

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2022



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VISIT TO THE SOUTH COAST - Thursday 12 May 2022

WHEN: Meet at Ryrie Park at 8.30 to car pool, sharing the cost of the travel with the driver.

ENJOY: Bush tucker morning tea

BRING: A Picnic Lunch

WEAR: Name Tag. Good Walking Shoes

COST: \$20 - Bookings by Friday May 6 via direct transfer
(BSB: 633 000 Account: 118 346 444) & put "Bush Tucker Morning Tea"
in the reference section, **or** pay cash at Bendigo Bank.

Although last minute changes had to be made to the itinerary, our trip to the South Coast on Thursday 12 May should offer some real treats for members. Travel will be by car-pooling. After the morning's booked activity, your car's occupants will have some flexibility for the remainder of the day.

1. Bush Tucker Morning Tea

We will start by travelling in cavalcade to visit Noel and Trish Butler at their home in the middle of Meroo National Park. Uncle Noel is a Budawang Elder of the Yuin Nation & he and his wife will provide a bush morning tea with light bush tucker produce and bush essence tea. Uncle Noel will give a welcome to country and a conversational presentation of the local history, environment, food, native plants and edible plants - including how to grow them.

*Cost for this informative session and morning tea will be \$20 per person. Please pay at Bendigo Bank by **Friday 6 May**. **Please Note:** Our second activity was originally to visit to the Matthews garden and nursery but unfortunately this has been cancelled on short notice after the property was extensively damaged by severe storms earlier this month.*

Not wanting to allow bad weather to cancel this trip altogether, after leaving the Butlers we plan to continue on to the coast. For the rest of the day, our stopping points can depend on the weather and participants' preferences. Possible activities we suggest are:

2. Ulladulla headland – One Track for All

This is a 2 km walking track on the northern headland of Ulladulla Harbour, telling the story of southern Shoalhaven Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history, from an Aboriginal perspective. This cultural trail will interest everyone, with stories illustrated by carvings and paintings by Noel Butler, linking indigenous culture with European settlers' history.

It is a free public area with four lookouts providing spectacular views of the coast, Ulladulla surrounds and harbour. If you bring or buy a picnic lunch (and if weather allows) this would be a great spot to enjoy your lunch while admiring the view.

We understand that this unique heritage track has been carefully constructed to provide easy access, with disabled access parking at the track head.

3. Remainder of the day - Freedom of choice

Those who don't feel up to the headland walk may prefer to have a café lunch in Ulladulla or nearby. For the remainder of the afternoon, car-pooling allows your group the flexibility of choosing activities – perhaps browsing coastal shops, plant nurseries or other opportunities for retail therapy before making your way back to Braidwood!

Welcome to New Members

Larissa & Gavin Behn, Julia Green, Carol Javes, Maggie Piper, Rob Smith-Roberts

Report on REIDSDALE & MAJORS CREEK GARDENS VISIT, APRIL 14 by Chris James

Our first garden was at Reidsdale the home of Larissa and Gavin. They have put an enormous amount of work into their garden. It is very tranquil with a wonderful variety of flowering shrubs, both native and exotic. The garden is dominated by 2 impressive gum trees that may have been growing at the time of the early settlers in the area. The large range of deciduous trees were just beginning to put on their autumn show and added to the colour of the garden. Clever use has been made of the rock occurring on the property, one even has a face!



The extensive use of large beds incorporating the natural rock formations makes this garden interesting at every turn. The clipped balls in one bed complement the shape of the rocks, it is semi-formal as other plantings in this bed have been allowed to take their natural form. The vegie garden is enclosed, with raised beds to make growing those vegies more enjoyable.



There is an extensive orchard with a variety of fruit trees and all looking very healthy as the orchard has pretty good drainage.

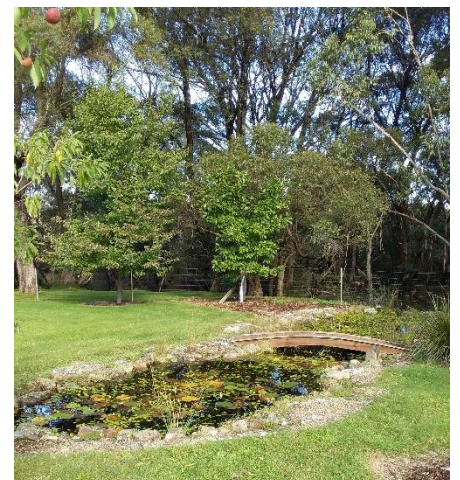
Larissa's berry beds are fully enclosed with a variety of berries growing and we were able to sample some in the wonderful raspberry cake served by Larissa for morning tea. We enjoyed our morning tea on the north facing patio, in the sun. The vista from many parts of the garden out over the surrounding paddock adds to the generous feel of the garden, and the fire pit seating area was very popular. The variety of the plantings makes this a very interesting garden. We all really enjoyed our visit.



