

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014



President: Helen Small Ph 48422924
Secretary: Sally Thackway Ph 48422808
Newsletter Editors:
Pat Maher Ph 48461479
Kate Chinnick Mob 0407 924 537

Notes from March Meeting

Our trip to the National Arboretum was a great success, enjoyed by all who were able to come on the day. The volunteer guides made the visit very interesting, full of information and they were happy to answer all our questions. What a wonderful asset for any city to have and a gift for future generations as the trees grow.

We then went on to The English Garden at Yarralumla for lunch and a walk through the garden followed by a visit to the Yarralumla Nursery by all those who can't resist buying plants at every opportunity.

Information on upcoming events by Sally

April Meeting - Thursday 10th - Visit to local gardens

Meet at Ryrie Park at 9.00am to carpool and depart by 9.15am to visit Warren and Di West's "Narranghi Olive Grove", 156 Narranghi Road (meet us there at 9.30am if this more convenient.

Di and Warren will take us on a tour of the olive grove and the processing room, followed by morning tea. Could those people with surnames beginning with A through to M please bring something to share. The club will provide tea and coffee. Don't forget your mug and chair.

We will then continue on to Wayne and Sarah Merriman's property (7 Tudor Valley Road) where Wayne is going to take us through his amazing vegetable garden.

Our third garden is at James and Belinda Royd's property, "Durham Hall" (turn off Majors Creek Road at Mill Pond Farm) where we can sit under the beautiful old trees and have our lunch and James will explain the history of the old garden.

May Meeting – Sunday 4th, Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th – Beechworth Trip (visiting 6 gardens)

Payment is due by the 14th April please at the Bendigo Bank.

We have a vacancy for two people sharing a room. If you are interested please ring Sally for details – 4842 2808.

There will be detailed information of our trip on our departure.

June Meeting – Thursday 12th – at the Services Club

Guest Speakers Pat and Warwick Wright – “Whose the Smarter – Plants or Animals”?

Some events you may be interested in:-

Southern Highlands Open Gardens – Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th April, 10.00am to 4.00pm. www.shbg.com.au or phone Judy Keast 4862 5444

Bathurst Spring Spectacular – 25th and 26th October

www.bathurstspringspectacular.com or phone Anne Llewellyn 6331 4117



by Kate

PLANT OF THE MONTH

**Veronica
spicata**

(Spike Speedwell)

- Native to Europe, Siberia & NW China
- Hardy clump forming perennial
- Hardy to -20 degrees
- Reaches a height of 60cm by 1m wide, dwarf varieties also
- Stems of blue, pink or white flowers are erect, hairy and branching
- Flowering in summer and autumn
- Prefers sun in well drained enriched soil
- Useful plants for borders in cooler climates

- Propagate from seed in Autumn or division in spring or autumn
- Good cultivars - "Heidekind"(pink), "Blue Peter" and "Blaufuchs" (lavender)

What to do in the garden for April

- Trim evergreen shrubs so they recover before winter
- Choose trees for autumn colour
- Good time to plant or move Camellias, Rhodo's & Azaleas
- Look for Liliun, Hippeastrum & Sprekelia Bulbs
- Complete planting of spring bulbs
- Tidy leaves of Hellebores, Winter Iris & Aquilegias
- Sow Asian Greens, Broad Beans & Peas
- Plant all Brassicas (cover with fine netting against white butterflies, old lace curtains ideal!)
- Remove all old leaves from Strawberries (put in garbage)
- Remove 3 year old Strawberries & replace with new stock
- Repot herbs and pot plants with new potting mix
- Pick up any fallen fruit & dispose of if diseased