

Karana Downs Garden Club Inc

Newsletter



President: Cecelia Jackson | Secretary: Lesley Holt | Treasurer: Gayle Smith

SPECIAL EDITION -April 2020

Dear Members



Topsy turvy!
Everything is upsy daysy
Topsy turvy!
Everyone is acting crazy
Dross is gold and weeds are a bouquet
That's the way on Topsy Turvy Day
- *Lyrics from the Hunchback of Notre-Dame*

How are you all coping in our topsy turvy world? Is your garden your happy place? Yes, we are being told we must stay at home, but it doesn't mean stay inside, does it? I can see from the many posts on our Facebook page that many of you are taking this opportunity to catch up with the pruning and planting and finding your inner creativity.

As gardeners we know a sense of wellbeing springs from more than what we produce or bloom. It comes from getting our hands in the dirt and sun on our back. It comes from knowing a skill that carries us through times of plenty or shortage.

As you are aware, under the current Covid-19 restrictions, I have cancelled the general meeting scheduled for next Tuesday 7th April as well as all April group activities. It saddens me to confirm now that all future meetings are cancelled until advised by the Australian Government that is safe to be together.

However, your Management Committee is not sitting idle. There is still a lot happening behind the garden front so to speak. On Tuesday this week, the Management Committee held its first ZOOM meeting. ZOOM is a video communications service which allows users to meet online. It is the same as meeting at the Karalee Tavern for our Committee Meetings except we can't touch or hug each other, and we must make our own coffee ☹️. We live in an amazing technological world.

My intent in this communication is to bring you up to date with current decisions and information and to keep us connected. When our world turns the right way up, we will celebrate.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

The following members are celebrating birthdays in April. Happy birthday everyone. A year to remember!

Bronwen Cottman	Cecelia Jackson	Gwenda Schneider	Gloria Tulley
Wilma Cullen	Jill Maiden	Carmel Selva	Brian Olsen
Jan Flanigan	Raema McCoy	Denise Smith	John Sommerfeld
Mieke Harris	June Nankivell	Margaret Sommerfeld	Sue Morrish

EASTER BONNET/HAT PARADE COMPETITION



Thank you, Yvonne, for getting us together, albeit on-line, for some fun and creativity. I do apologise to those members who are unable to join us on Facebook due to technology restrictions.

This is how it will work: please don't go out looking for bits and pieces, just walk around your garden or in the shed and see what you can find.

Categories –

- 1 Eggcellent – Gardener's Bonnet (Ladies)
 2. Eggcellent – Gardener's Hat (Gentlemen)
 3. Most Outrageous Bonnet/Hat
 4. Aussie Themed Easter Bonnet/Hat.
- You can enter a hat in each category but not the same hat.
 - Either take a selfie of you and your bonnet or if you can't take a selfie or have someone take a photo for you, just take a photo and place your name badge beside it.
 - Place the category number somewhere in the photo.
 - On Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday post your entries on the KDGC Facebook page (not before please).
 - Judging will be on Easter Monday.
 - Tuesday 14th April – winners will be announced on Facebook.
 - A prize will be awarded to each category winner.

Have fun!

PHOTO COMPETITION

I received a suggestion from a member to consider changing the way we run our Photo Competition. The Management Committee, in their meeting on March 31st, approved the following change. I am sure you will agree that this innovative suggestion will add something new and exciting to this award.

This is how it will work from May onwards. At this stage it can only happen through the KDGC Facebook page in the same way that the Easter Bonnet/Hat competition will be run. We trust that members will understand that without these competitions running, the awards programme at the end of the year will be very limited.

A monthly theme will apply, and the following categories have been approved.

May	Red
June	My Garden
July	Flower
August	Leaf/leaves
September	New Life
October	Bark
November	End of year vote of monthly winners

We will give you further information on how to enter as it is determined.

HOW TO CREATE A FACEBOOK PAGE (I have been asked so here it is)

If you are not on Facebook and would like to know how, follow these simple instructions.

Step 1

Open an Internet browser on your computer and navigate to the Facebook Sign Up Web page.

Step 2

Enter your real first and last name, your email address and a password. Select your sex and birthday from the pop-up menus. Click the "Sign Up" button at the bottom of the screen.

Step 3

Type the "Captcha" security code into the box provided.

