

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

President: John Tuckwell 0408 625 156 **Vice President:** Rosemary De Martin 0439 412 134
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THURSDAY OCTOBER 21 - Braidwood Town Garden Visits

Arrangements:

When: 10.30am on Thursday 21 October 2021 (note meeting date is a week later than normal)

What to bring: Chair, your own morning tea, lunch, and cup (tea and coffee making facilities provided) and your name tag.

Where to meet: Instructions will be given to those who book

Booking: Please book by Thursday 14 October by emailing braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com or phone John Tuckwell on 0408 625 156

Covid-19 requirements

In these uncertain times and as we move towards meeting the 70% and then 80% double vaccinated targets with the promise of more freedoms, your committee thought long and hard about whether to cancel the October meeting or go ahead and organise the meeting on a preliminary basis.

In the end, we considered that eligible members would be keen (if not desperate!) for some social interaction if the roadmap is enacted in October and double vaccinated people can meet up outside. But to be on the safe side we decided to postpone the meeting by a week, mainly because it may take a few days before it is clear how the new rules will be implemented.

The meeting will fully meet any Covid-19 requirements in force at the time. If we are not allowed to meet up or it is just too difficult to meet the requirements the meeting will unfortunately be cancelled.

We anticipate being able to meet up in groups of up to 20 double vaccinated people. If so, we will visit the gardens in two or even three separate groups. To do this it is essential that everyone attending is pre-registered so we can give you any instructions required to meet Covid-19 requirements.

The Gardens

We are planning to visit three fascinating gardens in Braidwood town. They are:

David and Jennie Sutherland's garden in Coronation Avenue which was a paddock until Belinda and Don McKay moved here in 1991 and developed the basic layout with the help of local horticulturalist, Kaye McCarron. They developed it over the last four years and added the side garden three years ago. They aimed to develop a peaceful and enjoyable place, with steady flower production that has something to show in every season. With new climate challenges their focus is on plant choice, weather protection, efficient watering systems and ground moisture. The garden decoration reflects Asian and European art history and garden styles. The aim to make the garden maintenance more efficient was only partially successful!

Murray and Lisa Harrex's garden in Bowler Street (near the tennis courts) at their historical cottage (C.1850) which was a market garden during the gold mining days. Rhyll McMaster started the current garden around 30 years ago planting the trees, with the garden overgrown when they moved in 10 years ago as a deceased estate. It is a challenging garden being sandy and dry in summer (putting in a well has helped) and very cold in winter (down to -11C) leading to plant loss. There is no real theme to the garden other than their love of colour in the garden. With Murray's recent [semi-]retirement he has taken to his garden with great gusto with his next project being to take over the verge...

Gabriele Borscz's garden at the 'The Doncaster' which is the impressive historical property on the corner of Wilson Street and Park Lane (next to Ryrie Park). Initially it was the Doncaster Hotel built around 1840 and then added to and converted to a Convent for the Good Samaritan nuns in the 1880s before being rebuilt entirely in 1907 using the original bricks. This is predominately a 'green' garden with extensive use of formal box hedging, crab-apple trees and stunning stonework. There also some lovely roses and a nice example of an Indian Bean tree.

Welcome To New Member Margaret Shea

SPECIAL AWARD TO THE BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB FROM THE GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA

This award was presented to the club at the AGM of the Garden Clubs of Australia on 21st September in an online zoom meeting which John Tuckwell, Jane Moore and Fran Woods joined.

We are proud to announce the Braidwood Garden Club has won the Eleanor McLeod award 2021 for "Outstanding Service by an Affiliated Club to their local Community"

Our activities included the following

1. HOSPITAL GARDEN.

- February 2019 Braidwood Garden Club (BGC) was approached by the local hospital to take cuttings from roses at the hospital garden, before the roses were removed for the building of a new hospital.
- March 2019 members of BGC took cuttings from the hospital roses.
- October 2019 members of BGC with 4 students and teachers from Braidwood Central School potted 150 rose cuttings from the hospital.
- October 2019 plants and bulbs from the dig at the end of Floriade were donated to be sold at the hospital fete.

