

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB



SEPTEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

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>

OCTOBER Thursday 12th **Garden Visit to Goulburn**

We will be catching a bus to visit 3 gardens in Goulburn and a plant nursery in Tarago on the return journey.

Kentgrove

Kentgrove is a 14 ha historic property first settled around 1840 as a huge orchard and in 1930 was converted into a sheep station. The present owner purchased Kentgrove in 2006 and converted the property into a series of sustainable gardens. It includes 'Australian Native' and 'English-style gardens', with a newly developed 750 m² 'Victorian Kitchen Garden' constructed on a tennis court, a 'Temperate Rainforest Room' constructed in part of the old jam factory and an 800 m² 'Japanese Garden'. (\$5 entrance and tour)

Riversdale

Riversdale is a National Trust property built in the late 1830s as a coaching inn and is a fine example of a Colonial Georgian home surrounded by splendid gardens and picnic grounds. Riversdale is renowned for its collection of fine Australian Colonial furniture and arts and craft and stands within its original paddocks and outbuildings. (\$5 Guided Tour) Tea and coffee available for a gold coin donation. (Guided Garden tour \$5)

Garroorigang Historic Home

Part of the National Estate, Garroorigang is a site of National Historical Significance, set in beautiful grounds. Built as an inn on the road to the goldfields, then up to 1883 serving as a private boarding school for the 'sons of gentlemen', it is now the private home of the Hume family, descendants of the explorer Hamilton Hume. A beautiful heritage home where visitors can enjoy a personally guided tour through 157 years of living Australian history. (\$10 entrance and tour)

Nirvalley Homestead Nursery

Nirvalley grows 90% of their stock and has a good selection of hardy plants for our climate which are frost, drought and wind tolerant. It has a large variety of exotic and native shrubs, trees, grasses and hedging plants.

Meet at Ryrie Park at 8.45am--Expected return to Braidwood at 5.30pm

BYO picnic lunch & chair

Members with surnames starting with M-Z please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

Cost for the bus is \$30 and please pay at the bank by Monday, 9th October, in person or by direct deposit, to Braidwood Garden Club - BSB: 633-000 A/c No. 118-346-444

Please specify 'Goulburn Trip' in the REFERENCE space

For further enquiries ring Jane Moore on 4842 1494

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Kerry Backhouse, Linda Cansell & Sandra South

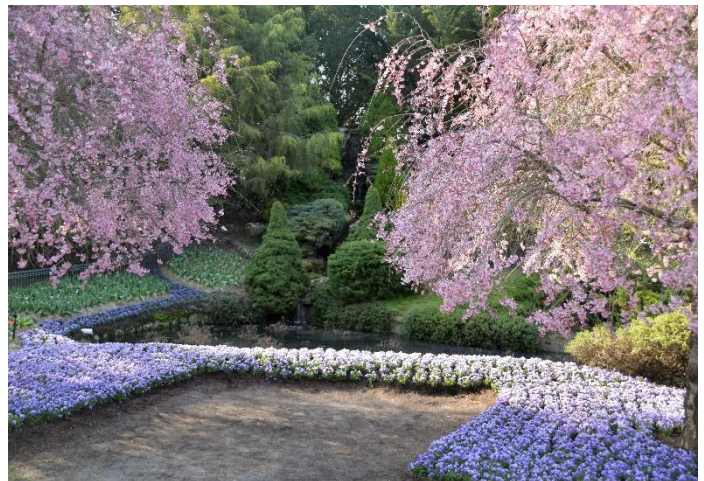
Floriade–Tulip Top Gardens Trip on Thursday 21st September

Twenty expectant persons, including 3 new members (Kerri Backhouse, Linda Cansell and Sandra South), boarded the bus to Canberra for our trip to Floriade and Tulip Top Gardens on a perfect mild spring day. Floriade is celebrating 30 years and this year's theme, 'rejuvenate', reflecting the 'best of the best' over this period. This year Floriade has more than one million blooms, of which nearly a third are tulips. Thanks to Rosemary De Martin's contacts, we were privileged to have Andrew Forster, Head Gardener at Floriade, give us a tour of this year's extravaganza.



