

From: Open Gardens Canberra info@opengardenscanberra.org.au
Subject: Open Gardens Canberra Newsletter Spring 2025
Date: 15 September 2025 at 8:59 am
To: lyn.murray@gmail.com

OC

[View this email in your browser](#)



Spring 2025



President's Update

A record ten spring gardens to celebrate our tenth anniversary! We have a whole lot of wonderful gardens opening across Canberra and out to Bywong and Bungendore, most for the first time. We've had many requests for smaller gardens to help inspire today's smaller blocks, so this season we are offering two "twofer" smaller gardens, Jinka Falls and The Traveller's Garden, both for a single entry fee (members free of course). Check out the details below and enjoy your visits.

What a great response to our “early bird” membership renewal prize offer!

Congratulations to Amanda from Queanbeyan, who won the July prize draw of a \$100 gift voucher, and to Kevin, who won the \$50 August prize drawn at our AGM. A big thank you to all those who renewed or joined early this year – it will make things so much better for our garden volunteers this year.

It's not too late! There's still time to renew or join **now** before the gardens start opening from 27 September – plus we have just launched a Gift Membership service – see below. Still the same membership fees and ticket entry prices. And what a bargain membership is - \$30 for the financial year gives you free entry to the 10 spring gardens plus entry to the big autumn season coming up.

Would you like to help out with running our thriving Open Gardens Canberra? You can join our friendly and active committee, or you can help from outside the committee if you'd prefer. Just send me a note at president1@opengardenscanberra.org.au so we can discuss. We are needing help with our website, our grants program, equipment coordination and open garden coordination. Training provided!

This year we held our AGM on 8 September, ahead of the spring season of open gardens. Sadly, one of our very hard-working members, Michelle Haine, has stepped down and we will keenly feel that loss, but we wish her the very best for the future. We also bid a sad farewell to Peter Badowski but thankfully we'll continue to see him volunteering at open gardens. We now have several vacancies on the committee. An updated list of committee members and office-bearers will be on our website shortly.

Len Dowling





Open Gardens Spring Season

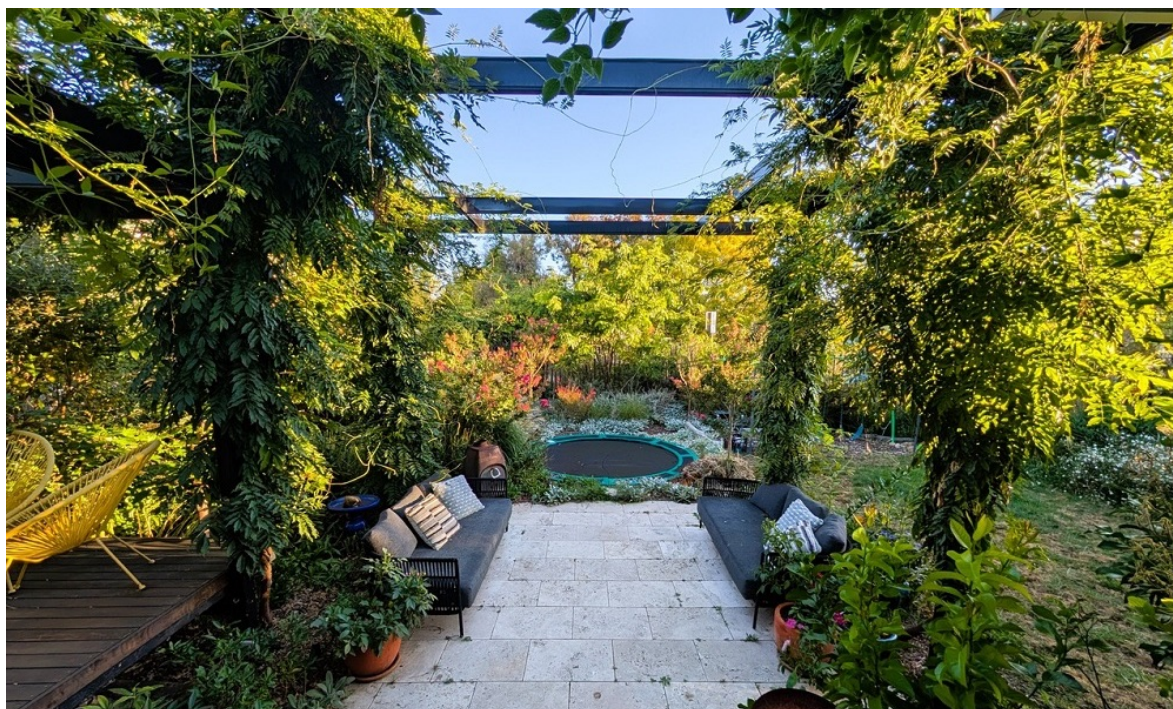
The following gardens are all open **10am - 4pm**. Garden entry is free to members. **Entry is \$10 for visitors** 18 years and over - cash or EFTPOS.

