

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2015



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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

### UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

#### OCTOBER Thursday 8th

Bookings are open for our bus trip to Berry on the South Coast visiting 8 beautiful gardens in & around Berry. The Berry Garden Festival starts on that day so the gardens will hopefully be at their spring peak.

We will meet at Ryrie Park at 8.15am. Bus cost is \$30 for members, \$45 for non-members, payable at the Bendigo Bank by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Admission is \$20 for all 8 gardens or \$5 per garden (paying at each garden) but as we will be visiting at least 3 gardens, the \$20 option is the cheapest for us. Refreshments are available at some gardens & the Berry Garden Club will have plants for sale. Could those with surnames starting with A-M please bring something to share for morning tea, and BYO lunch & chair.

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

#### NOVEMBER Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>

A bus visit is planned to 4 beautiful gardens in Canberra, both exotic and native Canberra gardens. This will be a full day's outing, travelling by bus and taking our own picnic lunch to enjoy in one of the gardens we visit. Morning tea will be provided by the Canberra Garden Club.

The bus will leave Ryrie Park at 8.15am and return by 5.30pm approx.

Bus Cost: \$25 payable at Bendigo Bank from 21st October

Enquiries to Sally 48422808

#### DECEMBER Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>

Keep this date free for our Christmas lunch to be held on the 10th December, at BRAG, and catering will be by Vanessa of Vanilla Catering. More details in the next newsletter.

#### Report of the Bundanoon Garden Visit

There were 32 members on our bus trip to Bundanoon & the Bundanoon Garden Club were marvellous hosts. Their morning tea spread was magnificent & we thank them warmly.

At our first stop at Suzy Molyneux's garden, we all admired the Pieris Japonica or "Lily of the Valley" shrub, which was almost a small tree. Also the enormous Rhododendrons which were probably planted in the 1930's. And the amazing welcome and morning tea, served in Suzy's lovely 1930's house.

In Noelene's garden next door, people commented on the dwarf flowering peach trees at the front door. At the back, we all noticed the evergreen clematis "Sweetheart", the Magnolia Lennei Alba, and the white Daphne. Also two very beautiful weeping "Bogong Snow" camellias, with small, delicate white flowers.

At Julie-Anne and Trevor's garden, the careful design, taking advantage of the location was impressive. Sloping down from a curved hedge of cypress, then another hedge of laurel, there were some beautiful trees underplanted with bulbs, iris and perennials. Unusual plants included the bed of Geranium Maderense, which produces blue flowers and then seeds prolifically. Hydrangea Petiolaris was very happy climbing on an old stump and in the veg patch, a Clematis "Fireworks" climbed on an old farm gate. The "women's shed", recently constructed by Trevor, was admired by all. We add a grateful "thankyou" to our very capable bus driver, Alan Lukie, who had very a long day.

The nursery in Bundanoon village had a great selection of plants suited to our climate and many people bought plants they had seen in the gardens we visited. We all hope they will thrive in our climate, which is a bit more demanding than the Southern Highlands.

### **Tablelands Nursery Visit**

On a snowy day, 7 hardy members travelled to The Tablelands Nursery and were warmly welcomed by John & Shilo Bowe. The garden is in a bush setting with beautiful spring flowering trees & shrubs, underplanted with perennials & ground covers. John propagates a wide variety of plants, all suited to our climate, including varieties not often seen in commercial nurseries. He will be selling plants in Braidwood during the Braidwood Open Gardens weekend. [tablelandsnurseries.com.au](http://tablelandsnurseries.com.au).

### **Yass Garden Club Visit**

We had a Yass Garden Club visit to Braidwood on Saturday 26th September & unfortunately it rained for most of the day. The Yass club members visited 3 gardens, and enjoyed the day until the rain became really too much to ignore! Our grateful thanks to Cheryl and Don Raper, Philip Hart and Adam Robertson and Wayne and Sarah Merriman for opening three very different gardens for our visitors. They were very welcoming and generous with their time, answering questions and explaining the history of their gardens.

## **BRAIDWOOD HOSPITAL ANNUAL FETE**

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

Dear Members

I have been asked to organize the cake stall for our Hospital Fete this year as two of our Garden Club members, Dawn Jonas and Zelma McKie, who have been running this stall so successfully for many years, are stepping down.

I am hoping the garden club members can help me out with donations of cakes, biscuits, slices, sweets etc. Any donation would be gratefully received and if you can let me know so I have some idea of what is needed on the day, that would be helpful.

Many thanks.

Sally Thackway 48422808

## **FROM THE MAILBOX for your information**

### **MY OPEN GARDENS**

There are many gardens open at this time of the year so check out this site for more information.

<http://www.myopengarden.com.au>

### **SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER**

Wildwood Garden, Bilpin

Opening Hours in Spring 2015 - August 7 until November 2 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 10am-4pm)

<http://www.wildwoodgarden.com.au>

### **OCTOBER Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Leura Garden Festival**

Ten wonderful Leura Gardens are taking part this year, two totally new to the Festival, two returning after a break and six magical old favourites. We also have other events including Music in the Gardens, Art in the Gardens and the ever popular plant sales.

