

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2022



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MARCH 10 - BUS TRIP TO CANBERRA GARDENS

WHERE: Canberra to enjoy 3 botanic wonders!

WHEN: March 10 Meet at Ryrie Park at 8.45 for 9am bus departure

COST: \$35.00

BRING: BYO Lunch, Chairs, Mug, Last names A-L bring some morning tea to share

WEAR: Name Tag, Good Walking Shoes

- Our first stop is Old Parliament House and its delightful Rose Gardens – very exciting for the rose lovers among us. We will split into two groups and enjoy (in turn) a guided tour and morning tea. An extensive guide to the gardens and roses is attached in PDF form for those interested.
- Departing at approximately 12.15 we will then head to the Australian National Botanic Gardens. We will be met by several volunteers who will guide us leisurely through the gardens in small groups with the guides ready to answer any questions we may have. The Garden maintains a scientific collection of native plants from all over Australia & at a recent visit showed a really beautiful setting which definitely won't disappoint! We will regroup for lunch (BYO) and a cuppa at approximately 1.30pm in the Decrou pavilion (toilets available).
- Our final destination for the day is the Arboretum. We will enjoy a guided bus tour of the loop road, a walk to the lookout (not compulsory) and a self-guided tour of the Bonsai gardens.
Departing Canberra at 4pm to arrive back in Braidwood around 5.30pm.

BOOKING: The booking sheet is available at Bendigo Community Bank or you can book via direct transfer (BSB: 633 000 account number 118 346 444) & put 'Bus Trip' in the reference section. Cost - \$35

Bookings Close Friday March 4

Welcome To New Members
Mary Appleby, Bronwyn Crosby, Naomi Royds

Report of the Meeting held on February 10



Around 40 members and guests were lucky enough to meet and to listen to Stuart Read, co-chair of the Australian Garden History Society speak at the Braidwood Servicemens Club.

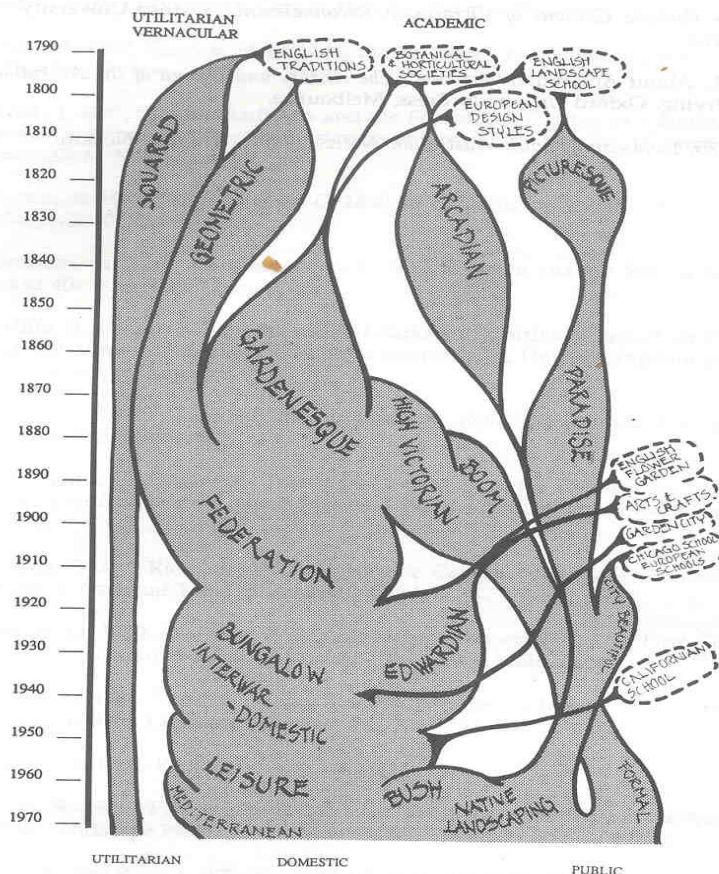
The garden club was very fortunate to have someone of the calibre of Stuart come and speak to us. Not only is he extremely knowledgeable and informative, but his style of presenting is very engaging as he drew you into the different ages and influences of those times.

His topic - *A history of garden design using Australian native plants* - was vast. It was essentially a canter through the history of Australian gardening from the first white settlers up until the current day and the different fashions in gardening. His talk was illustrated by a presentation comprising 108 different slides, with the full presentation available on the Garden Club website.

