

NEWSLETTER (April 2024)



Elected AGM	09 March 2024
Office Bearers 2024:	
President:	Sandra Logue 0411 066 787
Vice President:	Ashley Haag
Vice President:	(2 positions to fill)
Treasurer:	Patrick Smith
Secretary:	Helen Farley 0498 205705
Committee:	Lenora Neuendorff, Tina Holland, Helen Reich, Michelle Brewer, Sandra Harvey, Colin Power
Assistant and Points Secretary:	Michelle Brewer
Stewards:	Ashley Haag Patrick Smith
Librarian:	Anita Dwyer
Raffle Convenor:	Patrick Smith/Colin Power
Afternoon Tea Convenor:	Veronika King

Welcome to the April 2024 Newsletter

Dates for your Diary:

27 April 2024	Glebe Garden Club Plant Sale 8 am till 12 noon Cnr. Glebe Street & Green Street. Great variety of plants.
4 May 2024	Ipswich Horticultural Society Inc. Autumn Show & Market Day 7.30 to midday – Market Day – Judging in the Hall to start 9.30 am.
18 & 19 May 2024	Queensland Rose Society Inc. & Floral Art Society of Qld. Jointly present their autumn show at Auditorium Brisbane Botanic Gardens Saturday 10.30 – 3.30 and Sunday 9 – 2 .30 \$5.00 entry.
17 – 19 May 2024	Ipswich Show – They have a horticulture section. If you'd like to exhibit (further information below) otherwise go along and enjoy.
15 June 2024	Esk Garden Fair
7 September 2024	Geranium & Pelargonium Society of Brisbane are having a Geranium Sales Day at the Albion Peace Hall, 102 McDonald Road, Windsor. Gold Coin donation to enter.

6 – 7 September 2024	Laidley Spring Festival
12 October 2024	Marburg Garden & Outdoor Expo
18 – 20 October 2024	Buderim Garden Festival

1. **Welcome to Visitor:**
hope you enjoyed the look forward to getting



Charmaine Wilson, Welcome Charmaine, we afternoon and hope to see you again, and we to know you, and you us.

2. **Lucky Door/Raffle Winners for April 2024**

Lucky Door: Won by our Judge, Kevin Hamment.

Raffle: The lucky winners were Helen Reich, Margaret Kennedy & Lenora Neunendorff.

Lucky Door Roster

No lucky door for May, as it is our Autumn Show, but the following Month (June) we have Tina is bringing our Lucky Door Prize.

Our Judge for June will be Dell Underwood.

3. **The Winners for our April Show Bench were:**

Best Miscellaneous Flower: **Brian Heath (Dahlia)**

Best Cut Flower: **Brian Heath (Dahlia)**

Best Exhibit of Show: **Brian Heath (Orchid)**

Judges' Comments

Daphne Ludwig & Kevin Hamment were our Judges. – Kevin said it was a real privilege for them to come to our Club and judge all the beautiful entries, they were impressed with the great quality and quantity, and they had a difficult task before them. Kevin was very impressed with Brian's Orchid and had lots of glowing compliments.

Floral Art for May (the Autumn Show) will be:

- **Vase of Flowers – water only**
- **Vertical arrangement (in low container)**
- **Pink and pretty**
- **Design Suitable for Mother's Day**

Our Judges for the May Autumn Show will be: Amanda Meads and Meryl Windsor. We will therefore have two stewards to assist, both Patrick and Ashley.

4. Our Guest speaker for March was Ruth Higgins speaking on **CACTI & SUCCULENTS**. Ruth gave a comprehensive talk on cactus and succulents and had ample plants to choose from for sale. Ruth told us that while there's a difference between cacti and succulents, they're also closely related. "Cactus" denotes a botanical family. Succulents are a broader group referring to a type of plant included in several botanical families. While all cacti are considered to be succulents, there are succulents that are not cacti.

Despite their close relationship, there are some important differences between cacti and succulents:

Cactus plants generally have few or no leaves.

Cacti are distinguished from the rest of the succulents by the rounded indentations along their stems. These are modified buds called "areoles." From the areoles spring the spines (usually) for which cacti are best known. A wide variety of non-cactus succulents are native to different regions across the world. By contrast, almost all kinds of cacti are native only to the New World.

There are
Australia

Ruth likes
suitable for
per week in
preferably
water
water
to make
each of



not many Cacti/Succulents native to
as the Australian desert is just too dry.

to feed her succulents with anything
Australian Natives, and she waters once
summer and once per month in winter,
with rain water. If you use town water,
direct to the potting mix only as the town
(chemicals) will mark the flesh. She likes
her own potting mix and uses one third
potting mix, pumice, gritting mix or perlite.

