

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 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>

FLORIADE & TULIP TOP GARDENS VISIT, Thursday 21st September

We will travel by bus to Floriade and then to the Tulip Top Gardens on the Federal Highway, Sutton.

Floriade is celebrating its 30th year of flowering, and the theme will be, appropriately, "Rejuvenation". It showcases a million spring flowers in bloom. It has been arranged for us to meet with the Head Gardener, Andrew Forster, to hear about his experiences and the challenges of putting on a month-long floral festival. Along with the fabulous flowers, there are many and varied stalls including food and beverage options. Lunch will be at Floriade, so bring your own or indulge in one of the many specialty food outlets dotted throughout the site. <http://www.floriadeaustralia.com>

In the afternoon we will travel to Tulip Top Gardens at Sutton. This amazing garden features 10 acres of flowering trees, bulbs and annuals, all in a natural setting. <https://tuliptopgardens.com.au> There will also be a chance of refreshments here also with a gift shop, and plant nursery. A day filled with the delights of Spring.

We will **meet at Ryrie Park at 8.45am**, arrive at Floriade at 10.15, depart for Tulip Top at 2pm and return to Braidwood at approximately 5.30pm.

The bus cost is \$30. Floriade is free. Tulip Top Gardens is **\$14 per person** (for groups of 8 or more).

Book and pay \$44 at the Bendigo Bank and the list will be at the bank from Wednesday September 6th. Direct Deposit is now available at the Bendigo Bank- **BSB Number 633-000**, Garden Club Account Number **118-346-444**

If you are paying by direct debit, under Reference, please give a short description of what the payment is for, e.g. 'Floriade', 'Membership', 'Newsletter'. This facility will greatly assist our members who find it difficult to get to the bank.

If you miss out on this trip, both Floriade and Tulip Tops Gardens are open for the month long festival from Saturday 16th September to Sunday 15th October.

AGM REPORT

Our meeting in the woolshed at Mona was enjoyed by 34 members and lunch of soup and dessert, provided by the committee, was delicious. Prior to the AGM and the election of office bearers for the next year, members were able to wander the gardens around the homestead and we thank manager Suzanne Gearing for all her help at Mona. We also thank Fran Woods very much for her wonderful picture show.

President's Report 2016-2017 by Sue Murray

Thanks everyone for joining us at the Braidwood Garden Club's Annual General Meeting. This year's AGM at Mona reflects the reasons for our club's existence. Today we have seen one of Braidwood's oldest gardens, on the site of the original land grant to Dr Thomas Braidwood Wilson. Over lunch we will share ideas with people who share our love of plants, gardens and gardening. Finally we will imagine ourselves travelling with Fran to the Chelsea Garden show, and visiting gardens in Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Montenegro.

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The Garden Club was formed to provide these experiences for its members. To ensure that this happens, our Committee puts a great deal of time and thought into planning a range of activities. I would like to thank our wonderful Committee for all their hard work. They perform the many essential tasks needed to keep our club functioning, and they do so with a generous spirit, as well as great skill and care.

This year we have maintained our membership numbers, with 75 current financial members. Some of our longstanding members have moved away, including Robyn Sim, who was a very active member of the club for many years. We will miss Robyn and wish her all the best in her new life. Robyn single-handedly created an amazing garden at Reidsdale and often opened it to the public. She was an inspiration for other gardeners, although she set the bar very high! We have welcomed 10 new members since the last AGM, and we hope they will enjoy some of the activities we offer in the coming year.

In the last 12 months, our club has engaged in a wide range of activities. We visited many local gardens in Braidwood, Araluen, Majors Creek, and Krawaree. The owners of all these gardens were very welcoming, and shared their personal journeys in developing their gardens. Every garden visit is an opportunity to learn and to share ideas and experiences. We thank all those local gardeners for their time and their generous welcome.

