath followed by lunch at Gardners Inn .Spring Garden at Don le Quency and Chris Morsby's Home followed by lunch at Lily's Pad leura. In October we visited Bryn Hutchinsons Home with lunch at Katoomba family Hotel. The year concluded with a Christmas lunch at Bunkers Leura.

Social and Touring

Chris Morsby organized a Bus tour to Oberon as well as preparing her garden for the Leura Festival.

Neil Sing organized a tour to Millthorpe.

With much appreciation for organizing and bringing together two successful tours.

In conclusion thank you for your support at meetings, garden rambles, lunches and tours when able to meet. If you would like to volunteer your talents, don't be shy in offering to keep our club interesting.

I move my report be accepted as a record of club activity in 2023

Thank you -

Lorraine McMiles President Leura Garden Club