

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER August 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 EVENTS

SEPTEMBER Thursday 10th

Bus trip to Bundanoon

Bookings have opened for the bus trip to Bundanoon on 10th September. We will be visiting 3 gardens and a nursery/garden shop. The gardens are different from those included in the Bundanoon Garden Ramble later in October.

The cost of the bus is \$30, and payments **must** be made at the Bendigo Bank by **Friday 4th September**.

The bus departs Ryrie Park at 8.30am. We arrive at Suzy and Tony Molyneux's garden in Bundanoon at about 10.30, where we will have morning tea, provided by the Bundanoon Garden Club members.

The house was built in 1936, and some of the trees were planted around that time. There are huge Rhododendrons, Camellias, Magnolias and Dogwoods. The garden is scattered with lots of quirky things, as Suzy loves "old rusty things".

The next stop is The Bloomery, Bundanoon Village Nursery. It has a great shop attached with fun things as well as garden art, and of course cold climate plants.

We then drive to Exeter to visit 2 lovely gardens. The first belongs to Julie-Anne and Trevor New. Set on 5 acres with 1 acre of garden around the house, it includes some lovely old gums and deciduous trees, plus lots of roses, perennials, vegie patch, sheep in the paddocks, all in a lovely rural setting. We will have our BYO lunch here and bring a chair just in case it's needed. Tea and coffee are provided.

Next door is Tim and Dianne's garden. Tim is a horticulturalist at Moidart Rare Plant Nursery in Bowral. The garden is described as being 5 acres of extensive garden in its 'formative stage'. There are many rare species of Maples, Dogwoods, Magnolias and natives, plus lots more.

Both the Exeter gardens are on flood and clay pans so can be soggy underfoot. Good footwear and/or gumboots could be an advantage.

Leaving Exeter at about 4pm, we should be back in Braidwood by 6pm.

OCTOBER Thursday 8th

We will be having a bus trip to Berry on the South Coast & visiting 8 beautiful gardens that are open in & around Berry. It will be the first day of the very popular Berry Open Garden Festival which is on for 4 days from 8th October to 11th October.

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.

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.

Tablelands Tree & Shrub Nursery

We plan a car pool trip to the Tablelands Tree and Shrub Nursery sometime in September/October. If anyone is interested could they please email our Garden Club email address on braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com

Report of the August Meeting at Araluen

AGM and ORCHARD VISIT

We had a superb day for our visit to Harrison's Orchard at Araluen. Ken and Troy were very hospitable hosts providing us with lots of information about the work they do in the orchard while we sat and enjoyed our morning tea in the beautiful setting among the fruit trees in blossom, citrus trees laden with oranges, grapefruit, mandarins, lemonades, lemons and kaffir limes against the backdrop of the escarpment.

We then moved on to Wisbeys Café for a delicious lunch prepared by Robyn Clubb and Nomi. The AGM was conducted here. Sue Murray our President, gave a comprehensive account of the club's activities for the year followed by a report from Fran Woods our Treasurer. Both reports are included in the newsletter. Thanks were made to outgoing committee member Helen Small and to Shauna Moses who is stepping down as secretary, for their hard work and commitment.

The election results for the committee for 2015/16 are as follows

President:	Sue Murray
Vice President:	Sue Tuisk
Secretary:	Sally Thackway
Treasurer:	Fran Woods
Newsletter Editor:	Margy Gardner
Catering Organizer:	Charmian Thomas
Raffle Organizer:	Leonie Jolley
Bus Organizer:	Chris Riley
General Committee:	Pat Maher
	Shauna Moses
	Marilyn Carle
	Sue Quinnell

We thank Robyn Sim for again taking the chair for the elections and also thank Kate Chinnick for her wonderful monthly 'Plant Of The Month' & what to do in the garden section of each newsletter. Kate is also our name tag maker...so special for our garden club.

**Braidwood Garden Club
President's Report 2014-2015**

The garden club year commenced in August 2014, with the AGM and the election of a new Committee. In the year since then, we have enjoyed a variety of activities including bus trips, visits to local gardens and nurseries, a tree-pruning demonstration, and a talk, as well as our annual Christmas gathering. We also hosted a visit by the Nimmitabel Garden Club (on a very rainy day!).

Locally, we made a contribution towards prizes at the annual Braidwood Show, and held a working bee to replace lavender plants in the cemetery garden.

Our bus trips included a trip to the Open Gardens in Robertson in October, and a very enjoyable day in Yass in February, hosted by the Yass Garden Club. Lunch at the Crisp Gallery and a tour of their gardens and glass workshop added to the success of that trip.

Our trip to Nimmitabel in May was very well-attended. Everyone seemed to have a great day, despite the cold weather. Some wonderful gardens and homes in the area were opened to us, including **Warragundi**, **Curry Flat** and **Shirley**. This trip followed the visit to Braidwood by the Nimmitabel Club in April. We hope to continue that association with further visits to the Monaro region. Unfortunately we were too late to call at the Tablelands Trees and Shrubs Nursery, but we hope to organise a carpool trip there in Spring.