Other local activities included our Christmas lunch in December, held at the Old Cheese Factory. Several new members attended and this was an enjoyable way to meet them. Our first activity for 2017 was a leisurely lunch on the shady verandah at Bedervale, hosted by Sonia Royds. This was followed by a guided tour of the historic home, and was a perfect way to spend a hot summer day. Our thanks to Sonia for the delicious lunch and a tour of her woodland garden, and to Margaret Royds and Jane Moore, our guides for the tour of the house.

In June, as winter started closing in, we had the opportunity to learn from Kate Chinnick and Dennis Dempsey about roses and their care and pruning. This was a very successful and well-attended day. Then in July Gary Watkins-Sully talked to us about the history of apple growing and cider-making in the district, and demonstrated the art of apple tree grafting. We thank Kate, Dennis and Gary for generously sharing their knowledge and their passion for their subjects.

Travelling further afield, we have enjoyed two bus trips to Berrima and to Milton-Ulladulla. Both of these took us to some really lovely gardens. We thank the Ulladulla Garden Club for organising the garden visits there, and for their kind hospitality. Our Berrima visit in October was facilitated by Clive West, who welcomed us to his beautiful garden on the edge of the town. We were a bit too early in the season to see his collection of old roses in full bloom, but we still had a wonderful day in and around Berrima.

Last November, 13 members enjoyed a visit to Canberra, organised by the Canberra Garden Club. Despite the heat, this was a memorable day, visiting some very special gardens. The highlight was the wonderful garden created by Anne Dawn at the former riding school at Yarralumla. We thank the Canberra Garden Club for organising this day for us. Sharing these days with other garden clubs and meeting their members is always a lovely experience.

In other activities, our club was invited by QPRC to contribute ideas for the Beautification of Braidwood, and more specifically of Wallace Street. Ideas from our member survey were discussed and shared with QPRC representatives and other members of the community. QPRC has employed a firm of landscape designers as consultants, to develop a plan for Wallace St. I was invited to meet them and share our ideas, together with other community representatives. This was a positive experience and the results of this process should be available shortly.

Several members of our Committee are retiring this year. Pat Maher has been on the Committee for many years. Since becoming President I have appreciated her steady advice, and her willingness to do whatever was required with quiet efficiency. I will personally miss Pat's presence on the Committee very much, and hope she will continue to be an active member. Sue Quinnell has been another very reliable and helpful Committee member, and we will miss her when she moves permanently to the coast later this year. Sue organised the trip to Ulladulla this year, and its success was due mainly to her detailed planning. Sally Matthews joined the Committee last year but then had to return to Darwin for a year. We hope that when she returns she will again be an active club member.

Thanks to all the Committee members who have worked so well together. One of the joys of my role as President has been to share the responsibility with such a great team.

Our thanks also go to Kate Chinnick, who unfailingly contributes the "Plant of the Month" and "What to do in the Garden" columns to our newsletter. Kate also makes our name tags, and has been doing all of this for many years. She is a great asset to the club!

As always we thank the Braidwood Serviceman's Club for the use of their facilities for many club activities. Michelle and her team are unfailingly helpful and welcoming, and the tea and coffee they provide for every occasion are an added bonus.

Our club could not function without the wonderful friendly staff at the Bendigo Bank, who collect and record our membership fees and payments for many activities. They do this as a community service and we thank them for their help year after year.

Braidwood Buses are our new bus company, and we hope to use their services often in the future. Thanks to Mark and Rhonda for their very helpful service.

I look forward to working with the Committee members, both old and new, for another year. Thanks to all our members for their continued support for our club.

