

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021



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Thursday July 8

HOW TO HAVE BLOOMING ROSES

When: Thursday 8 July, 10.30am for Morning Tea with 11am start

Where: Auditorium, Braidwood Servicemens Club, Corner Coronation Ave and Victory St.

Covid 19 rules may mean a limit to numbers so email braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com if you would like to attend or call John Tuckwell on 0408 625 156 for further information.

Braidwood is a brilliant place to grow roses so we should all be encouraged to grow more of this fabulous family of flowers and this meeting is the perfect opportunity to know more about how we can do this.

At this free event for members (\$5 for non-members) we will welcome our esteemed life member Kate Chinnick to lead a workshop and share some of her knowledge on how to have blooming roses. She will cover all aspects of growing roses, including:

- ❑ how to select the right rose for your garden;
- ❑ how to establish new roses;
- ❑ how and when to feed your roses
- ❑ how to prune your roses, including an opportunity for members to practice by pruning the club's roses.

Kate is well qualified to talk on the topic of roses - she loves roses and is a renowned rose collector, particularly heritage roses, with more than 200 different varieties in their garden and counting. Their collection is so important that the World Heritage Rose Society visited her garden when they had a conference in Canberra in 2017. Kate was also President of the Braidwood Garden Club from 2010-13 and a committee member at various times from 2003 onwards and continues to support the club in so many ways.

Margaret Tuckwell will be assisting with the pruning demonstration and is also a rose enthusiast and expert in her own right. She is a longstanding volunteer at the Old Parliament House Rose Gardens.

Members with Last Names A-L, please bring a plate of lunch to share.

Bring your badge and a pair of secateurs if you want to have a go pruning.

"We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon instead of enjoying the roses blooming outside our windows today." – Dale Carnegie

CANCELLED BUS TRIP TO SOUTH COAST – Thursday June 10

We were all so sorry to have to cancel this trip but the weather on the coast was just too bad for a bus to make it to the venues & we apologised to our generous hosts. We do plan to pursue another visit in the future so lookout for an announcement for a trip to the coast.

Uncommon natives: HAKEA LAURINA

Bronwyn Johnson

This unusual and striking plant is another West Australian native much admired for its stunning flowers. These resemble a round pincushion of dark pink to cherry red, with long projecting styles of white to pale pink – hence its common name “Pin Cushion Hakea”. The flowers have a faint perfume and attract bees and nectar-feeding birds.

Tiny new flower buds may begin to appear as early as December, becoming larger by autumn. In good years buds may be packed in tight clusters along the stems, nestling among stiff bluish-green pointed leaves. Flowering begins towards the end of April and, depending on the season, is usually at its best in June/July.



All hakeas have nut-like woody fruits which may remain unopened for a long time – some only open when the bush dies or is damaged by fire. Groups of *H laurina*'s woody fruit tend to cluster in tight groups along the stems, almost as eye-catching as the showy flowers. Older fruits which have completely dried can be carefully snapped off the branch - left in a dry well-aired location, the fruit will open to release two winged black seeds. (This year I've succeeded in having two seeds germinate, now at seedling stage).

Hakea species are generally hardy plants in cultivation, but require a sunny position in well-drained soil for good flowering. *H laurina* may be grown singly as a shrub or small tree up to 5 metres high. In the Australian National Botanic Gardens the best specimens are in open beds of light soil (preferably lime-free), watered but well drained. In full sun it forms an upright shrub with a compact, rounded head, and flowers freely; much older specimens in light shade may be slender and sparse and not flower as well.

Hakea laurina is not as well-known as it deserves. The one in my Bombay garden is more than 10 years old, though unfortunately in earlier years it became overcrowded by other plants. As a result it grew rather tall and spindly, though having now risen above competing shrubs, flowering has very much improved. This species is frost hardy, however younger plants may require some protection in exposed positions. Interestingly, I've seen reports that this species has been grown as a street tree in Italy and the United States.



INSTAGRAM by Rose De Martin

Just to begin, for the uninitiated, very simply...

Instagram is a photo and video sharing social media application (app) for mobile phones released in 2010, originally for Android phone users & now compatible with Microsoft Windows tablets and computers. (Instagram is now owned by Facebook)

It is really easy app to use. Once you have installed Instagram, uploaded photos of your own, or not, it allows you to browse other user's photos and videos by searching for subject matter, hashtags (#), and locations etc. You can then 'follow' ones you like, which will then come up in your 'feeds', and 'like' them to interact. You can also message along with posting photos. (This is the 'public' forum but you can choose not to be public and only allow those you wish to see your photos by being a private account).

The obvious downside is that it has become a huge platform for advertising, overt or otherwise, with 'sponsored' accounts pushed along by the algorithm process...the more you use by 'following' or 'liking' the more you are 'suggested' other ones. Be careful what you wish for.

This app has almost replaced magazines for that 'whiling away of time flicking through' thing.

That said, there are some really wonderful accounts to look at and follow, especially in the gardeners world. I did a quick survey of those in the BGC committee who use Instagram, (and yes, there are ones who don't!), and we came up with quite a long list of ones we look at frequently and/or follow – and there are possibly millions out there in cyberspace! After 'following' friends and family - a must if you want to keep them – the ones we loved the most are not only close to home, local users, businesses etc. but ones the we aspirationally like to see or places we'd like to be or visit.

In no particular order...

Any Botanical Gardens around the country and world e.g. Chelsea Physic Garden, Kew Gardens, Orta Botanica Roma, Botanical Gardens S.A, Cranbourne Botanic Gardens, Vic..

Other Garden Clubs e.g. Berry District Garden Club, GinGin Garden Club, Bundanoon Garden Club to name a few.. As well as Braidwood Garden Club...

