



**IPSWICH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY INC. GARDEN CLUB**  
(founded 1866)

**Welcome to the November 2024 Edition of our  
Newsletter.**

<b>Elected AGM</b>	<b>09 March 2024</b>
<b>Office Bearers 2 0 2 4:</b>	
Patron	Councillor Jim Madden
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:	Sandra Harvey
Stewards:	Ashley Haag Patrick Smith
Librarian:	Anita Dwyer
Raffle Convenor:	Patrick Smith/Colin Power
Afternoon Tea Convenor:	Veronika King/Tina Holland

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**



<b>4 December 2024</b>	<b>IHSI Garden Club, Xmas Lunch &amp; Awards Presentation Day – PA Hotel (Char'd)(opposite Big W Complex on Brisbane Road Booval) 11.30 a.m. for 12 p.m. start. (PLEASE BRING YOUR SECRET SANTA TO THIS EVENT WRAPPED) (please also bring a pen)</b>
<b>8 December 2024 (Sunday)</b>	Last IHSI Garden Club meeting for 2024 – informal – at Tina Holland's house – 11 a.m. start – Address: 17 Langley Road, Camira. Bring a plate of finger food to share for a light lunch. RSVP Secretary 30 November so I can let Tina know numbers please.
8 February 2025	First Club meeting for 2025.
21 March 2025	Proposed Club Visit Date – Elderflower Farm & Little Pee Dee Nursery (if sufficient interest)

**Next Meeting (informal – as per above)**

2025 – Autumn and Spring Shows (and Photo Competition) – Our Autumn Spring Show will be conducted on Saturday 3 May 2025. Spring Show will be 4 October 2025.

1. **Lucky Door/Raffle Winners for November 2024**

*Lucky Door:* Tina Holland, Leanne Field and Anita Dwyer.

*Raffle:* Doreen Coker; Leanne Field; Dawn Jones and Sandra Harvey.

Congratulations to these members.

**Lucky Door Roster for 2025**

We need two members to start off our list for 2025 – two members for February please to each bring a lucky door prize to the value of about \$20.00. If you'd like to bring one for February 2025, please let me know.

**Membership Fees for 2025 will be due first meeting in 2025** – February 8 - \$15.00 for 12 months.

If you'd like your newsletter posted unfortunately it will be an extra \$15.00 to cover the postage (other clubs are passing this cost on as well – stamps are now \$1.50 each). Alternatively, please give the secretary an email address where your newsletter can be sent to save your cost. Perhaps a son or daughter?

2. The Winners for our November Show Bench were:

Best Cut Flower	Ashley Haag – Day Lilly
Best Miscellaneous Flower	Tina Holland - Rose
Best Exhibit of Show	Tina Holland – Rose

**Judge's Comments**

David Stephensen our Judge – had no negative comments at all – he said everything was well done and we presented lovely show benches'

It was so hot!!!! at our meeting last Saturday<sup>1</sup> – thanks to everyone who braved the heat – not too many cups of tea or coffee were being made, but loads of water consumed.



Brett Malcolm (aka Frog Man) spoke on Frogs of Ipswich. (I have to confess to not being able to hear too much of Brett's talk due to fans going and at times I think the microphone was either too close or too far away from Brett's mouth. However, a short synopsis follows.

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<sup>1</sup> 9 November 2024



You could go online at <https://www.frogid.net.au> if you wanted to join the movement to help increase and protect the number of frogs in the environment. Brett covered three main topics, how do we identify them, how we can help, and Ipswich's frog diversity. Unfortunately, he didn't bring any frogs along and I think members were looking forward to this part of the talk. As it turns out if clubs wanted frogs as part of the presentation Brett needs to apply for permits etc. to be able to move them. Frogs have smooth, somewhat slimy skin. Toads have dry, warty skin. Frogs have long legs, built for jumping. Toads have shorter legs and prefer to get around by crawling. Frogs usually have big, bulging eyes, while toads' eyes are more subtle in appearance. Frogs only eat food that moves, toads will eat anything – dead or alive – cat food – anything. Brett tells us that toads are actually far more intelligent than frogs!!

We then welcomed Coral and Kevin Larsen from Larsen's Nursery at Fernvale. (Two Guest speakers! Bonus) Kevin and Coral are well known in the Nursery Industry and most of us know them to be at all the major plant shows and events. Coral spoke in particular about Caladiums and told us how much these plants love "chooky poo". Kevin's secret to mixing his potting medium is his trusty old cement mixer. He uses premium potting mix from



Sapar, adds a bucket of water to his old cement mixer, with some coir peat and some perlite and gives her a good whirl. He says he has been using this method for years. Coral repots all her caladiums every year without fail, and in the colder months when they start to go to sleep, all the pots are placed on their sides, so the rain doesn't get in the rot the bulbs. When the night temperatures are over 16 degrees these plants start to wake up for summer. The Larsens brought plants along to sell and we were all eager to snap up the plants we wanted to take home. Their nursery is at Fernvale, but Coral says to telephone before you drive out there to ensure they are home, as they have appointments sometimes. Ken had a cracked rib on the day, so it was big effort for him to carry the trays in and out for us. Thank you to the Larsens!