Treasurers Report by Fran Woods

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

FINANCIAL YEAR 2016 - 2017

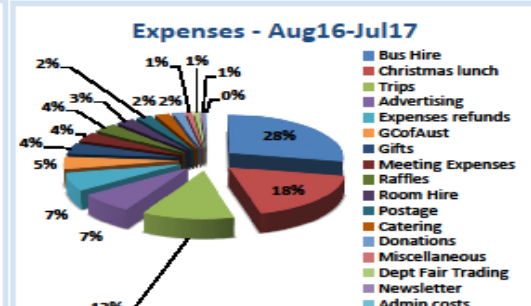
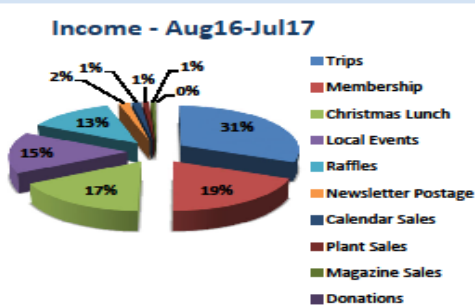
Financial Summary (August 2016-July 2017)

Opening Balance = \$3,676.31

Closing Balance = \$2,205.73

| Income | Amount | Code |
|--------------------|-------------------|------|
| Trips | \$1,870.00 | 10A |
| Membership | \$1,151.00 | 1A |
| Christmas Lunch | \$1,020.00 | 6A |
| Local Events | \$910.00 | 12A |
| Raffles | \$773.70 | 2A |
| Newsletter Postage | \$99.00 | 9A |
| Calendar Sales | \$80.00 | 8A |
| Plant Sales | \$58.00 | 4A |
| Magazine Sales | \$45.00 | 7A |
| Donations | \$5.00 | 11A |
| total: | \$6,011.70 | |

| Expenses | Amount | Code |
|-------------------|-------------------|------|
| Bus Hire | \$1,760.00 | 9B |
| Christmas lunch | \$1,119.84 | 19B |
| Trips | \$740.00 | 20B |
| Advertising | \$448.90 | 8B |
| Expenses refunds | \$415.00 | 15B |
| GCoFAust | \$291.68 | 17B |
| Gifts | \$262.85 | 4B |
| Meeting Expenses | \$233.76 | 12B |
| Raffles | \$223.24 | 1B |
| Room Hire | \$175.00 | 2B |
| Postage | \$155.00 | 5B |
| Catering | \$142.85 | 7B |
| Donations | \$110.00 | 10B |
| Miscellaneous | \$60.35 | 21B |
| Dept Fair Trading | \$54.00 | 16B |
| Newsletter | \$42.49 | 18B |
| Admin costs | \$14.00 | 3B |
| total: | \$6,248.96 | |



Notes:

1. Garden Clubs of Australia (GCoFAust) (17B) includes our insurance
2. Meeting Expenses (12B) includes speaker and our self catering
3. Miscellaneous (21B): bank charge, calendars to sell
4. Cancelled Canberra trip payments refunded (15B)
5. Donation (10B) to Braidwood Show for prizes

The following members were elected to the BGC Committee for 2017/2018

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Sue Murray | President | 4842 2381 / 0419 441 048 | suejmurray@yahoo.com |
| John Tuckwell | Vice President | 0408 625 415 | jandmtuckwell@outlook.com |
| Jane Moore | Secretary | 4842 1494 / 0407 150 409 | janecree@bigpond.com |
| Fran Woods | Treasurer | 0422 181 020 | franji@hope-today.org |
| Margy Gardner | Newsletter Editor | 0412 616 352 | daisymarg2000@yahoo.com.au |
| Marilyn Carle | | 4842 1096 | m.carle@bigpond.com |
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| Leonie Jolley | | 4842 1820 / 0408 229 490 | leoniejolley@bigpond.com |
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| Chris Riley | | 4842 1861 / 0407 525 391 | chrisriley1232003@yahoo.com.au |
| Charmian Thomas | | 4842 2833 / 0487 654 352 | jncthomas44@gmail.com |

We sincerely thank retiring committee members Sally Mathews, Sue Quinnell and lastly Pat Maher who has been on the committee for many years.

