

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER February 2015



President: Sue Murray 4842 2381

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UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

MARCH Thursday 12th ----- Garden Visits in the Braidwood Area

9.00am Meet at Ryrie Park, to **carpool** and distribute the garden information and a map of where they are. **Please bring a chair and a picnic lunch.**

The first garden is Kay McCarron's, 7 Clyde St Mongarlowe and it is just across the Mongarlowe River bridge. Kaye is a qualified horticulturalist with many years of experience so she will be able to answer questions about the plants she grows, and there will be some plants available for sale.

Then on to Marie and Alan Harris's garden at 194 Half Moon Rd. This garden was started about 10 years ago, in a difficult environment. We will have morning tea here and could those **people with surnames starting with N-Z please bring a plate to share for morning tea.**

The third garden is Frank and Karen Hansby's garden at 361 Budawang Rd Budawang. The house is very old and has a long history. The garden is new, and Karen will be able to share her plans and ideas for its development. We will have lunch here.

Finally, we will go to Richard Barker's Misty Mountains Nursery and Garden at 4972 Kings Highway Braidwood. Richard will show us his own garden as well as the nursery, and talk about the cool climate plants he enjoys growing.

It will be an enjoyable garden visiting day so we hope you will join us & we thank the owners very much for sharing their gardens with us.

APRIL Thursday 16th

Plans are for us to carpool & visit gardens near Braidwood so keep the date free. (Note the 3rd Thursday of the month.) TBC

MAY

A trip to Cooma/Nimmitabel by bus to see Autumn Gardens & a Plant Nursery...TBC

New Members

We welcome Treena Balmain, Wendy Hart & Chris Riley to the club & look forward to sharing our love of gardens with you.

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

MARCH Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th

Goulburn Rose Festival 2015 www.goulburnrosefestival.org.au

Saturday: 11am to 5pm & Sunday: 10am to 4pm. Some attractions are-

- art exhibition by Goulburn & District Art Society - art works for sale
- display & sale of roses by local nurseries
- craft stalls
- plants and gardening tools for sale
- garden design

MARCH Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th

Open Garden at "Shirley" 3475 Monaro Highway, Holts Flat(near Nimmitabel) 10am-4:30pm

From the owner, Sally Anne Cottle- 'In conjunction with Open Gardens Australia we invite you to visit our gardens at "Shirley" which have been recently redesigned and extended by Paul Bangay, one of Australia's leading landscape designers. "Shirley" is an all seasons mature garden, anchored by strong elements and featuring beautiful mature oaks, elms, ashes, poplars and birches, underplanted with shrubs and perennials in a romantic woodland. Hedges, parterres, courtyards, stone walls and steps unite the elements. Extensive water features include ponds, fountain and a huge lake.'

Paul Bangay will be in the garden from 10am - 2pm on Saturday 14th.

Entry is \$10 pp (under 18 free) with Open Garden Australia selling tickets on arrival.

Visit www.opengarden.org.au for more on this organisation.

A selection of Paul's stunning books will be available for sale and photographer Simon Griffith is joining Paul to photograph the garden for Paul's next book on country gardens. Coffee, morning tea and lunch will be available for purchase. Sorry no BYO catering. Both the book store and catering facilities will be run by local school groups as fundraising initiatives.

MARCH Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd

Don't forget the Plant Fair at Lanyon Homestead in March 2015. If you're looking for a terrific event, put this date in your diary.

Time:	10am – 4pm
Date:	Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 March, 2015
Venue:	Lanyon Homestead, Tharwa Drive, Tharwa
Entry:	\$10 including walks and talks, exhibitions and children's activities

MARCH Friday 20th and Saturday 21st OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

A very special event called Behind the Walls is being held by the Open Garden Scheme. Pre-booked visitors will be allowed a rare opportunity to visit three beautiful private gardens at Darling Point in Sydney. On the Friday, you can also visit historic Lindsay.

http://www.opengarden.org.au/events/nsw_act_events.html For more information phone 03 5427 1488

APRIL Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th

The 10th Collectors' Plant Fair will take place on Saturday 11th April, 8am to 4pm & Sunday 12th April, 9am to 4pm, at the Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon NSW featuring 60 nurseries. Tickets can be prepaid & gardening talks by guest speakers are extra.

<http://www.collectorsplantfair.com>

APRIL Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th

The Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens will be having their 5th Annual "Town & Country Gardens Weekend" featuring 8 Cool Climate Gardens open from 10-4pm each day. For more information phone Judy Keast 4862 5444. <http://shbg.com.au/events/autumn-garden-weekend/>

In my garden by Helen Small

The last few weeks have been a big clean up time along my drive. A couple of very large privet like trees and a cotoneaster have been removed giving an airy feel. A liquid amber that would eventually have taken over the whole front yard has also been taken away. Wisteria has been removed from my side fence as much as possible. Wisteria and bamboo are growing from neighbour's yard – a jungle next door that wants to invade my yard. Now when I drive in I don't feel overhung by masses of branches and vines.

I am attempting to redesign the front garden and planted two persimmons and a Chinese quince for their lovely habit and eventually I hope some fruit.

Plants purchased on our trip last May to Beechworth are growing well and one salvia has beautiful large maroon spikes of flowers. The berberis also seems to like its spot and the rain has certainly aided growth.

In the vegetable garden I had a late start to planting but am now harvesting scarlet runner beans, zucchini, eggplant (little ones), tomatoes, cucumber and some potatoes. The tomatoes have been slow ripening with the cooler days but at last I have ripe ones to pick. It is hard to keep the grass under control – it's mowed and the next day seems to have grown inches. Even in the chook run where the orchard is located in a huge cage the chooks get overtaken by the grass and have to spring through the grass to see where they are going.

