



NEWSLETTER

April 2026 edition

WHAT'S ON: NEXT MEETING & SHOW

Reminder: There will be **no meeting in May** due to our **Autumn Show Day** on **2nd May 2026**.

We're excited for our Autumn Show Day! Set-up starts from 4.00pm on Friday 1st May at St Thomas' Anglican Hall, 15 Lawrence Street, North Ipswich.

Bring a friend (or two!) and help us spread the word—invite neighbours, family and workmates along. Enjoy beautiful plant exhibits, floral art and photos, and don't forget to grab a raffle ticket for a chance to win a great prize.

Exhibitors: you can set up from 4.00pm the afternoon before (as usual). Quick reminder: no discs this time—please attach your exhibitor number and class to the pot.

On the day:

- **7.30am** – Market Day (run alongside the church) starts.
- **9.30am** – Judging begins.
- Donations welcome: **plants, baking** and **garden bric-a-brac**.
- Commission sales: club retains **15%**.
- Please label items clearly with your **member number** and **price** for recording.
- If you sell on commission, please also donate at least **three items** to the plant stall.

Floral Art will be:

- Mother's Day
- Green is Fine
- Reflection.

We're lucky to have Amanda Meads and Shirley Took judging on the day—thank you both!

Photo Competition – get your entries ready and bring them along for set-up from 4.00pm the afternoon before:

- My favourite place in the garden
- Autumn in an Ipswich Garden

Photo size: 8" x 6" (please write your name on the back in pencil).

Need a hand? Gemma can mount your photos on the boards on Friday during set-up.

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CELEBRATING 160 YEARS: HIGHLIGHTS

What a fantastic day! Our 160th Anniversary Celebration on 18th April 2026 at the Masonic Hall (Eileen Street, Booval) was a wonderful success.

We were delighted to welcome Mayor Theresa Harding (City of Ipswich), who conducted the official opening.

Mr Shayne Neumann MP (Federal Member for Blair) shared an engaging overview of Ipswich's contributions to Queensland.



A special moment of the day was seeing our President, Sandra Logue, presented with certificates to mark our milestone by Mrs Lyn Faux (Vice President and Queensland Director of Zones, Garden Clubs of Australia) and Mr Phil Adam (President, Queensland Council of Garden Clubs).

Left: Ipswich Horticultural Society Garden Club President Sandra Logue being presented with a certificate by Lyn Faux, Garden Clubs of Australia

Our guest speakers, Mr Rob Wilson and Mr Jonathon Gregory, kept everyone captivated with presentations on *Endangered Native Species of Ipswich & Surrounds* and *Historic Gardens – Then & Now*.

A big congratulations to Patrick Smith, who was awarded lifetime membership in recognition of his many years of dedication to the club.

Thank you to Councillor Madden for his talk, and for the lovely hamper kindly donated as a lucky door prize.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the celebration so memorable.

Special thanks to Sandra Logue, Helen Farley, Anita Dwyer, Kim Prince and Alexandra Burwell for organising such a wonderful event.



Above: Ipswich Horticultural Society Gardn Club's newest lifetime member, Patrick Smith.

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Photos from 160th Anniversary Celebrations



Did you know?

When the Ipswich Horticultural Society Garden Club was first formed the colony of Queensland was 7 years young.





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This day would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors:

- [City of Ipswich \(Councillor Discretionary Funds\)](#)
- [Discover Ipswich Visitor Information Centre](#)
- [Happy Valley Seeds](#)
- [Ipswich Men's Shed](#)
- [Plant of Health](#)
- [Ipswich Historical Society](#)
- [Pohlman's](#)
- [Evergreen Garden Care](#)
- [Seasol](#)
- [Whites Group](#)
- [The Q.](#)

COMMITTEE NEWS & UPDATES

The Committee met on 7th April and here are a few quick updates to keep everyone in the loop:

- Exhibit labels at monthly meetings** – The committee agreed the “tag on the pot” method has been working well, especially when the benches are full. We’ll keep doing this.
- Club funds** – With rising travel and operating costs, the Committee discussed fundraising and voted in favour of the following changes:
 - Membership for 2026 will increase to \$20.00 per person.
 - Prize money will not be awarded at the end-of-year Christmas function.
 - Prize money will be paid only for the two annual shows—Autumn and Spring. (No prizes under \$5.00 will be paid.)
 - Raffle tickets at monthly meetings will increase from \$1.00 each to \$2.00 each (or 3 tickets for \$5.00).

