

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018



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>

MAY Thursday 10th

This month's garden visit will be to 4 local gardens.

9.15 Meet at Ryrie Park

9.30 We are going to John and Margaret Tuckwell's garden in Wilson St again, as they have a vegie patch suitable for the demonstration of garden tools by Jay from 'European Tools Australia'. European Tools Australia have sourced high quality guaranteed garden-tools from Holland, Belgium and Austria which are among the best garden tools. Their manufacturers in Europe include DeWit, Jost and Muller and together have over 500 years of master craftsmanship. Hand tools from DeWit Dutch Garden tool company are hand forged by experienced craftsmen. Each tool has been ergonomically designed, making your gardening easier and come with a lifetime warranty. They make the original Dutch hoe and also a uniquely designed spork, solid hand trowels, garden forks, weeders, farmers daggers and more. Jost Belgian nylon rakes are made from a tough nylon and are used by many Arborists, landscape companies and avid gardeners for their long lasting durability. While, Muller's Austrian axes are considered to be unique. Jay from European Tools Australia will demonstrate how to best use their tools and there will be an opportunity to purchase them, and which are also sold through the Braidwood Outdoor Shop.

10.30 Morning tea in the Tuckwell garden with a plate to share supplied by members with surnames starting with O - Z.

11.00 We then go to Tim Wimborne's small, intensively cultivated vegetable garden in town. Tim has created a very productive garden in a small space.

11.30 Next, we are off to Mike and Barbara Merrony's garden on Saleyards Lane. This is a large garden planted with mainly native species which Mike has sourced from many different places. There are hundreds of different varieties of native trees and shrubs sheltered by mature pines and cypresses.

1pm Finally we will have a BYO picnic lunch in Sue Murray's garden on Bombay Rd, which has evolved since 1998 into a garden of mainly cool climate plants which survive our severe weather conditions.

As we've had such a hot summer and a very dry autumn, local gardens are not at their peak at the moment so we appreciate that the owners have invited us into their gardens at this time. We all understand how hard it is to keep gardens looking good in such difficult conditions.

Members with surnames from O - Z are on morning tea duty this time so please bring a plate to share. Also please bring a picnic lunch and tea and coffee will be provided. Bring a chair and your own coffee mug if you prefer and don't forget to wear your name tag.

April 12th Garden Visits Report

Our bus trip to Nelligen and the Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens was attended by 31 members and despite the heat, it was a successful day. Our first stop was at 'The Garden Party', Nelligen at Sandra's garden on the top of the hill overlooking the Clyde river and next door, a little lower down the hill was Glenda's garden. As expected they were both cottage gardens with roses,

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

border plants and wonderful garden constructions. Sandra and her late husband scooped the top off the hill and built a beautiful home with far off views. To make the garden, they then brought back tons of soil and planted trees and a wind break to shelter from the huge westerlies. 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. They have help with mowing the large expanse of grass that surrounds both homes and the gardens reflect the constant care and love of gardening and plants by their owners. It was truly a privilege to visit these gardens.

The Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens were really worth a visit with short and long walks through well-made tracks and we were guided by knowledgeable volunteers who were considerate of the stamina and walking ability of each of our 3 groups. Plants were well labelled and a number of grassy amphitheatres are available for wedding or concert venues with barbeque facilities and seating. Some of us had a light lunch at the Gardens Café and others sat on the seats around the amphitheatre with our BYO lunch, in shade and a cooling breeze. The Visitors Centre, with a plant shop where plants propagated from seeds and cuttings sourced throughout the region and from the gardens own collection, was of course patronised by some of our group.

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

We would like to compliment Rhonda from Braidwood Buses on her excellent driving on the day.

Photos of the day have been uploaded on to our website at <https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com/photo-galler>

Thank you Fran.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER
Amanda Scott

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS

JUNE Thursday 14th at the Servicemens Club Braidwood

A talk by the well-known horticulturist Judy Horton.

Judy Horton is a Horticulturist who worked as garden adviser for Yates 22 years. She was responsible for the regular updating of Yates Garden Guide, the best-selling Australian gardening book. She is one of the weekend regulars who, for more than twelve years, has answered garden questions on ABC 702 "Weekends with Simon Marnie" program and also has regular spots on 2UE on Saturday afternoon with Tim Webster and takes part in interviews on a number of other radio stations. She has filled in for both Graham Ross and Don Burke on their respective shows. .

In 2012 Judy was presented with the Golden Wattle Award, the highest award from the Australian Institute of Horticulture, for her contribution to horticulture. A few weeks later she also received an Award of Merit from the Nursery & Garden Industry of NSW & ACT for her outstanding contribution to the industry.

Judy also acts a Horticultural guide for themed tours conducted by Botanica. She has conducted these tours in Europe and the USA.

<http://rjhorton.com.au/index.html>

<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/hornsby-advocate/middle-dural-horticulturalist-judy-horton-honoured-with-oam/news-story/33a24e5301e8d5221ef0bad751e8ea3b?nk=b684d43b0c136dd98661e5921827c8d6-1521500217>

JULY Thursday 12th

To be advised

AUGUST Thursday 9th

AGM at Mona. Memberships are due.

