

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017



President: Sue Murray 4842 2381

Secretary: Jane Moore 4842 1494

Treasurer: Fran Woods 0422 181 020

Newsletter Editor: Margy Gardner 0412 616 352

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

Thursday 13th JULY

Apple-tree grafting and lunch at the Old Cheese factory in Reidsdale

On July 13th we will meet at the Old Cheese Factory in Reidsdale, where Gary Watkins-Sully will give us a demonstration of apple-tree grafting. Gary has found and propagated many old apple trees from the Braidwood District since settling here with his extended family in 2001. Many of these were cider apples, and Gary has revived the art of apple juice and cider-making from local apples. Gary will also talk to us about the apples he has discovered and the history of apple-growing in the district.

The Watkins-Sully family began their food-related businesses in Braidwood with the very successful Deli, which they operated in Wallace St. They then moved to the Old Cheese Factory, where they have branched out into a number of other food-related enterprises. These are aimed at reviving the production and processing of food locally, based on surviving evidence of these industries in the past. A Sunday afternoon lunch at the Old Cheese factory, with a simple menu using wholesome local foods as much as possible, is one of the highlights of living in this area.

For more information about the family, the apple industry in Braidwood, and the many enterprises which are based at the Old Cheese Factory, have a look at their website. www.braidwoodmade.com.au

For our visit to the Cheese factory on Thursday July 13th, we will meet to carpool at Ryrie Park at 11.00am. The family will provide us with lunch, at a cost of \$20 per head, including tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Bookings will open at Bendigo Bank on 28th June 2017. **Please book and pay by Saturday July 8th.**

REPORT FROM OUR GARDEN MEETING IN JUNE

All about Roses

Our Rose Forum was held on June 8th, with 29 members in attendance. Our presenters, Kate Chinnick and Dennis Dempsey, shared with us their extensive knowledge of roses and their experiences in growing them in our region. They also communicated their great love of the rose in all its forms.

Kate began her garden at Reidsdale 19 years ago. A visit to Kate's garden in Spring is an unforgettable experience, with hundreds of different roses in flower. However, the garden began with an unsuccessful attempt at growing hybrid tea roses. Kate then began to search for old-fashioned or heritage roses, and the garden grew from there.

Kate gave us a summary of the different types of roses and their history, accompanied by some beautiful photos. The history of roses goes back to ancient times and to many different places. As Kate discovered, once a passion for roses and their history takes hold, it never leaves you. Everyone has a favourite rose, and while they can be demanding at times in terms of care, we are repaid every Spring with their indescribable beauty.

Dennis gave us an insight into the practicalities of caring for roses. Like Kate, he is passionate about them. Through long experience at the rose gardens at Old Parliament House, he has developed a system of caring for the wonderful collection of roses

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there. Dennis shared his tips for fertilising, pruning, and pest control, and talked about some of the many roses on display in these beautiful gardens.

In looking at ways to prune the different types of roses, it became clear that this is much more complicated than it seems. Dennis has kindly offered to hold a pruning demonstration in his own garden, in late winter. He will even allow us to practise on his own roses! We will let you know when this will be held in the next newsletter. We will aim for a date in mid-August.

Thanks to the Braidwood Servicemens Club for making their excellent facilities available to us. Michelle is always extremely helpful, and makes sure everything run very smoothly. Thanks also to members for the great lunch provided, and to Kate Chinnick for donating the raffle prize – a rose, of course!

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

AUGUST MEETING

Annual General Meeting, 11th August, at Mona Farm Woolshed

Our AGM is held each year in August. As usual, the Garden Club Committee will prepare a delicious lunch of soup, bread rolls and cakes. This year the venue is the cosy dining room with an open fire, at Mona Farm Woolshed. We will begin the day with a tour of the extensive gardens at Mona. The AGM and lunch will be followed by a talk, with photos, about the 2017 Chelsea Flower and Garden Show.

Some of our hardworking committee are in need of a break, so there will be several vacancies to fill. We will be looking for a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and several Committee members. A new position being considered is that of Publicity Officer, to take on the role of sharing our activities with the wider community via different forms of media. We have an inactive FaceBook page at the moment, which could be revived.

If any members are interested in filling one of these positions, or if you would just like to discuss what's involved, please contact Sue Murray on 0248422381, or at suejmurray@yahoo.com. The Committee are a great bunch of people who work together to make the Garden Club a success. We would love to have some new faces.

Bathurst Garden Visits, Spring 2017

Trip to Bathurst in October

The Bathurst Open Gardens event will be held on 28-29 October. It promises to be a wonderful weekend, with the theme of "A Country Garden Ramble". The details are now available at the Bathurst Garden Club website. Just search for Bathurst Open gardens 2017.

As we don't have enough members interested in this proposed trip to hire a bus, we are considering a car pool. This would involve 2 nights away, but could allow the flexibility of another night away for those who want to do this. We plan to visit the Mayfield garden at Oberon as well as the Bathurst gardens. There may also be Open Gardens in the Blue Mts, as this is peak garden visit time.

In order to plan the details of this trip, would those who are still interested in going with a car pool please contact Jane Moore or Sue Murray. You will find our contact details at the head of this newsletter. We will need to book accommodation soon, and also discuss plans for the car pool arrangements. We have several people who have volunteered to drive, but will need a couple more drivers. Please indicate your interest by Friday July 7th, by phone or email.

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

JUNE Thursday 29th

Bunnings Garden Club in Goulburn

The Team from the nursery are holding another Garden Club Evening on **Thursday 29th June 2017, from 6pm**. Our presenter will be sharing his knowledge in **Planting and care of bare root trees and roses & an espalier demonstration**. Our Team will also be providing you with soup and crusty bread rolls for supper, so please let us know if you are planning on joining us.