During the year we also visited gardens in the local area, including some near Bungendore and Lake Bathurst. Open Gardens in and around Bungendore were visited by a small but committed group of members in November, this time on a very hot day. Gardens visited included the rarely opened and beautiful garden at **Bongalabi**, Lake Bathurst, and the old homestead and gardens at **Werriwa**, near Bungendore. The very pretty garden at **Piccolo** in Bungendore was another highlight of the day.

Closer to home, in September we visited my garden on the Bombay Road, and Tim Lenehan's very large country garden at Ballalaba. In March we visited 3 very different gardens at Mongarlowe, where we saw very clearly how different soils and microclimates can affect the style of gardens and the plants that flourish in different places. Thanks to Kaye and James McCarron, Marie Harris and Karen Hansby for sharing their gardens with us. We also enjoyed an impromptu tour of the old Rising Sun hotel near the Mongarlowe bridge. Our final destination was Richard Barker's Misty Mountains nursery, where he shared his love of cold climate plants and guided us through his extensive garden.

In April, we visited 2 local gardens, one very well-established and the other in the early stages of re-development. Kerry and Alf Mitchell welcomed us to their garden on the Shoalhaven River at Farrington, where they are re-locating their "Nursery in a Garden" from its former home in the Blue Mountains. Kerry's enthusiasm for her plants and her knowledge of propagation from seed made this a very interesting visit. We then travelled to Harold's Cross to the wonderful garden established by Teresa Lindwall over the last 30 years. Lunch under the trees in this densely planted garden was a lovely experience, and the views of the Shoalhaven valley were magnificent.

In June, we visited Reidsdale, where Robyn Sim hosted a tree-pruning demonstration by our local expert Dennis Dempsey. Lunch and a tour of Pat Maher's garden were followed by a visit to Kate Chinnick's inspirational garden at Tudor Valley.

Our final activity in July was a very interesting talk by Judith Basile from Crystal Brook Lavender Farm at Laggan. We hope to visit her garden and nursery in early 2016.

The creation of our wonderful new website has been a labour of love by our hard-working Treasurer, Fran Woods. Fran's technical expertise, combined with her creativity and her photographic records of our trips have made the website an invaluable asset, for both members and non-members.

During the year our membership has grown. We now have nearly 80 financial members, including about 15 new members who have joined this year. New members are always welcome to join at any time. Membership is necessary to come on our bus trips, to ensure that you are covered by our insurance.

Many people have helped to make this year a success for our club. The 10 member Committee has spent many hours planning, organising and recording events, creating and distributing the monthly newsletter, keeping financial and membership records, liaising

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Local gardeners and nurseries have welcomed us into their gardens, and we thank all our generous hosts, including the local nursery owners. Special thanks to Sue and Ulli Tuisk, Cheryl and Don Raper and Helen and Jeremy Campbell-Davys for opening their gardens and catering for the Nimmitabel club, and to Jane Kendall for opening The Long Barn in the pouring rain.

Thanks to the Serviceman's Club for providing a place for meetings, and to BRAG for the use of their facilities for our AGM and Christmas lunch. Thanks to the always helpful staff at Bendigo Bank for collecting memberships, and payments for our bus trips. Also thanks to Ian Bensley for providing the comfortable buses and helpful, caring drivers for our trips.

Finally, thanks to our retiring Committee members. Helen Small and Shauna Moses. Helen is a past President and long time member of the club. Shauna bravely agreed to take on the role of Secretary last year, while also having her house turned upside down because of major renovations. The arrival of her first grandchild was also a highlight requiring her full attention! We are truly grateful for the time and care given by both Helen and Shauna to the Garden Club, and hope we will see them often at our monthly activities.

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB FINANCIAL YEAR 2014 - 2015

Financial Summary (Aug 2014 – July 2015)

Opening Balance @ Bendigo Bank \$2,561.53 Balance – 31 July 2015 = \$3,676.31

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Calendar Sales	\$200.00	Advertising	\$343.50
Christmas Lunch	\$1,025.00	Braidwood Show	\$110.00
Magazine Sales	\$58.50	Bus Hire	\$2,470.00
Membership	\$1,225.00	Calendars	\$150.00
Postage	\$45.00	Christmas Lunch	\$513.07
Plant Sales	\$53.15	Dept Fair Trading	\$53.00
Raffles	\$888.00	Expenses Refunds	\$283.94
Trips	\$2,883.50	GC of Aust	\$247.91
	<hr/>	Gifts	\$29.85
	\$6,378.15	Miscellaneous	\$19.20
	<hr/>	Newsletter	\$39.40
		Postage	\$66.50
		Raffles	\$142.00
		Room Hire	\$310.00
		Trips	\$484.00
			<hr/>
			\$5,262.37
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Notes 1. Cheques not yet presented = \$74

2. Garden Clubs of Australia (GCofAUST) includes our insurance

Harrisons Fruit & Vegetables

Troy Harrison's fruit and vegetables can be ordered online or bought in person at the Farmers' market in the National Theatre on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. The market dates are always advertised in the Braidwood Times before each market. He is such a lovely fellow and very keen to make his business successful.

