

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017



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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

### MARCH Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> **TRIP TO MILTON/ULLADULLA**

Our first trip away from Braidwood this year will be to Milton/Ulladulla, on Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Ulladulla Garden Club have organised visits to some private gardens, the first with an oriental theme, and then morning tea provided by the Ulladulla committee with a talk about the national convention organised for the end of the year. There will be time for lunch in the pretty town of Milton, and then on to Ulladulla to visit a lovely oasis garden owned by an amazing 87 year old lady, full of information who just loves showing her garden. The gardens are all in town and will be easy to access and to walk around. This is an opportunity to visit some coastal gardens, where growing conditions are very different and less demanding than ours. Our estimated return time is 5 to 5.30.

**Meet at Ryrie Park at 8.15am**

**Cost \$35**

**Book & Pay at Bendigo Bank by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

### Report on our Visit to 'Bedervale' on 9<sup>th</sup> February

The Garden Club's first outing of 2017 took place on another hot summer's day. We met on the south facing veranda at Bedervale, which was lovely and cool, for conversation and a glass of bubbly or wine for those who wanted. We then sat down to a lovely lunch of cool vichyssoise followed by a variety of salads. We finished up with tea or coffee and some biscuits before being divided into 2 groups to tour the house. Margaret Royds led one group and Jane Moore the other. Margaret, having lived in the house for over 30 years before handing the reins to her daughter Sonia, has a wealth of stories to tell, so those in her group had a real treat. After an hour of touring this fascinating house we then toured the gardens. By this time it was pretty hot so when Sonia offered to show us her developing woodland walk we jumped at the idea of being in the shade. This was a lovely end to a delightful day and we thank Margaret and Sonia very much for the lunch and the tour of one of Braidwood's historic homes and gardens. A real treat!

### Member Survey Results

Over 30 of our members have completed a survey to help us plan for future activities. The results were interesting and very helpful. Most people enjoy a range of different activities, and this is what we try to offer. Some conclusions to be drawn from the surveys:

We will be travelling to Milton by bus and it seems most of our members would prefer this to carpooling. Bookings at Bendigo Bank are open. We are in the process of looking at bus hire options, as Bensleys have sold their bus company. Bus hire costs have been increasing, but we always aim to keep the cost to members as low as possible. While we can afford a small subsidy for bus trips from Club funds, we have to be aware that these funds are limited. Your involvement in our trips helps to keep the costs down, as well as providing wonderful opportunities for garden visits and time with friends. We look forward to sharing these days with as many members as possible in 2017.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

\* Our bus trips are popular because they take us to some lovely gardens, and provide a social day out with friends. Some people find them a bit too long, with too many gardens. We are taking this on board and will try to make them less tiring. Because of where we are, any trip out of town involves a long drive, and we can't change that.

\* Most people are prepared to pay \$35-\$40 for the bus trips. We try to keep the costs down, but hiring a bus for a day is expensive. It's a very long day for the driver! The more people who come on our trips, the easier it will be to keep costs down. Invite your friends to come along – they do need to be members though, to be covered by our insurance.

\* Visits to local gardens are popular, so this year we will try to include a range of gardens within our local area. We will visit Majors Creek in April and Krawaree in May. In Spring we have several options under consideration.

\* Many people indicated that they would be happy to host a visit to their own garden. We really need to develop a list of those people, so that we can plan our days. This is the best way to share ideas and find out what works for others. You can always pot up a few plants to sell on the day! PLEASE let us know if you would be happy to show us around your garden. Contact Sue Murray or Jane Moore by phone or email, or simply reply to the garden club email address.

\* Travel by car pool is the best way to get to local gardens. Many people indicated a willingness to drive others, so we should always be able to create a car pool for local journeys. Remember though that the driver is paying for the petrol, so we have a policy of contributing to the costs. The suggested contribution is \$5 for local trips, and \$10 for trips to places like Canberra. Feel free to contribute whatever you think is fair.

\* Other local gardens were suggested as places we could visit. We'll be contacting some of the owners to try and organise this. So far we have been to 'Bedervale', where Sonia made us feel very welcome, and Majors Creek is next on the list. More ideas for activities and places to visit are always welcome. We will organise a suggestion box for our bus trip in March, so come along with some good ideas!

\* Winter activities need to be indoors, so talks on different aspects of gardening are a good option then. If you can suggest any topics related to our local area, and even better, someone to talk about it, please let us know.

