

The Flower Pot

The Official Newsletter of the Mittagong Garden Club Inc.



Meetings for the Mittagong Garden Club Inc. are held on the first Friday of the month 10am at the RSL Club, Mittagong.



Next Meeting

NO MEETING on **Friday 3rd April** as it is Good Friday.

Friday 10th April: 10am.
Garden Visit to 'The Castle' garden of Graham and Ken
60 The Old Road, Robertson.

This is large garden with cold climate trees and glass house with ferns and orchids. It's very special. Look out for our sign.
ITS BEFORE the PIE SHOP.

Please bring your mug, chair and a small plate to share.

From the President

Hello and welcome to the April newsletter.

We all had an enjoyable morning visiting Mary Hay's Garden in Mittagong. I especially liked the crocuses lining the path leading to the back garden. Mary has put time and effort into planning and planting the garden and it has certainly paid off.

Thank you, Mary, for sharing it with us.

I hope everyone is enjoying the autumn weather. The trees are starting to change colour and shed their leaves. Such a lovely time of year in the Southern Highlands.

As there is no meeting in April due to Easter, I look forward to seeing everyone at the May meeting.

Happy Easter everyone and enjoy your gardening.

Helen



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Welfare Officer: Sue Butler Phone: 48712117
Newsletter Editor: Roz Mulligan

Show and Tell

Happy Easter!



Welfare Notice

Get Well Wishes go out to our members who are not feeling well or are getting over a hospital visit. Speedy Recovery.

Please let Sue Butler know if a member is sick. A card or a phone call will go out to brighten up their day.

Contact Sue on: (02) 48712117.

If you would like to contribute to the Newsletter please send me your article by 20th of each month, it would be most welcome.

Roz Mulligan

Email: mulligar8@bigpond.com

Coming up in May.....

Friday May 1st: Meeting RSL 10 am
Guest Speaker: Leah Day – ‘History of Mittagong’. Photos and historical talk.

Friday May 8th: Garden Visit
Camelot House and Garden Tour where “A Place to Call Home” was filmed.
A 2-hour tour of House and Gardens by the owner Rachel.
Address: Kirkham Lane, Narellan.



Cost \$50pp - to be paid to Treasurer at May meeting. CASH only in an envelope with your name please.

This is a self-drive or car pool event.

What's On.....

April 18, 19 & 20: Southern Highlands Open Garden Weekend & Plant Fair.

<https://shbg.com.au/open-gardens-plant-fair/>

Red Cow Farm – open late September to May.

<https://redcowfarm.com.au/>



Gastrolobium Brown Butterfly Plant

Gastrolobium Brown Butterfly (*Gastrolobium brachysema*) a stunning small shrub with dark bronze brown leaves that resemble the wings of a butterfly. It is a native plant to Australia.



In Summer brilliant red pea like flowers appear to add interest and colour to this already interesting plant.

Bird attracting and great for native gardens, Gastrolobium are very useful for edging and container planting and prefer a well drained soil. Grows well in full sun to part shade. This WA native is drought and lightly frost tolerant once established.

It is important to note that Gastrolobium species can contain fluoroacetic acid, which is toxic to dogs and livestock, but safe for indigenous animals.

Source:
<https://www.gardenexpress.com.au/product/gastrolobium-brown-butterfly/>

Propagating Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'

by Catherine Kyngdon

I thought I'd found a self-seeded Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender' adjacent to one in a pot this morning.

However, when I went to dig it up to pot it, it was a piece of Plectranthus that had broken off and was lying on top of the ground. It was very healthy-looking and when I went to pick it up I found it had, very cleverly and very happily, "self-layered" on top of the soil, with its roots beneath the soil surface.

I had kept the soil damp near by by watering the pots and recent rain would have helped it no doubt as well.



Before Potting

After Potting



It might be another way of propagating them, if members were interested in grouping them in a shaded spot in the garden.

Trading Table Thought for the month....



I am sure we would all add mowing and hedge trimming to this saying particularly this Summer and Autumn with all the non stop growth!

Trading Table News

It is always encouraging to hear positive feedback from members who have had success and enjoyment from purchases they have made from the Trading Table. In Stephen's entertaining presentation last month he shared a photo of a yellow dahlia that he was very fond of that he had purchased from the Trading Table.

As we won't be having a meeting in April that gives us all more time to nurture and collect items for our May Trading Table.

We look forward to seeing the "fruits of your labour" next month.

The Trading Table Team.

*Sue Butler, Glennis Noble
& Jenny Zantis*

Thank you to:

Mt. Murray Nursery for their support to our Club by providing raffle prizes each month.

Visit their web site at:

<https://www.mtmurraynursery.com/> for gardening news and specials.

Mt. Murray Nursery also offers members a 5% discount on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Just show your membership badge.

Did you know – Telopia Tools are closing the shop front down in Mittagong at the end of May.

They are on Facebook and Instagram so details are or would be posted on there so if you need your gardening tools sharpened then best visit them soon.

Thank you, Catherine Kyngdon, for letting us know!



Garden Visit to Mary Hay's Garden

We had an enjoyable morning in Mary's garden. Mary had done away with having lawn, replacing it with pebbles delightfully offset with colour throughout the garden.



To the front right as you enter the garden is a small grove of Birch Trees with underplanting.



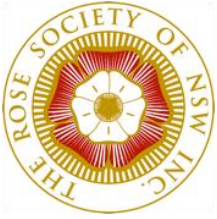
We meandered down the side path bordered with delightful white crocuses admiring the various plants and shrubs including roses and cosmos, a lovely addition to any garden.





Mary loved the tripod trellis Noel Wootton had made for the garden..





Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society



Signature Rose Best Friend

Date: 24 March 2026

Dear Garden Club Members and residents of the Renwick Community and beyond,

I am pleased to inform you that the Mayor of Wingecarribee Shire - Jesse Fitzpatrick will officially open the first stage of the new Renwick Community Rose Garden on Wednesday April 22nd 2026 at 10.30am adjacent to the Renwick Community Centre, Renwick.

You are invited to attend this important occasion which will be marked by the planting of the first Australian bred rose in the Renwick Community Rose Garden.

The Renwick Community Rose Garden which was funded by a Community Grant from Wingecarribee Shire Council will be unique not only in our Shire but in Australian Public Gardens because it will only feature roses bred by Australian breeders, past and present.

The planting will be followed with a morning tea hosted by the Southern Highlands Regional Rose Society inside the Renwick Community Centre.

We would love you to join us with the Mayor over a cuppa and celebrate the Renwick Community Rose Garden.

Looking forward to welcoming you.

Annette

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