For more information or to **book** please contact us on 02 4823 2400

Or respond to this email goulburnao@bunnings.com.au

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

My Open Garden

Visit the 'My Open Garden' website <http://www.myopengarden.com.au> for information on the latest Open Gardens in NSW.

OCTOBER 8th-14th

NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK

National Gardening Week offers a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the simple joys of gardening and to highlight the associated environmental, social and health benefits. Whether it be maintaining a few pots on a balcony, a suburban backyard or a large country expanse, the enjoyment, the improved mental and physical wellbeing and the satisfaction gardeners gain from 'getting their hands dirty' is universal.

OCTOBER 21st/22nd

BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE – COMING OF AGE!

For the 21st year you are invited to ramble around beautiful private gardens in Bundanoon on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October.

The 21st Bundanoon Garden Ramble will be held on the weekend of 21 and 22 October 2017.

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. A combination of both large and small gardens will delight visitors.

The Soldiers' Memorial Hall in the main street of Bundanoon will feature a Garden Market with plants and gifts for sale. Other interesting displays, including an exhibition by the Bundanoon History Group will be open for viewing in the main street.

Visit the gardens and other activities by bicycle; use the free shuttle bus or if you wish to avoid delays use your own transport.

Purchase tickets in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

Tickets valid for both days and with garden descriptions and map are \$20. This includes all eight gardens or \$5 for a single garden.

Refreshments are available in one of the gardens, as well as in the cafes in the village.

For more information visit www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au or contact

Robin Coombes on 0488 508 598.

Bundanoon adjoins Morton National Park. For weekend stays, other activities and free accommodation bookings, contact the Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre in Mittagong.

www.southern-highlands.com.au Free call 1300 657 559.

OCTOBER 28th/29th

'Old Graham' Homestead, Hovells Creek. Open Garden

<http://www.myopengarden.com.au/openGarden.jsp?id=1652>

NOVEMBER 4th/5th

Millthorpe Garden Ramble <http://www.millthorpevillage.com.au/events-venues/>

NOVEMBER 5th-10th

Garden Clubs of Australia Convention, Ulladulla

The 2017 GCA Convention is hosted by the Ulladulla and Districts Garden Club in the beautiful Shoalhaven Area of Sun and Beaches in Southern NSW. The hosts have assured us of a scentsastic, scentsational event with planning well underway. Lots of exciting gardens and beautiful places to see, starting **Sunday 5th November 2017** with the **AGM on Wednesday 8th November 2017**.

<http://www.gardenclubs.org.au>

IN MY GARDEN by Maureen Stachow

Leaves, leaves, leaves! I am glad the deciduous trees and shrubs only shed them once a year. However one of the best things I have bought to use in the garden is a petrol blower. I don't think I could live without it.

Although it is winter in the garden now, there are quite a few plants giving off a show of colour, such as the flowering Quinces, Winter Gladiolias and Tree Dahlias. The Red Hot Pokers are flowering well this year and have not been affected by the frosts that we have had. I have a Lavatera which flowers all year in the garden and it is well worth finding for its flowering.

Along one side fence of the garden I planted a hedge of mixed Camellias (58 in all). The Sasanquas have started flowering and soon the Japonicas will flower. I am pleased they have done so well as they are quite exposed to the elements. I mulch them with horse manure and I am sure they like it.

I have started a lot of cutting back. The Buddleias like a good pruning as well as the Canna Lillies and some perennials and grasses. There are a few Chinese Elms in the garden and I just planted another 8.

The vegetable garden is a bit bare, with just a few capsicums trying their best. Last year I tried a Climbing Spinach just for interest and it did really well. Now I am adding lots of manure and turning the beds over for Spring planting.

Rudi likes to make concreted stone walls and he is now building a wall behind the house. He likes to set flat statues into the walls which makes them quite unique and interesting.

Anyway I am hoping the garden is "Spring ready" - a beanie and three layers of clothing seems to help on colder days!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Keith Ferguson

*“THE GLORY OF GARDENING :
HANDS IN THE DIRT, HEAD IN
THE SUN, HEART WITH NATURE,
TO NURTURE A GARDEN IS TO
FEED NOT JUST THE BODY BUT
THE SOUL.”*

ALFRED AUSTIN

PLANT OF THE MONTH by Kate Chinnick



Chimonanthus praecox

(Wintersweet)

- Native to China
- Deciduous shrub 3m x 3m
- Leaves glossy green turning yellow in autumn
- Flowers form on second year wood in winter on bare stems
- Very fragrant - scent wafts around the bare garden!
- Scented flowers can be dried to fragrance linen
- Prefers a sheltered position in full or part sun
- Propagate from cuttings in summer or seed when ripe
- Shrubs grown from seed take 5 - 10 years to flower

What to do in the garden for July

- Remove flower buds from spring annuals for better displays
- Rhododendrons, Azaleas & Camelias will need watering leading to blooming
- Prune Wisterias and deciduous climbers
- Prune later flowering shrubs (not spring flowerers)
- Order summer flowering bulbs - Lilliums etc.
- Clean up prunings from fruit trees and mulch
- Sow Globe Artichoke and Asparagus seeds
- Clean and sharpen secateurs, loppers and saws
- Sand and oil (linseed oil) wooden handles on tools
- Turn over vegetable beds for spring plantings
- Watch for pink bud swell on early Peaches & Nectarines & spray for leaf curl with copper or lime sulphur