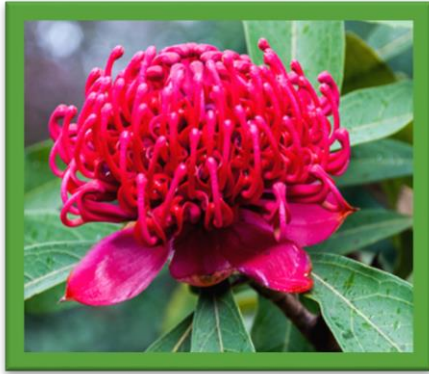


BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020



President: John Tuckwell 0408 625 156

Vice President: Rosemary De Martin 0439 412 134

Secretary: Jane Moore 4842 1494

Treasurer: Amanda Scott 0404 834 632

Newsletter Editor: Margy Gardner 0412 616 352

<https://braidwoodgardenclub.wordpress.com>

Instagram : braidwoodgardenclub

THURSDAY 14th FEBRUARY

Talk by Floriade Head Gardener, Andrew Forster

Where: The Servicemens Club, Braidwood

When: 10.30 am for Tea, Coffee and biscuit

Members M-Z please bring a plate of lunch to share.

At our first meeting for 2020 we will be enlightened with a talk by Andrew Forster who has been the Head Gardener for Floriade since 1997. He grew up in Canberra till he moved with his family to Adelaide for 2 years and went to an Agricultural High School before returning to Canberra to attend Phillip College.

Andrew always had an interest in gardening with a vegetable garden at home, mowing people's lawns for pocket money and Scout job week for about 4 years in a row earning the maximum amount he could by doing lawn mowing, gardening, cleaning gutters and washing cars. His interest in gardening continued in College and he applied for an Apprenticeship in Horticulture with the ACT Government in 1984 year 11 but was successful the next year after applying again in year 12. Working with David Young, his first apprentice master, he completed his apprenticeship in 1989 and won a permanent position in Commonwealth Park looking after the Rhododendron gardens and watering the lawns at Stage 88 (Quick Couplers at that time).

Andrew was a second year apprentice when the Floriade trial was conducted at Yarralumla Nursery in 1987 and his CIT class was involved in the planting of the trial. In 1988 he was involved in marking out and planting some of the first Floriade garden beds and his first year as Floriade Head Gardener in 1997 'was an awesome learning experience'. He has been Head gardener since 1997 and continues to enjoy his role.

Andrew has been fortunate to do some overseas travel in his career to Longwood Gardens USA in 1995 for 3 months to work on site. In 2013 Andrew represented Floriade at the World Tulip Summit in Istanbul Turkey and presented to Tulip people from all over the world. In 2015 Andrew represented Floriade at the World Tulip summit and International Garden Tourism Network in South Korea being part of a panel with a range of Professors. We so look forward to meeting and hearing from Andrew on Thursday 14th February.

GARDEN CLUB EVENTS FOR 2020

Thursday 12th MARCH-Bus Trip Visit to Yass Gardens and Crisp Galleries & Gardens

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Derek Duffy

William Morris and Gardens by John Tuckwell

Introduction

William Morris (1834-1896) was the greatest textile designer of the Victorian era but he was much more. He was a poet, novelist, painter, translator, lecturer and conservationist. He was also a socialist activist who provided much inspiration to the British Arts and Crafts movement whose vision transformed the English house and garden.

Morris will be well known to many for his fabric and wallpaper patterns. Many of his patterns are still popular today and utilize exuberant and rhythmical floral patterns and often feature birds. His more famous patterns include the 'Strawberry Thief', 'Larkspur', 'Jasmine', 'Willow', 'Marigold', 'Wreath' 'Chrysanthemum', 'Artichoke' and 'Pimpernel' with my personal favorite being the 'Cray'.



Strawberry Thief



Cray

One of his more famous quotes which is still valid today: *“Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful”*.

Morris's principles of gardening

Not only were his designs dominated by his love of nature and plants, but he had a great influence on gardening at that time and subsequently (some question whether without Morris would there have been a Gertrude Jekyll?).

