

# "Through the Garden Gate"

*Newsletter  
of the  
Meadowie Garden  
Club*

*October 2019*

*Established March 2009*

*Member Count: 49*



*Proud Member of  
Garden Clubs of Australia*

President: Warwick (Rick) Porter

Secretary: Chris Voigt

Treasurer: Fran Easter

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## *Monthly Meeting*

This month the meeting was held at the lovely home of Ann Smith, and was attended by 22 members with 8 apologies. Thank you to Ann for hosting this meeting. The club bank balance was \$5299. A few photos of Ann's great garden shown below.



## Wishing Well

It was great to have his happy self Wayne back at this meeting!

We are missing Megan and hope she recovers from her operation soon.

## Forget-me-Not.....Upcoming Events



### Medowie Club (& Other) Events

Event / Date & Time	Location/Travel	Equip/Catering	Contact
Free Orchid potting Demonstrations (1hr) 12th October 11am & 1:30 pm	Hunter Botanic Gardens. Lucky door, Q&A session, tour of orchid houses.	Sausage Sizzle	HBG 4987 1655
Lake Macquarie GC Open Gardens and Art Trail: 12th & 13th Oct 10am~4pm	Lots of great gardens and art. Also good food and Dobell House open. \$35 for all or \$5 each. 13 locations.	Morning & A'noon teas, BBQ etc	Brochure attached below
<b>**Spring Plant Sale Saturday 19th October Open 8am-1pm</b>	<b>Medowie Community Centre 7am setup - lots of help required, Lots of plants needed. Label requirements to Rick asap!</b>	<b>BBQ, Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	<b>Chris 4982 9025</b>
Dungog Garden Ramble: Saturday 26th October 9am~4pm	9 gardens open. \$25 or \$20 conc. for all or \$5 each. 1/2 ticket: \$15/12. Tickets at gardens 1 & 2 only! <a href="https://avrinaschiller.wixsite.com/countrygardenramble">https://avrinaschiller.wixsite.com/countrygardenramble</a>	Morning & A'noon teas, raffle etc	Phone: 0437 756 500
<b>November Meeting: Saturday 2nd November 12:30pm</b>	<b>Denise Birrell - 5 Court Rd, Medowie</b>	<b>Chair, Cup &amp; Food Plate</b>	<b>Denise 4981 7919</b>
<b>December Meeting and Xmas Lunch: Saturday 7th December 12:00pm</b>	<b>Club Lemon Tree, 3 course lunch, Secret Santa (please bring a \$10-15 plant/gift if you wish to join in the fun!</b>	<b>Lunch: \$38. (\$20 for members)</b>	<b>Chris 4982 9025</b>
<b>February Meeting: Saturday 1st February 12:30pm</b>	<b>Chris &amp; Geoff Voigt's. If very hot we may try Bull &amp; Bush function room.</b>	<b>Chair, Cup &amp; Food Plate</b>	<b>Chris 4982 9025</b>



## GCA Friendship Day

A good time was had by all attending Gardening Club of Australia's Friendship Day at the Botanic Gardens on the 23rd of September. There were two interesting speakers, raffles, plant sales morning tea & lunch and of course free roaming of the gardens. Of course a show with George Hoad in attendance couldn't go off without a song!



George woos the crowd



Hoya macgillivrayi



Hoya macgillivrayi

## Kariong Plant Fair & Gosford Garden Ramble

The bus trip to Kariong Plant Fair and Gosford Garden Ramble was disappointing in numbers attending the free bus (only 13) but it was a great day! Some beautiful hard-to-find plants were purchased at the fair by most members. And we had a good look at 2 very good gardens, even picking up a few free plants at one, thanks to a generous and very informative owner.



*"My garden is my favourite teacher." ~ Betsy Canas Garmon*



# Plants To Vie For

## Plant Profile: Emu Bush (*Eremophila*)

[Eremos: "Lonely" or "Desert", Philos: "Dear" or "Beloved"]



*Eremophila* are endemic to Australia and have the common names of Emu Bush Poverty Bush and Native Fuchsia. *Eremophilas* have been used in Aboriginal tribal life in both cultural and medicinal roles. Plant material has been used in ceremonial rites, extracts and decoctions of plant parts have been used as liniments, medicines and antiseptics. The resinous exudants from some species, being used as sealants and adhesives.

Currently 214 species of *Eremophila* are recognised, some 70 or so are published. Approximately 75% of *Eremophilas* are insect pollinated, with the remainder being bird pollinated.



*Eremophila maculata* hybrid



*Eremophila nivea*



*Eremophila divaricata*

*Eremophila* species are locally dominant in many areas, often growing in impoverished sites; in general they are tolerant of harsh conditions, including drought, fire, frost, flooding and grazing - the name Poverty Bush being aptly applied. In addition to this name, they may also be referred to as Emu Bush, Fuchsia Bush, Tar or Turpentine Bush. Common names applied to particular species are many and varied, whilst Aboriginal people have names for plants which they use.



*Eremophila abietina*



*Eremophila hygrophana*



*Eremophila psilocalyx*

The cultivation of *Eremophilas* is best suited to the drier areas of Australia, however, they have in the main, proven to be adaptable to a range of soil types provided that drainage is very good and that light conditions are adequate; most require a full sun site in the more temperate climates. More *Eremophilas* have been killed through over-watering than through any other cause. Some species have proven to be short lived, but these often propagate readily from cuttings. Others, once established have proven to be very reliable and long lived. Grafted or potted plants may be the better option in the wetter locations.



