

NEWSLETTER



September 2019

QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS INC

Established: 3 April 1967

OBJECTS

- (a) To broaden the scope of member clubs in their activities by combining together as a Council.
- (b) To promote the development of horticultural knowledge and interests among member clubs and the wider community.
- (c) To promote the enjoyment of gardening and friendship among member clubs.
- (d) To encourage an understanding of conservation of our national and natural heritage.
- (e) To participate in community events and projects that contribute to the beautification of our natural and built environment through enhancements to public parks, gardens, and like facilities.

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Deadline for Next Issue: 20 December 2019

 $\mathcal{F}ront\ cover$ Floral design from Fashion Parade demonstrator Heather Prior $\mathcal{Back}\ cover$ QCGC Fashion Parade attendees

President's Report Phil Adam

I have recently returned from a month's travelling in the UK and France on a garden tour with the Perennial Poppies Group. What a fantastic experience. We were privileged to be able to visit a huge range of public and private gardens in both countries as well as covering a few of the more usual tourist activities.

One of the things that struck me in both countries was the amount of effort being put in by many small village and town communities to make them more attractive by promoting and caring for gardens in public places. There is a lesson here that I think we could benefit from. We hear a lot of talk about 'beautiful Brisbane'. As a city it does have a lot to offer but there are times when I think our public appearance can leave a bit to be desired. The landscaped surrounds of many of our shopping centres become dry, dusty and neglected deserts if they are not maintained and they often aren't. Concrete, glass and bitumen alone do not make a beautiful city. As well as places to go, entertainment and sporting events to attend, people need an environment that can enhance their lifestyle and sense of well being. This is a space where gardening, both public and private, can make a worthwhile contribution.

Back to the UK and France: The approach to community enhancement was a little different in both countries. In the UK many small towns and villages compete annually in the "Blooming Britain" competition. This is organised with both regional and national levels of competition. Communities work for a number of months on projects to beautify parts of the villages and towns. This includes a range of activities from repairing structures, decorating lamp posts to planting and tending gardens and hanging baskets and containers. The projects have a twofold benefit. In addition to making the towns and villages more attractive and pleasant places in which to live, they also help galvanise community spirit. Many people of all ages and walks of life are actively involved.

In France the approach is different. They have a rating system which takes into consideration factors such as overall appearance, the amount of improvement related to the available budget etc. The highest ranking is four stars. The system is driven by the local councils or Mairies. We met the Maire of one of these villages who was so proud of their achievements and only too happy to show us what they had done. The work was important as the village was experiencing economic hard times following the closure of industry over a period of time.

I mention these things because I believe that civic improvement is not just a matter of building roads and bridges. People need more than a choice of entertainments and restaurants. Beautifying our public spaces even in small ways can do a lot to boost our physical and emotional health. Which will make you feel better? Looking at a half dead plant in a dusty neglected

carpark; looking at some mindless graffiti scrawled on a wall or looking at colourful bed of petunias? As well as improving the look and feel of our urban environment, gardening even on a small scale, helps the environment generally. Trees help clean up our air and flowers bring bees and insects followed by birds etc.

I realise that conditions are really tough at the moment but that is no reason to give in. Every little bit we do helps so go ahead, be brave, plant some flowers. Encourage your friends and neighbours to do likewise and let us see if our community leaders can be encouraged to put a few more resources towards beautifying Brisbane make it an even better place to live. Happy gardening.

Information Update

- Kuranda Garden Club has become a social group so is no longer a member.
- Australian Daylily Society has closed down.
- Welcome to new member Toowoomba Orchid Society.
- Dale Arvidsson Curator of The Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha will be presented with \$10 000 donation at the Christmas Luncheon. This will be used for the new Vine Arbour at the entry to the Visitor Information Centre and a seat with plaque in recognition of the work of Ross McKinnon, former Curator of the Botanic Gardens.
- October Delegates meeting will be held on Monday 14th at the Gardens Café, Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha at 10am. Delegates may purchase refreshments from the Café as QCGC will not be able to do so. Please come early enough to get your 'cuppa' so the meeting can start on time.

Guest Speakers & Excursions

These booklets are enclosed with this Newsletter.