2. BRAIDWOOD COMMON

- November 2019 BGC committee voted to donate 10 Braidwood Brilliant Waratahs to Braidwood Urban Landcare Group (BULG) for urban renewal of Braidwood Common.
- March 2020 a working bee of members of BGC and BULG was held to plant the Waratahs and spring bulbs also donated by BGC.

3. BUSHFIRES

- February 2020 BGC offer to help locals whose gardens were lost in the bushfires.
- April 2020 donated plants and cuttings taken to bushfire affected Nerriga.
- August 2020 request goes out to members for more plants and cuttings for bushfire affected gardens in the spring.
- October 2020 donated plants taken to Araluen for distribution.

4. SENSORY GARDEN NEXT TO NEW PLAYGROUND IN RYRIE PARK.

- July 2020 sub committee set up to plan and establish a sensory garden in Ryrie Park north.
- August 2020 the committee votes to devote funds to be used to set up the sensory garden.
- October 2020 sensory garden planted by members of the committee.
- Sensory garden continues to be cared for by BGC members.

5. CANBERRA TREE WEEK

- February 2021 the committee was approached to take part in Canberra Tree week at the beginning of May.
- March 2021 BGC agreed to facilitate a walk around the trees of Braidwood to be led by a member of the local council on May 7th 2021.
- Unfortunately this had to be postponed because heavy rain had swollen the creeks and rivers so much that the walk leader could not get into town. BGC hopes to reschedule this for the spring.



"The Braidwood Garden Club is delighted to receive this prestigious national award from the Garden Clubs of Australia and be recognised for what we have done for the local community over the past few years. It will also encourage us to do more."

John Tuckwell
President

TO BGC MEMBERS - \$25-00 Provisions Voucher

The very generously donated vouchers from Mona Farm, exclusive to Braidwood Garden Club Members, have now been distributed via email. If you were a financial member as at August 12th (AGM) and did not receive a voucher, please contact Amanda (Treasurer) at amandascott217@gmail.com

Sensory Garden Explanatory Signage Installed

When the Sensory Garden in Ryrie Park South was designed last year using the two beds constructed by QPRC it was decided to make one a 'hot bed' with hot coloured flowers to stimulate children before they go to the playground and one a 'cool bed' with cool coloured flowers to calm children after having fun at the playground. The subtleties of this were lost on those using the playground without there being signage. This has now been corrected with credits also going to the garden club for establishing the Sensory Garden.



Once it gets warmer, there will be further plantings of colourful annuals like sunflowers and nasturtiums. Next time you are passing Ryrie Park, stop off and have a look at the Sensory Garden

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

Please pay at the Bendigo Bank - BSB 633 000 - Account Number 118 346 444 & add 'Membership' in the reference. \$20 /year plus \$13 if you require a mailed Newsletter.

WHAT'S ON

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

Roses by the Seaside' 2021 National Rose Championships and Conference **CANCELLED**

OPEN GARDENS CANBERRA

Due to the ongoing public health restrictions within the ACT and the recent extension of the lockdown to 15 October your Open Gardens Canberra committee has reviewed our proposed spring open garden season. As a consequence, regretfully, we have had to cancel the open garden planned for 25 and 26 September and have decided to cancel the two open gardens planned for 16 and 17 October. Hopefully we will be able to open those gardens in the future.

The open gardens planned for 23 and 24 October are in Queanbeyan and will be dependent on easing of restrictions in both the ACT and NSW.

MARCH 8 Tuesday, 2022

The Goulburn Garden Club Friendship Morning to be held on 8th March 2022.

