

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016



President: Sue Murray 4842 2381

Secretary: Jane Moore 0407 150409

Treasurer: Fran Woods 0422 181020

Newsletter Editor: Margy Gardner 0412 616352

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

### **OCTOBER Thursday 13th**

#### **Berrima Bus Trip**

Bookings are now open at Bendigo Bank for our bus trip to Berrima. In order to book the bus, we need final numbers a week before the trip. The bus fare is \$30 for members and \$45 for non-members and if you haven't yet renewed your membership, this can also be done at the bank. Please book and pay by Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>.

We have a full day planned, with visits to a special private garden near Berrima growing an abundance of heritage roses, to Harper's Mansion, a National Trust property, and to beautiful Red Cow Farm at Sutton Forest. There will be time to visit some of Berrima's shops and cafes, or to picnic in the park. The bus will leave Ryrie Park at 8.30am and return before 6.30pm. Can members with surnames A to M please bring something to share for morning tea.

Harper's Mansion has an entry fee of \$5, and at Red Cow Farm the entry fee is \$10, or \$8 for seniors. We will collect these entry fees on the day. It would help if you can place your payment in an envelope with your name on the front. These are both remarkable properties and are well worth a visit. Harper's Mansion has a shop which sells, among other things, beautiful garden implements from Burgon and Ball, Sheffield, England, while Red Cow Farm sells plants from their very extensive garden.

### **Report of Araluen Garden Visits on 8<sup>th</sup> September**

#### ***From Sue Quinnell***

*Thank you to all our members who visited the Araluen gardens on 8th September. Len and I enjoyed your visit and the many compliments that we received. Morning tea was delicious as always and I'm glad you could wander around the property in fine weather. Even though many blossoms and trees were not completely in full flower, I hope you could see the promise of the final scene.*

*Many people commented on our chocolate vine (akebia quinata) that always comes with a rush in early spring. I hope the people who took cuttings have success with them as it is a great vine.*

*The grevillias were doing their best at showing their understated charm and the one I have a lot of success with is the Barklyana which the birds just love.*

*I hope you enjoyed your morning in Araluen as it really is a beautiful valley.*



*Chocolate Vine (Akebia Quinata)*

### ***From Sally Matthews***

*The Old Post Office Garden has been loved and cared for by enthusiastic gardeners for more than a century. The huge peppercorn and kurrajong trees at the rear of the house are testimony to a time before cars. The array of native and deciduous trees provide valuable shelter from the fierce valley wind, and welcome shade in summer.*

*As a person who lived and gardened in the tropics for most of my life, temperate gardening in a climate with extreme heat AND cold has been a huge learning curve. And joy! Every day I am delighted by some subtle change as the garden moves through the seasons.*

*I have tried to maintain the old fashioned "country-cottage" style garden whilst happily building on the legacy efforts of the gardeners who came before me. It has been a revelation to enter the world of old-fashioned roses and to happily trail them over old stumps, sheds and fences. Irises, poppies, rosemaries and jasmines have all been a seasonal delight.*

*The pleasure of planting and eating from the vegetable patch has been enormous. This year, I purchased a trailer load of fantastic compost from Landtasia via Bungendore. I dug this into the veggie beds in mid-winter and the results are certainly evident now. The silver beet, strawberries, rhubarb and rampaging sweet peas are all evidence of the quality of this soil additive.*

*I have had a steep learning curve when it comes to weed management. In the tropics this didn't seem to be a problem- the main challenge in Darwin was to manage growth in such a way that breezes could circulate whilst still maintaining cool shade. Here, the weeds seem to leap out of the ground as soon as your back is turned. Particularly challenging has been the onion weed. If anyone has any good solution for ubiquitous little nuisance, let me know.*

*Recent projects include converting my swimming pool to a pond. Even with lots of advice and support from the Kuringai Council- this is still very much a work in progress. I have now ordered the mosquito larvae eating fish. As soon as the water plants provide a bit more shelter from the ever watchful herons, I will pop the gudgeons in. Time will tell if they multiply as much as has been predicted.*

