

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015



President: Sue Murray 4842 2381

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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

DECEMBER Thursday 10th



Christmas Lunch

Our annual Christmas lunch will be held on Thursday 10th December, at BRAG in Wallace St and catering will be by Vanessa from Vanilla Catering. Vanessa provides a delicious Christmas lunch, which the Garden Club will subsidise to keep the cost for members at an affordable \$25.00 per head. Non-members are welcome to attend, at a cost of \$40.00 per head.

We are reviving the custom of a "Prettiest Posy" competition for this event, as well as our usual garden quiz. Bring your posy in a jar for display and judging. There will be garden calendars for sale, and a special Christmas raffle.

The festivities will start with champagne at 12.00, followed by lunch at 12.30pm. This event is always well-attended and very enjoyable, so if you can come, we would love to see you there. Please pay at the Bendigo Bank by December 3rd.

Garden visits for 2016

JANUARY 2016 Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th

The Crystal Brook Lavender Farm at Laggan is having a *Lavender Herb & Chilli Festival* on and though we won't be organising a bus trip, if anyone is interested we can organise a carpool. Please contact Sue Murray on 4842 2381 or Sally Thackway on 4842 2808 if you would like to go.

<http://lavenderatlaggan.weebly.com/events.html>

FEBRUARY Thursday 11th

Our first Garden Club outing for 2016 will be a visit to 4 local gardens. We will meet at Ryrie Park at 10am on Thursday 11th February. More details about the gardens will be provided in the January newsletter.

NOVEMBER Saturday 28TH & Sunday 29TH

One our members, Sue Tuisk, is opening her garden "PALERANG" this weekend from 10am-4pm. "Palerang" is a historic property dating from the 1840's with a walled croquet lawn, crinkle crinkle stone walls a & large garden with historic out buildings.

Well worth a visit!!

The address is 154 Hazeldell Road Mulloon, off the Kings Highway just west of the Goulburn Rd turnoff.

Skilled gardener looking for work

Greg Taylor studied Horticulture at an English version of TAFE over 20 years ago, and has mostly worked as a gardener in England and Australia since then. He has also worked for bush regeneration companies in Sydney and South Coast NSW. For the last 2 years he has been travelling around farms in Australia and for several months in China, learning about organic farming.

Greg charges \$25 per hour for gardening work such as weeding, planting, pruning etc. He can also give design advice. He currently has no vehicle as he plans to return to China at the end of the summer. Gardens in and close to town are fine, but if you live out of town you will need to organise transport. You can phone Greg on 0416479388

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

This weekend there will be Braidwood Gardens open so do try & support our local gardens.

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>

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Treena Balmain & Kay Hamer

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 by Fran Woods

My garden canvas is still pretty bare as yet. When I moved here just over 5 years ago, my 2 1/2 acre subdivision of a deceased farm in Majors Creek comprised a stand of very mature (read, old) gum trees down in one corner at the road. Interspersed were Hawthorn trees (which I'd dearly like to be rid of). And the rest was grassland. A fairly blank canvas!

Since then I've planted a row of Eucalypts along the western fence with the hope they will eventually provide some protection from the fierce winds that come from the west and south west.

I've planted a cherry, a quince, a fig, a loquat, an olive, a couple of blueberry, a red currant all of which show promise of good things to come. Other trees that I've planted in various strategic spots include silver birch, manchurian pear, liquid amber, pepper, maple, snake bark maple, spindle berry, several different banksias, a wattle, a bottle brush, and a crab apple -- some flourish while others struggle along.

The only protected spot on the property is on the east side of my house which is now crowded with some flourishing Francis Mason Abelias, several azaleas, gardenias, and camellias, plus miscellaneous pot plants awaiting a suitable permanent home.

This spring has been beautiful - spectacular lavender (Winter Lace) at my front steps and another (Princess) nearby, forsythia, wisteria (1st time to flower), grape hyacinth, bluebells, Ipheion uniflorum (Spring Star), a couple of Ixia hybrida, Watsonia aletroides x borbonica (hopefully, not the invasive type), and one gorgeous Scilla litardierei (Amethyst Meadow Squill) followed by irises of many lovely hues - mauve, blue and yellow, white, bright yellow. Where did they all come from? I don't remember planting out so many in all those different spots. Daffodils and jonquils were a dismal failure this year with just one or two blooms.

This year I've started planting canna lillies down at the front fence and my hope is to add other appropriate plants as time goes by (does anyone have a climbing rose they could spare? or other fence line plant(s)?).

Other recent plantings include: loquat (1), pepper (1), snake bark maples (3), hardenbergia (1), native myrtle (1), cupheas, stachys, salvias, rosemary, and miscellaneous other hopeful plants.

My greatest failure has been grevilleas. Though I've planted several varieties over the years, all have failed except one which tenaciously clings to life.

This spring has been such an encouragement of good things to come. It may still look very bare but there are positive signs that one day some of the garden will look spectacular.

Happy gardening everyone!

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick



**Gladiolus
cardinalis**

(Waterfall Gladiolus)

- Native to Cape Province
- Deciduous clump forming corms
- Arching stems bearing spikes of up to six flowers
- Mid green narrow upright leaves - 120cm tall
- Flowers in November / December
- Leaves die back in winter
- Propagate from division in Spring or by seeds
- One of the most important parent species of modern hybrids
- Often found growing near waterfalls and cascades

What to do in the garden for December

- Plant summer and autumn annuals
- Remove weeds and top up mulch
- Watch for sucker growth from below the graft on roses and remove
- Dianthus can be layered or cuttings taken
- Finish pruning spring flowering shrubs
- Deadhead annuals and perennials to promote more flowers
- Take cuttings of Daphne, Grevilleas and Buxus
- Remove whippy growth from Wisterias
- Twist off finished Rhododendron flowers & spray for lace bugs
- Divide Bearded Iris if congested, plant new outside growth and discard old rhizomes
- Continue to make sowings of vegetables
- Prune stone fruits and thin fruit if too heavy
- Watch for Pear and Cherry slug - spray with Success or Dipel