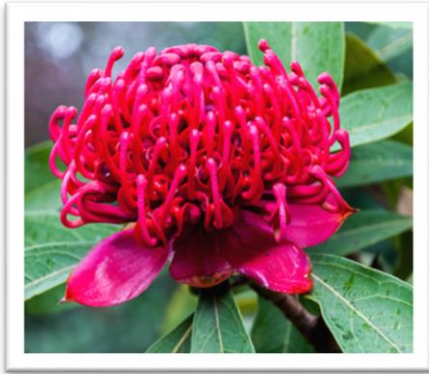


BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019



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<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

LOCAL GARDEN VISITS Thursday 9th May

MEET: Ryrie Park at 10am to Carpool and receive a guide map

BRING: A chair, lunch, a mug & your name tag

MEMBERS A-L Please bring a plate of Morning Tea to Share

Our first garden will be “Willow Tree” which is 10 years old this year. Lyn and Greg started by planting canopy trees then shrubs. “The garden beds are all now in place and except for continuing to plant, maintenance is the main focus. There is only one garden feature left to build, hopefully next summer, and this year I have completely revamped my vegie garden from normal raised beds to wicking beds which have been extremely successful. To those who have been here before, welcome again; to those who are here for the first time welcome to Willow Tree”.

The next garden is “Shadowlands” at 230 Bombay Road & is a lovely old 5 acre property with a beautiful established garden. David and Frances moved here just over a year ago. The extensively planned garden is sheltered by huge old pine trees and takes advantage of some stunning Braidwood rural landscapes. As well as wide lawns and many granite outcrops, there is an established orchard, a seasonal creek and an old cattle yard converted to a rose garden. Autumn is a special time of year due to the many deciduous trees. The Japanese maple and Manchurian pears have been glorious this year and many different species of trees and shrubs are underplanted with massed bulbs. There are beds of mixed plants including, lavender, catnip, roses, rhododendrons, rock roses and much much more.

Many of the club members would have visited “Shadowlands” before perhaps when it was part of Australian Open Gardens or Braidwood Opens Gardens. We are sure you will enjoy your May visit, weather permitting.

Our last garden to visit is “Canowindra Park” where we will have lunch. This garden is set on 2.7ha of land and over 14 years many trees have been planted which are now maturing. Leonie and Richard are now slowly establishing areas of understorey when time and energy permit.

REPORT ON THE TRIP TO LANYON HOMESTEAD, YARRALUMLA HERITAGE NURSERY AND RIVER ROAD NURSERY ON THURSDAY APRIL 11th

On a beautiful autumn day 20 of us boarded the bus at Ryrie Park, we picked up a member at the Goulburn turn off, 2 more members joined us at Lanyon and another member joined us at Yarralumla.

We arrived at Lanyon at about 10am, the sun was shining but there was still a bit of a chill in the air. The gardens were divided into a series of rooms, the first of which was the Bunya lawn with a couple of huge Bunya pines and to the right of this was the apricot lawn. This flowed into the rose lawn and garden.

A perennial border surrounded the roses with some interesting plants which we had difficulty identifying. Unfortunately there was no phone signal so John's plant identifying app was unable to be used. From the rose garden we went to a large kitchen garden. They had obviously had a good pumpkin crop.



Among the fruit trees was a lovely pomegranate, such a beautiful colour. Some of our members also visited the house, before enjoying a lovely morning tea in the Lanyon cafe.

We then went onto Yarralumla Heritage Nursery where quite a bit of shopping was done. The nursery very kindly offered to heat our urn, so lunch was had in the adjoining park.

After lunch it was back on the bus to drive to another nursery in Queanbeyan, the River Road Nursery. Most of us didn't know this nursery existed and it usually opens on Saturday and Sunday 1pm to 5pm, but opened especially for us to visit. It is hidden down a backstreet in Oaks Estate and has some interesting bargains, and of course we couldn't resist them.

The bus returned to Braidwood full of plants from our two nursery visits. Our driver, Mark, was very helpful with our precious plants and did a great job substituting for his wife Rhonda, who usually drives us.

Photos taken by Fran Woods and more photos can be seen on the garden club website.

ONE OF MY FAVOURITE PLANTS – *Liriope muscari* by Bronwyn Johnson



Liriope has long been popular landscape plants in many parts of the world. A number of different varieties are available in Australia, all of them robust and versatile. They make excellent pot plants and also blend well into a range of garden styles and locations. These hardy plants thrive in Australia and tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions, including humidity, seasonal wet feet, hot and dry, windy, bitter cold and frost. They tolerate aspects ranging from full sun to heavy shade, and can be planted in coastal areas as they will tolerate salt.