This was a most informative and comprehensive tour with Andrew very generous with his time, spending over more than an hour with us. He provided a fascinating insight into the process of planning and then executing the Floriade experience (bed preparation, marking out patterns, planting, feeding, maintaining and finally removing). The tour included a behind the scene visit to his shed and viewing the plans for Floriade. Andrew also gave a number of useful tips for growing spring flowers and raised his vision for a spring garden trail from Bowral to Floriade (could Braidwood be part of this?). Time allowed for us to wander around at our leisure to enjoy an early view of Floriade, watch flower arrangement demonstrations and have some retail therapy.

Tulip Tops is spectacular and well worth the visit even with the entrance fee. The focus is very much on tulips with over half a million bulbs augmented by around 1000 blossom trees spread over the 10 acre garden. The combinations of the bulbs, blossom and soothing music is delightful and it can only get better as more bulbs flower. We also took full advantage of a good opportunity to buy some well-priced plants! A happy and tired group of gardeners returned safely to Braidwood thanks to the good driving of Mark Brousek from Braidwood Buses.



Tulip Tops Gardens

Both [Floriade](#) and [Tulip Top Gardens](#) are open from 16 September to 15 October.

For more pictures taken on our visit, log in to <https://hope-today.org/pixt/bg30/index.html>

Braidwood Cemetery Working Bee on Sunday 15 October at 2pm

To help spread a large amount of mulch at the Braidwood Cemetery the Garden Club is encouraging its members and other members of the local community to participate in a working bee at the Braidwood cemetery in Cowper Street on Sunday 15 October starting at 2pm.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

Garden Club Photos

For our new members and others who may have forgotten, our Garden Club has a website that has some wonderful photos of past trips going back to 2011. This site has some good information on the club and is wonderfully maintained by our Treasurer, Fran Woods who takes the photos and adds them to our site. Do check them out and a huge thanks Fran!

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com/photo-gallery/>

Garden Clubs of Australia 2018 Calendar

If anyone would like a garden calendar for next year, some are available from our secretary Jane Moore Give her a call on 4842 1494 if you would like one.

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

NOVEMBER Thursday 16th

Visit to Three Bombay Gardens

These three contrasting gardens are situated not far from town and within a short distance of each other. The owners have had to face a range of common problems encountered by anyone trying to establish and care for gardens on rural properties - including poor soils, sometimes limited water supply, exposure to all weathers, and the presence of stock, wildlife and feral animals.

- ‘Wilmont’– Little Bombay Road (Cathy & Laurie Ffrench). The garden was started from scratch about 15 years ago in a bare paddock with sandy pebbly soil, on a fairly exposed site. A mixture of exotic and native species have been planted along a buffer bank for protection from westerly winds. The garden is continuing to evolve, expressing Cathy’s love of native plants and including a cottage garden at the front.
- ‘Ridgewood’– Tally Ho Road (Bronwyn Johnson). The original garden dates from the early 1990’s, starting off with several fruit trees, exotics and a few native plants. Since Bronwyn arrived 16 years ago, a number of older plants have been removed and the garden expanded by the addition of many more Australian native species, particularly bird-attracting plants.
- ‘Little Bombay’– Little Bombay Road (Jan Loveday and family). The present lovely garden has continued to mature since this historic property was bought by Jan and her late husband John in about 1973. After enriching the soil, planting was begun using both exotic and native plants arranged along the lines of ‘garden rooms’, with stone dividing walls being built over a number of years. The large old trees planted for shade and shelter are now a feature of the garden.

DECEMBER Thursday 14th

Christmas Lunch.

Details to be announced in later newsletters.