*The smaller stony pond in the garden has been attracting a huge amount of bird life. I designed this informal pond to reflect the gold dredging heritage evident across the valley floor in the form of similar rocky trenches. I had not anticipated the arrival of moor hens, parrots and wood ducks to partake of its waters! What a bonus.*

*It was a great pleasure to welcome garden club members to my peaceful piece of paradise. Thank you for coming.*

### **The Hayman Garden**

Our third stop was at Penny and David Hayman's garden with a large fenced vegetable plot in a very protected clearing, beside a creek, thus giving a secure water supply. Irrigation, mulch and secure fencing produce a wide range of vegetables shared by the extended family and I noted large asparagus stems coming through. Wool from their sheep was used as a mulch around new fruit trees with building reo placed on top to deter animal predators which don't like stepping on irregular surfaces, a deterrent that we in the country could use effectively.

We also wandered through their old-established home garden, with mature trees and a wonderful ancient-looking wisteria. Such a lot to see and we so appreciated our visit to an Araluen treasure. Thank you Penny and David.

### **BRAIDWOOD HOSPITAL AUXILIARY FETE**

SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER at the NATIONAL THEATRE

Sally and Marilyn and Nola on the CAKE STALL would very much appreciate any donations of home-made cakes, slices, biscuits etc. Also plants, bric-à-brac and craft would be very welcome.

The proceeds will be used to improve the standard and facilities at Braidwood Hospital.

This is our biggest fundraiser so please help if you can.

Many thanks from the Auxiliary members.

### **HELP NEEDED**

On Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, the Hospital Auxiliary is catering for the visit of the Historical Rose Society members at Manar Homestead. We will have 90 people for Morning Tea at Manar and 90 people to cater for Afternoon Tea at the same venue. We are really asking for a lot of help with the cooking. So all you wonderful cooks out there if you could make some cakes or a slice (or even if someone wishes to do a Cheese and or Fruit platter) that would be wonderful. A drop off point for all this cooking would be at the Uniting Church Hall on the Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 p.m. or on Monday morning **early** from 8 p.m. for half an hour.

Thank you in anticipation and all of this will be to aid our wonderful hospital.

## **UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS**

### **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

**NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>** - Bus trip to 2 Canberra private gardens and a tour of the Rose Garden at Old Parliament House. More details next time.

**DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Lunch

**MARCH 2017**- MELBOURNE VISIT

#### **Melbourne International Flower Show Trip**

Regrettably we have made the decision to cancel the proposed trip, due to insufficient numbers. In order to be financially viable, we needed at least 30 bookings and we are well short of the number required. I know those who had booked will be disappointed, but we did try! Our grateful thanks go to Robyn Sim who had done quite a bit of research and taken the bookings.

We still hope to organise an overnight trip to somewhere a bit closer, in spring 2017. If any members have an idea for a region you would like to visit, your suggestions will be gratefully received. Please talk to any member of the Committee, or email Sue Murray at [suejmurray@yahoo.com](mailto:suejmurray@yahoo.com) with any ideas for places you would like to visit, for a day or overnight trip.

#### **REMINDER- \$15 MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE NOW**

Please pay your annual subscription for the year 2016/17, and newsletter supplement of \$11 if applicable, at the Bendigo Bank as soon as you can to ensure your newsletter arrives regularly & you can attend our meetings.

The newsletter is emailed each month, however for those who require a hard copy mailed to them, please be aware that the price for this service has increased to \$11 due to the dramatic postage increase this year.

