



- April & May – the good, the bad, the ugly
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**The good – Easter holidays, travel back on the cards**  
**The bad – illness amongst our ranks**  
**The ugly – the weather**

The world is happily on the move again travelling near and far; Covid infections (all recovered), close contact isolation and broken limbs unfortunately impacted our members and executive committee; and then there was the ever present rain. This meant small turnouts at our Working Bees and Get-togethers but on the positive side, even though it was a rainy day, we had a great turnout for our Walks & Talks during the 2022 Seniors Festival.

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**Scenes from the 2022 Seniors Festival  
Ivanhoe Park Walk & Talk**

Our visitors were greeted and seated by our member volunteers before they were offered a delicious tea.





After tea came The Talks – A welcome to country and to Ivanhoe Park from Lloyd, our President; an introduction to Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden and the benefits of becoming a member by David; then a quick rundown on how the day would unfold by Tony.

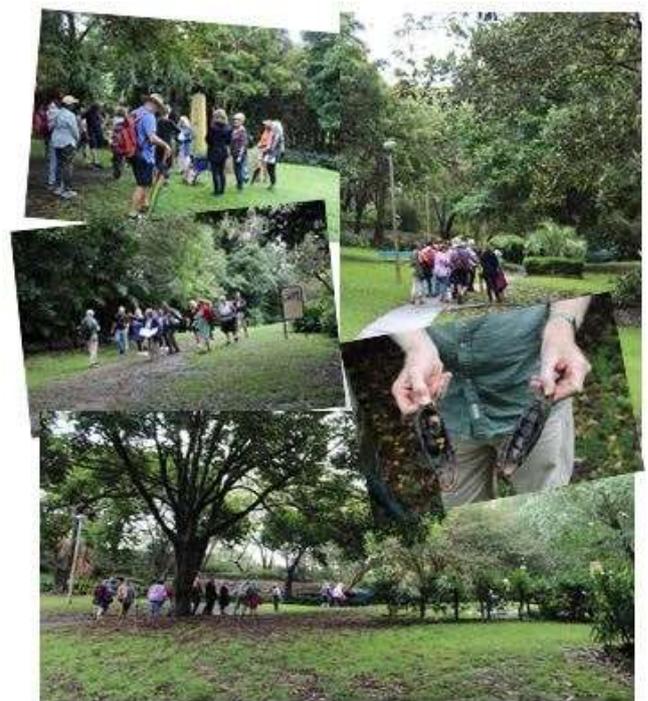
Sandy began each session with an introduction to the history of Manly and the heritage-listed Ivanhoe Park, from its sporting life and legends, the first Floriade and pre-Federation political maneuverings.



The Walks – Our walks wove guests round the Botanic Garden, on a journey past the World War II Memorial, through the sensory garden in the lower garden, then to the upper garden to walk the old Manly to Spit tramway that looped through the top of the park, pausing along the way to hear about our many historic and rare trees.

*The morning session*

*The afternoon session*



## Orchids – not as difficult to grow as you think the topic at our April Get-together

Most people assume that orchids are difficult to grow but John Portelli, our guest speaker, assured us that with a bit of knowledge they can start to flourish.

John became interested in growing orchids in 2018 when he found an unusual orchid growing in a container in the garden of the house he had moved into. He now has a large covered area and grows and sells a wide variety of orchids.

He showed the meeting photos of several types of orchids and talked about the different requirements that they have in regards to position, lighting, sun exposure and water. There are different species of orchids that will grow across a wide range of climates.



Most orchids are epiphytes growing on rocks or trees and do not need a lot of water. Orchids with large wide leaves are sensitive to sun while narrow leaved orchids are sun tolerant.

Cymbidiums prefer to grow outdoors. They can tolerate low temperatures especially at night. They also need the stimulation of lower temperatures to set flower spikes.



The popular Phalaenopsis are from SE Asia and need a warm climate of 16-18°. It is easy to overwater them when they are in pots. They are best in indirect sun and can be put out at night in summer in a protected position.

At the end of the meeting, John answered several questions about caring for orchids including whether we could grow rock orchids in the Garden and he offered to have a look for a possible location in the garden.

John will be the speaker again at a meeting later in the year and will let us know when he will be having orchid sales at his home.



In the meantime, please check out his website and YouTube channel

<https://giosorchids.com/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs8bHanxWP3rzt-f3JEcwCA>

## We learned all about the development of Camellia varieties by E.G. Waterhouse at the May Get-together



Carolyn and Daniel Low greeted us with a wonderful display of the many varieties of Camellia, and then we settled down to hear about their development by a very special man, Professor E.G. Waterhouse.



Carolyn had always been interested in Camellias and joined the Camellia Society when young. While Daniel's interest started when they bought their current home in Gordon which had a number of Camellias – they now have over 50. They are both members of the Camellia Society.