Fran Woods Report on the Slide Show of her visit to the Chelsea Flower Show and Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Montenegro

Just a quick summary for those of you who were unable to attend the recent AGM. I had the privilege of sharing two slideshows highlighting aspects of my recent trip to England and Europe with Botanica Travel.

We had four days in London to visit private local gardens with the highlight on the last day being a visit to the Chelsea Flower Show. The first of the slideshows was a wander around the show seeing the 8 Show Gardens, the 5 Fresh Gardens, the 5 Feel Good Gardens and the 9 Artisan Gardens. I found the Artisan Gardens to be so much more interesting and beautiful than all the other gardens.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

As well as the gardens there were many tradestands selling some spectacular garden sculptures. The grand pavillion was overwhelming for the senses with a wide variety of displays and plants of every imaginable colour.

I took a lot of photos and would have taken more had my camera battery not gone flat at lunch time, and I didn't have a spare! Preparing a selection of the photos into a slideshow reminded me of the immense effort that had gone into setting up the show and keeping it looking beautiful.

The second slideshow was a quick hop, step and jump across Europe to visit Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, and Montenegro.

The tour was advertised as the "Spring Wildflowers of the Italian Lakes, Slovenia and Croatian Island cruise." So, I was on the lookout for the wildflowers as we visited a number of old formal gardens in Italy. Sadly, I saw none at all in Italy. We flew into Milan and then went to Stresa where we visited Isola Bella and Isola Madre, islands in the Italian lakes. Beautiful gardens. We visited the beautiful gardens at the Villa Carlotta near Como. We went to Verona and to Venice before heading for Slovenia. Italy was very hot and very humid which proved to be a bit of a spoiler.

In contrast, Slovenia was so beautiful! Green and fresh and so much cooler. We stayed in Bled beside Lake Bled, a deeply blue and very still glacial lake. While there we visited Marshal Tito's lovely garden, among other things. After a two day stay we then travelled by bus down to Croatia going via Plitvicka Jezera National Park where we finally began to see some lovely wildflowers. At Zadar, Croatia, we joined our little cruise ship (only 18 cabins) and sailed down the Dalmatian coast. The sea was an exquisite blue, so clean and fresh looking. The Croatian coast line was pretty bleak looking with no trees on the steep hillsides. In the crevices and valleys the fertile soil was farmed and we passed many vineyards.

On the way down the coast we visited Split, Omiš, Stari Grad, Hvar, Korčula, Lopud, and finally reached Dubrovnik in the extreme south of Croatia. Each place had lovely old buildings, delightfully narrow lanes, and a lot of stairways that seemed to reach all the way up to heaven. We didn't see many gardens but plenty of colourful balcony gardens and hanging baskets. We also found a lot of capers and fig trees growing out old walls!

On the second to last day we enjoyed a bus trip to Kotor in Montenegro. Along the way we came across many different wildflowers and the bus kindly stopped for us enjoy them.

The tour finally came to an end. Then it was time to sort through my multitude of photos in order to prepare the slideshows for presentation.

Rose Pruning with Dennis Dempsey

In all there were 3 workshops to accommodate all those who wanted to take part and Dennis and Eileen were very welcoming and generous with their time. Members learned how to prune different types of roses and all were given an opportunity to practise under Dennis's supervision. We thank Dennis and Eileen very much for their time and hospitality.

MEMBERSHIP FEES NOW DUE

If you have not yet paid, please pay \$20 at the Bendigo Bank with an additional \$11 supplement for the mailed newsletter.

Bendigo Bank Direct Debit BSB 633-000, Garden Club Acct No 118-346-444

Calendars For Sale

The Garden Clubs of Australia has released the 2018 Calendars and if you would like to order any, call Jane Moore on 0407 150 409 or email at janecree@bigpond.com

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

Bathurst-Oberon Trip

Our trip to **Bathurst and Oberon** in late **October** is taking shape. We have 10 members looking forward to a car trip to the Bathurst Open Gardens Weekend on 28/29 October and it promises to be a wonderful visit, 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.