The quince trees are covered with fruit – I am looking forward to a good harvest – the first one since they were planted. I had some plums off two trees – the first since they were planted. The trees are still young.

An old nectarine tree that my son took a chainsaw to last winter has produced a great crop of nectarines – it obviously liked being pruned a lot. It had not borne any fruit in the previous 3 years I have been in the house.

Right at the back of my block in a strip of ground behind the cage the natives I planted (the ones that hadn't died) have put on huge growth with the rain. The acacias are growing rapidly along with various grevilleas, correas, and native rosemary. I am hoping to attract more little birds to keep down insect pests in the orchard.

Happy gardening and good luck keeping the weeds at bay.

Report on Yass Gardens & Crisp Gallery Visit

Our first stop was a town garden, at Pam Oldfield's Garden and we were met by a restful, blue water feature, a profusion of cottage garden colours and Pat at the top of her driveway. The front garden screened from the street by a low hedge of boarder plantings gave way around the side of the house to a welcoming outdoor entertaining area & the members of the Yass Garden Club had prepared a bountiful morning tea!

The garden was tastefully decorated with pottery, garden ornaments, a scarecrow, arches and furniture, but the plantings themselves really enthralled the visitors! Pat was kept busy naming and explaining her extensive range of plantings and design. Areas of roses, clematis, conifers, bulbs, many unusual and interesting plants, succulents and cottage garden plantings welcomed the visitor as they traversed each turn of the pathway network encircling the back garden. It was a very reluctant group that finally bid farewell and moved on to the next garden.

Wanda's garden was a newly designed garden receiving hot, day long sunshine and the plantings reflected hardiness and were mainly sun loving. A pergola extended across the back of the house allowing climbers for summer shade. The garden was divided into islands of raised beds, in a sea of gravel pathways. Each island provided splashes of colour with a mix of natives, bulbs and exotics of contrasting textures, colours, shapes and heights. Occasional garden ornaments enhanced the setting. Another lovely example of garden design.

Then on to the Crisp Gallery & Garden where we were warmly welcomed by Sandy Crisp & had lunch in their large art gallery/function centre. Sandy gave us a detailed guided tour of the garden with huge shady trees, glades of massed plantings, a large lake & garden rooms all interspersed with steel sculptures & large mosaic tiled walls. An impressive feature was a stone, fountain obelisk constructed around a windmill base, just another surprise to greet the wanderer through this impressive garden. Don't miss it if you have a chance. Peter Crisp then gave a talk in his studio on his work & the glass display was breathtaking. And then....the begonia & geranium nursery which few of us could resist & don't we all love to buy a plant or two?

Our last stop was at Ros's garden on the edge of town & that was a garden that impressed us all. A 1 ½ acre garden with shady trees, wandering paths through well mulched garden beds, a waterlily pond & then on to the chook yard & 12 wicking, raised, vegetable plots. After afternoon tea on the verandah we made our way home, sated by garden beauty.

What a feast! I wish you all could have come! Maybe next time.

Plant Of The Month by Kate Chinnick



Canna X generalis

- Native to tropical and South America
- Robust rhizomatous perennial
- Belongs to the same family as Ginger and Bananas
- Dies down in winter and survives frost if covered by mulch
- Prefers damp soil in full sun and love heavy feeding
- Leaves are broad and can be green, red, striped or purple
- Flowers are in all colours, also striped and spotted
- Many hybrids are in dwarf forms (1m) or tall (1.8m)
- Propagate from division in spring
- Useful for colour in summer and autumn

What to do in the garden for March

- Prepare areas for spring bulbs
- Plant new Trees, Shrubs, Climbers and Perennials

- Dead head Annuals and Perennials as flowers fade
- Overgrown Perennials can be divided now
- Sow Sweet Peas
- Autumn is the best time to transplant evergreen shrubs
- Complete planting of Asian Greens, Broccoli, Cabbage and Cauliflower
- Remove vegetable crops as they finish and compost
- Clean up fallen fruit under trees
- Clean out ponds and divide Water Iris and Lilies
- Prune Jasmine and late summer flowering Clematis
- Remove dead wood from deciduous shrubs and Roses

NAME TAGS

For those members who would like to order a Garden Club name tag with the beautiful waratah emblem, would you please let me, Margy Gardner, know on 0412 616 352 or email me at daisymarg2000@yahoo.com.au

GARDEN CLUB 2015 Calendars are still available to buy at \$6, a discounted price. Call Sue Murray 4842 2381 if you would like one.

General Information

- Donations of a slice or cake to share at meetings where morning tea will be available would be appreciated
- When car pooling, please remember to offer the driver a couple of dollars for petrol
- A raffle will be held at most meetings & as this is our major fund raising effort, your support is appreciated
- A small prize will be offered for the winner of the competition
- Please note that some outings may change, especially those marked To Be Confirmed (TBC) but notice will be given of any changes in the monthly newsletter as will further details as they come to hand.

STOP PRESS OUR NEW WEBSITE

Fran Woods, our treasurer, has spent loads of time developing a "Braidwood Garden Club" website so we ask you to check it out & let us know what you think. The committee is very impressed & as Fran is a keen photographer, there are many wonderful pictures from our garden visits going back to 2011. Please check out the site & relive our history.

Thank you so much to Fran for her time & effort as anyone who knows about websites will really appreciate her achievement.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>