The second garden was at Majors Creek, the home of Rob and Carol. It is a younger garden and has been established in what was once a paddock. In the early days of establishing the garden they had to contend with the drought and there has been a lot of careful planning done by Carol and Rob. The citrus fruit growing in a north facing position against water tanks and a shed are doing very well and made a few of us quite envious! They have wicking beds for their vegies which are very productive. The garden at the front of the property, has a lovely variety of deciduous trees and an avenue

of Yarralumla weeping Chinese Elms along the driveway leading towards the house.

The rotunda with outdoor seating and the lily pond make great features too. Apparently the pond is due to some "out of the box" thinking as it was once a collapsed wombat home. Now it is home to lilies and frogs. There are some nice pieces of well placed "garden art" that really add to the garden ambience. Carol and Rob have a well dating from the 1800's that they have restored and some very successful bee hives. The grape vines at the front of the yard promise well for some great wines in the future too. The adjacent gully with its large gum trees adds to the expansive feel of the garden, and gives protection from strong winds. The garden has a lovely welcoming feel and we all enjoyed wandering about in it.



Visiting Some Gardens in Tasmania by John Tuckwell

Now we are out and about again, some of you may be thinking of visiting Tasmania. There are many reasons to visit and enjoy in Tassie, especially if you like the outdoor life with their stunning national parks as well as their excellent food and wine. There are also some lovely cool climate gardens. Some of the highlights of our recent trip there are-

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

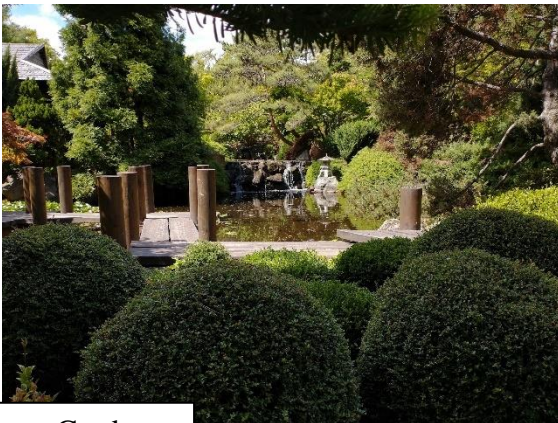
This 14ha botanical garden in Hobart is the second oldest in Australia with so much to see. We started with a one-hour guided [tour](#) given to us by our daughter which gave us the highlights and we went back afterwards to enjoy the gardens at our own pace. There are many highlights too: the Tasmanian native plants, fern house, Australia's only Subantarctic Plant House, the Lily Pond, Japanese garden, French explorers garden, heritage walls, the Gatekeeper's Cottage, the Conservatory and then there is Gardening Australia's 'The Patch'. And when you have done all that, the Botanical restaurant is a great place to relax and have lunch. More info at: <https://gardens.rtbg.tas.gov.au/>



The Lily Pond



The Conservatory



Japanese Garden



The Cork Oak-
almost as good
as
Braidwood's!

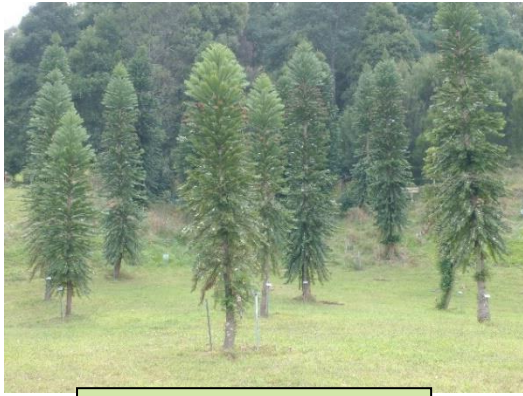
The Tasmanian Arboretum



Gorgeous views

This is a botanical tree park near Devonport is an ideal way to fill in the end of the day before catching the ferry. The Arboretum was founded in 1984 with an original purchase of 47ha and is now 66ha with 4,800 tree species. The trees and shrubs are planted in groups according to their geographical origins, with a good collection of Tasmanian species and also Gondwanan descendant species related to Tasmanian flora while other temperate areas around the world are also represented. A lovely place to wander for a few hours.