It is difficult to summarize such an extensive talk, but the slide on the next page illustrates the differing styles and fashions over the

eras which talked about often with natives used in association with exotics.

APPENDIX 1: A GARDEN STYLE CHART



We should not forget that on the discovery of Australia, the known world was amazed at how different flora and fauna was here and literally saw our plants as wonders. There have been many collectors of Australian natives all over the world since then and still today.

Some of the repeating themes here has been to use specimen trees as 'markers' for properties and landmarks, with crazes using Norfolk Island, Bunya and other native pines, also native trees in avenues since the beginning, in war memorials in country towns and in more formal driveways like Elisabeth Murdoch /Edna Walling drive at Cruden Farm.

Then there were all the influential designers who made great use of natives: nineteenth century designer like Ferdinand von Mueller, Charles Moore, William Guilfoyle and Joseph Maiden (who were formative directors of either the Sydney or Melbourne botanical gardens); early to mid-twentieth century designers such as Edna Walling, Walter Burley and Marion Griffin, Max Shelley, Jocelyn Brown and Paul Sorensen; late twentieth century ones like Kath Carr, Jean Walker, Betty Maloney and Bruce McKenzie to name but some of the bigger names. Stuart touched on all their contributions. This is just scratching the surface of his presentation

Stuart's day job is with Heritage NSW and he is passionate about trees. When asked during questions about planting trees in Braidwood, particularly in Wallace St, he was not opposed in principle on heritage grounds and understood the benefits of trees in cooling the streetscape. He encouraged those interested to start a process and look first at what trees were planted in Braidwood during its formative period and referred to the now old publication [Street Tree Guidelines for Conservation and Management](#) which contains a timeline of the type of trees that were typically planted in what era. We are all very grateful to Stuart for sharing some of his encyclopaedic knowledge and are very grateful to him for coming to Braidwood.

If you are interested in learning more about the Australian Garden History Society, please go to:

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



Part of the audience during the introductions

Thanks to members M-Z who brought a plate of something to share



Stuart was given a hamper of local food and wine as a token of our appreciation

SUMMARY OF THE HAIKU ENTRIES – Part 4 of the Christmas Quiz

At the Christmas Party lunch last December, there were 8 tables of 8 people and for the last competition of the day, these groups were required to compose a Haiku which is a short 3 line poem following the style of the Japanese Haiku. The lines do not rhyme but the first line has 5 syllables, the second line 7 syllables and the third line 5 syllables.

A typical haiku is about a fleeting moment, particularly involving nature with a way of looking at the physical world and seeing something deeper. It should leave the reader with a strong feeling or impression.

The haiku theme for 2021 was GREEN and each group's haiku must contain the word 'green'.

These are the entries—

The Happy Hour Group--- The Far Green Valley, Tall Trees In Red Flower, Birds Feeding In Glee
Summerfield Plus 3 Group--- Monotonous Rain, Never Have Our Gardens Seen, Such Cheeky Green Weeds
Sparkle Arkle Group—How Green Is Braidwood, Like Ireland Only Greener, A Velvet Vista
Bell Ringers Table Group-- Green All Around Us, Painting A Glorious Scene, The Fires Long Gone
Ikebana Group-- How Green Is My Field, Over Jillamatong Hill, In The Twilight Rain
Prosecco Group-- Continual Rain, Brings On A Green Landscape, But Most Will Be Weeds
Angels Group—Rain Has Left Vast Mess, Tall Green Grass Waving So High, Sloshing Stinking Mud
Wallings Women-- Green Insect Shimmers, Eye Height Lacquered Loveliness, Hovers In Dune Breeze

The Quiz winners were the Ikebana Group followed by the 3 tables with the same score, the Angels, Prosecco and Wallings Women. Well done everyone and again a huge thankyou to Rose De Martin and Bronwyn Johnson for the huge amount of research and composition of questions. It is always challenging and informative.

Volunteers Wanted

The Braidwood Servicemens Club is looking for some volunteers to help weed the club's gardens, as the current volunteer is struggling to keep up. If you are interested, please contact Michele on (02) 4842 2108.

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

COMING EVENTS

April 14- Reidsdale & Majors
Creek Gardens Visit

May 12- South Coast Gardens

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- Coome Rd Gardens

November 10- Southern
Highlands Garden Visit

December 8- Christmas Party
Lunch

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BRAIDWOOD SHOW

Barring changes in Covid restrictions, the 2022 Braidwood Show will be held on Saturday 5 March 2022.