Professor E.G. Waterhouse was a language teacher teaching German at Sydney University and was involved in planting out the gardens at the University. He designed and built his house at Gordon – Erydene – and started cultivating Camellias. Some of the rarest Camellias are still growing at Sydney University and Erydene.

A few of things we learned:

- There are different forms and sizes of Camellias – a single form and a multi-petaled form.
- The first Camellias are Camellia Japonica “Elegans” – a single form small red flower, growing in Asia and used in tea plantations.



- Camellias in China are known to live to over 100 years.
- Camellias were originally brought to Australia from England in 1831. Macarthur grew them at Camden and started collecting seeds and cuttings.
- It takes 10-14 years from seed to flowering and due to pollination, seedlings can be different in colour and shape from their parent which is how new cultivars occur.
- Cuttings take 2 years to flower and are clones of the parent tree.
- New Camellias are developed by cross-breeding.
- Trees can throw “sports” and you can get different flower shapes and colours on the one tree.
- All new varieties have to be registered by the American Register of Camellias.
- The Australian Camellia Society has listed every variety of Camellia in Australia.



Professor E.G. Waterhouse



Camellia "E.G. Waterhouse"

Raised by Waterhouse in 1946 and named after himself



Eryldene

We've posted the handout from the meeting [here](#) on our website. But we encourage you to see these beauties in person by visiting:

Wild Wood Garden – Bilpin (40 acres)

Eryldene Gordon – July to August

Lisgar Garden Hornsby – Hornsby Council

Wahroonga – park near the station which has unusual Camellias

Pymble Soldiers Memorial Park on Mona Vale Road – from Macarthur's Camden Park

Private garden in Galston – tours organised by Galston Garden Club

Vaucluse House – very old Camellias

E.G. Waterhouse National Camellia Gardens – Caringbah

<http://camelliasaustralia.com.au/gardens/e-g-waterhouse-national-camellia-gardens/>

<https://www.sydney.com/destinations/sydney/sydney-south/attractions/eg-waterhouse-national-camellia-gardens>

### **What a show! Sydney's 1879 International Exhibition – the topic at our Wednesday, June 8 Get-together**



People might know of London's "Crystal Palace" and Great Exhibition of 1851. What may be less-well remembered is Sydney's amazing 1879 "Garden Palace" and our (Australia's) first International exhibition. Pretty astounding in scale and impact, it put us on the world stage, led to the first downtown trams, saw a number of long-lasting legacies, despite disappearing in a spectacular 1882 fire.

While much was lost in the blaze, much was not – and many state cultural institutions, statues and artworks grace our public buildings, public parklands and more. That is, we continue to benefit today, in its wake. This talk is a skip through this global "expo" phenomenon, New South Wales' response and foray into that pool, and its legacies.

Join us at our June Get-together on Wednesday, June 8 when Stuart Read enlightens us further about this wonderful era.

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## Saturday, June 11 – the new date for our fund-raising Plant Sale on the Corso

We'll be holding a fund-raising Plant Sale on Saturday, June 11. There will be a large selection of plants propagated by our members. They're ideal for pots and hanging baskets. For windowsills and balconies. And you won't be able to beat the price. Our stall will be located on the northern side of the Corso under the large fig tree starting at 9:00 a.m. so tell you friends and family and definitely drop by to say hi ... and buy!

# Plant Sale



**Members:** We're looking for help on the day to join in the fun as we interact with the public, sell the member-propagated plants and tell them about the Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden.

If you've ever wanted to volunteer but haven't wanted to garden, now is the perfect time to join us. Please email us at [info@friendsivanhoeParkbotanicgarden.com](mailto:info@friendsivanhoeParkbotanicgarden.com) if you're interested.

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## Around the Garden – the stone bridge reconstruction is in progress

Wondering what's happening in the Garden? The stone bridge was becoming unsafe so it is being mended and reconstructed. A temporary walkway has been erected to avoid the construction. We can't wait to see if completed.

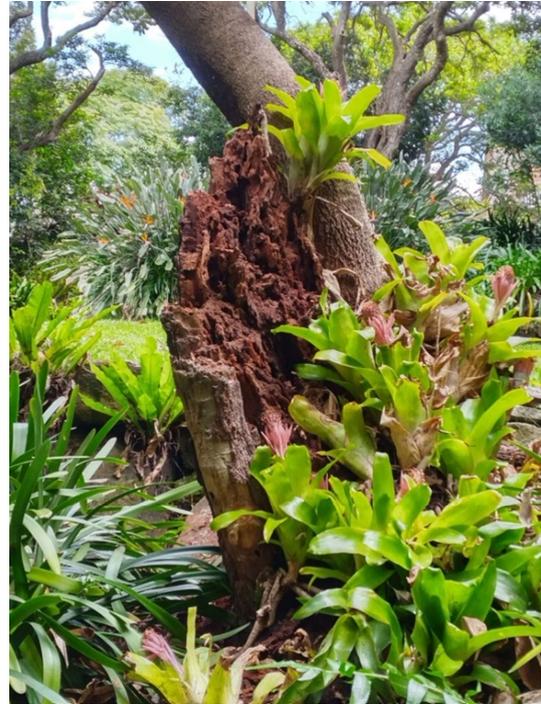


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## Our April & May Working Bees

### ***April – Saturday's Working Bee:***

A few of our members were able to help out Easter Saturday. We neatened up the edges of garden beds, removed many fallen branches and palm fronds downed by the rainstorms and also tended to an old tree that succumbed to rot.