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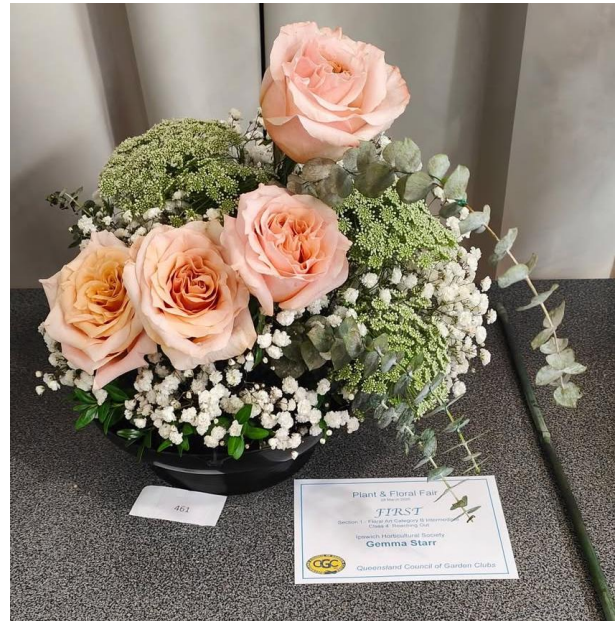
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- The visitor fee will increase from \$2.00 to \$4.00 from our June meeting.
- (c) **Plant & Lifestyle Fair (June 6) – Nicholas Street Precinct.** This is a great opportunity to promote our club. We will be asking for volunteers to help us at the stand again this June. Let the Secretary know if you can spare an hour or two – then you can browse the other great stalls at the event.

FAIR WINS & RIBBONS (QCGC)

Huge congratulations to Shaleshni and Gemma, who both entered the Queensland Council of Garden Club's (QCGC) Plant & Floral Fair for the first time in April—and both came home with prizes! Shaleshni received third place with her gerbera, and Gemma received first place for her Intermediate floral art entry.

That takes our club's total entrants to five (up from the usual three)—how great is that! Let's keep cheering each other on and encourage even more members to have a go next year. Well done also to Patrick, Helen and Sandra for their wins—proof that it's always worth entering. One lady entered her geranium at the last minute and ended up winning first place! Just shows that sometimes the last-minute decision pays off!



Gemma's Floral Art Entry

WELCOME, VISITORS & NEW MEMBERS!

A very warm welcome to Jonathon Gregory—it's wonderful to have you join our club!

WE NEED A TREASURER!

A quick update for members: our Treasurer will be stepping down for personal reasons, with her resignation effective at the end of this month. In the interim Helen Farley will act as Secretary/Treasurer.

This is a key role that keeps our club running smoothly, so we're now looking for a member who can step in. If you might be able to help (even if you'd like to "buddy up" and learn the ropes), please get in touch—we'd be so grateful.

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NAME BADGES

New name badges are available for \$14.50. If you'd like to order one, please contact Helen Farley.

OFFICE BEARERS 2026

Elected at AGM: 14 March 2026

Patron	<i>Councillor Jim Madden</i>	
President:	<i>Sandra Logue 0411 066 787</i>	
Treasurer:	<i>Sandra Harvey</i>	
Secretary:	<i>Helen Farley 0498 205705</i>	
Committee:	<i>Lynette Rose</i>	<i>Anita Dwyer</i>
	<i>Kim Prince</i>	<i>Helen Reich</i>
	<i>Gemma Starr</i>	<i>Melissa Barton</i>
Points Secretary:	<i>Sandra Harvey</i>	
Honorary Member	<i>Rob Wilson (Mountain Man)</i>	
Stewards:	<i>Ashley Haag</i>	<i>Patrick Smith</i>
	<i>Kim Prince</i>	
Raffle Convenor:	<i>Patrick Smith</i>	
Webmaster:	<i>Colin Power</i>	
Honorary solicitor:	<i>Peter Walker</i>	
Newsletter Editor	<i>Melissa Barton Melissa.Barton26@telstra.com</i>	

BRING A FRIEND & GROW OUR CLUB

Visitors are always welcome. Please bring along friends, family and neighbours (or anyone who loves gardening... or wants to learn!). **The more, the merrier!**

STAY IN THE LOOP

Visit our website for the latest club news:
ipswichhortgardenclub.com.au

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