It is vitally important that the QCGC Secretary be notified of any errors and changes. People do not want to be contacted by club representatives when they no longer wish to be on the list.

These changes will be published in each Newsletter.

Clubs wishing to get an electronic version may contact the Secretary and request a copy be emailed to them.

Environment Report

Peter Clare

What do we do with disused Coal Mines in Australia?

Eden Project's grand plans to transform disused Anglesea coal mine into eco-tourism attraction.

It's a barren industrial site in the middle of pristine native bushland, but talk is now turning to what can be done to rehabilitate this Anglesea coal mine after Alcoa closed its coal-fired power station in 2015. Representatives from UK-based charity Eden Project are in Australia to share their \$150 million vision for the site with local residents, in the hope they can secure community support for a large eco-tourism development. The concept plan includes a 100-hectare lake to replace the open cut coal mine and an educational centre, including physical exhibitions and virtual reality, to teach visitors about the natural world.

Eden Project co-founder Sir Tim Smit said it was a chance to transform a "formerly poisonous large mine" into something beautiful. "I want to make people see the world in a different way so that when they go home they see everything around them with a respect and awe that they never thought they would."

It's a model that has proven successful in the past, with the Eden Project's award-winning transformation of a disused clay mine in Cornwall, south-west England, attracting more than 1 million visitors each year. As a social enterprise, they reinvest their profits into the charity's educational projects.

Eden Project chief executive David Harland said the proposal included lowimpact buildings which would nestle into the landscape, creating "a temple to the natural world". "This is going to be best practice of a mine rehabilitation, it should be an exemplar of how to do it," he said.

Mr Harland said the Eden Project's vision for the Anglesea site revolved around the four elements which had shaped the surrounding landscape earth, air, water and fire. "The things that people are interested in are the things that are too small or too big to see that are actually controlling our lives," he said. "They might be in the earth, things like microbes, they might be lunar systems and tidal systems." "We want to bring that to life in both a real way with beautiful plants of course, but also probably with some augmented and virtual reality toys as well."

Victorian Planning Minister Richard Wynne said major environmental and other challenges would need to be overcome before this "speculative proposal" could progress further. "As with any project of this scale, it would then also require significant consultation with the community, and be subject to rigorous planning and environmental regulations," he said.

Surf Coast Shire councillor Margot Smith said council was excited about the

calibre of the proposal. "It's bold, and it actually sounds like it can really honour the values that we've got in this area around the environment."

The Eden Project says initial projections suggest it would create 300 ongoing jobs. It's expected it would be funded by social investors, without the need for government subsidies. "It's early days but we think we've got a model that's going to work," Mr Harland said. "We're not relying on state funding, there's of course going to be a little bit of infrastructure I suspect around roads and so on. "Generally the reaction has been really, really positive. People of course have got concerns around things like traffic and noise. "We've got to listen."

The proposal will now go through a community consultation period to refine the design before any plans are submitted. With thousands of mine sites across Australia, communities around the country will be watching with interest to see whether this ambitious project can get off the ground.

Delegates meeting June 2019

Source: ABC News

Reusable or Disposable - Which coffee cup has a smaller footprint?

You walk into your local coffee shop, hand the barista your reusable coffee mug and pat yourself on the back for not using one of those 'bad for the environment' single-use cups. Sounds simple. Right? Perhaps.

Granted, using a reusable cup lowers the waste-management environmental impacts. But you may not have considered other aspects of the cup's life cycle such as the materials and energy that went into making your sturdier reusable cup, the soap and hot water that will be necessary to wash it and the energy source behind the heat of this washing water. A recent life-cycle assessment (LCA) by the **CIRAIG*** tackled those issues. LCAs compile and evaluate the inputs, outputs, and potential environmental impacts of a product or service from material extraction to end of life.

The CIRAIG study compared the potential environmental impacts of a 16ounce, single-use coffee cup made of a mix of cardboard and polyethylene (with a lid made of polystyrene) to those of a 16-ounce, reusable ceramic cup and to those of a variety of 16-ounce travelers' mugs made of stainless steel, polypropylene, and polycarbonate. Over a one-year span (using one cup a day), the reusable cups scored well in the climate change arena—that is, they were associated with fewer greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions than their single-use counterparts. Likewise, they scored better in the humanhealth category for things such as toxic emissions, smog, and ozone depletion. They also tended to use fewer minerals and fossil fuels than disposable cups did.