*Eremophila ericalyx*



*Eremophila spectabilis*



*Eremophila maculata* 'Aurea'

As a rule *Eremophilas* will grow on relatively poor soils, but they do respond to fertilisers, provided they are not applied too heavily and too often.

Most *Eremophilas* seem relatively pest free – aphids and mealy bug are the most commonly met. These can be controlled by predators or by applying 'soft' insecticides.

The propagation of *Eremophilas* may be achieved from seed or from cuttings. Cuttings in spring through summer are best, especially when new growths have started to mature. In cooler months, bottom heat may be required. Not all species respond at the same time of the year and so there is some trial and error required to establish the optimum time. Some strike easily without hormone treatment, others respond best with hormones.

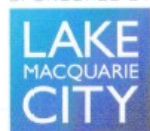
Thanks to Australian Plants online, Association of Societies for Growing Australian Plants for some of the above content.

*"The Garden: One of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds and animals". ~ Henry Beard and Roy McKie, Gardener's Dictionary*

**Cheers, Rick**



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TORONTO TOWN SQUARE



Lake Macquarie Garden Club wishes to acknowledge the support and assistance of Toronto & District Garden Club and its members in running this event

Support our local community and HMRI  
The beautiful waterfront parks are great for picnics or just to take in the fresh air and sunshine.

Toilet Facilities are available at all public parks in the area of the Open Gardens



Lions Park, Toronto  
Toronto Foreshore Park  
Rofe Street, adj. to public jetty  
Coal Point Boat Ramp  
Rathmines Adventure Park  
Wangi Wangi Park

#### To all the VOLUNTEERS

Friends, family and neighbours please accept a big thank you from members of Lake Macquarie Garden Club. Your assistance in running this event is truly appreciated.



Sorry this is not a day out for the family dog



Hunter Medical Research Institute

Have you experienced a parent with dementia? Have you supported a friend with cancer or supported a family with a child diagnosed with leukemia? Stroke and heart disease are major causes of a premature death. Now is the time to open the purse and contribute to the incredible research programs being undertaken at our very own world class premier research facility.

Yes, right here in the Hunter.

EVERY DOLLAR RAISED MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Anglican Care is an innovative community and aged care provider operating since 1956.

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Tea & Coffee  
Homemade Biscuits  
At various Locations \$5 Donation

Ticket Sales : Lee Rowan's Gardenworld,  
Toronto Sew Easy  
Cherry Rd Nursery  
Heritage Gardens Nursery  
OR At your first garden on the day  
For more info. Facebook: Lake Macquarie Garden Club  
Email: artandgardenslakemac@gmail.com

# Open Gardens & Art Trail

Sat 12th & Sun 13th October, 2019  
10am-4pm

Lake Macquarie Garden Club



## 10 Open Gardens

\$5 single garden entry  
\$35 for All Gardens & Exhibitions  
(valid for two days)

All Proceeds to HMRI

Hunter Medical Research Institute

## LAKE MACQUARIE GARDEN CLUB OPEN GARDENS & ART TRAIL 2019

Sat 12th & Sun 13th October, 2019 10am-4pm

For more information see Facebook: Lake Macquarie Garden Club

Email: artandgardenslake@mac@gmail.com

Check out the new Sculpture Park Warner's Bay Foreshore  
Lovely lakeside walk, great cafes & coffee

80 Fennell Cres, BLACKALL'S PARK  
Beautiful creek frontage  
Quirky garden. **E**

9 Amelia St, CAREY BAY  
Bokashi Info & Demo **E**

201 Coal Point Rd, COALPOINT  
Art sales, Morning /Afternoon Teas  
Waratah Ensemble Abba Concert SUN 2.15pm **E**

6 Short St, WANGI WANGI  
Sustainable Garden **E**

317 Dobell Drive, WANGI WANGI  
Expansive Open Garden **E**

Coal Point Public School **BONUS GARDEN**  
Redeveloped Garden Raised Vegie Beds  
Free Entry **BBQ SUN ONLY \$5 To School P&C**

17 Wharf St, ERARING  
Open Garden & Art Sales  
Morning & Afternoon Tea **E**  
Take exit from Morisset Rd to Eraring

Don't miss a visit to  
Dobell House, Wangi Wangi  
Home of Artist Sir William Dobell  
Special **REDUCED** Entry \$5  
when you show your Open Gardens Ticket **DOBELL HOUSE**

11 Hunter St, TORONTO  
Open garden Art Exhibition  
Morning Tea **PLANT SALE**  
Waratah Ensemble Abba Concert Sun 1.00pm

12 Renwick St, TORONTO  
Open garden, Art Exhibition & Sales **E**

1 Excelsior Pde, CAREY BAY  
Open Garden  
House & Garden Celebrating 100 years

108A Skye Point Rd, COAL POINT  
Zen Courtyard & Magnificent Trees to Waterfront **E**

**Degree of Difficulty**  
**E = Easy**

**BONUS** 14 Excelsior Pde, CAREY BAY  
What to do with an unwanted swimming Pool??? **Gold coin donation to HMRI**

Visit Toronto for great food, coffee or picnic on the foreshore. Coffee shops, restaurants, take-aways  
In Wangi do not forget Lunch or coffee at The Deck or The Bakery