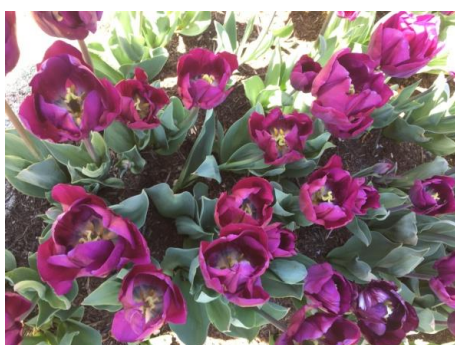
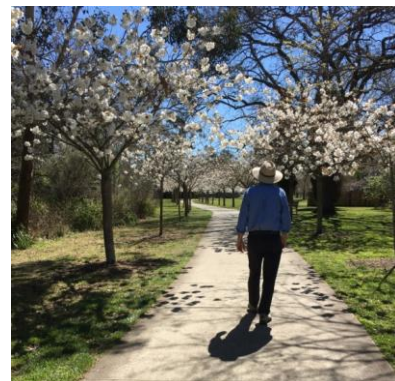
Guest Speaker Mary Moody, author, gardener, TV presenter, journalist, tour guide. Let us hope that we will all be able to get together and celebrate 'Friendship through Gardens'.

BOWRAL TULIP TIME from Jennie Marston

Unfortunately the Garden Club was not able to make a visit to the Southern Highlands this month. Additionally, *Bowral Tulip Time* was not able to open to the many tourists who flock there each year to see the wonderful displays in Corbett Park.

Fortunately for local residents we have been able to visit the gardens and enjoy the wonderful display there to celebrate their 60th Anniversary. There are 75,000 many coloured, variegated, and fringed tulips and 30,000 annuals, predominately pansies, planted in the park. It was also great to see picnickers enjoying the garden views and beautiful weather.

We also walked *Bowral Vietnam War Memorial Cherry Tree Walk*, a 5km pathway between Bowral and Mittagong that is lined with thousands of cherry blossoms.



Braidwood Rural Discounts

Braidwood Rural has kindly continued to offer Garden Club members a 10% discount on their garden lines during 2021-22.

The way this operates is that the garden club provides a list of all members to Braidwood Rural without any contact details and when you go to Braidwood Rural you ask for the discount and they look you up on the list.

Draft Program for 2021-22

Assuming Covid-19 restrictions do not prevent us from meeting, the draft program for the remaining of the financial year is as follows:

14 October – Braidwood gardens visits

11 November – Trip to Tarago gardens

9 December – Christmas Party

10 February 2022 – Stuart Read, Co-Chair, Australian Garden History Society as speaker

10 March – Bus trip to Canberra public gardens

14 April – Local gardens visits in Reidsdale (tbc)

12 May – Visit to South Coast and Noel and Trish Butler (tbc)

9 June – Speaker

14 July – Visit to Truffle Farm at Durran Durra

11 August – AGM and speaker

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



Uvularia grandifolia

(Bellwort,
Merrybells)

- Native to Eastern north America
- Herbaceous, clump forming perennial
- Prefers woodland setting in moist soil
- Reaches a height of 75cm
- Spikes of straw yellow flowers (2.5cm) appear in spring
- Very frost hardy
- Propagate from division in late winter
- American Indians use as a tonic & sedative
- Spreads slowly from underground rhizomes

What to do in the garden for October:

- Prune flowering shrubs as they finish flowering
- Azaleas should be clipped back & any dead growth removed
- Choose new Azaleas & Rhododendrons while in flower
- Roses will respond to fertilizer
- Check Roses for fungal problems & mulch to retain moisture
- Nip out Sweet Pea shoots as they reach top of supports
- Gladiolus corms can be planted at two weekly intervals (90 to 100 days to flower)
- Dead head annuals and bulbs (don't remove foliage)
- Feed all bulbs with a high potash fertilizer
- Plant Pea and Bean seeds and erect supports
- Plant out Lettuce, Cabbage etc.