The Garden Club will again be sponsoring some of the classes, namely:

Section I - Vegetables

Champion Vegetable Exhibit: \$50

Section N – Flowers

Grand Champion Exhibit Section N: \$50

Section O – Potted Plants

Best Exhibit Youth Section O: \$20

Grand Champion Exhibit Section O: \$50

The Show Society is still finalizing the details of the program and once completed, it will be uploaded to:

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

WHAT'S ON

FEBRUARY 25-27 , 2022 Friday – Sunday- Canberra Show

MARCH 4th -6th , 2022 Saturday & Sunday - Goulburn Show

MARCH 6th Sunday Tarago Show

MARCH 8th Tuesday 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'.

MARCH 5th, 2022 Saturday - Braidwood Show

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. On May 6 the Braidwood Tree Walk will start at Ryrie Park rotunda, corner of Wallace and Wilson Streets at 9am finishing at 11am. Join us for a stroll around the streets of Braidwood to discover the many fine trees that contribute to the town's heritage status.

The walk will be led by Mary Appleby, a local expert on Braidwood's fauna and flora.

Booking is essential to manage numbers to Covid-19 limits at the time.

RSVP braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com

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>

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AUSTRALIAN NATIVE BEES by Chris James

Without native bees pollinating our fruit trees and crops we would all be in a lot of trouble. Their numbers have declined rapidly with the use of insecticides so we need to support them, and one way of doing this is planting native bee friendly plants in our gardens.

The 10 favourite flowers of our indispensable native bees are as follows.

Buddleja – Butterfly bush

A wide range of native bees and butterfly's feed on this plant. Leafcutter bees will cut discs from the soft leaves for nesting material, Reed bees will nest in the pithy canes of the Buddleja.

Callistemon – Bottle brush

This bush is attractive to a wide range of native bees.

Bonus is the honey eaters are attracted as well.

Daisies – many varieties

The shallow flowers of daisies provide readily accessible nectar and pollen. Both native species *Brachyscome* and the everlasting daisy and the exotic species African daisy – *Osteospermum* and *Erigeron* – seaside daisy are popular with native bees.

Gum trees

The prolific flowers produced by these trees are highly attractive to a wide range of native bees.

Grevillea – spider flower

Grevilleas are long flowering shrubs that produce large amounts of nectar. They attract a wide range of native bees as well as nectar feeding birds.

Lavender

The purple spikes of the lavender are particularly attractive to blue banded bees, other herbs in this family such as Basil, thyme, lemon balm and mint are also popular with native bees.

Tea Tree – leptospermum

Native bees and many other pollinators will flock to the cup shaped flowers of tea trees.

Honey Myrtle – Melaleuca

The abundant brush like flowers attract numerous native bees as well as birds.

Native Rosemary – Westringia

These hardy shrubs flower almost year round and are very attractive to blue banded bees and teddy bear bees.

Abelia

This shrub produces masses of bell shaped flowers that are adored by Blue Banded Bees, Teddy Bear Bees and Carpenter Bees. Flowering about December it provides nectar and pollen after many wild flowers have finished flowering.

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



**Caryopteris x
clandonensis
(Blue Spirea)**

- Native to eastern Asia. A genus from the Verbena family
- Small deciduous shrub to 1.5m
- Flowering in late summer
- Deep blue to violet blue flowers in dense cymes
- Prefers sun in well drained enriched soil
- Leaves are downy and serrated
- Fully frost hardy
- Propagate from soft tip or firm leafy cuttings in spring to autumn
- Good cultivars – “Arthur Simmonds”, “Heavenly Blue”, “Blue Mist”
- Prune moderately in late winter or early spring to promote new growth

What to do in the garden for March

- Prepare areas for spring bulbs
- Continue tying Dahlias
- Dead head annuals and perennials as flowers fade
- Overgrown perennials can be divided
- Sow sweet Peas
- Plant or move evergreen shrubs now before cooler weather
- Feed roses for good autumn blooms
- Prune Jasmines and late flowering Clematis
- Remove dead wood from deciduous shrubs and Roses
- Plant Asian Greens, Broccoli, Cabbage & Cauliflower
- Remove finished vegetable crops and compost
- Pick up any fallen fruit & dispose of if diseased