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

### **Misty Mountains Nursery**

Richard Barker, at Warrambucca Gardens on the Kings Highway, has opened his nursery a few weeks earlier than usual this year. Richard, a cold climate garden specialist, welcomes visitors on weekends or by appointment at other times. In mid to late Spring, the woodland gardens are a picture, with some truly amazing rhododendrons, azaleas, maples and dogwoods in a forest setting. This is an unusual garden for this region, benefiting from a very sheltered location. A visit is highly recommended. Ph 48422843 or visit Richard's Facebook site, Misty Mountains Nursery.

### **2017 Garden Club Calendars**

The Garden Clubs Of Australia publishes calendars each year and the BGC orders a number of them for our members. Each year they select the best garden pictures submitted by garden club members of Australia for inclusion in the calendar and they make a wonderful gift. Please let our secretary Jane Moore know if you are interested in ordering a 2017 issue.

### **Wallace St Braidwood Garden Beds**

A letter has been sent, on behalf of the Garden Club, to the Administrator of the new QPRC about the garden beds in Wallace St. The state of these garden beds is often raised in local conversations and we suggest that personal letters/emails to the Council might also help

## **OCTOBER Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

### **Private Gardens of the Monaro**

10am-4pm. The properties in the Nimmitabel region are 'Hazeldean', 'Shirley' and 'Curry Flat'.

By Appointment Only- Phone 0428 273 130

## **OCTOBER Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Braidwood Open Gardens**

Visits to 7 local area gardens - Millpond Farm, Durham Hall, Linden, Tudor Valley, Green Farm, Bedervale, Wynlen House and Deua Tin Huts. \$5 per garden. Refreshments at Durham Hall. Guided tours of Bedervale Homestead and produce gardens at Wynlen House. Vintage car display, art exhibition and Landcare talks at Millpond Farm.

<https://braidwoodgardens.com.au>

## **OCTOBER Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 12-5pm and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 11.30-3.45pm**

### **Iris, Rhododendron & Azalea Show by the Horticultural Society of Canberra**

At Lancaster Hall, Wesley Centre, National Circuit, FORREST. ACT. 2603 with wonderful plant stalls. On the 22<sup>nd</sup>, there is a floral art demonstration by the Hon President of the Royal Horticultural Society of NSW, Cecily Rogers.

\$5 entry fee and an auction of the arrangements at completion. <http://www.hsoc.org.au/index.htm>

## **OCTOBER Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Bundanoon Garden Ramble**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Bundanoon Garden Ramble will be held on the weekend of October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. This annual event in the village of Bundanoon features eight private gardens that will be opened from 9.30am to 4.30pm on both days. This year there are some larger gardens with expansive vistas as well as half acres in the centre of the village with lots of garden art and innovative design features. <http://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au>

## **OCTOBER Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Burra Open Gardens**

6 gardens open. \$25(\$15 concession) for all 6 gardens or \$10(\$5 concession) for 1 garden. 10-5pm

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

## **OCTOBER Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Bathurst Spring Spectacular**

The theme for 2016 will be those gardens belonging to the Bathurst Gardeners' Club Members.

Cambewarra, Miss Traill's House, Mt Tamar, Anne's Garden and Bishops Court Estate are the gardens this year.

<http://bathurstgardenclub.org.au/bathurst-spring-spectacular/>

## **OCTOBER Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Riversdale Rare Plants & Growers Fair 2 Twynam Drive, Goulburn**

Demonstrations, talks and garden tours in Riversdale's revived and restored historic garde. Morning & afternoon tea & light lunches available. Plenty of parking.

## **NOVEMBER Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> at 12-5pm and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> at 11.30-3.45pm**

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Exhibition & Rose Show of the Horticultural Society of Canberra. This show is very worthwhile to see some of the most beautiful species and they have a wonderful Plant Stall.

<http://www.hsoc.org.au/index.htm>

## **NOVEMBER Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>**

### **Yellow House Perennial Nursery & Garden 20 Jervis St, Nowra.**

"Join us as we open our private garden in conjunction with our once a year nursery sale. The garden had its genesis when we longed for a simpler life in a country town not too far away from Sydney and family. Our aim is to collect, propagate, conserve and distribute some of the more endangered garden plants and this is the basis of the nursery collection, and our garden."

