

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018



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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

MARCH Thursday 8th

Gardens In and Around Braidwood

After a very hot dry summer, we are all looking for ways to help our gardens survive the heat. We are very grateful that 4 of our members have agreed to open their gardens for us on March 8th. All these gardens are relatively new, and therefore don't have the advantage of established trees to provide shade in summer. This is a great opportunity to discuss ideas to combat the heat and create attractive and productive gardens.

Our morning will commence with a visit to John & Margaret Tuckwell's new house and garden in Wilson St. The house was completed in November 2017 with garden at its very early stage of development. It is situated on a 2400m² block which was the site of the original Anglican Church and has been a market garden and then a nursery. It features some lovely established elm trees, the start of a rose garden and a vegie patch. John & Margaret have great plans for the garden's staged future development, having clear ideas about parts of the garden and open to suggestions for other parts. It is hoped we will see the garden evolve over the years to come.

Janniece Elphick has developed her garden from scratch, in 7 years, and like some of our gardens, has grown like topsy. Many of her plants are gifts from family and friends with cuttings from local gardens. It is a cottage style garden with fruit trees and suggestions for a tree selection would be welcome.

John and Charmian Thomas's garden was started in 2010 as the house was being built with a silver birch the first tree, then a variety of plants to compliment each other with foliage, colour, height and shape. Braidwood's testing temperatures were a high consideration in plant selection. Roses are very rewarding and vegetable beds, though suffering from the summer heat, are quite productive.

Margaret Royds left the large, cold 'Bedervale' homestead for a new home, 'Bohun House'. Margaret didn't plan to have a garden in her new home, just a few pot plants in the courtyard in front and wildflowers on the banks. So the bank at the back had to be cleared and terraced, beds made, mulched and smothered with wood chips to keep the grass at bay until ground covers and shrubs could take over; paths made with sawdust and a set of steps. The front bank was supposed to be a Ha-ha but was a steep slope so it was covered it with prostrate grevillea. The westerly wind needed hedges for protection and the underground water tank in the front which looked like a helicopter pad was covered with soil and mushroom compost and planted out with thyme, surrounded by box hedge. Margaret's garden has expanded with trees, an orchard, 300 flowering natives and shows her love of gardening and gardens.

We will have morning tea at Janniece's garden, then move on to Margaret's garden within the Bedervale estate on the edge of town. Members with surnames from M-Z, it's your turn to provide a plate for morning tea. If you plan to join us for lunch at Margaret's garden, with a lovely view to the east, please bring a picnic lunch, a chair and a coffee mug and don't forget to wae your name tag. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Report on the Jennie Marston's Irish and Scottish Gardens

On Thursday February 8th about 21 members were treated to a wonderful slide show of grand gardens in Ireland and Scotland and were envious of Jennie and Michael's chance to leisurely explore this area, famous for its beauty. Jennie's enthusiasm for garden travel was evident in her personal descriptions of the time spent wandering at their own pace and lucky Jennie, she is off again this year, this time to Italy. Thank you Jennie

A big thank you to everyone who supplied the most delicious lunch for as well as gardening, our members love food!

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

Thursday April 12th

Bus Trip to Nelligen and Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens

Bookings for this trip will open at Bendigo Bank on Wednesday 21st March, and will close on Saturday 6th April. We have booked the bus at a cost of \$30 per head. The Nelligen garden owners ask for a donation of \$5 per head for their chosen charity, the Lantern Club. **The total cost to be paid at the bank is \$35.00 per head.**

We need to know numbers by 6th April, so please make a note of this date and book at the bank or by direct deposit at

Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 Acct No 118 346 444 and please add 'Bus trip' to the entry.

If by chance you are unable to do this, please contact Sue Murray on 48422381, or Jane Moore on 48421494.

We will meet at Ryrie Park at 9.00am and return to Braidwood between 4.00-5.00pm. Members with surnames from A-L, please bring a contribution for morning tea. The Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens have a café where lunch can be purchased, or you can bring a picnic lunch.

THE GARDEN PARTY NELLIGEN

If you have travelled from Canberra to the coast along the Kings Highway you may have noticed the houses at the top of the hill at Nelligen. You know the one, it's opposite the River Road turnoff. The one with the poplar lined driveway that wraps around hills of mown grass paddocks. Well, now is your chance to sticky beak.

The properties are owned by sisters Sandra Martin and Glenda Blanch along with her husband Paul. The girls' family have lived in Nelligen since its settlement and on that particular patch for 7 generations. Originally there was a little cottage that stood on what was once the dairy farm that supplied the village of Nelligen with milk, cream and eggs. The sisters, who grew up in Liverpool, remember school holidays at Nan and Pop's, helping in the garden and playing cake shops with dried cow pats for cakes! Although a little more sophisticated these days, the girls haven't lost their youthful enthusiasm for their family home, days in the garden and homemade treats

Inspired by iconic Australian gardens and the English country aesthetic, the sisters share a passion for old-fashioned roses, many of which can be found in Sandra's garden while Glenda has over 70 roses in her garden including climbing roses and standards. Both gardens have an extensive range of deciduous trees such as Pin Oaks, Chinese Pistachios, Silver Birch, Silver Elms, Weeping Mulberry, Golden Elms and tree lined driveways of Bradford Pears and Chinese Tallow. Both gardens mix formal structure with vegetable patches and rambling cottage flower beds.

You are invited to come along and find out exactly what is at the top of that hill. You may also find plants for sale depending on the season.

There will be a \$5 per person donation (included in the overall fee for the day) for this visit to the South Coast Lantern Club. Lantern Clubs were established to fundraise for the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC).

Further details at [The Garden Party Nelligen Facebook page](#)

As winter draws near, we will have several guest speakers to inform and entertain us. Then in August our AGM will be held. After a very successful lunch last year at Mona Farm, we have booked the same space again.