But here's the bitter part. Washing the reusable mugs with hot water and soap puts them at a disadvantage when it comes to ecosystem-quality indicators. These indicators cover issues such as ecotoxicological emissions, acidification, eutrophication and land occupation. Perhaps the most important result for the caffeinated among us was that the number of times a cup is used is paramount. Indeed, only with frequent use can one decrease the potential impacts of the reusable cup; it would take between 20 (human health category for a polypropylene travel mug) and more than 1,000 (ecosystem-quality category for all travel mugs) uses, depending on the cup/ mug type and the environmental indicator, to make up for the impacts of a single-use cup. If a reusable cup is used fewer times than that, the single-use cup is better for the environment.

What should we do then? Can we help the environment? The answer is yes: by reusing your cup for several years and by limiting the quantity of soap and hot water for washing it, the reusable cup should be the way to go. Limiting your coffee intake could also be something to look at, but that is another problem altogether.

* A centre of expertise in life-cycle issues, recognized internationally for its solid scientific research work and its 15 years of applied experience. The International Reference Centre for the Life Cycle of Products, Processes, and Services (CIRAIG) supports industry, governments, organisations, and consumers in their path toward a truly sustainable development supported by life-cycle thinking.

Delegates meeting July

Source: Pierre-Olivier Roy, Anthropocene Magazine



THE DARLING DOWNS ROSE SOCIETY Inc. 2019 SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP ROSE SHOW held at THE ROSE COTTAGE



NEWTOWN PARK, HOLBERTON STREET, TOOWOOMBA

Saturday, 12th OCTOBER 10.30am - 4.00pm Sunday, 13th OCTOBER 9.00am — 3.00pm Admission; Adult Gold Coin Donation Wheelchair Access Large Variety of Roses on Display Enquiries: Leo Cooper 46 331975 or Veronica Firth 46 155539

QCGC Friendship Day Wendy Wragge Competition

Here are 9 of 17 questions.

Questions

- 1 Who was the curator of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens before Dale Arvidsson?
- 2 What is the name of the new Royal baby?
- Unscramble the following vegetables
 a) nabe
 b) bagebac
 c) tucteel
 d) tacror
 e) cinichuz
- 4 Where is more than half of the world's oxygen produced? a) Oceans b) Rainforests c) Deserts
- 5 What is the national Flower of:a) Australia b) South Africa c) France d) Scotland e) Greece
 f) Mexico g) Ireland
- 6 Soil can be Alkaline, Acid or.....
- 7 Match the following to their family, for example 1) g)
 - 1) Tulips a) Asteraceae
 - 2) Snapdragons b) Cucurbitaceae
 - 3) Pansy c) Annona
 - 4) Rose d) Plantaginaceae
 - 5) Pumpkin e) Liliaceae
 - 6) Custard Apple f) Violaceae
 - 7) Gerbera g) Rosaceae
- 8 What are the three Major elements of the soil?
- 9 Lettuce comes from which Family? a) Cabbage b) Daisy c) Rose

Answers

- 8 Nitrogen, Potash, Phosphoros
- e) Cucurbitaceae g) Annona h) Asteraceae
- ۲ a) Liliaceae b) Plantaginaceae د) Violaceae d) Rosaceae
 - 6 Veutral
- dahia pinnata (dahlia) Dahlia pinnata (dahlia) g) Shamrock
- 5 a) Golden Wattle (Acacia pycnantha) b) Protea or King Protea c) Iris
- 4 Oceans, coming from tiny plants phytoplankton that live near the surface
 - 3 a) bean b) cabbage c) lettuce d) carrot e) zucchini
 - 2 Archie
 - I Ross McKinnon

QCGC Friendship Day

President Phil Adam, pictured with guest speaker Steve Flood, welcomed over 150 guests to the QCGC Friendship Day for 2019.

Steve gave a very interesting talk on some rare and unusual plants including the beautiful cascading Medinilla Dolichophylla, envied by all.





