

# "The In Ground Fuchsia Group"

Newsletter July 2008

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## Highlights of meetings

Several meetings have been held this year. All were very interesting. The February and May meetings and several pruning and propagation days were held at my place at 4 Allen St Lawson. I haven't added photos, as most of you have seen many photos of my garden. We, and the school volunteers, have grown lots of plants ready for the open garden day.

### March

Members visited Chris Shale's Open Garden. The garden was superb and the fuchsias had really matured since my last visit. Chris has kindly invited us to a private viewing just prior to her next Open Garden, in March 2009. Please see upcoming meetings below for more details. Chris was one of our earliest members.



A couple of photos of Chris Shales's garden



### April Meeting

There was a small gathering for a trip to Rose Hall's lovely garden at Lithgow. The garden is very new, but absolutely lovely. Even though the frost severely "prunes" the plants each winter they do very well in the sheltered area around the courtyard for the rest of the year. Pots are being tested in

other parts of the garden and as they are doing well they will be planted in the ground in the autumn. Come along on our next visit to Rose's in February and see how her garden has developed. Graeme Lees gave a very interesting talk on growing fuchsias in pots and baskets and an interesting exchange of information on types of fertilisers for fuchsias both in pots and in the ground resulted. I only photographed the fuchsia sections but the rest was of the garden was equally beautiful.



View from Rose's bedroom.  
I don't think I'd every get out of bed.

## Upcoming Meetings

Sometimes meeting have to be changed and members informed. If you are planning to come as a visitor or join at a meeting, please double check details by phone or email.

So far, meetings have been held on the second weekend of the month, mostly in Spring and Autumn, as "hands on" sessions and garden visits are not possible in the very hot or cold weather. Future meetings may vary so please contact me to confirm details of future meeting, volunteers for garden visits or hosting meetings are always wanted.

**August 9th 2008 - Saturday at 1pm** 4 Allen St, Lawson.

A fuchsia pruning (spring pruning due soon) and propagation day - learn a few different ways. Member Joel Murphy (a horticulture apprentice) will be demonstrating his sand-free, highly successful propagation method. Handouts will be available and on the website for those who cannot attend. More volunteers to demonstrate different methods are welcome. We will provide the potting medium for both my method and Joel's plus anyone else's if you let us know the makeup.

Please bring:

- Small tubes or pots to put your cuttings into.

- Or clip seal plastic bags if you are taking them home to pot.
- Bring plant tags (you can cut these from milk or detergent bottles),.
- Small sharp scissors and a texta. I will provide some but may not have enough.
- Bring a potted fuchsia that needs pruning if you have one.
- Please bring along some cuttings to share.
- Think about propagating some extra plants to bring along to swap or give away at meetings or at our Open Garden.
- Bring a few nibbles or cakes to share for afternoon tea. Come early and bring your lunch if you wish. Tea and Coffee and cold drinks will be provided.

Discussion about manning the Open Garden Day after the workshop.

### September Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September

No meeting . I will be doing a display (photos and information) and talk at Penrith Library. The display will be there all weekend the talk will be at 10.30 and I will be there to answer questions from 9am to 12pm.

### October: Sunday 12th at 11am - 4 Allen St, Lawson

Re-potting or planting out fuchsias. Bring along a fuchsia to be re-potted. Discussion on fertilizing fuchsias for good plant shape and flower.

Come along to help finalise arrangements for the Open Garden in November. Meeting will include a video of a huge Fuchsia festival in Northern England at lunchtime. Bring your lunch; hot and cold drinks will be provided.

### November

No meeting, just the Open Garden at 4 Allen St, Lawson. See separate sheet for more information.

### December: 13th, 11am - 66 Carrington Rd, Wahroonga, ph 02 9487 6901

Talk, demo or discussion to be announced, see Yvonne Wilson's lovely garden and have a pre-Christmas lunch (bring a plate to share) in garden or inside it weather isn't favourable.

### February: 4 Addena Cres, Lithgow, ph 02 6352 5327

Visit Rose Hall's lovely garden. Discussion or activity to be announced.

### March, 2009: Sunday 8th, 1pm - 11 Chilton Parade, Warrawee, ph 02 9489 0318

Group member Chris Shale is having her garden open with the Open Garden Scheme, on March 21st and 22nd, 2009. She has invited our group to have a meeting at her house 2 weeks prior to the open garden to see her methods. This visit will be of interest to everyone, but how Chris adapts to the Sydney climate will particularly interest Sydney members. Chris will share her propagation and growing methods. Chris has a really beautiful garden with lots of fuchsias. Her Open Garden in March 2008 was a huge success.

**My Garden will be open this year come along and see all the changes and the over 100 new varieties that have been planted since the garden was last open.**

**The "In Ground Fuchsia Group" and Hazelbrook Public School present**

## **An Open Fuchsia Garden**

Saturday, 8th November 2008, 9am - 4pm at 4 Allen St Lawson (Blue Mtns)

View Barbara Cooper's small garden of fuchsias (over 500) all grown in the ground as standards columns and large shrubs, with many on trellises, fences and archways.

"Fuchsias are easy to grow in the ground" Come along and learn about growing fuchsias with talks, displays and info to take home.

Admission \$3 Refreshments available.

Hundreds of Fuchsias for sale, all grown by school volunteers and group members. All well-trying varieties. For more information, please phone 02 4759 1170, [bcooper1@pacific.net.au](mailto:bcooper1@pacific.net.au) or write to the above address. I have included flyers and a poster in the hope you can ask someone to display them closer to the date.

**If you are receiving this by email you can either print off copies or email me & I will post you some.**

**I hope several members will come along to help (thank you to those who have already volunteered), please let me know if you can assist either on the day or beforehand, there are jobs to suit everyone. Admission is free and tea, coffee and cool drinks will be provided for helpers, just bring your lunch.**

**I will be updating the website early in August so do check it out.**

*Barbara Cooper*