Step 4

You are presented with opportunities to find existing friends on Facebook. If you give the site permission, it compares your contact list to the names of people already on Facebook. You can skip this step for now, if you like.

Step 5

Enter information for your profile. For now, enter just the basics. You can go back later and expand on your profile information.

Step 6

Upload a profile picture when prompted. This should be an actual photograph of you, which helps friends find and identify you on the site.

Step 7

Check your email. Facebook sends a confirmation email to the email address you listed on the Sign-Up page. Confirm the account as requested. You have created a Facebook account.

HOW DO I JOIN THE KDGC WEBSITE PAGE?

In these uncertain times, we encourage you to sign up to Facebook so you can keep up to date with Club activities and announcements. Of course, we understand that some of you don't want to for your own personal reasons or you do not have the technical infrastructure to do so. I know some people who sign up to Facebook but only join groups of interest without putting anything up on their personal timeline. Perhaps you might like to consider this for the time being and delete your Facebook page when its all over, if that is your preference.

If you are already on Facebook but don't know how to join the KDGC page, the instructions are below.



- Tap the looking glass on your Facebook page and then tap the search bar.
- Enter Karana Downs Garden Club.
- Tap the group name in the results and tap Join Group.
- A group admin person will receive your request and approve your request.

Should you experience any problems please give me a call and I'll step you through it – 0402111847.

OTHER CLUB BUSINESS

2020 Membership Fees are due by the end of April. You will receive a letter from our Secretary shortly should your fees not be up to date. EFT is now available, details of which will be in the letter. Should you be resigning your membership, please do let us know by ticking the appropriate box on the letter and returning it to our Secretary, Lesley Holt.

Regarding the **April bus trip** which has been postponed rather than cancelled, we are now unable to offer a refund due to the 'stay at home' rule. All payments require two signatures on the bank account, whether by cheque or electronic funds transfer. Please be assured that should the bus trip not go ahead later this year; you will be refunded any money you have paid. Thank you for your understanding in this regard.

On that note, the Management Committee approved the acquisition of two **tokens from Heritage Bank** to be issued against the Treasurer and the President roles. These tokens enable the **secure** multi-factor authentication payment of on-line transactions. Once these tokens have been approved by the Bank, we will be able to do refunds, make payments etc without having to be together in the one place. It is proposed that by the end of 2020 we will no longer be issuing cheques.

The **grant application** with Heritage Bank has been submitted. Should we be successful and depending on the amount granted, it is the Committee's intention to upgrade the KDGC website to a cloud-based platform. Should we not be successful with Heritage Bank or the grant amount is insufficient, grants from other organisations will be sought. It is anticipated that in the future, the KDGC webpage will be the resource we rely on for updating members on all our activities.

The Management Committee approved the redirection of the **Club's mail** to the Secretary's address for a period of 6 months. This is in keeping with the 'stay at

home' rule and a more permanent arrangement will be discussed at the May Management Committee Meeting.

On return to our usual meeting format, **electronic funds transfer** will be available for your convenience. This does not apply to the \$3 entry fee or the raffles and plant stall areas, however it will apply to membership, bus trips, carpools etc.

The Melbourne Cup will be here before we know it. We are asking for two volunteers willing to run the sweep. A hand over will be provided by our previous long-term volunteers, Anne and Peter. If you think you could do this, please email and expression of interest to Sue Dwan. 😊

Sue and her team are conjuring up something a bit different this year, so watch this space for a future update.

ARCHIVIST WANTED

We are looking for a member who would be interested in archiving our history from the past 30 years. There are a lot of documents in a lot of different members' homes. The Management Committee has approved the purchase of a scanner suitable to the task. It is a longer-term project with no real time limit. The goal is to preserve our history for the future. It could also be done as a sub-committee task where a few members contribute towards the decision to keep or destroy. Please let me know if you are interested.



STAYING CONNECTED

Loneliness and social isolation can affect everyone, but older people are particularly vulnerable. Is there someone in the Club that you could keep regular contact with by phone, text or email? We have several members who live alone. You could be that little ray of sunshine in their life to brighten their day.

Stay safe everyone. Should you have any need whatsoever or know of another member who might need a cheer up, please do let me know.

20 things to do in the garden during self-isolation

<https://www.countryliving.com/uk/homes-interiors/gardens/a31805148/things-to-do-garden-self-isolation/>

My very best wishes

Cecelia Jackson
President 2018/2019/2020