Bathurst/Blue Mountains Trip - 28th and 29th October

Twelve members are looking forward to an exciting trip which has been organised by Bronwyn Johnson with a visit to the famous Mayfield Garden on the agenda, as well as some of the gardens in the Bathurst Open Gardens event. We will report back to you all about it in the next newsletter.

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.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

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>

OCTOBER Sunday 8th-Saturday 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 Saturday 7th & Sunday 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 13th – Sunday 15th

Retford Park Bowral Open Garden. 10am-4pm 1325 Old South Rd, Bowral

\$10, \$8 concession, National Trust Members \$5.

<https://www.southern-highlands.com.au/events/whats-on/retford-park-open-garden>

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 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.

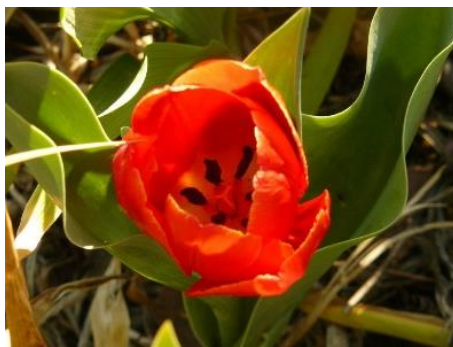
NOVEMBER Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th

Braidwood Open Gardens: Mona, Bedervale, Nithsdale, Tillararra, Wynlen House and 14 Solus Street will all be open this year. \$5 per garden.

IN MY GARDEN by Kay Hamer, Nerriga

The first thing to admit is that I bought my property in a frost pocket but I do have the river on one corner so I can water during the summer. Then, the bones of the garden were here and like most people I failed to remove some trees that were in the wrong place but otherwise with the wetter last 7 years, the garden has done well. Starting at the end of July the daffodils flower and have continued despite frost, hot days and horrible dry winds. I mainly get early season daffodils as by the middle of September the daytime temperatures mean the flowers do not last. This year quite a few have come up with very short stems which I assume is the reduced moisture in the ground but I am always amazed at how they survive in terrible soil and if the Bowerbird, cockatoos and other wildlife do not pick or trample them, then they flower for a long time. The Bowerbird seems to like to add a daffodil to his blue collection and I find flower heads dotted around the landscape with a favourite being Jetfire. This little daffodil multiplies up very quickly but this year it came out just in time for the strong dry winds and got very knocked about. Of the daffodils in flower now, a clump of Moonfairies is superb and I think I got them from Hancocks. I was delighted on returning from our trip to Floriade to find a couple of tulips in flower although a lot have been badly frosted and I will have to wait until next year. I tend to get Greigii hybrids such as Heart's Delight or Stressa as they do not need lifting each year and again multiply well. In fact one bulb turned up in the grass this year and I can only think it was from seed.

Tulip cluisiana is one of my favourites but the dog has taken to digging where they are so again next year for them. My fruit trees are all trying to flower but we are still getting quite severe frost with -4 last night so I am hoping they hold off a bit longer as trying to protect the whole fruit cage is a major task. The pears are going to be smothered in flower, except for the Snow pear which may take several more years as I think it is on a more vigorous rootstock than the usual dwarfing rootstocks I like for my trees. It makes pruning simple and I will be able to pick the fruit into old age. The garden needs a good watering of the type that only rain can do and the recent fires do not bode well for this year. If you are passing, do feel free to drop in as I am usually somewhere about but just a bit deaf so toot or yell.



<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

PLANT OF THE MONTH
by Kate Chinnick



**Phlox
subulata**
(Alpine Phlox)

- Native to North America
- Prostrate alpine evergreen perennial
- Forms large mats of fine leaves like a carpet
- Fully hardy
- Suitable for sunny rock gardens
- Grows to 10cm high and "forever" wide
- Covered in spring with small blue, pink, white, carmine or mauve flowers
- Propagate from division

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.