All participating clubs did their best to answer as many questions as possible to win the Wendy Wragge Trophy including Jimboomba Garden Society.

There could only be one winner: Mt Gravatt Garden Club, and the Trophy was accepted by Lorna Hinz, pictured right with Phil.



The raffle was a great success as usual, and the first prize winner was Pam Rodriquez from Albany Creek Garden Club receiving her



award from Committee Member Delwyn Hallett.

At the end we all enjoyed all the tasty food brought by the guests.

Photos by Elizabeth Parkinson

Qld Garden Expo - Nambour

QCGC had another very successful year at Nambour for the Queensland Garden Expo, celebrating 35 years.

The weather was superb and our very generous volunteers were happy to chat to our many visitors. Pictured right are Jill Williams, Claire Mason and Lola Milliner from the Caboolture Garden Club with Glenys Bruun, Coordinator of Zones for Garden Clubs of Australia, front right.





Having our empty coffee cups filled with seedlings proved very popular and thousands were given away by the volunteers from Nambour Garden Club.

We would like to sincerely thank all our volunteers who made the weekend a wonderful success. Back row left: Noel Prior and Kevin Hamment and front row: Heather Prior and Paul Plant.



Photos by Elizabeth Parkinson

EKKA -Royal National Show

At the Ekka this year QCGC, volunteers enjoyed talking to the many visitors who admired the fabulous work of Shirley Morris from the Albany Creek Garden Club.

The workers set up the floral displays which were as beautiful as ever, before the opening on the 9th August.





The winner of the displays was Northern Districts Horticultural Society with their magnificent display. Qld Bromeliad Society, Qld Orchid Society, Qld Rose Society, Floral Art Society of Qld and Sogetsu Ikebana Qld also entered a display.

Delwyn Hallett and Shirley were thrilled to have Costa visit and talk with them.

Thank you to the people who donated plants for the display, Carseldine Nursery for the use of the urn and pedestal and plants as well as the 40 volunteers who spent half a day each talking to the visitors about QCGC member clubs.



QCGC Fashion Parade

What a wonderful day! Brisbane turned on some lovely weather for the 84 people who attended the Fashion Parade.

Heather Prior talked about a small arrangement she had previously made then explained as she put the finishing touches to a beautiful tall floral arrangement (pictured on the back cover). Later all arrangements were auctioned and four lucky people took them home.

Roz from Portofino compered the Fashion Parade. Six ladies from three garden clubs, Lorraine Woodall (Albany Creek), Karen Curtis (The Gap), Janet Stevens, Anne Baster, Jeanette Kimmich



Left to right Karen, Jeanette, Janet, Phil Adam, Lorraine, Ruth and Anne.



and Ruth Lawrence

(Spring-Dale), modelled the garments with flair. Roz has many garments designed and made in Brisbane which makes them 'easy wear and care' for our climate.

Roz showed several alterative combinations of outfits as the ladies wandered between the tables of guests.

Quite a few guests purchased garments or accessories at the end of the morning.

The main prize in the raffle, a voucher donated by Portofino, was won by ????????? and other guests won a plant from the wide selection available; many of which were used in the display at the EKKA. Thanks to those clubs that also provided a prize.

Carol Barrick and her assistants from Aspley Garden Club prepared and served a delicious morning tea.

See more pictures on the back page.



Photos Erwin Kimmich, Heather Knobel

Cairns Garden Club Carolyn Elmslie

When Townsville had the bad flooding this year a lot of residents lost not only their houses but their gardens too. Meg Trimble, a member of our committee, thought it would be a nice idea to ask the president of the Townsville Garden Club if any members would like some plant donations. They responded with a 'YES PLEASE'.

So over a period of several months our members struck cuttings and potted plants and eventually delivered them to Meg's house, where they were checked for electric ants by Gary Morton. Then Martin, president of Townsville Garden Club, and his wife drove up to Cairns to collect them. They were very impressed with both the quantity and quality of the plants and happily loaded them on the trailer and into their car for the trip back to Townsville.





There were 30 members who lost their whole garden so each of these received a box of plants and some were even able to replace special plants. We also donated quite a few Bunnings vouchers to enable people to buy garden tools. We may do a second lot of plant donations further on in the year.

