

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER June 2015



President: Sue Murray 4842 2381

Secretary: Shauna Moses 4842 2230

Treasurer: Fran Woods 0422 181 020

Newsletter Editor: Margy Gardner 0412 616 352

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENT

JULY Thursday 9th

There will be a Garden Talk at 10am at the Services Club by Judith Basile who, with her husband Michael, owns the Crystal Brook Lavender Farm at 257 Tyrl Tyrl Road, Laggan.

<http://www.lavenderatlaggan.com.au/index.php>

During spring and summer, the Farm hosts events, opens the extensive gardens with a shop & café and Judith and her husband take garden tours to France.

After the talk, there will be time to ask questions followed by morning tea so would members with last names starting with M to Z please bring some morning tea to share.

We will have a plant swap table so bring a plant from your 'nursery' and take home a gem.

We look forward to seeing you at our warm & informative meeting.

AUGUST Thursday 13th

AUGUST MEETING and AGM at Wisbeys Orchard Cafe, Araluen

This year, as we did 2 years ago, we thought it would be good to go to Araluen again for our AGM and Meeting. We are hoping to combine a garden visit with this. The Garden Club provides lunch for the members on this occasion and this will be held at Wisbeys Orchard Cafe.

There will be more details in our July Newsletter.

If you are interested in joining the committee, there will be some information re the positions at the July Meeting. Some of the present members are happy to stand again and some will not. We are always keen to have new members on the committee with new ideas. Please talk to any of the present committee members if you are interested or you could contact Sally on 48422808.

As Robyn Clubb, (Wisbeys Cafe owner) will need to know numbers for the lunch, could you please RSVP at the next meeting or to our newsletter editor Margy Gardner at daisymarg2000@yahoo.com.au or phone Sally Thackway on 48422808.

SEPTEMBER Thursday 10th

To be advised.

OCTOBER Thursday 8th

We will be having a bus trip to Berry on the South Coast & visiting 8 beautiful gardens in & around Berry.

Admission is \$20 for all 8 gardens or \$5 per garden (pay at each garden). Refreshments available at some gardens & the Berry Garden Club will have plants for sale.

<http://berrygardens.org.au/berry-gardens-festival/>

There will be more details closer to the time so put the date in the diary.

Report of the Tree Pruning Demonstration and Garden Visits Thursday 11th June

Our first port of call was Robyn Sim's garden for a demonstration of pruning by Dennis Dempsey. Robyn's orchard was the ideal spot for this demonstration as she has all the trees that Dennis's notes cover. We all learnt a great deal from his very professional demonstration and many of us tried our hand at cutting back some of the branches.

Next, on to Pat Maher's place for lunch, coffee and tea and a walk around her garden. Set on a slope which has the advantage of a great view but the disadvantage of very rocky ground, the plants that thrive in these conditions are proteas, grevilleas, leucadendrons, kangaroo paws and other mainly native plants that require good drainage and don't mind the rocky ground. Sasanqua camellias also thrive, as do the hellebores in a built up garden bed, in spite of being on the Western side of the house. The hedging down the slope is the very tough, twiggy plant, *teucrium fruticans*, much appreciated by the small birds that can hide away from the wattlebird who thinks he owns the garden. Penstemons, lavender, salvias, succulents and irises do well and one rose in particular, Amber Glow, yellow, fragrant and climbing is doing well in a built up bed and protected from the wind. Climbing Iceberg is another tough one and flowers well in spite of facing the full blast of the wind roaring up the valley.

On to Kate's Chinnick's where she took us on a tour of her beautifully laid out and extensive garden. Kate patiently answered our many questions about her large collection of plants and trees. Her garden is a very good example of good design with well-placed structures and a large water feature as the focal point. Even in the midst of winter the different variety and colour of foliage and the shapes of plants and trees was of great interest.

Report from Lyn Slade

As we missed visiting the 'Tablelands Trees and Shrubs Nursery' on the recent Garden Club outing, Greg took me there the following Sunday.

