

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER May 2015



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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

JUNE Thursday 11th

Tree Pruning Demonstration and Garden Visits

9.30 am: Meet at Ryrie Park to car pool to Robyn Sim's property at: **674 Reidsdale Road**, 15 minutes from Braidwood, for a demonstration of tree pruning by Dennis Dempsey. As the demonstration will take some time and Robyn is on solar power, we will serve tea and coffee at our next venue:

Pat Maher's garden at **203 Sawyers Ridge Road, Reidsdale**. Bring your lunch to have here and a wander around the garden where hopefully, there should be proteas, camellias and hellebores flowering.

We then move on the Kate Chinnick's garden at: **Tudor Valley Road**. Kate has an extensive, well- designed garden with an interesting variety of plants and trees.

Please join us for another great gardening day with hopefully some sun!

JULY Thursday 9th

There will be a Garden Talk at the Services Club with more details to come.

AUGUST Thursday 13th

Garden Club AGM

Report of the Visit to Nimmitabel on Thursday 14th May

We boarded the bus bound for Nimmitabel on a sunny but chilly day & arrived at our first garden in windy & very cold conditions.

The **Warragundi Garden** owned by Marie & Bill Hampson.

"After 4 years of severe drought, one of the primary reasons for building on this site was easy access to a reliable water supply. An area was fenced & the 5 children were given trees by their grandmother-the Golden Elm, the Flowering Cherry, the Flowering Almond, the Rowan tree & the Robinia.

I 1990 we extended the house & added the verandah. A few years later, Bill & the children built the tennis court. A bank was cut out & son Tom built a dry stone wall, with steps & the stone wall extended later. Dam silt was used as backfill & some people told me it would not grow anything as it would be sterile, but not so, the crab apples & shrubs have thrived. I recently had Michael Bligh to consult and am implementing some ideas on design & location of plants.

The garden is well protected, has a neutral soil and with mulch & manure added, a wide variety of plants are grown. Since I retired 18 months ago, I am able to spend more time the garden, growing & propagating the plants I love" - Marie Hampson

Next the **Curry Flat Garden**

This is the garden of Sue & Jim Jardine, the 6th generation of the pioneer family in the Monaro and the homestead was built in 1895. Sue, who studied horticulture, has planted avenues of trees and herbaceous plants suited to the cold climate.

The garden was designed in 1954 by Claude Crowe from Berrima Bridge nurseries & most of the original design remains today. The garden is approached by a long driveway with views of the homestead, past a lake and expansive lawns.

Our last garden was the **Shirley** garden.

The "Shirley" garden is approximately 80 years old and was originally started by John's grandparents Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor in the 1930's. Mr. Claude Crowe from Berrima Bridge Nurseries helped with the original design and supplied the trees and plants and remained associated with the garden over many years.

The design included the construction of the lake at the bottom of the garden with a central island, and many flowerbeds of annuals and perennials. The garden continued to expand with a sunken garden and stonework by the lake carried out by an English stonemason during the 1950's.

There are a great variety of trees along the main entrance to the homestead including various species of cedar, sequoia, cryptomeria, pines, spruces, firs, cypressus, Spanish and horse chestnuts, elms and birches. In the late 60's John's mother, Joy Cottle inherited the property and she proceeded to change the garden to shrubs and groundcovers while adding additional trees to create a park-like landscape. Joy was a passionate gardener like her parents and devoted most of her life to the garden at "Shirley".

In the late 1990's John and Sally-Ann moved into the homestead with their two children. At first, a little overwhelmed at the task of taking on such a beautiful and well recognized garden, they became aware they needed help from a respected professional to adapt it to the formal style of garden which appealed to them.

In 2006, they approached Paul Bangay to help them with a renovation of the garden. Bangay introduced structure with extensive plantings of hedges defining particular areas. He extended the garden around the back of the homestead to create a large sunken paved courtyard, a crabapple lawn and a parterre garden in the position of the old tennis court. Two new ponds have been constructed and the garden has taken on a more European influence.

They have had significant issues of drainage in the southern end of the parterre where they have replanted several times without success. Drainage and engineering has been an issue in general given the slope of the landscape. Some trees planted are still not thriving and may need to be reconsidered.

John has largely carried out the construction and planting of the garden himself with local contractors brought in where necessary. Relying completely on their own labour for maintenance of the garden, while also running the property has been an issue at times and the renovation of the garden has been slower than they would have liked.

There are still several jobs to be completed in Paul Bangay's master plan. The new tennis court behind the Crabtree lawn, the sunken garden at the bottom of the garden and some rockwork is still unfinished. The beauty at "Shirley" is only possible with the benign climate in which it is situated. A higher rainfall and slightly cooler climate makes "Shirley" a unique event in most of the Monaro landscape. It is situated about 1000m above sea level in a sub-alpine climate with late frosts and falls of snow several times a year. Paul Bangay's design has been crucial to achieving the results in the garden today along with the two generations of passionate gardeners who have gone before.