Both gardens on 11/12 October will open on the same ticket. The visitor entry fee to the two gardens is just \$10.00. Tickets can be purchased at either garden.

27 - 28 September, 2025

[The Burrow](#)

40 Chubb Street, Latham, ACT, Australia



The Burrow has been curated over the last five years by garden and design enthusiasts, Tim and Phoebe. The gardens include meandering levels, ponds and creek, outdoor rooms for gathering and entertaining, secluded pockets to retreat and regenerate, extensive play opportunities for children, a productive garden and integrated fruit trees, all included on a typical suburban block. [Read more...](#)

4 - 5 October 2025

Two gardens this weekend, both in O'Connor:

[Louise and Ian's Garden](#)

35 Wongoola Close, O'Connor, ACT

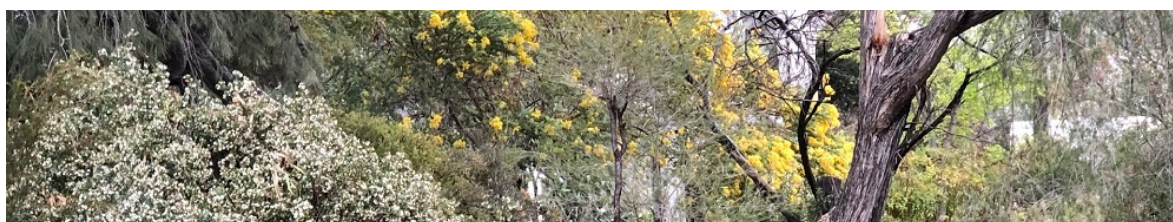


Come and discover this thoughtfully designed garden nestled in the heights of O'Connor, shown for the first time in Open Gardens. Spread across three levels, Louise and Ian's garden surrounds their beautifully renovated 1961 home, offering sweeping city views framed by distant mountains.

Wander through sculpted hedges, vibrant flowering shrubs, and thoughtfully placed pops of colour as you move from the sloping front garden through the recently renovated middle level and then out to the lower section. [Read more...](#)

[Cockle Street Garden](#)

46 Cockle Street, O'Connor, ACT





Surrounding a house of classic mid-century modernist design, visitors will enjoy wandering on paths through a gently sloping, lawn-free front garden filled with Australian native plants and dominated by a massive old Willow Peppermint (*Eucalyptus nicholii*). Nearby, two large *Allocasuarinas* and a large Kashmir Cypress form a backdrop to a pond and shelter the house. The block is large with plenty of room for the natives that were planted partly to encourage native birds – keep an eye out for the pardalote mound around the back. [Read more ...](#)

11 - 12 October 2025

Two gardens this weekend, both in Belconnen. Both gardens will open on the same ticket. The visitor entry fee to the two gardens is just \$10.00. Tickets can be purchased at either garden.

[The Traveller's Garden](#)

23 Camfield Place, Florey, ACT





A compact yet thoughtfully designed garden featuring a blend of exotic and native plants. The abundant planting reflects both cool climate Canberra and the owner's native Brazil. The outdoor spaces provide inviting areas for relaxation, with carefully arranged seating nooks. Water features and striking sculptures add visual interest. Layered planting, in both containers and garden beds, ensures that the garden remains green throughout the year. [Read more...](#)

[Jinka Falls](#)

16 Jinka Street, Hawker, ACT



Jinka Falls is a newly established garden, demonstrating what can be achieved with thoughtful design and determination in a small space. Created in 2022/23, Jinka Falls features two garden courtyards, connected by a narrow side garden. The first is a biodiversity hotspot with ponds connected by a small brook, surrounded by soft native meadow planting and lush ferneries. The second is a productive kitchen garden growing vegetables, berries, flowers, and with a small orchard. [Read more...](#)

25 - 26 October 2025

[G and J's Garden](#)

2 Raoul Place, Lyons, ACT



Set on a large sloping block with spectacular views, this garden has been developing over the last 25 years. It was initially designed as a formal garden with stone terraces and hedges of box and camellias, but now also homes a variety of native plants in the mix. A paved area at the front of the house contains a water feature and provides a pleasant seating area. Previously opened in autumn 2022 this popular garden will now re-open to showcase spring flowering plants and a newly developed productive garden.