This is an excellent nursery, one of the best I have been to in a long time, and I have been to many.

John, the owner of the nursery, is a grower and he had a large variety of small plants, good size shrubs and small and large trees.

I was very impressed with the nursery and you will certainly not be bringing home someone else's weeds from here.

It is a bit off the road but we were in my car and had no trouble so you don't need a 4 wheel drive.

There are some lovely gardens to wander around and this garden has been in the Open Garden Scheme.

The prices are on a par with any other nursery and there are also some rarer plants (a couple of which are now in my garden) that you would not see in the nurseries we all shop at in Canberra and Goulburn. It took us about 1 hour 20 mins to get there but the drive is definitely worth it.

I think a visit by the club would be well worth it.

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

Canberra Botanical

Canberra Botanical 2015 is now open for entries. The exhibition will be held from 18 September to 5 October 2015 at the Nishi Gallery at 17 Kendall Lane, New Acton A.C.T. This will coincide with the Floriade Festival which draws huge visitor numbers to the ACT

The Nishi Gallery is a wonderful new contemporary art space situated in the New Acton precinct in the centre of Canberra. It is surrounded by award winning architecture, public art, landscaped surroundings and a range of accommodation for interstate visitors, fashionable eateries, commercial and cultural businesses as well as residential accommodation. For more information go

to <http://www.newacton.com.au/nishigallery>.

The Terms & Conditions of Entry are now available. Please read these carefully as there have been some changes since last year. Entries to Canberra Botanical will be via the on-line form - which will be open and available until Friday 21 August 2015

OCTOBER Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th

There are 8 gardens open in Robertson from 9.30am to 4pm. Garden tickets and descriptions are available from CTC Technology Centre Illawarra Hwy, \$5 per garden, \$20 all gardens, \$15 concession is valid over both days. For more information contact Joy 4869 5958 or Marion 4885 2249.

Robertsonopengardens@gmail.com

www.robertsonopengardens.weebly.com

www.robertson.nsw.au

BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE 2015

For the 19th year you are invited to ramble around beautiful private gardens in Bundanoon on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October.

Bundanoon will once again showcase a variety of private gardens to tantalise the senses at the annual Garden Ramble on October 24th and 25th 2015. The eight gardens which will be open from 9.30am to 4.00pm are testament to the dedication, style and flair of the owners who spend the year preparing, planting and tending in order to provide enjoyment for the many visitors who attend this popular event.

Now in its 19th year expectations are high following the enormous success of 2014's ramble, the most successful in its history with around 1580 tickets sold for the two days. Thanks to the superb weather, generous garden owners and the dedicated Garden Ramble Committee, people from far and wide were welcomed warmly to the town. This year Bundanoon celebrates its 150th anniversary and the Garden Ramble will be showcasing gardens from some of the more historic properties in town.

A visit to the Bundanoon Community Garden is highly recommended. Participate in gardening workshops and/or purchase goodies for your table. This garden is situated in Elsmore Rd.

As well as visits to the beautiful gardens there will be a Garden Market in the Bundanoon Hall where plants and gifts can be purchased. A working display of old farm machinery can be viewed in the main street and the Bundanoon History Group will mount an exhibition in the Old Goods Shed beside the railway line. Scarecrows will be displayed around the village and this competition will be judged by the Bundanoon Lions Club.

Visit the gardens and other activities by bicycle; use the free shuttle bus or if you wish to avoid delays use your own transport.

Purchase tickets in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

Tickets, valid for both days and with garden descriptions and map, are \$20 (\$15 concession) and include all gardens or \$5 for a single garden.

Refreshments are available in one of the beautiful open gardens as well as in the cafes in the village. For more information contact Sue Davison on 0410577837 or visit www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au.

Bundanoon adjoins Morton National Park. For weekend stays, other activities and free accommodation bookings contact the Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre in Mittagong. www.southern-highlands.com.au Freecall 1300 657 559.