SEPTEMBER Thursday 13th

Out of town garden visits.

OCTOBER Thursday 11th

Bus trip to Bundanoon and Robertson.

NOVEMBER Thursday 8th

Visit to Nerriga Rd Gardens

DECEMBER 13th

Christmas Party

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

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. The following open gardens or events are open within the coming week:

- [Chanticleer Gardens](#) : Arcadia
- [Gory'u Japanese Gardens](#) : Little Hartley
- [Private Gardens of Monaro - Private Tour Dates](#) : Cooma
- [Wildwood Garden](#) : Bilpin

These gardens are regularly open

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

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.

OCTOBER Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th

Robertson Open Gardens Stroll through 7 beautiful gardens ranging from smaller town gardens to larger country gardens. 10-4pm. \$20 for all 7 gardens or \$5 for a single garden. <https://robertsonopengardens.weebly.com>

OCTOBER Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th

Bundanoon Garden Ramble

Eight stunning private gardens will open from 9.30am to 4.30pm. There will be market stalls at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall and refreshments provided by the Lions Club will be available in one of the open gardens.

\$20 for all 8 gardens (valid for both days) or \$5 for a single garden entry. Free shuttle bus between gardens.

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

NEW ITEM in the NEWSLETTER

You will read about John and Margaret Tuckwell's holiday garden visits in this newsletter and this will be a feature in coming editions, with contributions from you dear members. Some of our members have been to beautiful gardens, near and far, and as we all love gardens and plants, we would all like to read about them.

These stories may inspire us to explore and visit or we may just enjoy these gardens vicariously, unable to travel but learning about the world of gardens from home. However you wish, enjoy this new item.

I now invite those who have loved a garden trip to write about it for others to be inspired. Send it to me, Margy Gardner at daisymarg2000@yahoo.com.au or write it out and send it to me at 306 Barnet Drive, Braidwood.

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

GARDENS I VISITED ON MY HOLIDAYS

Margaret and I went on a 'roses and wine' tour through parts of South Australia and Victoria in mid-March. This included Ruston Roses at Renmark, Carrick Hill Garden and the Botanical Gardens (including the museum of economic botany) in Adelaide, Lyndoch Hill Rose Garden in the Barossa (with over 10,000 rose plants), Camawald Country Garden and other gardens in the Coonawarra region, Treloar Roses in Portland, Alistair Clark's Rose Garden at St Kilda Botanical Gardens, the Diggers Garden at Heronswood and finishing with a day at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show.

March was perhaps not the best time to visit and a number of the gardens were suffering the effects of the prolonged dry weather, but to us Camawald Country Garden was the highlight of the trip. We went there because it was featured on Gardening Australia and to our delight they also offer accommodation (self-catering cottage and a studio).

Camawald has been the home of John & Sue Zwar since they bought the property in 1976 when it was just open farming land with a few giant red gums. The garden was initially 5 acres, but has grown into a superb tranquil 10 acre garden with extensive plantings of ornamental trees and indigenous plants, a lake, grass tennis court and gazebo. Sue is a leading authority on heritage roses and has over a thousand roses in the garden. She was most generous with her time and sharing her knowledge. We were able to wander about the full range of the garden as much as we liked, which also boasts an impressive array of birds.



We stayed in the single room studio which is well appointed and very comfortable and provides views over the surrounding paddocks, vineyards and into their 'bush' garden. Ingredients for breakfast were provided, including Sue's home-baked bread and a selection of her home-made preserves.



It is right in the heart of the Coonawarra, where Balnaves Winery has a great rose garden as well as some stunning wines. Sue has also planted roses in the town of Penola where there is much to see, including restored National Trust cottages. Camawald can be used as a base to explore the surrounding region, including the world heritage listed Naracoorte Caves. We wished we had stayed longer than two nights.

John Tuckwell

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick



**Nerine
bowdenii
(Spider Lily)**

- Native to Southern Africa
- Hardy bulb
- Prefers a sunny position in dry soil
- Grows to 45 cm high and 8cm wide
- Flower heads to 4 - 6 cm in red, white or pink
- Flowers in autumn and deciduous over summer
- Prefers not to be disturbed to form a large clump of bulbs
- Good cut flower and border plant
- Propagate from division or seed (may take a few years to flower)

What to do in the garden for May

- Evergreen shrubs can still be moved
- Spring flowering Camelias can be disbudded for larger flowers
- Tulips and Dutch Iris can be planted now
- Pinch back spring flowering annuals to strengthen growth
- Tidy Hellebores & apply a complete fertilizer + dolomite lime
- Monitor vegetable crops for pests and weeds
- Seedlings of Asian vegetables can be sown till mid May
- Prepare beds for Onion seedlings in late winter
- Plant new Strawberry plants
- Tie up sweet Pea plants
- Rake up fallen leaves and compost
- Try not to buy plastic wrapped early Roses as the frosts will burn them