Remarkable not only for their toughness, liriope is also versatile in their range of applications in the garden. They can be used as groundcovers, border plants, potted plants, in green walls or as feature plants. They look great in mass plantings or as a colour contrast plant, and may also help to prevent soil erosion when planted thickly on steeply sloping sites.

In some locations the smaller varieties can be used as a lawn alternative.

Most liriopae varieties only require pruning or cutting back once a year if the leaves become untidy. They can be cut back low in winter to help quick rejuvenation in spring.

In fact, liriopae have been part of my own garden history for a very long time, and have moved with me wherever I happen to be living. In Sydney many decades ago my first potted *Liriope muscari* was given to me by Mary White, the keen gardener wife of a doctor for whom I was working. At that time I had no experience in gardening or plant identification and for years I simply called it "the Mrs White plant"!

That first plant was left in Sydney with my parents for two years while I was overseas. On my return I reclaimed one of its progeny (they multiply quickly and are easily divided) and took it with me when we moved to the Blue Mountains. During each move in following decades – to Bathurst, back to Sydney, now Braidwood – several liriopae have travelled with me.

They have always cheerfully adapted to each new garden, bearing testament to their hardiness and tolerance of different climatic conditions.



Over time I've acquired this useful plant in several colour variations - green leaves/purple flowers; green leaves/white flowers; green-and-white striped leaves/purple flowers ('variegata'). I've multiplied them by division many times to plant in the garden or in pots and to give to friends.

Newer varieties available from Australian nurseries include one with pink flowers/green and cream foliage, and another whose leaves are cream in winter and green in summer. Highly recommended (even for the novice gardener).

Liriope: from Greek mythology, the mother of Narcissus.

Muscari: flowers resembling the grape hyacinth (*muscari*).

Due to concern about the large number of disposable cups that we use at our events, we now ask that everyone remember to bring their own mug to our outings. Let's be conscious of our environment!

FROM THE MAILBOX for your information

My Open Garden

For gardens and events in NSW and ACT, log in to this website

<https://www.myopengarden.com.au/listOpen.jsp?s=2>

Retford Park, 1325 Old South Rd, Bowral. Gardens Open on the 1st weekend of May, 10am-4pm. Entry \$15. National Trust Members Free. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/retford-park/>

MAY Sunday 5th Collector Village Pumpkin Festival celebrating Rural Life and the Harvest Season. 100 stalls, Pumpkin Competitions. <http://pumpkinfestival.com.au>

MAY Sunday 5th Tallong Apple Day 2 Memorial Drive, Tallong
<https://www.tallongappleday.com>

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

AUGUST 9th- 4th NOVEMBER Autumn Friday 22nd March-Monday 10th June. Spring at Wildwood, 29 Powell's Rd, Bilpin. Salvia Shows in April. <https://www.wildwoodgarden.com.au> Phone 0417 042 460

AUGUST 24th Saturday –SEPTEMBER 1st Sunday

Sculpture On The Clyde Batemans Bay and the amazing Willinga Park in Bawley Point will be transformed in the last week of August when sculptors from all around Australia and overseas set up their sculptures to create an artistic and cultural hub. <http://sculptureonlyde.com.au/> & <http://willingapark.com.au/>

NOVEMBER Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th

Crookwell Garden Festival. 9 Beautiful cold-climate gardens open all weekend. Garden lovers market on Saturday. www.crookwellgardenfestival.com

DID YOU KNOW.....

Australian researchers following men and women in their 60s found that those who regularly gardened had a 36% lower risk of dementia than their non-gardening counterparts

UPCOMING GARDEN CLUB EVENTS FOR 2019

June 13th Floral Arrangement Workshop with Marilyn Carle

July 11th Talk on Native Seed Propagation

August 8th AGM

September 12th Local Garden Visits

October 17th Bus Trip to Berry Open Gardens

Bunnings Garden Club- Goulburn

Cnr Hume St and Ducks Lane

Each month Bunnings Garden Club holds clinics on gardening themes and this month the topic is 'Pruning/Maintaining Citrus Trees'. BGC members are welcome to attend on Thursday 2nd May, from 6pm. Feel free to bring a friend along!

A light supper will also be served so please let Bunnings know if you are coming.



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

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

PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Kate Chinnick

LATE SEASON VARIETIES



Garden Chrysanthemums

- Native to mostly Eastern Asia
- Hardy evergreen perennials
- Prefers a sunny position in rich soil
- Grows to 60cm high and 50cm wide (can spread a lot wider)
- Flower heads to 4 - 6 cm in all colours
- These flowers are smaller than the exhibition varieties
- Flowers from early autumn to winter
- Good cut flower and border plant
- Propagate from division or basal cuttings

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