Thank you so much to all who stayed behind to help with the clean up at the end of the meeting. Makes so much different when everyone chips in, and also the day was so hot! meant we could all finish up a little faster. THANK YOU.



Sandra will be asking for your topics/choices for **Guest Speakers** for the New Year please at our next informal club meeting. You all should have a copy of the Guest Speaker List. If you haven't given Sandra your preferences, please bring them along to the next meeting

which will be on Sunday 8 December 2024 at Tina's house (details above) to start at 11 am. Please bring some finger food to share.

**Christmas Breakup/Trophy Presentation** – Prince Alfred Hotel – 4 December 2024 - 11.30 a.m. start. Please don't forget to bring your secret Santa if you are coming along (wrapped please). The menu is alternate drop:

**DUO OF ROASTS (WITH ROAST BEEF AND SLICED TURKEY AND SERVED WITH WINTER SEASONAL VEGETABLES AND RICH TRADITIONAL GRAVY. SMOKED BRISKET (SAME VEGES) BUT SERVED WITH SMOKY BBQ SAUCE (GLUTEN FREE). DESSERTS: BERRY PAVLOVA (GLUTEN FREE) AND TRADITIONAL XMAS PUDDING WITH BRANDY CUSTARD. THE COST IS \$20.00 FOR MEMBERS AND \$26.50 FOR NON-MEMBERS. THE PREFERENCE IS TO PAY DIRECTLY INTO THE BANK ACCOUNT WITH YOUR NAME CLEARLY BESIDE AS THE REFERENCE SO PAT KNOWS WHO HAS PAID.**

Members: \$20.00

Non-members: \$26.50

EFT preferred (with your name) Bank Account Details: Ipswich Horticultural Society Inc.  
BSB: 633 000 Account: 114267255) (Bendigo Bank)  
or cash to Patrick on the day (correct money please).

**Christmas Charity** – Our Club will donate \$500.00 to the Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal. President Sandra will ensure that the donation goes towards helping families in need in the Ipswich area.

**Club Visit to Elderflower Farm/Farm Visit** – Morning tea in the Café – Friday 21 March 2025 –

The cost is \$5.00 for a farm tour. Then morning tea, in the café. Then on to Little Pee Dee Nursery at Kalbar. I have asked Maree and she will open the nursery for Garden Clubs, if I let her know the date. She usually only opens the nursery on weekends. If there is sufficient interest, I will book both. At the last meeting I couldn't really gauge how many members were interested. I don't think it would be worth asking Maree to open the nursery for anything less than say 15 members. As usual, not just limited to members. If you want to bring your daughter, neighbour, cousin or whoever. That's fine as well. These places book up quickly so I'd like to book the farm tour at Elderflower Farm this side of Christmas if I can get the interest. Please let me know!

**AGM** – The AGM will be held at our March 2025 meeting. Don't let this deter anyone from coming to our regular meeting. Our AGM is done at the beginning of our meeting and takes a whole 10 or so minutes. If you'd like to nominate for the Committee, or to do the afternoon tea set up/clean up – sell raffle tickets, become a Vice President etc. – nomination forms will be available at our February 2025 meeting. So that's something to think about over the Christmas Break.

As always if any member has any item of interest, they'd like to share in the newsletter please let me know anytime. We are always interested in Member's news.

**News that I'd like to share.** Most recently I was at a Garden/Plant event in the Ipswich area. There was a stand promoting a product brand "Plant of Health".

One bottle had a label that read “Orchid Boost”, another read “Roses & Flowers Boost” and the other promoted food for Vegetables and Fruit. I asked the representative what was in the Orchid Boost and I turned the bottle around to read. I asked what the different was between Orchid Boost and the next product for “Roses & Flowers”. He said “nothing”, I asked what was the difference between Roses & Flowers and the one for Fruit/Vegetables – he said “nothing”. I said so all 3 of these products are labelled for different types of growing, yet they all contain the exact same ingredients, and he started to laugh and said “yes – exactly, identical”. So, before you waste your money folks, check out the labels on the bottle - you probably have a bottle of exactly the same product as you are about to buy at home.

*Merry Christmas wishes from Desolie King who has asked that I wish you all a very happy Christmas from her and of course Desolie, we wish you the same right back.*

*It's been a very friends and encourage your club in 2025. Merry*



*good year for our Club and we've made lots of new welcomed new members. So please continue to friends to our club and let's continue building our Christmas to all from the Committee.*

December 2024 newsletter will just be short and to the point, as we wind down for Christmas holidays.

*(Just a quick note on 14 March 2026 our Club will be 160 years old – so in 2025 the Club will be planning a big birthday celebration for the following year.)*

Photos from our November meeting below.

Keep Safe,  
Secretary.



Winning Entries



Frog Man giving his talk



Glenda's stunning Orchid

Desert Rose showing off her beauty