

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

**President:** John Tuckwell 0408 625 156 **Vice President:** Rosemary De Martin 0439 412 134  
**Secretary:** Jane Moore 4842 1494 **Treasurer:** Amanda Scott 0419 111 709  
**Newsletter Editor:** Margy Gardner 0412 616 352 **Website:** <https://braidwoodgardenclub.org>



### **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Party Lunch**

**From 11.30am until around 3.00pm (prizes presented from 2.30pm) at the Braidwood Servicemen's Club. A delicious 'all you can eat' buffet lunch provided by Vanilla @ Altenburg from 12.30pm**

#### **Mains**

Anise and ginger glazed double smoked ham  
Pirri Pirri roasted chicken with chipotle dressing  
Condiments to Match  
4 different delicious Vanessa salads  
(to be advised as the market is unpredictable due to floods)

#### **Desserts**

Buffet of Vanessa delectable desserts  
Drinks purchased from the bar at own cost

***The ever popular and mind extending garden related quizzes***

***Lucky door prize***

***Extra Special Christmas raffle***

***Christmas decoration competition***

Must be home-made and from compostable materials, otherwise your imagination is the only limitation

#### ***Plant swap table***

Good opportunity to share the plants we know do well in our climate.  
please bring a plant (or several plants) for the plant swap.  
A gold coin donation is all it takes to select a plant or two to take home on the day.

**Charge: \$35 per head** (actual cost is \$50, with the lunch subsidised)  
\$55 for non-members.

#### **Bookings by close of business on Wednesday 30 November please**

(Vanilla Catering needs numbers one week before the event).

The booking sheet is available at Bendigo Bank or you can book via direct transfer (BSB: 633 000 account number 118 346 444 & put 'Xmas Party' and names of those attending in the reference section).

If you need more information, please email [braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com) or phone John Tuckwell on 0408 625 156.

### **Report of the Bus Trip to Southern Highlands - Thursday 10th November**



25 excited members left Braidwood at 8.30am for a bus trip to the Southern Highlands and they were not disappointed.

Our first stop was Leighton Gardens Park, Moss Vale, where most just enjoyed the good weather and soaked up the ambience of this lovely colourful park in the gentle shade of trees, in the bandstand or on park on benches while a few managed to slip in a bit of shopping across the road or found a good coffee.





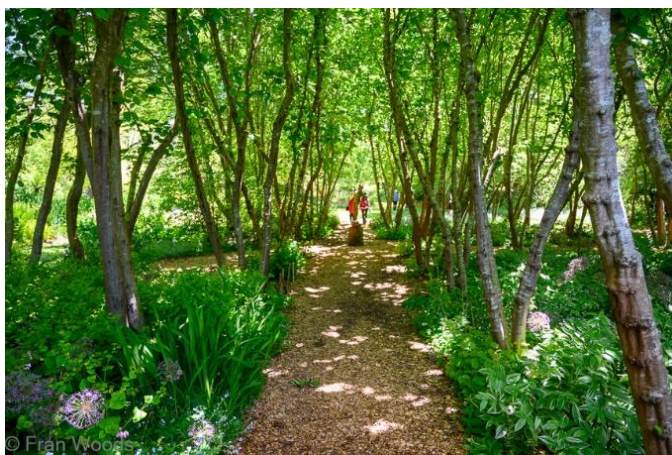
- 1 Courtyard
- 2 Walled Garden
- 3 Cottage Garden
- 4 Camellia Walk
- 5 Curved Pergola
- 6 Apollo Walk
- 7 Abbess's Garden
- 8 Beech Walk
- 9 Hazelnut Walk
- 10 Bog Garden
- 11 Lake
- 12 Vegetable Garden
- 13 Monastery Garden
- 14 Orchard
- 15 Crabapple Walk
- 16 Shrub / Flower walk
- 17 Circular Drive
- 18 Rhododendron Drive
- 19 Woodland
- 20 Bridge Island
- 21 Nursery
- 22 xx
- 23 xx



The next stop was Red Cow Farm at Sutton Forest, where first time visitors were simply blown away by this outstanding and delightful garden. It is described as a garden for all seasons, but it was possibly looking its best when we visited. Red Cow Farm is a cool climate garden set on 2.5 hectares developed by its owners Ali Mentesh and Wayne Morrissey around their historic 1820's cottage. The garden features 20 rooms with an exuberant cottage garden, monastery garden, abbess's garden, a stunning collection of rare and unusual perennials, woodland, old fashioned roses and clematis, a beech walk, lake, bog garden, orchard and kitchen garden. The list goes on... When one of the gardeners was asked what is the secret of the success of the gardens, he replied it was heavy mulching during the winter to both

suppress weeds and feed the soil.