Free entry. For more information phone 4421 8681

<http://www.myopengarden.com.au/openGarden.jsp?e=1&id=1497>

## **THE BRAIDWOOD HOSPITAL GARDENS**

A reminder that all Volunteer Forms to work on the Hospital Garden should be dropped into the Hospital as soon as possible. . The Volunteer information kit is self-explanatory, but if you need help in completing it, contact the Hospital office or Brian Carle on 4842 1096. Kits are available at the Hospital or from Brian Carle (Hospital Auxiliary member).



## AROUND MY GARDEN by Sue Murray

Nearly 20 years ago, one lone hawthorn was the only plant on my new block of land. So I planted wildly – anything that grew, I was happy with. I combined eucalypts, pines and exotic trees and shrubs, hoping to create an instant garden.

Over the years, mistakes became obvious. There were too many trees in the wrong places. The main offenders were the eucalypts and the pines. As they grew, they inhibited other plants while creating a lot of work for me, especially after our many windy days. After a lot of thought, I decided they had to go.

This week a tree expert arrived with all his equipment and lots of trees came down. It's a shock when the entire landscape changes in less than 24 hours, and I had some moments of regret. But then my spectacular view of Gillamatong re-emerged. My garden is now a different place, with more light and sunshine (well, there will be when the rain stops!).

I guess I have learned that gardens evolve, and are never finished. They require careful thought, imagination and creativity, and over time you get better at it! I still have so much to learn.

The recent rain is perfectly timed for planting, so new trees are lining up to fill the gaps. This time they will be smaller, prettier, and mainly deciduous. I already have quite a few crabapples, but as they do so well here, I'll be planting more. My favourite right now is *Malus floribunda*, the earliest to flower in my garden. The arching branches are covered in flowers – simply beautiful!



With so much rain in late winter and early spring, my garden is full of flowers. Daphne, camellias, daffodils, snowflakes, violets and spring blossom trees all blend well together and every day in the garden is different. The urge to plant more is hard to resist. So I've added new camellias, as well as more roses. Removing the trees has created more sunny spots where roses will thrive, I hope. Four new climbing roses - *Crepuscule*, *Mme Alfred Carriere*, *Dublin Bay* and *Jasmina* - are looking very healthy so far.



Camellia "Snowdrop"

One of the sweetest camellias in my garden is called "Snowdrop". It has small, almost single pink flowers on an open, arching bush. I found a similar one with white flowers, called "Bogong Snow" at the nursery in Bundanoon during our visit there last year. It's just started flowering and promises to be equally pretty.



Daffodils and Hellebores

*"The lesson I have thoroughly learnt, and wish to pass on to others, is the enduring happiness that the love of a garden gives".*  
**Gertrude Jekyll**

## PLANT OF THE MONTH by Kate Chinnick



**Asarum  
speciosum  
(Wild Ginger)**

- Native to eastern North America
- Forest floor perennial
- Evergreen with spotted leaves 15cm long and 8cm wide
- Fully hardy
- A shaded position in leafy mulch suits it
- Mushroom shaped flowers hidden under the leaves 2.5 cm wide
- Propagate from division
- Strong ginger smell when roots are cut

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

- Prune flowering shrubs as they finish flowering
- Azaleas should be clipped back & any dead growth removed
- Choose new Azaleas & Rhododendrons while in flower
- Roses will respond to fertilizer
- Check Roses for fungal problems & mulch to retain moisture
- Nip out Sweet Pea shoots as they reach top of supports
- Gladiolus corms can be planted at two weekly intervals (90 to 100 days to flower)
- Dead head annuals and bulbs (don't remove foliage)
- Feed all bulbs with a high potash fertilizer
- Plant Pea and Bean seeds and erect supports
- Plant out Lettuce, Cabbage etc.