[Read more ...](#)

1 - 2 November 2025

Two gardens this weekend, at Bywong and Bungendore:

[Hidden Lake](#)

95 Morrison Road, Bywong, NSW



As you walk around the side of the house a most unexpected vista awaits, a lake surrounded by trees and shrubs serving as a haven for the many wetland birds that frequent the lake. Over the last 20 years, several thousand trees and shrubs have been planted, transforming it from an overgrazed sheep farm with a few native trees, some weeping willows and very few trees and shrubs in the house garden. A large island has been constructed and is now fully vegetated with trees and shrubs. [Read more ...](#)

Tanglewood

109 McDonnell Drive, Bungendore, NSW





Tanglewood is a 2-acre rural property which has unfolded over 25 years from a bare grazing paddock, through dense planting of deciduous and native trees, shrubs and groundcovers, to a place of productivity, sanctuary and beauty. The productivity includes an enclosed orchard where chooks and ducks waddle, quack and chirp to their hearts' content; multiple vegetable beds providing family and friends with food year-round; volunteer plants (including asparagus, and apple and peach trees); a hazelnut grove; and trees harvested for firewood by heavy pruning and coppicing. [Read more...](#)

8 - 9 November 2025

[The Healing Garden](#)

20 Badimara Street, Waramanga, ACT,



Step into the Healing Garden, a vibrant sanctuary on a sloping block, lovingly created just four years ago. Overflowing with hundreds of locally sourced native plants, it's a space of resilience, regeneration, and natural restoration. Designed with water-wise principles, it features dry river beds, frog ponds, native habitats, composts, worm farms and 3D-printed bird boxes. [Read more...](#)

22 - 23 November 2025

The Naturalistic Garden

33 Hackett Gardens, Turner, ACT



Photography by Nick Burrows

This garden was recently redesigned and landscaped, retaining a large boundary hedge, along with productive olive and fig trees. While professionally designed and landscaped with low stone walls, paths and a pond, the plant mad owner planted out the garden with a wide variety of predominantly herbaceous perennials, many originating from dry parts of Europe and and the North American prairies, and many that like poor soil! [Read more...](#)





Membership update

Thank you to the many members who have answered the call to renew their membership early. Welcome to those new members who have also used Joinit to become a part of Open Gardens Canberra.

By completing your memberships early you will ease the load on the volunteers at the first open garden enormously. In the past we have had lengthy delays at the reception desk but hopefully this season will get off to a smooth start due to fewer transactions at the gate.

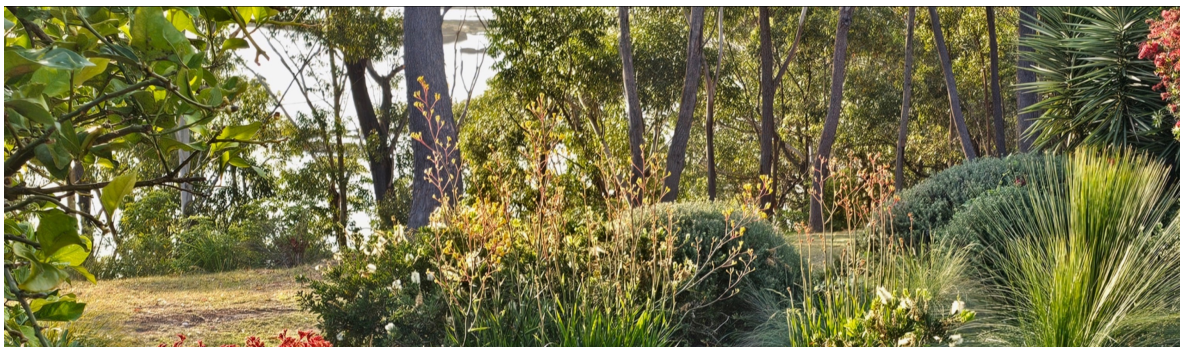
The \$100 Gift Voucher for the lucky member, out of the 466 who renewed or joined in July, was won by Amanda from Queanbeyan. The August winner of a \$50 Voucher is Kevin from Macarthur. \$50 gift voucher for Rodneys at Pialligo.

Gift OGC Memberships are now available for members to access for any occasion. Go to the OGC website under **Members** to begin the process. Membership gifted for Christmas will cover the Autumn gardens only **BUT** Mothers Day gifts will be extended to cover the following Spring and Autumn open gardens seasons.

Enjoy the upcoming botanical feast.

Ian Davenport

Membership Officer





Volunteers news

A huge thank you to all who have volunteered to help at each of our open gardens this season. It is indeed a bumper season, with ten gardens bringing something for everyone, from vast out of town properties to courtyard gardens and everything in between.

It is only with the help of volunteers that Open Gardens Canberra is able to offer such a large number of varied gardens. They are the friendly faces who greet you at our Welcome Desks at each garden.

As you can imagine, a large number of volunteers are needed in order to place two volunteers at every Reception Desk, at each of these gardens. While there has been a tremendous response, there are still a few vacancies to fill.

Volunteering with Open Gardens Canberra is an opportunity to meet new people and to make new friends who also have an interest in beautiful gardens and gardening, while learning new skills.