Around My Garden By Sally Thackway

I've chosen the most superb day, blue sky as far as I can see, gorgeous sunshine and not a breath of air, to wander around jotting down a few notes on what's happening in our garden!

I love winter in the garden. The beautiful shapes of bare trees and shrubs really allow me to see the bones of the garden. I think it's always a great time to look at the overall picture to see if any changes or additions should or could be made.

I love too, the moss on the stone walls, the colour and texture of the lichen on our old crabapple trees and the shimmer of the frost in the early morning, on the bare birch tree branches in our birch paddock. After this lovely winter rain I'm sure these trees will take off this spring and I have underplanted them with bluebells so this year it should be a picture.

Snowflakes are popping up everywhere and to my delight the little English snowdrop which I planted last year has emerged.

The roses, after the rain have all but finished with just the tail end of a few flowering icebergs. One old bush has beautiful big rosehips on show. Daphne buds are opening to that lovely deep, musty pink which will send out the enchanting fragrance before we know it.

The vegetable garden is a bit bare except for 5 snowy white heads of cauliflower. We have just finished the last of the brocoli. This is the first year we have had a proper vegetable patch so I am still learning a lot and just loving being able to pick and enjoy our own fresh vegetables. It's such a treat!

At the front of the house which faces east, the main garden beds still have a few colours of penstemon flowers. The flowering quince, japonica, has buds beginning to open. It's always a wonderful sight in late winter /early spring. The leaves on the Chinese elm have turned a lovely burnished yellow and beneath the towering Indian bean tree, caltapa, and the claret ash are masses of autumn leaves. I think they look so attractive on the ground, but I shall be raking them up to mulch the garden ASAP. A few early lawn daisies are pushing up through the dead leaves.

On the southern side of the house, the oyster plants, acanthus, are quite tall and dark green and look good in 2 tiers disguising our septic tank! Masses of forget-me-nots are popping up everywhere and will be a beautiful blue carpet in spring.

At the back of the house facing west, we have some magnificent cotoneaster trees and this year the berries seem to be bursting with colour. At least the crimson rosellas think so as we have about a dozen or so feasting daily on the berries.

The northern side garden beds have lavender badly in need of cutting back ready for spring. The wall flowers are beginning to show a few of the lovely burgundy and yellow flowers with the wonderful perfume. There is also a beautiful evergreen clematis climbing the pergola which has delicate white bells covering it and contrasting beautifully with its small deep green leaves. One of my dear friends gave me this lovely plant. The rosemary as always makes a lovely presence in the garden. There are a few small limes on our tree not enjoying the frosts!

So, even though there is not so much vivid colour and growth, the winter garden has a beauty to me which I would not want to miss.

PLANT OF THE MONTH by Kate Chinnick



Narcissus

(Tazetta daffodils)

- Native to North and East Mediterranean
- Very sweetly scented small flowers, some double varieties
- Prefers full sun in cool areas and some shade in hot positions
- Grows to 38 cm high
- Flower heads are nodding, yellow, white or cream with contrasting cups
- Flowers from autumn to spring
- Clumps will multiply readily, remove spent flowers
- Allow leaves to dry off before removing
- Propagate from dividing the bulbs in summer
- Good varieties: "Erlicheer", "Geranium", "Soleil d'Or", "Silver Chimes"

What to do in the garden for July

- Remove flower buds from spring annuals for better displays
- Rhododendrons, Azaleas & Camellias will need watering leading to blooming
- Prune Wisterias and deciduous climbers
- Prune later flowering shrubs (not spring flowerers)
- Order summer flowering bulbs - Lilliums etc.
- Clean up prunings from fruit trees and mulch
- Sow Globe Artichoke and Asparagus seeds
- Clean and sharpen secateurs, loppers and saws
- Sand and oil (linseed oil) wooden handles on tools
- Turn over vegetable beds for spring plantings
- Watch for pink bud swell on early Peaches & Nectarines & spray for leaf curl with copper or lime sulphur