Plans are already underway for our Spring activities and these will include at least one bus trip. Several local gardeners along the Nerriga Road have offered their gardens for inspection in November.

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB HISTORY

Thanks to Margaret Royds, I think our longest serving member of the garden club, we have knowledge that *"the constitution of the Braidwood Garden Club was drafted in February 1981 with its aims being: To encourage friendship through gardening, to increase the knowledge of gardening in all its aspects, to protect our environment and to encourage civic beauty and roadside development"*.

Amongst our boxes of club memorabilia we are yet to discover more of our history but thanks to Margaret, we will search more diligently. As a newish member, I would love to delve more deeply and find out how we came to where we are and I will pass on to you what we discover.

NAME TAGS

AT EACH OF OUR EVENTS, IT IS MOST HELPFUL FOR EVERYONE TO WEAR A NAME TAG AND WE SUPPLY THESE FREE OF CHARGE. FOR ANYONE WHO NEEDS A NAME TAG, PLEASE EMAIL THE GARDEN CLUB GMAIL – BRAIDWOODGARDENCLUB@GMAIL.COM

Local Show Dates for 2018

Braidwood Show - Saturday 3rd March

For entry conditions please go to <https://www.braidwoodshow.com.au/pavilion/index.html>

Tarago Show - Sunday 4th March <https://www.agshowsnsw.org.au/shows/208-tarago-show>

Goulburn Show - Saturday 3rd March to Sunday 4th March <http://www.goulburnshow.com.au>

Queanbeyan Show - Saturday 10th to Sunday 11th November

<http://www.queanbeyanshow.com.au>

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.

Just a reminder that [Perennial Hill](#) in Mittagong is opening this week.

GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION 2018

There are 5 categories of photos -

1. Garden Scenes (taken anywhere in the world)
2. Garden Visitors (birds, bees, bugs, animals)
3. Abstract image of flowers or foliage
4. Close-ups of flowers, foliage or floral/flower arrangements
5. Productive Gardens or Edible Plants (fruit, vegetables, herbs)

Entry forms www.gardenclubs.org.au or see Sue Murray

MARCH Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th

GOULBURN ROSE FESTIVAL at the Veolia Arena, Braidwood Rd, Goulburn.

The Goulburn Rose Festival showcases the roses of Goulburn and includes a strongly contested Competition in which anyone can enter roses for judging, from Champion growers to ordinary home gardeners and even children.

Prizemoney is donated by local businesses, organisations and individuals. A wide range of stalls and items for sale.

Other Attractions:

- art exhibition by Goulburn & District Art Society - art works for sale AND art competition
- display & sale of roses by local nurseries
- craft stalls
- plants and gardening tools for sale

Admission: \$5, children under 16 years free

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

MARCH Friday 23rd

Reopening for the Autumn Season.- Wildwood Garden Bilpin, 0477 042460

Garden lovers are invited to visit this magnificent Bilpin garden. Lovingly crafted over 38 years by Wayne and Sue Tapping, the garden presents a glorious collection of cool climate plants in a natural woodland setting.

<http://www.wildwoodgarden.com.au>

APRIL Easter Monday 2nd

The Leeton and District Water Wheel Garden Club will be holding their annual Open Gardens on Easter Monday 2nd April from 9.30am to 4.00pm. There will be 6 gardens open (3 in town and 3 larger country gardens). Morning and afternoon teas will be available at the gardens as well as lunches and drinks. A variety of stalls will be scattered through the gardens. The cost is \$20 for the 6 gardens with a morning or afternoon tea included in the price. Lunch can be purchased for \$8.00.

For further information, please read the flyer attached. Could you please give a copy to anyone interested or refer them to our website at <http://www.leetongardenclub.com.au>

Why not make it a long weekend in Leeton and also come for our Sunrice Festival that runs over the entire weekend.

It is a fun filled weekend with a street parade and carnival in the park, a long lunch, balloon rides and balloon glow and much more. Further information can be found on the Sunrice festival website or find both our events on facebook.

APRIL Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd

The Nimmitabel & District Garden Club is holding the inaugural combined Plant Fair and Open Gardens. The Plant Fair [including various materials for the garden and gardener] as well as over 14 nurseries will be held at the Nimmitabel Showground.

As usual, three outstanding gardens of the Monaro will be open, over the weekend, namely *Old Bibbenluke Inn, Bibbenluke Lodge and Gourock.*

MAY Sunday 6th

Collector Pumpkin Festival <http://pumpkinfestival.com.au>

In 2018 the Collector Village Pumpkin Festival will feature over 100 stall holders and many activities with the flavour of a traditional country fair full of simple fun, lots of colour and imagination.

The festival showcases local produce and the arts/craft community. Pumpkin-focused competitions are run each year ranging from the largest pumpkin to pumpkin themed baked items.

Entry: Adult = \$10, Seniors = \$5 and children (15y and under) FREE

MAY Sunday 6th

Tallong Apple Festival <https://www.tallongappleday.com/whats-on/>

Attractions: Live Music, Market & Food Stalls, Rock Climbing, Archery, Silent Wood Auction, \$200 Lucky Entry, Wood Chopping, Whip Cracking, Sheep Shearing, Snake & Reptiles, Medieval Battles, Car Show and Much more.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick



**Eucomis
comosa**
(Pineapple lily)

- Hardy bulbs, dormant in winter
- Native of South Africa
- Grows to a height of 75cm
- Flowers from summer to autumn
- Attractive spikes of small star shaped flowers, white, green or purple
- Propagate from seed or division in spring
- The Xhosa peoples used the bulbs boiled to a paste as a cure for rheumatism

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