## **Carwoola Garden Aid**

After the recent fire at Carwoola, a group has been set up to provide plants and gardening equipment for those who lost their homes and gardens. Alex Rea is co-ordinating this in Braidwood. If you can start potting up any spare plants or provide any garden related items that would be wonderful. Houses can be replaced but gardens take so much longer. More details will be provided in the next newsletter and all offers of help are welcome.

## **HELP HELP!**

Could anyone who is able to help at the flower section of the Braidwood Show on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March please call Kate Chinnick on 0407 924 537. It would be for Friday 8am to about 2pm and for a clean-up Saturday at 4pm.

## **UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS**

Plans for the next few months include

\* Bus trip to Milton/Mollymook/Ulladulla on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

\* Visit to Major's Creek gardens in April. Because our usual meeting date is the day before Easter, we will meet instead on 20<sup>th</sup> April, a week later. Local gardens are a wonderful way to share experiences and to gain new ideas, and Major's Creek has more than its share of enthusiastic gardeners. We will meet at Ryrie Park to carpool for this trip. Remember that if you are a passenger, a contribution to the driver's costs is a Garden Club policy. Look for more details in the next newsletter.

\* In May, Clare and Andrew Wilder from the Deua Tin Huts have invited us to visit their garden. Andrew is a landscape gardener, with many years' experience in the Southern Highlands. Moving to Krawaree 7 years ago, Andrew and Clare had to adjust to a very different climate and new challenges, while setting up their unique accommodation in keeping with the history and environment of this beautiful area. Andrew and Clare will be very happy to answer questions and discuss the problems they have faced.

\* During winter, we have a few ideas for our meetings. Gary Watkins-Sully at the Cheese factory in Reidsdale has offered to host an apple-tree grafting workshop, while sharing his amazing knowledge of Heritage apple varieties. Gary's knowledge in this area is phenomenal. We are very fortunate that he has rediscovered and saved so many rare apple tree varieties from properties throughout the district. This will be a rare opportunity to share his knowledge and to ask questions about the cider industry in this area.

\* Another idea is to have a "Rose Forum" where our local rose experts share their knowledge and experience with us. At the same time we can all learn how to prune our roses correctly! We have several serious rose experts in our membership, so this is a great opportunity to find out about how to care for these beautiful plants, and how to integrate them into our garden designs.

In Spring, we will visit both local gardens and those further afield. We hope to organise a bus trip to the Bathurst/Oberon area. This would include the Bathurst Open Gardens weekend, a visit to Mayfield at Oberon, and perhaps some Blue Mts gardens. If you are interested in this trip, we need to know soon. Planning for these trips is complex and requires a lot of time, so we need to know if we have enough interested members to go ahead with this. Friends of members are of course welcome. If you would like to be part of this trip, please phone Sue Murray (0248422381) or Jane Moore (0248421494), or just reply to the garden club email address.

### **OVERNIGHT VISIT IN SPRING**

We are considering an overnight trip – probably 2 nights away - in October or November. We have a few ideas but would also welcome suggestions from our members. We will aim to keep the distance to within a 3-4 hour bus trip, if possible. The Bathurst/Oberon area, the Blue Mts or the Southern Highlands are all possible in that time. The more suggestions we have the better, so please share any thoughts you might have with a Committee member or via the club email.

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

### **BRAIDWOOD SHOW Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

ADMISSION (inc. GST) - Adults \$10, Family \$25, Concession card holders \$7, Children 6 - 14 \$5, Children under 6 free. A FREE SHUTTLE BUS runs from Braidwood Post Office to the Showground departing 10.00am, 12.00noon, 1.00pm, 2.00pm and 4.00pm. Due to OH&S regulations no car parking will be available around the show ring.

**GOULBURN SHOW Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
**TARAGO SHOW Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 9am - 5pm**

### **FEBRUARY Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

**A message from** Lynne Howe, Secretary of the Goulburn Argyle Garden Club. 0423233984

Dear Fellow Garden Clubs, On behalf of the Goulburn Argyle Garden Club, I would like to extend an invitation to all members to attend our Friendship Meeting to be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Goulburn Soldiers Club at 10am. We have a guest speaker Netta Wheeler who is going to talk about Native and Exotic Orchids and we will finish off with a morning tea. We would be delighted if any of your members can join us.

### **MARCH Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

Goulburn Rose Show at the Goulburn Soldiers Club cnr Market & Sloane Sts  
Floral Displays, Art Exhibition, Plants, Gardening Tools, Crafts.