We will also visit Mayfield Garden at Oberon, and perhaps one or two gardens in the western Blue Mts. Because of the distances involved, we feel that a 3 night stay is the best option. Accommodation at a very reasonable cost is available at this stage. The option of joining us while driving independently and staying for 2 nights only is also available. If you would like more information, please contact Sue Murray on 48422381.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mel Yewdall, Lee Windley, Rhonda Brousek

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

My Open Garden

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

SEPTEMBER 11th – OCTOBER 2nd

'Moidart', Eridge Park Rd Bowral. One of the best garden in the Highlands, laid out in the 1930's, featuring 5 acres of beautifully structured gardens with many mature specimen trees, a sunken rose garden, terraces with perennial borders, woodland garden, and walks through bulbs and blooms.

Open 10-4, \$7, plants for sale. Phone 4861 2600

<http://www.highlandsnsw.com.au/gardens/moidart/index.html>

SEPTEMBER Tuesday 12th – Sunday 24th

Tulip Time in Bowral, Corbett Gardens, Bendooley St, Bowral. Ph 43464059

<https://www.southern-highlands.com.au/tulip-time>

SEPTEMBER Tuesday 12th – Sunday 24th

Gardenalia Open Garden and Plant Stall. 5 May St, Robertson. <http://gardenalia.com.au>

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 7th – 8th

Robertson Open Gardens - 7 gardens ranging from smaller town gardens to larger country gardens.

Gardens will be open from 10am – 4pm

<http://www.robertsonopengardens.weebly.com/>

OCTOBER Thursday 12th – Sunday 15th

Berry Gardens Festival - 8 gardens open in and around Berry 10-4pm Phone 4464 1191

Headquarters at Apex Park, Cnr Princes Hwy and Prince Alfred St, Berry.

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

OCTOBER Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd

Galston Open Gardens - 8 gardens and a flower show

The Galston Garden Club will be opening eight outstanding gardens with all proceeds being distributed to a wide range of charities. Gardens are open from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm on each day at a cost of \$5 for individual gardens or \$20 for a ticket allowing entry to all the gardens (this can be distributed over the three days). All are large acreage

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

gardens covering a wide range of styles, with three being opened for the first time, and all are different from those opened last year. <http://galstongardenclub.com.au/open-gardens-weekend-2017/>

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 Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th

'Old Graham' Homestead, Hovells Creek. Open Garden

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

OCTOBER Sunday 29th

HARPERS MANSION Garden and Plant Fair, Berrima 10am - 4pm Phone 0409 823 861

Stalls include specialist plants, gardening equipment, furniture and decorative items, \$5 entry

Enquiries Sue Maude 4861 5753 <http://harpersmansion.com.au/announcements/garden-and-plant-fair>

NOVEMBER 4th/5th

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

NOVEMBER Sunday 5th

Riversdale Rare Plants & Growers Garden Fair, 2 Twynam Drive Goulburn

<https://www.goulburnaustralia.com.au/Event-Calendar/Riversdale-Rare-Plants-Growers-Fair.aspx>

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 scentsational, 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>

NOVEMBER 12th A Taste Of Christmas Open Garden 10am – 4pm 82 Terara Rd, Terara NSW

2541 on the Shoalhaven South Coast. Ph. 4421 6321 Relax in a shady garden, eating morning and afternoon tea with a Christmas theme, browse stalls for handcrafted gifts, baked produce and plants.

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/ATasteOfChristmas>

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick



Nepeta

"Six Hill's Giant"

- A good garden hybrid
- Evergreen bushy, clump forming perennial to 45cm tall
- Greyish green aromatic leaves
- Small violet flowers on tall spikes, all summer
- Frost hardy
- Very good edging plant
- Prefers well drained soil in full sun
- Clip back after flowering
- Propagate from division or cuttings

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