There is also a nursery and gift shop, where many plants were bought by members.



We then went on to the Southern Highlands Botanical Gardens at Bowral, where we had a wonderful welcome. The visit was kindly arranged by one of our relocated members, Jennie Marston, and we benefited by a most informative talk by Charlotte Webb OAM, founding member of the Gardens, CEO and Chair of the Board.

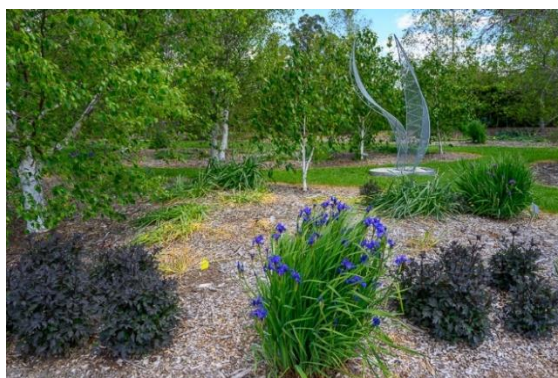
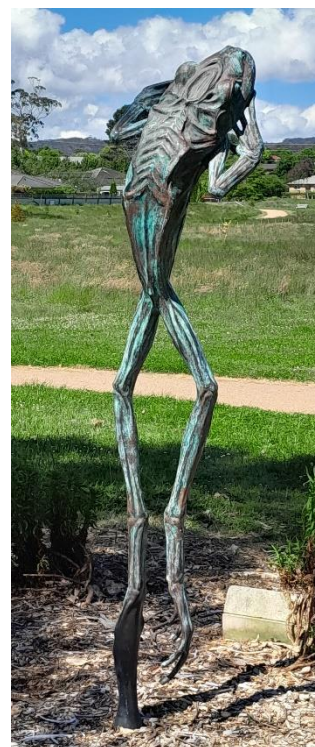
She explained the history of the botanical gardens, with the idea to form it dating back to 1998, but it was not until 2009 that the current 13 ha site in East Bowral was selected, and with some doubts expressed by the local Council they quickly moved to get the then NSW Governor to officially open the gardens in 2010 and planted a Bunyip tree. There then followed the necessary design, planning, fundraising and development of the gardens themselves. It is community funded and operated botanical gardens relying on volunteers. The design has areas of mix plantings and areas reserved only for endemic plants re-establishing the endangered shale woodland community. In the middle of the site is a lake and wetlands reserved for protecting the migratory Latham's Snipe.

It is still a long way from being fully developed, but already has the Foundations Walk completed and has four plant collections on the national register: Betula (Birch), Buxus (Boxwood), Dwarf Cornus (Dogwood), and Narcissus (Tony



Davis Daffodils). They have big plans for the future, notably an education centre which they have obtained a grant to construct, with Jennie Marston the coordinator of that element.

After a brief wander around the gardens, members took full advantage of the well-stocked nursery, with the bottom of the bus full of plants by the end.



Some very satisfied gardeners returned to Braidwood around 5pm. Thanks to Rhonda for driving the bus so well and for Charmian for organising such an excellent trip.

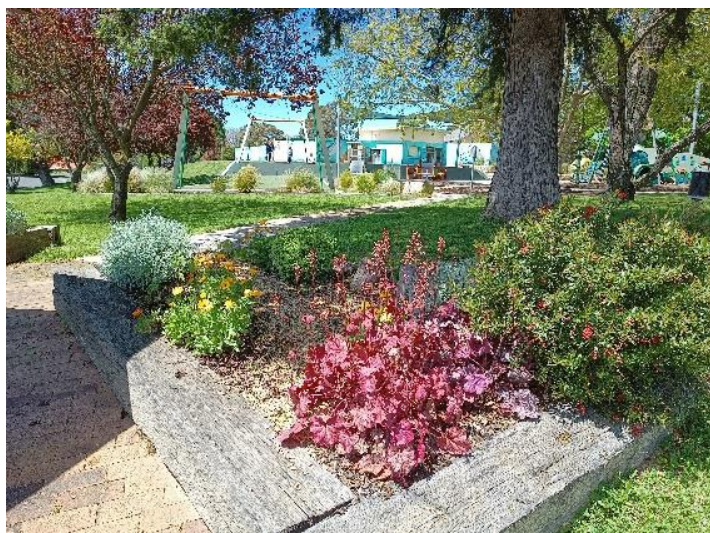
Many more photos at: <https://braidwoodgardenclub.org/photo-gallery/>