[www.goulburnrosefestival.org.au](http://www.goulburnrosefestival.org.au)

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

The Collectors Plant Fair at the Hawkesbury Race Club in Clarendon NSW with 80+ growers, plants, planters, books, flowers, coffee. For a full list of activities log on to... [www.collectorsplantfair.com.au](http://www.collectorsplantfair.com.au)

### **APRIL Easter Monday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Leeton Open Gardens 10am- 4.30pm Visit 6 gardens for \$20 or \$5 each garden (includes morning or afternoon tea). Lunch available-\$8. For enquiries call Alanna on 0417 127 411

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

### **MY OPEN GARDENS**

<http://www.myopengarden.com.au> Check out this site for more open garden information.

[Hillandale garden and nursery](#) : Yetholme from Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>

- [Wildwood Garden](#) : Bilpin : from Fri, 24 Mar 2017
- [Perennial Hill](#) : Mittagong Weekends March 10-4pm

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>



Also you might like to visit these regularly open gardens:

- [Bebeah](#) : Mt Wilson
- [Bundanon Homestead & Garden](#) : Illaroo
- [Everglades Historic House & Gardens](#) : Leura
- [Mayfield Garden](#) : Oberon
- [Perenniale Plants Nursery](#) : Canowindra
- [Secret Garden and Nursery](#) : Richmond
- [Tablelands Trees and Shrubs Garden & Nursery](#) : Cooma

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Cilla Ryan, Anne Woods, Bronnie Schlager, Dick Groot Obbink, John and Margaret Tuckwell

### **BUNNINGS WAREHOUSE GARDEN CLUB**

Bunnings in Goulburn holds a free meeting each month with speakers on gardening topics and next month, on March 30<sup>th</sup> the topic is "Indoor Plants, Care and Maintenance". Phone 4823 2400 for more information.

### **SUMMER IN MY GARDEN by Leonie and Richard Jolley, Braidwood**

The recent bout of extremely hot weather has driven us inside and the ideas of building new garden areas have been shelved until the cool weather comes. We are lucky having a water bore and watering has not been an issue..... when we are at home! We rarely water the grass areas, note I do not say lawns as it has been a never ending battle to keep paddock grass out of the "lawn" areas. Most of our watering has been concentrated in the vegie garden and a few specimen trees. Our vegie patches have not been fully planted this year, due mainly to family commitments. We planted our staple things, tomatoes, beans, carrots, spinach, zucchini, broad beans, pumpkin, potatoes and snap peas. The snap peas and King Edward and Dutch cream potatoes didn't do well. The carrots and pumpkin are a bit off from harvesting. We planted three Jerusalem artichoke plants as companions for the tomatoes and they grew well. We worked on the basis that they would not be ready for harvesting until they have been in for a year. The flowering heads of this thistle are beautiful but next year we will cut them long before they get to this stage. We tried the horizontal method of supporting the tomatoes and this works but still requires some work in tying up. Leonie has been busy bottling tomatoes again.



The 6 year old asparagus has gone to seed now but again it has provided us with plenty of spears over Christmas and New Year. They are also nice to snack on raw when weeding. We planted new raspberry canes last year and this Jan/Feb they have provided us with just enough berries for making a few bottles of raspberry vinegar. We have been picking blackberries for a couple of weeks now and Leonie has made over twenty bottles of blackberry vinegar. We tried making a hedge out of Rosemary bushes on the edge of the driveway turning circle but half of them died possibly due to the run off from the gravel drive. They have to be pulled out now which is not too much of a

drama as we have decided to remodel this area and do away with the turning circle.

The cockatoos took all the apples and pears. They do not seem to like plums so this month we have picked them and Leonie has been busy stewing them and making plum jam.

February is the time to thin out the horseradish and to make Horseradish mustard sauce. Yes I know...poor Leonie....more preparation work.

## PLANT OF THE MONTH by Kate Chinnick



### **Clematis maximowicziana** (Sweet Clematis)

- Native to Japan
- Tall climbing vine to 3m tall and 4m wide
- Flowering in early Autumn
- Prefers sun or part shade
- Small white flowers with a strong honey perfume
- Prune hard after flowering
- Attractive plume like seeds
- Propagate from seed

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

- Prepare areas for spring bulbs
- Continue tying Dahlias
- Dead head annuals and perennials as flowers fade
- Overgrown perennials can be divided
- Sow sweet Peas
- Plant or move evergreen shrubs now before cooler weather
- Feed roses for good autumn blooms
- Prune Jasmines and late flowering Clematis
- Remove dead wood from deciduous shrubs and Roses
- Plant Asian Greens, Broccoli, Cabbage & Cauliflower
- Remove finished vegetable crops and compost
- Pick up any fallen fruit & dispose of if diseased