The tasks involved in working at an Open Gardens Welcome Desk are easily learnt and you are supported all the way by more experienced volunteers, garden coordinators and the Volunteers coordinator.

You choose when and at which gardens at which you would like to volunteer, and we can roster you on with a friend if you would like that. You are covered by our voluntary worker insurance while travelling to and from and while you are working at an Open Garden.

If you would like to try volunteering this season, or have any questions about volunteering with OGC, please send me an email to audsleylynne@gmail.com and

I will get back to you soon!

Photo by Victoria Allen (garden owner).

Lynnette Audsley

Volunteer Coordinator

Goulburn Spring Gardens

On a weekend when we have no gardens open in the Canberra region (18-19 October), why not take a trip to Goulburn for their very first Open Gardens event? Open Gardens Canberra is proud to support this new scheme, opening a treasure trove of gardens on our doorstep.



The poster for Goulburn Spring Gardens features a collage of images: pink daisies, pink cherry blossoms, green leaves, white flowers, yellow flowers, and a butterfly on pink flowers. The text is arranged in a central white box with a colorful border.

Goulburn Spring Gardens

Visit eight beautiful gardens in Goulburn and surrounds, many open to the public for the first time. **18-19 OCT. 2025**

For details and to buy tickets visit our website;
www.stoga.org.au/goulburn-spring-gardens

Find us on Facebook

Entry Fee:
\$25 all gardens **\$5** per garden payable at gardens

Accompanied Under 18s: Free
Groups of 15 or more 20% discount

OPEN GARDENS ASSOCIATION INC.



'Beautiful Gardens Australia' Calendar 2026



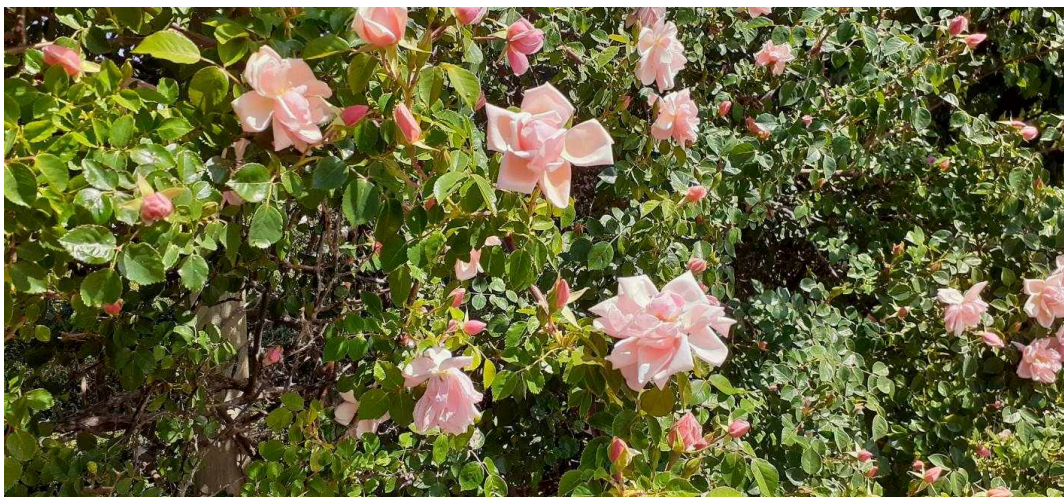
The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc. (GCA) is proud to issue the 2026 Calendar, showcasing stunning photographs submitted by our members. This year's calendar has been revised to give more space for events.

The Calendar is available to Affiliated Clubs (including OGC), Members, and their Friends for **\$15.00, inclusive of GST and postage. For orders of 10 or more the cost is \$13 each delivered to one address.**

The 2026 Calendar also makes a thoughtful gift for friends and family, especially those overseas. To order your copy, please contact the Treasurer at treasurer@gardenclubs.org.au specifying the number of calendars and your postal address.

Payment is by Direct Debit to the GCA Bank Account:

Commonwealth Bank BSB: 062 000 Account No. 00922899 (Please remember to **add your name** for easy identification of the payment).



Do you have any photos of your garden?

We are constantly looking for garden photos for this newsletter and our social media pages. If you would like to see a photo of your garden featured here, please send as .jpg to audsleylynne@gmail.com. All photos used will be credited with photographer and garden owner.

MailChimp

You will notice that we use MailChimp to distribute emails to members. Using MailChimp ensures that Open Gardens Canberra is treated nicely in the internet world. Without it, our emails would be treated as spam simply because we send emails to a lot of people – more than 1000 members. To continue to receive member notifications, please don't unsubscribe from our Mailchimp list.

Copyright © 2025 Open Gardens Canberra Inc, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of Open Gardens Canberra or you have subscribed to this Newsletter.

Our mailing address is:

Open Gardens Canberra Inc
PO Box 344
Jamison Centre
Macquarie, ACT 2614
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



