



Newsletter

February 2026 edition

Next Meeting & Show – PLUS our AGM!

Mark your calendars — our next meeting doubles as our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, so it's a big one!

📅 Saturday 14 March 2026

📍 St Thomas' Anglican Hall, 15 Lawrence Street, North Ipswich

Times to remember

Set-up from **12:30 pm**

Meeting starts promptly at **1:30 pm**

What's in store?

- 🎟️ A free **lucky door ticket** for all attendees
- 🎟️ Raffle tickets at the door — just **\$1 each**
- 🍽️ Please bring a **small plate** to share for afternoon tea
- 🍵 Kindly remember to bring and wash your own cup



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Guest Speaker

We are delighted to welcome **Julia from Aquatic Jungle**, who will present an engaging talk on growing plants in alternative media including:

- Water and clay balls
- Ponds and fish tanks
- Terrariums and enclosed environments

This fascinating session will appeal to plant lovers of all experience levels.



Annual General Meeting (AGM)

At the AGM, all committee positions become vacant, and we warmly welcome new nominations — whether you're bursting with ideas or just keen to lend a hand.

- Councillor Jim Madden will chair the meeting
- No experience needed (enthusiasm counts!)
- We meet once a month, usually over lunch or coffee
- We're especially hoping to welcome two new general committee members

If you've got a little spare time, a few ideas, or just enjoy friendly company, please consider nominating — or nominate a friend (with their permission, of course!).



Floral Art Themes For March

Get creative with these upcoming themes:

- Destination Japan (Ikebana)
- Two of a Kind
- Loop de Loop

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February Meeting & Show – A Great Day!

Our guest speaker **Wendy Lord** delivered a wonderfully hands-on and informative session on pelargonium propagation. Wendy shared her method using:

- A hormone mixture
- White willow bark powder
- Seed-raising mix with perlite

Members rolled up their sleeves and prepared cuttings to take home — practical, fun, and very popular!

If you'd like to see more of Wendy's plants and projects, check out her Facebook page, **Lordy's Leaves and Flowers**.



Happy Birthday



Warm birthday wishes to **Ashley** and **Alexandra**, who both celebrated birthdays in February.





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Show Results

Best Cut Flower: Shaleshni's Gerbera

Best Exhibit: Helen Farley's Ginger – *Dragon's Breath*

Judge's Helpful Hints

A few reminders to keep in mind this year:

- Avoid *over-potting* — the pot should suit the plant
- Pots with hangers belong in the hanging basket section
- Remove stakes before placing plants on the bench
- Desert roses are succulents and should be entered as such.



Photos from February Show





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A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors

It was lovely to welcome these visitors to our February meeting:

- Veronica Robinson
- Doreen O'Connor
- Cheryl Scott

We hope to see you again soon!

Raffle & Lucky Door Winners

Lucky Door Prizes:

Veronica Robinson, Anita Dwyer, Helen Murray, Sandra Logue

Raffle Winners:

Alexandra Burwell, Tina Holland



◆ Reminder:

Next month's lucky door prizes will be kindly supplied by Anita Dwyer and Kim Prince. (We're still looking for one volunteer for June!)

Ipswich Plant & Lifestyle Fair

We're excited to share that the **Ipswich Horticultural Society Garden Club** has been offered a **site** at the **Ipswich Plant & Lifestyle Fair**, happening on **Saturday 6 June 2026**. A big thank you goes to **Chelsea Allan**, who organises the fair and continues to support our club so generously.

Chelsea is also the owner of **Trevallan Lifestyle Centre**, a wonderful spot to visit as autumn approaches. Whether you're searching for new plants, a special gift for a gardening friend, or just a little something for yourself, Trevallan has plenty to tempt garden lovers. You'll find it at **77 Fernvale Road, Brassall**.

And while you're there, why not stay a while? Enjoy a coffee and cake in the beautiful surroundings—it's the perfect garden outing ☕ 🍰 🌱

Help Our Garden Club Grow 🌱

Visitors are always welcome! Feel free to bring along:

- Friends
- Family
- Neighbours
- Anyone who loves gardening (or just wants to learn!)

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May Show – Important Information

Our May Show will be held on **2 May** and is an open show — everyone is welcome to enter!

Set-up:

🕒 **4:00 pm on Friday 1 May** at the hall



Photo Competition

Sharpen those cameras! The May Show photo themes are:

- My Favourite Place in the Garden
- Autumn in an Ipswich Garden



Photos must be 8” x 6”



Please write your name on the back (in pencil)



Mounting is best done the afternoon before at set-up



Plant Sales (Commission):

- Plants may be sold on market day
- Club retains 15% commission
- Plants must be grown off the ground
- Clearly labelled with price and exhibitor number
- Please price plants fairly — as you’d hope to pay yourself



Fire Ant Reminder

Just a quick reminder that all plants donated for the 160th Anniversary Plant Stall and the May Market Day must be grown off the ground, in line with fire ant requirements.



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A Gerbera Story – Coming Home

We were recently contacted by Christine Gardiner, whose father Sid Richards (born 1915) grew gerberas in North Ipswich and exhibited them at the Ipswich Show. These special plants have been passed down through generations and have now found their way back home.

Four plants were generously donated:

- Two for the Ipswich Show Gardens
- One to be grown on by Sandra
- One to be grown on by the club

A lovely story of family, history, and community coming full circle.



Did you know?

A gerbera “flower” is actually made up of **hundreds of tiny individual flowers** packed tightly together. What looks like one bloom is really a miniature bouquet, which is why gerberas are so long-lasting and visually striking as cut flowers.



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Office Bearers 2025

Elected at AGM: 15 March 2025

Patron	<i>Councillor Jim Madden</i>
President:	<i>Sandra Logue 0411 066 787</i>
Vice President:	<i>vacant</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Patrick Smith</i>
Secretary:	<i>Helen Farley 0498 205705</i>
Committee:	<i>Lenora Neuendorff Tina Holland Helen Reich Sandra Harvey Anita Dwyer Lynette Rose</i>
Assistant and Points Secretary:	<i>Sandra Harvey</i>
Honorary Member	<i>Rob Wilson (Mountain Man)</i>
Stewards:	<i>Ashley Haag Patrick Smith Sandra Harvey</i>
Librarian:	<i>Anita Dwyer</i>
Raffle Convenor:	<i>Patrick Smith</i>
Afternoon Tea Convenor:	<i>Tina Holland</i>
Newsletter Editor	<i>Melissa Barton Melissa.Barton26@telstra.com</i>

Stay Connected

Visit our website for the latest club news:

 <https://ipswichhortgardenclub.com.au>

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