We thank the Nimmitabel Garden Club members who provided bounteous morning & afternoon teas & the hosts of the 3 gardens who shared their homes & allowed us to warm ourselves beside cosy fires. It was truly a wonderful day.

We were not able to fit in a visit to the plant nursery on the way home so here is a report from John Bowe about his nursery.

Tablelands Trees and Shrubs

John Bowe
Nurseryman/Landscaper
3775 Badja Rd
Cooma
NSW 2630

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Structural Landscaping & Urban Irrigation
License No. 2688

Hi there everyone,

Sorry you couldn't make it on your tour of the Monaro.

We are a cold climate grower, producing retail quality stock for our local & Canberra Markets growing in one of the coldest areas in Australia.

We identified the Braidwood area as an area ideally suited to our stock as many of the plant types we grow here thrive in the cooler climates of the district.

We produce a huge range of product from large trees, through all the local fruit, nuts & berries to low perennials & groundcovers. We also propagate unusual cooler climate perennials & alpine plants.

The garden is now over 30 years old & well worth a look. It provides an insight into what can be done in the area with some large established deciduous trees, thriving perennial gardens & productive fruit & berry areas.

If you want to come up please ring first for an appointment so we can organise to be here.

If you want to see more have a look at our website - www.tablelandsnurseries.com.au

Regards,

John Bowe

Plants from our Garden Visit:

A Rose from Marie's garden- Mademoiselle Abel Chatenay

A rounded tree with bright orange/red berries from Curry Flat - Malus 'Jack Humm'

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

JUNE Saturday 13th

'Friendship through Gardens'

A Bundanoon Garden Seminar will be held in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Bundanoon on Saturday 13th June 2015 9.00 am – 4.00 pm. Speakers include Sabrina Hahn, John Siemon, Stuart Read, Elaine Musgrave. There will be a Botanical Art exhibition and the sale of Garden Tools, Garden Ornaments and Plants.

\$30/person, all inclusive (promotional pack, morning tea, lunch) with discounted bookings for large groups (15% on a booking of 20) For further details: www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au (go to Special Events).

You can purchase tickets by going to: www.trybooking.com/119394 and just follow the prompts.

You will need a credit card.

It is the Bundanoon Sesquicentenary and The Garden Seminar is sponsored by the Bundanoon Garden Club Inc.

Local contact: Mrs Suzy Molyneux (02) 4883 6073 tonym109@bigpond.net.au If you have any difficulties or don't have access to a computer, or only wish to purchase using cash, then please don't hesitate to contact Suzy.

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.

Robertsonpengardens@gmail.com

www.robertsonpengardens.weebly.com

www.robertson.nsw.au

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

Do you have an email address which we can add to our list? It saves on postage and means you get other advices about gardening activities too late for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Delicious Pumpkin Soup!

Ingredients

1 large Jap Pumpkin peeled seeded and cut into chunks

6 carrots peeled and chopped

2 onions chopped

2 cloves of garlic crushed

2 tblsp olive oil

1 tsp curry powder

1 small tin of coconut milk

2 cups water

salt

Method

Saute onions and garlic in olive oil then add carrots, pumpkin and curry powder mixing well. Pour in 2 cups of water and bring to the boil, stir well and then cover and simmer until pumpkin and carrots are well cooked and easily squashed with a spoon.

Add coconut milk and puree with a stick blender adding more water until desired consistency is reached. Finally add salt to taste. Serve with sour cream and enjoy!

PLANT OF THE MONTH by Kate Chinnick



Anemone nemorosa (Wood Anemone)

- Native of Europe
- Perennial, hardy to -15 degrees
- Prefers a moist shaded position in a woodland setting
- Grows into a clump to 30cm X 60 cm
- Evergreen with pale green leaves and creeping rhizomes
- Flower heads of white, pink and lavender
- Flowers from late Summer to Autumn
- Good cultivars - "Bowles Purple"- mauve, "Vestal" - white
- Propagate from seed in summer or division in early winter

What to do in the garden for June

- Camellias are blooming so buy new plants now
- Older Hydrangeas may be pruned now - remove older grey wood and reduce younger canes to a good pair of buds
- Plant new deciduous trees, shrubs, roses and vines
- Lift Dahlia tubers, divide and store in sawdust in dark dry area
- Houseplants should be moved away from heaters
- Do not allow vegetable plants to dry out
- Prune Pome fruits (Apple, Pear, Quinces etc.)
- A winter spray of pest oil or copper spray will clean up fruit trees
- Shred prunings and add to compost or mulch
- Remove any broken or crossed branches from trees or shrubs
- Rake fallen leaves onto beds or compost - don't burn