True to his maxim of 'beauty and utility' and his passion for the Medieval Ages, his principles of gardening include:

- *Unify house and gardens* – gardens should clothe the building acting as a floral extension to link the house with the surrounding country;
- *Enclosed gardens with trees, hedges or natural looking fences* – a series of rooms giving a sense of privacy;
- *Preserve local identity* – use local indigenous materials and regional flora to integrate the garden with its surroundings;
- *Plant simple flowers* – through a profusion of simple plants leave it to nature to create the desired complexity, which is essentially a cottage garden (he was opposed to the breeding of elaborate hybrids and imported exotics);
- *Integrate existing trees* – new houses should fit around and preserve established trees;
- *Make it productive* – gardens should be functional spaces to provide food for the household;
- *Include places for recreation and relaxation* – gardens are a source of enjoyment and mental refreshment and should be designed with spaces to play games and for people to relax, exchange ideas and eat.

In addition to lecturing on garden and architectural ideas, Morris had a number of houses and gardens where he practiced his principles, including 'The Red House' near Bexleyheath in Kent, '26 Queens Square' in London, 'Kelmscott Manor' and 'Kelmscott House' near Oxford and 'Merton Abbey' in South London.

Kelmscott Manor



When Margaret and I were walking the Thames Path from its source near Cirencester to Oxford last year we passed nearby Kelmscott Manor which is now owned and run by the Society of Antiquaries of London. Whilst the house was closed to the public that day we were allowed to wander through the gardens (sadly for M the gift shop was closed for a stock take).

Morris bought Kelmscott Manor in 1871 as a weekend / summer retreat (and gave it the courtesy title of manor) and lived there until his death in 1896. In keeping with Morris's principles when he restored the building he used local materials and local craftsmen. The garden is

delightful and starting in 1993, it is being restored back to how Morris would have had it with straight paths and separate rooms bounded by old yew hedges and local stone walls. Plants include tulips, narcissi, bluebells, irises, peonies, crocuses, aconites, snowdrops, violets, primroses, roses, poppies, sweet sultans, china asters, dianthus heddwigii and cottage annuals.



Mulberry Garden



Room for Games in the Lawn Garden



Side of the Mulberry Garden



Back of the Lawn Garden with its lovely stone wall



Plan of the garden

Note: Kelmscott Manor is currently closed for conservation and improvement works until 2021. For further information see: <https://www.sal.org.uk/kelmscott-manor/>

Sources: The Gardens of William Morris by John Simmons; Morris by himself edited by Gillian Naylor; and Dr Google.

NOTE:

Muttons sells china mugs with a number of William Morris designs.

Proposed Improvements to Lascelles Street.

The Braidwood Garden Club (BGC) would like to make a submission on the proposed improvements to Lascelles Street.

Whilst the BGC agrees that Lascelles Street is in desperate need of improvement we are not qualified to comment on the engineering work proposed, but instead will focus our comments on the proposed tree plantings

In this respect, the BGC would like to thank Derek Tooth (QPRC Service Manager, Contracts & Projects) for taking the initiative and requesting a meeting with John Tuckwell (President, Braidwood Garden Club), Sue Murray (President, Braidwood Community Association) and Jane Slade (local interested resident) to discuss the trees in Lascelles Street. Also to thank Andrew Salo (QPRC Tree Management Officer) for the professional and cooperative manner he engaged with the BGC during this process.

The intention to establish an avenue of shade trees in Lascelles Street in keeping with Braidwood's heritage values is fully supported by the BGC.

During this meeting a list of 10 possible tree species was presented and after some discussion and the suggestion of other species a shortlist of 5 species was subsequently agreed. This shortlist was put to the BGC membership in an online questionnaire for them to express their preference. The shortlist includes:

- Honey Locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)
- Golden Rain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*)
- White Cedar (*Melia azedarach*)
- Golden Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior* 'Aurea')
- Chinese Pistachio (*Pistacia chinensis*)

Members were also asked whether they would prefer an avenue on just one species or two alternating species (the online Google questionnaire is given in annex 1).

22 members (23%) responded to the questionnaire with the results summarised in table 1.

The key findings are:

- a small majority (59%) preferred two different species trees compared to just one species of tree; and
- The two most popular species are Golden Ash (15 votes or 68%) and Chinese Pistachio (10 votes or 45%)

One member indicated by email that they would prefer alternating bottle brushes. A lapsed member of the BGC still on the distribution list indicated they are strongly opposed to the removal of the existing trees in Lascelles Street and has made separate submissions to this effect.

Regarding the removal of the trees, the BGC notes that proposed work was assessed by a suitably qualified independent consultant arborist who works for a highly reputable firm nationally with his report compiled in accordance with AS4970-2007.