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



Grove of Wollemi Pine



Magnificent Remnant Eucalyptus



Wetlands Area

Inverawe Native Gardens

This 9ha private garden near Margate (15 minutes from Hobart CBD) has literally thousands of colourful native plants in a garden setting. The owner's poetry are on signs here and there, plus interpretive signs, quirky sculptures and stunning views. You take a self-guided following a welcome by the enthusiastic owner.

<https://www.inverawe.com.au/>



Wildflowers abound



View over the bay



Red flowering eucalyptus

Avi-Fauna & Flora Garden and Bird Park

Established in 1981 this 1ha garden also in Margate has colour all year round. Spring bulbs, annuals, shrubs and trees, followed by roses, irises and perennials. Foliage and chrysanthemums in autumn. Fishponds, extensive aviaries, diverse bird life, conservatory with seasonal display including tuberous begonias add interest.

<https://bloomingtasmania.com.au/avi-fauna-flora-gardens/>.



The lily pond



Roses and pergola



Masses of Tuberous Begonia

There are many very fine municipal town parks with gorgeous mature trees, especially in Hobart and Launceston. Depending on the time of the year, there are many other gardens to visit with 'Blooming Tasmania' a good source

(<https://bloomingtasmania.com.au/>), as is the garden travel hub Tasmania guide (https://gardentravelhub.com/garden_guide/tasmania/) and TripAdvisor's Gardens in Tasmania guide (<https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Attractions-g255096-Activities-c57-t58-Tasmania.html>). Happy travels wherever you are going...

Braidwood's Horticultural Heritage – An autumnal amble through the town's tree-lined streets

As part of Canberra Tree Week, this walk will be led by Mary Appleby, a local expert on Braidwood's fauna and flora.

When: Friday 6 May from 9-11am

Where: Starting at the Ryrie Park rotunda, corner of Wallace and Wilson Streets, Braidwood

Cost: None for BGC members, \$5 for non-members

Registration: email to braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com

COMING EVENTS

June 9- Speaker-Tracey Bool,
Garden Writer

July 14- Truffle Farm Visit

August 11- AGM, Mona Farm

September 8- Araluen & Majors Creek Garden Visit

October 13- Cooma Rd Gardens

November 10- Southern

Highlands Garden Visit

December 8- Christmas Party Lunch

WHAT'S ON

APRIL 30- MAY 8 CANBERRA TREE WEEK Canberra Tree Week will be held to showcase the beautiful autumn colours of Canberra's trees and hopefully enjoy some warmer weather

APRIL 30, Saturday - MAY 1, Sunday **ROSES BY THE SEA**

The Rose Society of NSW invites your garden club to attend the Roses by the Seaside Australian National Rose Championships (2020-2021) & Conference, social activities, and lectures series to be held in the Kiama Pavilion. Thousands of Roses will be on display see the website for further information. The show will be open to the public on Saturday 30th April, 12pm – 5pm & Sunday May 1 9.30am – 4am. Location- The Pavilion Kiama, 2 Bong Bong St, Kiama. \$5 entry. For more information - rsnswsecretary@gmail.com or phone 0422 157 353
<http://nsw.rose.org.au/roses-by-the-seaside>

APRIL 30 – MAY 1- Open Gardens Canberra – 21 Downey St, Karabar NSW info@opengardenscanberra.org.au
opengardenscanberra.org.au

MAY 6, Friday BRAIDWOOD AUTUMNAL WALK (see notice above)

OCTOBER Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th

Bathurst Spring Spectacular - 10 Open Gardens. 9.30-5pm Live Music, Garden Stalls & Displays. 2 days-\$20
springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.au For more information phone Chris Bayliss- 0499 049 29



From 'The Garden Magazine'

RSL Spirit of Anzac Grevillea

Specially grafted for the Centenary of Anzac, the RSL Spirit of Anzac Grevillea was launched at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show 2015.

This grevillea has been selected as a symbol of 'home' and particularly significant as the only plant approved to include 'ANZAC' in the title.

https://www.aboutthegarden.com.au/100-years-of-anzac-garden-of-remembrance-creating-a-living-memory/?mc_cid=8a057615f8&mc_eid=969234e60f

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Virginia Creeper

- Native to Eastern North America
- Frost hardy climber
- Named from Greek "*Parthenos*" -virgin, and" *kissos*" - creeper
- Grows to 15m or more
- Handsome compound leaves with 5 leaflets
- Attractive green wall covering in summer, turning brilliant red in autumn
- Prefer filtered sunlight out of strong winds
- Propagate from cuttings in late winter or early spring
- Ideal for growing up trees

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