Cairns Garden Club' hosted it's Annual Plant Auction in April this year. Our auctioneer, Meg Trimble, did a great job getting the highest prices and everyone had a fun afternoon trying to outbid each other to get the plants they wanted.



Blackwater & District Orchid & Foliage Club Helen Allen

Extract from the May Newsletter

"Our committee has offered to supply parsley to Blackwater Country Meats for display in their showcases. If you have some, could you please drop in some sprigs from time to time. Our butcher has been very supportive of our club with generous donations and we would like to show our appreciation."

Karana Downs Garden Club



Hazel Newman

Knickers and bra drving on the clothesline, sheep and a kandaroo set the scene. The for theme the dav was obvious from the outdoor decorations and reinforced inside by our line-dancing aroup, the Karana Kookaburras performing to Home Amona the Gumtrees.

On a cold and windy June morning, President Cecelia Jackson welcomed members and quests to Friendship Day and 30th birthday celebrations of the Karana Downs Garden Club. It was a special treat to have founding member, first president and life member, Carole Scheinpflug with us and to cut the birthday cake. Our auests included our Auditor of 30 vears. Malcolm Mobbs and wife. Angela. Speaker, Lawrie Smith spoke of designing with native plants and provided many notable examples, many making their way to our wish lists. A great morning of gardening, friendship and fun.



Caloundra African Violet & Indoor Garden Society Alison Mylne

The Caloundra African Violet and Indoor Garden Society meet on the 1st Monday of the month at the Indoor Bowling Hall, Golden Beach. In July we enjoyed a very informative talk from Will Waterford (Caloundra Garden and Pet Supplies). Will's topic was 'How to Create Good Soil'. Good soil is a challenge for our members because we either have sandy or clay soils in our area.



Photos by Elizabeth Parkinson

Twin Towns & District Garden Club Gwen Barnes

Twin Towns & District Garden Club celebrated their 40th Birthday in style at South Tweed Sports Club, with a theme of 'wear something red'.

Angus Southwell, Club Patron and CEO of South Tweed Sports Club, donated the cake and took part in the cutting of the cake ceremony, accompanied by Graeme Williams, President of the founding year of the Club, 1979.

A cent auction was enjoyed with the major prize being 2 nights accommodation at Twin Towns and all the other prizes donated .

Following our meeting the members and guests enjoyed lunch, listening to music supplied by Colin Locke and Co. Musicians.



L to R Monika Ross, Graeme Williams, Angus Southwell

Stafford Garden Club Julia Fielding

Gardens, belonging and the Abbey Museum

Belonging is good for your health and sometimes belonging can be an enchanting adventure.

On 2nd May the members of Stafford Garden Club visited several stimulating and beautiful places. First, there was *Lindmar* at Morayfield, a

three-acre garden full of quirky-butcute garden features, with lots of easy walking and plentiful seating. Club members wandered from Alice in Wonderland's garden to the Zen garden (with Moon gate) down to an area with - wait for it garden beds. Yes, beds! There's even a waterbed, with water lilies. A surprise around every tree, Lindmar garden is humorous and delightful. Lindsay and Marie were hosts, answering lovelv our gardening questions with endless patience.



Nita Little, member of many years, with one of the artefacts.



After morning tea, the gardening club visited John Kunde's gorgeous garden, also in Morayfield. A much smaller garden than Lindmar, it has fascinating plants and artefacts, plus the always-welcome sheltered seating area!

Then a 2-course lunch at Caboolture Tavern. Belonging to a club means all this is organised for you.

After lunch, the Abbey Museum where most of our time was spent in the Abbey Church which houses the breathtaking stained-glass windows for which it is famous. Much of this stained glass is centuries old, collected as broken shards from war -damaged buildings in Europe. Metal oxide is painted onto glass with fine brushes to achieve, for instance, the detail of angels' faces. It is then put into a kiln and the metal oxide sinks into the glass, becoming part of the window.

The Abbey Museum is arranged along a historical timeline. Highlights include an ancient Egyptian death mask, Greek, Turkish and Russian icons, pottery, weapons and cult objects from the Bronze and Iron Ages, Roman glassware, a 17th-century Mughal Qur'an, samurai armour and weapons, and medieval manuscripts. Something for everyone.