His email address is troysfruitandveg@gmail.com

FACEBOOK

The Braidwood Garden Club has a FACEBOOK site and if anyone is interested in maintaining it for us, can you please email Sue Murray suejmurray@yahoo.com

GARDEN CLUB CALENDARS

Each year the Garden Club orders calendars for the next year & if anyone is wanting to order a 2016 Calendar, please let Sue Murray know at 4842 2381 or email suejmurray@yahoo.com

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

MY OPEN GARDEN

There are some wonderful gardens open with this organisation so check out their website if you would like a spring garden visit. myopengarden.com.au

SEPTEMBER 26th & 27th

Plant Lovers Fair

Kariong Mountains High School, Kariong, Central Coast NSW

Contact by email at enquiries@plantloversfair.com.au or check the website at www.plantloversfair.com.au

OCTOBER Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th

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

www.homeandgardenshow.com.au

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 & cost \$5 per garden, \$20 all gardens with a \$15 concession 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

OCTOBER Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th

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 31st & Sunday 1st November

Bathurst Spring Garden Weekend

As part of Bathurst's Bicentenary celebrations the 2015 event will showcase Heritage homes & gardens.

Tickets \$20 available from all gardens & Bathurst Visitor Information Centre

Further information contact Anne Llewellyn 6331 4117 annesgarden@bigpond.com or the website www.bathurstspringspectacular.com

OCTOBER Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th

BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE

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

Around My Garden by Sue Murray

After two months away from Braidwood, missing the cold winter, I returned to a garden in desperate need of attention. Apart from damage by incredibly strong winds, I also had to face the debris from having about 20 trees removed just before I left.

It was a difficult decision, but I realised that you can actually have too many trees, especially if they are eucalypts continually shedding endless amounts of bark, leaves, and branches. Time spent dealing with this needs to be channelled into more enjoyable and productive garden tasks. The eucalypts will be replaced with deciduous trees, which will repay the time spent raking leaves with useful compost and mulch. They also change with the seasons, and I love that.

Spring is always a magic time in the garden. The new green leaves are so delicate, and the narcissus bulbs keep popping up, making a wonderful show, especially when underplanted with violets and hellebores. It's a race to get things tidied up so that these lovely plants can look their best. The honeysuckles are flowering, and together with the daphne and violets, the combined scents of Spring continually surprise and delight me.

After so much rain, and a mild summer last year, I'm finding lots of self-sown plants to spread around the garden. The hellebores in particular have so many new seedlings, I am inspired to create whole new beds – if only I had the time. There are lots of gaps to fill, so they will all find a home.

While travelling in France and the UK, I loved the mixed shrub hedges which seem to be everywhere. I have a plan to recreate them along one boundary fence, as far as our climate will allow. I'll be visiting our local nurseries to find the right species to support each other and also to provide contrast. I would also love a hornbeam hedge, which seem to be everywhere in Europe, but I think that may be asking a bit too much here. Any suggestions from our members as to good hedging plants, apart from the usual ones, would be very welcome. I'm thinking about a hedge of white Japonica, one of the loveliest plants flowering in my garden at the moment. Last year my golden willow suffered badly from an attack of what seems to be a black sooty mould. I noticed that lots of other willows had the same problem. I'm not an expert on plant diseases, so if anyone can help me with the cause and the cure, I would be very grateful.



So much to do all at once, but that's part of the joy of Spring, after the long cold winter. I still have roses to prune, and soon the mowing will start

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick



Mahonia japonica

(Holly Grape)

- Native to Japan, widely cultivated in Taiwan & China
- Evergreen shrub growing 1.8m tall by 3m wide
- Has long, leathery, spiny leaves
- 10 to 20cm long racemes of fragrant yellow flowers in late winter
- Small blue/ black berries follow the flowers (like grapes)
- Berries can be used to make jellies
- Very hardy, prefers full sun or partial shade
- Propagate from cuttings or basal suckers
- Require minimal pruning, trimming off dead wood or old stems
- Mulch and feed with well rotted manure

What to do in the garden for September

- Tie Sweet Peas to supports
- Dahlia clumps left in the ground can be divided now
- Plant new perennials & pot on any cuttings
- Winter flowering Sasanqua Camellias can be pruned after flowering
- Feed Camelias, Rhodo's, Azaleas, Daphne, Pieris and Ericas with old animal manure
- Plant and repair lawns
- Still plant onion seedlings
- Tomato seedlings should not be planted yet (late frosts!!)
- Weeds are thriving after the lovely rain, keep them clear
- Spray Peaches and nectarines for leaf curl at pink bud swell
- Prepare vegetable beds for spring planting
- Enjoy the spring bulbs