Nurseries e.g. Perenniale Nursery (Canowindra), Millthorpe Garden Nursery, Merribee Gardens.

Individuals, e.g. Trisha Dixon Burkitt (who is to be our speaker at our AGM), Sophie's Patch (Gardening Australia Journo and gardener), Simon Rickard, Tracey Bool (garden writer)...

Private gardens e.g. English Country Gardens, Our French Country Chateau, Chateau Gudanes, Picardy Garden (S.A), The Cheeky Scrub Wren, The Hut Flower Farm...

Reposted sites, Our Australian Gardens, Plantcetera and many many more.

For clarity I have used capital letters and separated words, however most accounts string all the words together, e.g. merribeegardens, thecheekyscrubwren etc.

You can use Instagram a little or a lot, you don't have to be a fabulous photographer, or indeed even post photos, but it will open your eyes to a whole world of possibilities. And somehow you'll find that you have whiled away an hour or so. It's so enjoyable! You've been warned! Have fun!

WHAT'S ON

OCTOBER Saturday 30 & Sunday 31 BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE

Each year the Bundanoon Garden Ramble delights visitors with eight wonderful varied gardens to explore, enjoy and inspire. On October 30-31, our 25th Ramble will offer stunning gardens open from 9:30am - 4:30pm. Visits to the beautiful gardens aren't all that is on offer in Bundanoon on Ramble weekend, a Garden Market in the Bundanoon Hall offers plants, gifts and art for sale while scarecrows pop up around the village for the Lions Club competition.

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

OCTOBER Saturday 30 & Sunday 31

Bathurst Spring Spectacular Live Music, Market Stalls & Displays

<https://bathurstgardenclub.org.au/bathurst-spring-spectacular/>

Roses by the Seaside' 2021 National Rose Championships and Conference.

<https://gardenclubs.org.au/diary-dates/>

Saturday 12-5 pm & Sunday 16th 9.30-4 & 17th October 2021

The Rose Society of NSW invites you to attend the Roses by the Seaside 2021 National Rose Championships, social activities and lectures series to be held in the Kiama Pavilion. Thousands of Roses will be on display by the best exhibitors in NSW and from other States. There will be amazing displays of heritage and modern roses as well as floral art. Rose plants will be on sale during the event. The lecture series will have the theme of an ecologically friendly way of managing your rose gardens and the impact of climate change. See website for further information. This event was postponed from October 2020.

The Program is available on the Rose Society of NSW website

<http://www.nsw.rose.org.au/rose-society-events>

My Open Gardens

There are many gardens open during the coming months so log on to the website to plan your visits.

<https://www.myopengarden.com.au/openGarden.jsp>

THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS BOTANICAL GARDENS NURSERY is now open every Tues, Thurs and Sat 9am to 3pm.

As all the plants for sale have been propagated from those growing in local gardens, we know that they will survive in your garden. The stock is an ever-evolving range and each week the volunteers tend to them under the watchful eye of professional horticulturists.

Feel free to browse and there is always a friendly face around to advise on the right kind of plant for that special corner in your garden.

Retford Park, Bowral, Gardens are open on the first weekend of each month.

1325 Old South Road, Bowral, NSW, 2576

The Retford Park gardens feature an abundance of natural delights in every season: in Autumn, the Persian Carpet perennial border is peaking, trees are turning and fungi beginning to fruit; in Winter our Winter Walk comes to life with daphne, snowdrops, witch hazel, bergenia and honeysuckle; in Spring there's a riot of colour with peonies, arum lilies, dogwood, clematis, rhododendrons, flowering cherries and tulips; and in Summer, the vast arboretum is the perfect shady place for a picnic.

Entry fee: \$15

Adults \$15

Concession \$10

National Trust Members - free

Families \$35

Please note access to the house is by guided tour only and has a strictly limited capacity. Dogs on a leash are permitted in the grounds.

Harpers Mansion National Trust

The two-acre garden at Harper's Mansion complements the National Trust-owned heritage building. Wide grass paths and plenty of seating encourage you to linger. It is spectacular in Oct/Nov when a hundred heritage roses bloom but a woodland walk, a pond framed with giant gunnera, a herb and a produce garden provide interest throughout the year. Add the hedge maze and it becomes a garden for both you and your children to enjoy! The house, garden and maze will be open on the first and third weekends (Saturday and Sunday) of each month from 11.00am to 3.00pm.

Nurseries nearby

- The Potting Shed - Bowral - 0419 154 860
- Mittagong Garden Centre - Mittagong - (02) 4872 3900
- Wariapendi Farm Nursery - Colo Vale - (02) 4889 4327
- Welby Garden Centre - Welby - (02) 4872 1244

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



Galanthus nivalis

(Snowdrop)

- Native to Europe and western Asia
- Easy bulbs to grow and naturalise
- Grows to 15cm tall
- Leaves are blue/green
- Scented bell shaped flowers in winter
- Prefers rich, moist, well drained soil in part shade
- Clumps multiply freely and do not need dividing for a few years
- Propagate from fresh seed or divide clumps after flowers fade
- Excellent cut flowers

What to do in the garden for July

- Remove flower buds from spring annuals for better displays
- Rhododendrons, Azaleas & Camelias will need watering leading to blooming
- Prune Wisterias and deciduous climbers
- Prune later flowering shrubs (not spring flowerers)
- Order summer flowering bulbs - Lilliums etc.
- Clean up prunings from fruit trees and mulch
- Sow Globe Artichoke and Asparagus seeds
- Clean and sharpen secateurs, loppers and saws
- Sand and oil (linseed oil) wooden handles on tools
- Turn over vegetable beds for spring plantings
- Watch for pink bud swell on early Peaches & Nectarines & spray for leaf curl with copper or lime sulphur