This report recommends that all existing trees be removed due to the damage done to their roots due to the engineering works. The BGC does not want to see trees unnecessarily removed but notes that the report does not suggest that there are alternative engineering solutions which are more tree friendly.

The BGC also notes that the report rates the Tree Retention Value of the existing trees as either medium (2 trees) or low (5 trees) with the Silver-leaved Stringybark in poor condition and needs removing in any event. In other words, they are not considered to be specimen trees unlike some of the elms and plane trees elsewhere in town.

Further, both the box elder and claret ash have the potential to be weed invasive, particularly the box elder – hence why they are not in the shortlist of 5 trees.

Table

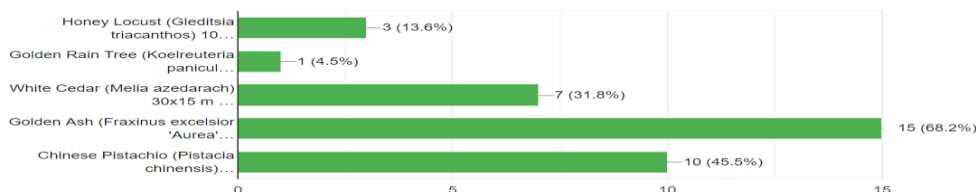
Would you like to see just one type of tree or two types of trees?

22 responses



Which tree or trees would you like - no more than 2 please (common name, Latin name, size on maturity, link to data sheet on tree of the options are provided below)

22 responses



This submission has been approved by the BGC committee.

John Tuckwell
President, Braidwood
Garden Club

A Message to All Our Members Who Have Suffered Fire Events

Some of our members have been impacted, some severely, by the fires and some have been fighting fires since the beginning. We have them all in our thoughts and at a later date we will offer gardening help with plants. For now we offer our supportive friendship.

The QPRC is offering a variety of assistance to all those who need it & a Bush Fire Recovery Centre office is open at the Old Braidwood Library.

Below is a list of helpful bush fire gardening sites you may like to explore.

<https://sophiespatch.com.au/2020/01/03/bush-fire-garden-recovery/>

<https://apsvic.org.au/fire-resistant-and-retardant-plants/>

<https://www.flowerpower.com.au/garden-advice/gardening/fire-resistant-plants/>

<https://www.jimsmowing.com.au/2016/02/fire-retardant-trees-and-plants/>

<https://www.diggers.com.au/garden-advice/bushfire-gardening/#.XibpBa3-YBV.gmail>

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/landscaping>

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>

FEBRUARY 28th – MARCH 1st 2020 Canberra Show

MARCH Saturday 7th 2020 Braidwood Show - **Cancelled**

MARCH Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th 2020 Goulburn Show

MARCH Tuesday 10th The President, Committee & Members of the Goulburn Garden Club Inc. warmly invite our BGC Members to join them for a **FRIENDSHIP MORNING** at the Goulburn Workers Club Auditorium, McKell Place, Goulburn at 10am for 10.30am. Cost \$10. The Guest Speaker is Trisha Dixon, author, photographer, tour leader & gardener.

RSVP: 4th February, 2020 Maggie Snape, ph 4821 6605 margaret2@ipstarmail.com

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



Leucanthemum X superbum

(Shasta Daisy)

- A native of Europe and temperate Asia
- A genus of clump forming perennials
- Grows to a height of 60cm to 90cm
- Leaves are dark shiny and toothed
- Flowers are large white with golden centres
- Flowers for most of summer and autumn
- Prefers sun or partial shade in well- drained soil
- Very good cut flower
- Propagate from division in autumn or winter or seed in spring
- Divide clumps when they become too dense
- Many varieties – doubles and semi-doubles

What to do in the garden for February

- Lift Tulips and Dutch Iris for storage in a cool dry place
- Tie Dahlias and tall Chrysanthemums
- Dead head Rhododendrons, Camelias and Azaleas, mulch and feed
- Sow seeds of annuals for planting out in April
- This humid weather promoted black spot - spray if necessary
- Remove weeds before they seed
- Obtain spring flowering bulbs
- Sow seeds of Asian Greens, Radish , Spinach and Turnips
- Remove vegetable plants as they finish cropping
- Apply liquid fertilizer fortnightly to vegetables
- Remove excess growth from Apples and Pears
- Trim Lavender and Rosemary
- Take semi hardwood cuttings and keep moist