### ***April – Wednesday's Working Bee:***

Our April midweek Working Bee was cancelled because of you guessed it, rain.

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### ***May – Saturday's Bee***



A surprisingly sunny Saturday greeted us when rain was predicted. It was sloppy and muddy and even though we had a small turnout of regular volunteers, we welcomed three new members who were skilfully inducted after signing in.



Everyone mucked in and it seemed like they were everywhere in the garden.





Gynea Lilies and Birds Nest ferns were planted, we weeded and cleared, a caterpillar hitched a ride and our resident butcherbird waited patiently to see what tasty morsels we unearthed. All in all a very successful Working Bee!



**May – Wednesday's Bee**

Another sunny day emerged as did only a few volunteers. But they achieved a lot. The Australian native garden was weeded by Chris and Toni while Gordon and Tony continued to clear all the fallen branches, palm fronds and other plant debris that the rainstorms continually leave for us. Well done team!



## The Tree of the Month Project – from the rainforest to the street



We're introducing you to two trees that were trialled by councils as street plantings – Hollywood and Tulipwood. Both these rainforest trees have transitioned beautifully to urban streets and even though their brilliant orange fruit looks similar, they are not the same species.

### Hollywood

*Auranticarpa rhombifolium*

(previously known as *Pittosporum rhombifolium*)

*Pittosporum* meaning "pitch-seed" which refers to the resinous film covering the seeds; and *rhombifolium* from the rhomboidal shape of the leaves

Also known as: Diamond leaf pittosporum, diamond leaf laurel, white myrtle and white holly



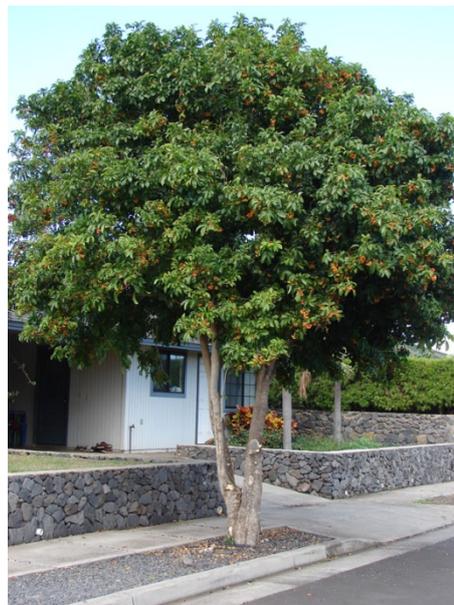
The white flowers and orange fruit make it a most appealing street tree while butterflies and native bees are attracted to the nectar in the flowers and seeds are eaten and dispersed by native birds.

### Tulipwood

*Harpullia pendula*

*Harpullia* derives from *Harpulli* its native name in Bengal when European science formally published the name and description of this genus and its *H. cupanioides* type specimen from India in 1824; *pendula* are trees that have a weeping crown shape

Also known as: Tulip Lancewood, Queensland Tulipwood, Black Tulipwood, Mogun-mogun



Tulipwood is commonly used along urban coastal roads, as its toughness helps it to thrive in salty areas along ocean shores and in the less than ideal air and soil of the city.

Go to our webpage to find out more about our wonderful trees. This link will take you there: [Our Trees](#).

## Dates for our upcoming Get-togethers and Garden Working Bees

### 2022 Monthly Get-togethers

Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

Month	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Time
June	8th	7.00-8.30pm
July	13 <sup>th</sup> AGM	7.00-8.30pm
August	No meeting	--
September	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-8.30pm
October	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.00-8.30pm

### 2022 Garden Working Bees

#### Saturday Working Bees

Month	Saturday	Time
June	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
July	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
August	20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
September	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
October	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am

#### Midweek Working Bees

Month	Wednesday	Time
June	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00-12.00am
July	20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
August	24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00-12.00am
September	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00-12.00am
October	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11am

Keep up to date with happenings at Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden  
by visiting our website anytime

[www.friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com](http://www.friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com)

Or email us at

[info@friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com](mailto:info@friendsivanhoeParkBotanicGarden.com)

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