Sunshine Coast Bromeliad Society

Peter Cook

AMAZING GRACE CELEBRATES HER 102nd BIRTHDAY IN JULY

Grace Goode, OAM will celebrate her 102nd birthday in July this year. The Sunshine Coast Bromeliad Society Inc. wish her all the best and thank her for the fantastic contributions she had made over many years to the bromeliad world.

Grace was born on the 23 July 1917 at Nambour and has spent most of her life on the Sunshine Coast. By 1970 she had discovered the love of her life – bromeliads. This started when Grace's mother gave her a *Billbergia pyramidalis concolour*. Her only regret is that she had not found out about them earlier.

Because of the limited number of Bromeliads in Australia, Grace started to hybridise and soon became well known throughout the world for her work. She has produced close to 1000 named hybrids (neoregelia, crypthansus, aechmea, billbergia, nidularium, and tillandsia). She has also made several bigeneric hybrids, with perhaps the best ones being X Niduregeilas 'Something Special' and 'Vision Splendid: Most people know Grace through her hybrids (eg Neo. Amazing Grace).

In the 2004 Australia Day Awards, Grace was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in recognition of her efforts in growing and, in particular, hybridising bromeliads.

Grace is an honorary trustee of The Bromeliad Society International as well as The Cryptanthus Society. She is a life member of the Bromeliad Society of Australia. Cairns Bromeliad Society and Bromeliad Society of Queensland. Grace was a founding member of the Sunshine Coast Bromeliad Society and one of our Life Members.



"Grace with other world renowned hybridist Chester Skotak at the 2017

DATE CLAIMERS

QCGC EVENTS

<u>2019</u>			
November	27	Wednesday	Christmas Party
<u>2020</u>			
March	25	Wednesday	Presidents' Morning Tea
April	4-5	Sat & Sun	A Garden A-Fair
June	24	Wednesday	Friendship Day
August	26	Wednesday	Fashion Parade
November	25	Wednesday	Christmas Luncheon Biennial Awards

SHOWS AND EVENTS by member societies

September

- 21-22 Floral Art Society of Qld *BBG
- 21-22 Eastern District Orchid Society *BSS
- 22 Sun Maryborough Open Gardens Maryborough
- 27-28 Springtime on the Mountain Mt Tamborine
- 28-29 Geranium & Pelargonium Society of Brisbane *BBG
- 28-29 Wondai Garden Expo

October

- 05-06 Bromeliad & Foliage Frenzy *** Morayfield
- 05-06 Qld Rose Society *BBG
- 12-13 Qld Orchid Society *BBG
- 18-20 Buderim Garden Festival Buderim Memorial Hall
- 18-20 Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens & Sherwood Arboretum
- 26-27 African Violet Society of Qld *BBG

November

- 02-03 Bromeliad & Tropicals Show **BSS
- 23-24 Orchid Species Society *BBG
- 23-24 Tropical Foliage Festival **BSS

Venues

*BBG The Auditorium, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha

**BSS Belmont Shooting Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont

*** Minimbah State School, Cnr Walkers Road and Minimbah Dr, Morayfield

Please advise Secretary of any shows to be included for next year.

QUEENSLAND COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS INC

Patron: His Excellency, the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC Governor of Queensland Incorporation Number IA 09679

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BANK DETAILS

Queensland Council of Garden Clubs Inc West Pac BSB 034 063 ACCOUNT NUMBER 238783

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month - February to November. If the first Monday happens to be a public holiday, then the meeting is held on the second Monday.

Meetings are held in the Seminar Room, Administration Centre of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha. Each member club is entitled to have two delegates attend.

Disclaimer: Whilst every effort is made to publish accurate information, QCGC accepts no responsibility for statements made, opinions expressed or mention of commercial products by contributors.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all information in their articles. These articles do not necessarily express the viewpoint of the Editor, Executive Officers or the Committee.

QCGC Fashion Parade



The Gap Garden Club



Albany Creek Garden Club



Bevan & Shirley Dance Qld Rose Society



Karana Downs Garden Club



Heather Prior



Carol Barrick and her assistants



Greenpark Garden Club