She advises against sand as sand tends to stay hot in summer rather than cool quickly and in winter tends to stay cool longer. Only three major pests, being red spider, mealy bug and scale. To stop ants in your pots Ruth suggests using a few grains of Fipronil on top of your pots¹ – a few granules sprinkled on the top of the pot. (If you can deter the ants, you will have far less ants in your pots). Best time for repotting is spring/autumn. A plant in a pot needs space to dry out – therefore between the edge of the pot and the plant leave approximately 1 thumb nail space all around your plant. If you do take a cutting from your plant – pat some cinnamon² (natural antibiotic) on the ends and leave for a few days to dry out, before repotting on. Thanks to Ruth for a great talk.



5. We were all very pleased to see Ashley back having recovered enough from his accident earlier in the year, and we all enjoyed some cake to celebrate his return.

6. AUTUMN SHOW & MARKET DAY – 4 MAY 2024

As discussed at the meeting, sticker method to be used again this Show, not the disc method. Class on the top of the sticker, exhibitor number on the bottom (red pen). We will have stickers available at set up on 3 May. Set up from 4 pm on Friday 3 May. Tea/coffee set up in the kitchen of the hall for members/judges, helpers only (self-serve & wash up own cup please).

Stage Display. We'd like to have volunteers to decorate the stage. We have a black cloth to cover the area and Sandra Harvey is offering her lights again for decoration. It can be anything – plants, you can have a theme if you wish – anything rather than the "boring" stage sitting at the back of hall, perhaps even a picnic table (with cloth) & chairs with a flask and a picnic

¹ This chemical is used to treat fire ants, **however Fipronil is toxic to European Honeybees and Australian Native bees** – and traces are now being found in honey. Information taken from ANBA Newsletter and a google search will reveal the same.

² I've heard from other sources that Sri Lankan Cinnamon is a little better and its readily available in health food shops.

basket sitting on the table and some cups – and some plants around. Use your imagination. If you'd like to help – please let Sandra or I know.

Raffle Tickets: If you took raffle tickets home to sell at the last meeting, please remember to return them on 3 or 4 May, sold or unsold, with the proceeds, to give to Patrick. The prizes have been donated by Rocky Point, Searles Garden Products, The PA Hotel (\$100 gift voucher), Eden Seeds, Earthfood & Pohlman's Nursery. Some good prizes.

Help cleaning up at the end of the Show is always needed and appreciated.

Our Zone Co-Ordinators' Jeanette & Erwin will visit at some stage through the morning of the Autumn Show to meet us. Please keep an eye/ear out for them, make them feel welcome. Please wear your badges so they are able to recognise you from our Club.

Our patron Jim Madden will attend to present the winners at about midday.

7. Pots

I still have new pots for sale (Donations to the Club). Let me know if you'd like any. Very cheap to our members. Small 4" are 10 pots for \$1.00 (new pots). What's not sold before market day will be bundled up for sale at a more expensive price.

8. Projector Screen Purchase Update

This has been purchased for the Club's use.

9. Friendship Day – Jimboomba Garden Club

Sandra and Veronika attended, and both enjoyed the day. The guest speaker on "Frogs" was a hit, and both ladies came home as raffle winners. Don't be shy to put your hand up to go to these friendship days. They really are a lot of fun and worthwhile and you can usually hitch a ride with someone else going.

10. Get Well Wishes

To our members not well, wishing you a speedy recovery, and hoping Colin, you are recovering well and we hope to have you back at Club very soon.

11. Ipswich Show – 17 – 19 May 2024

Dawn Jones is chief steward, and her contact number is 3282 4522. She has schedules available if you'd like to submit entries in the Horticulture Section for 2024. Most entries attract an entry fee of \$1.00. Please speak to Dawn for further information.

12. Happy Birthday Wishes – To members having a birthday in April/May – Native birth flower for April is Eremophilla (Winter Gold) and for May – Crowea Saligna (or Pink Wax Flower).

13. Newsletter - If you have anything of interest you'd like to share with members, or an event is happening you'd like to share, please let me know and I can share for you in the newsletter.

14. Please continue to promote our Club and bring along like minded friends, neighbours, anyone you think may be interested in seeing what we do, if only as a visitor to listen to our speakers,

and share a cuppa with us, and tell everyone to come along to our Plant Sale/Market Day on 4 May.

15. Thanks to those who stay to help clean up. It makes it so much easier for us all to get away earlier.

Reminder: No formal meeting on 11 May as we have our Autumn Show/Market Day on 4 May. Below: first on the left, our Judges with the two winning entries, and some more of the displays on the day, and a better picture of the winning Dahlia and Orchid. Happy Gardening. See you all on 3 & 4 May.