<http://www.leuragardensfestival.com.au>

### **OCTOBER Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Perrenial Hill Mittagong**

Open Saturdays to Mondays, 10-4.30 in October & November

This 1 acre garden comprised of many rare & unusual plants creates a garden of immense beauty & tranquillity

<http://perennialhill.com.au>

### **OCTOBER Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Crookwell Garden Festival**

Over the weekend, 10 gardens will open to the public, six in the Crookwell township and four at rural locations out of town. As an added attraction, a garden-lovers market located at St Bartholomews church hall in Denison St, will be held on Saturday, October 10. There will be an exciting array of garden-related stalls, including perennial plants, roses, native and exotic plants, botanical art and garden ornamentation.

**The Crystal Lavender Farm** at Laggan will also be open from 10am to 4pm over the weekend.

### **OCTOBER Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Home and Garden Show** at the Bong Bong Race Course Bowral 10.am to 4.00pm \$10 p/p

[www.homeandgardenshow.com.au](http://www.homeandgardenshow.com.au)

### **OCTOBER Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Robertson Open Gardens**

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](mailto:Robertsonopengardens@gmail.com)

[www.robertsonopengardens.weebly.com](http://www.robertsonopengardens.weebly.com)

[www.robertson.nsw.au](http://www.robertson.nsw.au)

### **OCTOBER Friday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Galston Open Gardens, Friday 16th through Sunday 18th October, 2015. 9.30 to 4.30pm. Tickets \$20 inclusive for all nine gardens and all days; available through the Galston Garden Club or at the gardens on the day. Enquiries: Margaret Dunn 96512475 or Bill Fleming 96532394. [galstongardenclub.com.au](http://galstongardenclub.com.au)

## **OCTOBER Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

### **Mayfield Garden, Oberon**

Discover all that the gardens offer, the Water Garden and the Private Garden. Extending over 160+ acres, the expansive private family garden is breathtaking in its scale and design with the 80m cascade, walled kitchen garden, croquet court and much more.

Tickets \$25 adults, \$10 children sold at Mayfield.

<http://www.mayfieldgarden.com.au>

## **OCTOBER Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>**

### **BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE**

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

The 8 gardens which will be open from 9.39am to 4pm 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.

This year Bundanoon celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> 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 the garden visits 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.

Use the free shuttle bus or if you wish to avoid delays, use your own transport. Tickets, valid for both days, are \$20 (\$15 concession) or \$5 for a single garden & can be purchased in the Soldiers Memorial Hall.

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](http://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au)

### **Members Suggestion**

At the AGM, there was a suggestion about having voluntary, occasional working bees for people (older folk & some members) who may need help with their gardens & the committee is interested if anyone would like to organise this helpful activity. If you are interested in being involved, could you reply to the garden club gmail address - [braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com) or phone Sue Murray.

## **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

Jane Moore, Marie Harris, Suzy Molyneux, Jenny Taylor, Ann and Robert McDougall, Linda Eden, Lorraine Yewdall, Heikii Malmberg, and Helen Campbell-Davys.

### **REMINDER**

Annual Membership Subscriptions of \$15 for the 2015/16 year are due now. Please pay at the Bendigo Bank ASAP  
The newsletter is emailed each month but if you would like a hard copy posted to you, please add \$7 to your subscription.

## **Around My Garden at Araluen by Sue Quinnell**

Spring always holds a feeling of expectation. Never knowing if the plants and trees that have been tucked up in bed asleep will awaken and produce the picture that matches the one in your head. Very rarely do they disappoint. We feel quite self-satisfied this year as we have had the time to do most of the preparation required. The pruning, spraying and fertilizing has been done but of course it's an ongoing activity that repeats throughout the growing season.

The daffodils and snowdrops have been awake for a couple of weeks now and I can see that the flowering plum and the Manchurian pears are ready to burst into life. It's so wonderful to walk around the garden at this time of year to see something new happening every day.

The polyanthus are a delight at the moment as they provide a burst of vivid colour on either side of the front steps and the cyclamens are still blooming in the old pot belly stove that now is used as a pot plant holder, just outside our lounge room window. Len has been busy over the last few weeks building a rock retaining wall. It has been a tricky job trying to fit the rocks together, much like a jigsaw puzzle but it is finally taking shape. A new box hedge will be planted along the top side with a few trailing plants to hang over the wall to soften the edges.

This is my favourite time of the year, just before the summer heat takes its toll on the plants and trees and me. Every day is a joy to walk around our garden and find something new happening.



## **PLANT OF THE MONTH** **by Kate Chinnick**



### **Skimmia japonica**

- Native to Japan, from the Rutaceae family
- Dense medium-sized shrub, shaped like a dome
- Dark evergreen leaves, slow growing
- Flowers are small, white or red and fragrant produced in terminal panicles
- Followed by red, globular fruits
- Tolerates shade and harsh conditions
- Require minimal pruning, can be trimmed for hedges
- Propagate from tip cuttings
- Needs both sexes to produce good fruit

#### **What to do in the garden for October**

- Prune flowering shrubs as they finish flowering
- Thin out Camelias and shorten branches
- Azaleas should be clipped back and remove any dead wood
- Roses will respond to fertiliser & added water from mid month
- Remove last years dead growth from Begonias and Fuchsias
- Nip out Sweet Pea shoots to encourage lateral growth
- Plant out dahlia tubers (insert stakes before planting)
- Gladiolus corms can be planted at two weekly intervals (90 to 100 days to flowering)
- Dead head annuals and bulbs
- Feed bulbs with fertiliser high in potash for next years flowers
- Sow seeds of Tomatoes, Zucchini, Silver Beet, Beans & cabbage
- Make supports for Peas and climbing Beans
- Mulch well to hold in the moisture