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### **Sensory Garden Minor Makeover**

A big thank you to Phillip and Cathie Owen for supplying some bamboo canes and to Helen Small for offering after last month's call out. These now provide a new support for the pencil pines, with the intention that they will grow into a tipi shape for children to hide and rest in. Some sunflower, nasturtiums and rainbow beetroot seedlings have also been planted to add colour and taste.

Go and visit when you are next in Ryrie Park North.





## **GARDENS BY THE BAY**    by Jane Moore

Gardens by the Bay are over 100 hectares of gardens built on reclaimed land in Singapore. I have visited twice, and would happily go again as there is so much to see. There are themed gardens to walk through encompassing plants from many regions. We arrived by underground train and walked over the bridge spanning a large water feature.



Then we walked through the gardens to the Cloud Forest. This is a dome which houses plants that would live on sides of tropical mountains in the cloud zone. The entrance has a waterfall falling from the top of the structure; you then walk into the orchid garden.



From the orchid garden you wander uphill looking at all the marvellous plantings as you go, then the path starts to wander back down again. Ultimately you end up in a movie theatre which has on a loop the disaster to the earth if we don't do something about global warming,



From the cloud forest we went to the flower dome. The themes in the flower dome are changed regularly; when we went this time the theme was hydrangeas.





The flower dome also had a Dutch theme.



The Sky Walk, with the Singapore casino in the background



View towards Gardens by the Bay from our hotel room

## **GARDEN CLUB COMING EVENTS**

**December 8-** Christmas Party Lunch

**February 9, 2023-** Speaker

**March 9, 2023-** Mongarlowe Gardens Visit

**April 13, 2023-** Bus Trip to Tilba Tilba

## **WHAT'S ON**

**NOVEMBER** Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 9am-5pm and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 9am – 5pm

**Yellow House Perennials Nursery and Garden** - For more information phone 02 4421 8681 or 0417 433 357 <https://www.myopengarden.com.au/openGarden.jsp?id=1497>

**CANBERRA SHOW** February 24-26, 2023

**BRAIDWOOD SHOW** March 4, 2023

**TARAGO SHOW** March 5, 2023

**GOULBURN SHOW** March 4 & 5, 2023

## **'ABOUT THE GARDEN' Online Magazine**

Each month I have delivered to my inbox this online magazine and though it has plants suggested for all regions, I find it interesting to hear of the latest plant releases, garden tips and advice for Australian gardeners. The hard copy is available as a subscription for \$19 a year but for those of us who resist purchases, it makes interesting reading each month if you subscribe to the free email delivery. Have a look! <https://www.aboutthegarden.com.au>

## THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



**Spirea  
cantoniensis**  
“Reeve’s Spirea”

- Native to China
- Deciduous or semi-evergreen shrub to 1.8m
- Has arching hairless weeping branches
- White flowers borne in clusters in summer
- “Flore Pleno” has double flowers
- Very frost hardy
- Thrive in most soils in a sunny position
- Prune and thin after flowering to promote a good shape
- Propagate from soft tip or half hardened cuttings in summer

### What to do in the garden for December

- Plant summer and autumn annuals
- Remove weeds and top up mulch
- Watch for sucker growth from below the graft on roses and remove
- Dianthus can be layered or cuttings taken
- Finish pruning spring flowering shrubs
- Deadhead annuals and perennials to promote more flowers
- Take cuttings of Daphne, Grevilleas and Buxus
- Remove whippy growth from Wisterias
- Twist off finished Rhododendron flowers & spray for lace bugs
- Divide Bearded Iris if congested, plant new outside growth and discard old rhizomes
- Continue to make sowings of vegetables
- Prune stone fruits and thin fruit if too heavy
- Watch for Pear and Cherry slug - spray with Success or Dipel