

# **BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER March 2023**



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## **APRIL MEETING – Thursday 13th BUS TRIP TO TILBA**

Our April meeting will be a lovely bus trip to Tilba, situated on the Eurobodalla South Coast. We will travel by bus to Foxglove and Co. Gardens in Central Tilba. On arrival we shall enjoy morning tea (provided by those with surnames beginning with M-Z) and an introduction to the Garden by Lyn, the owner.

The Foxglove Garden sits on three and a half acres and has been featured on many major TV shows. It is also the subject of the book 'Velvet Pears'. This garden is a romantic, elegant garden in the English style and has been developed over many years, with water features, a garden ruin and willow House overlooking the duck pond. We will have a leisurely hour and a half to explore the garden before we head to the historic town of Tilba (via a quick stop at the local Nursery) for lunch and to explore the many quaint shops. There are many options to purchase lunch in the village or you can BYO.

Departing Tilba at approximately 2-15pm, we head off for The Post and Telegraph Boutique B&B and Garden in Moruya. This property is one of Moruya's heritage landmarks. The current owners, Mick and Sue took over the property in 2020 and have undertaken extensive renovations of the building and garden. There is new hard landscaping and planting to compliment the late Victorian building with a mix of native and exotics.

Departing Moruya at approximately 3.45pm, we expect to arrive back in Braidwood at 5-00pm.

**MEET: Ryrie Park at 8.15am for an 8.30am departure**

**MORNING TEA: Provided by those with surnames M-Z**

**COST:** The total cost for the bus trip and garden entry is \$40.00. Please pay at Braidwood Bendigo Bank or via Direct Deposit to Braidwood Garden Club,  
**BSB: 633-000 ACCT: 118346444.**

Please list **your name** and **"Tilba"** in the description.

**Booking deadline Thursday April 6.**

## **Report of Majors Creek Garden Visits - Thursday March 9** by Chris James

The Garden Club's first local gardens visit for 2023 was a wonderful success. We had great autumn weather, nice temperatures and no flies with 43 members and 6 hosts enjoying the day.







The first stop was to Gay and Peter Schrieber's garden. It is a fairly young garden, established during the drought, and then they had to contend with excessive rainfall. They have created a lovely restful area on the northern side of the house with a mixture of native and exotic plants and quite a few quirky bits of garden art. The back lawn is extensive, leading down to a small watercourse and across to the rear of the property which is protected by neighbouring mature trees. The vegetable garden is situated on the eastern side of the house and is well sheltered.

Everyone enjoyed this garden and remarked how peaceful it was, making it a wonderful morning tea spot.

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We then visited Marjorie and Randall Lemin's garden. The club visited here some years ago and those that had been before were all amazed how the garden had grown and developed into a very peaceful haven. They have a wonderful pergola covered in wisteria that just begs you to walk under it providing some really deep shade and it must be great on a hot day. They have raised garden beds full of vegies and well set out hedges that give privacy and wind protection to the garden. The rock walls and paths frame the garden well. The dry creek at the bottom of the garden leads into a pond with water plants and it has a path beside it and seating to enjoy the view. Everyone enjoyed this garden and seemed reluctant to move on!







We then visited Tim and Janie Lenehan's garden at Nithsdale. This garden was a completely different garden. Some of the pine trees date back to when the house was built in 1839 and there are many deciduous trees that were planted in the 1950's and 60's. Tim has continued planting deciduous trees to act as a fire break near the house and this garden is more parklike, with large areas under lawn.

We had a very pleasant lunch spot under the biggest magnolia any of us ever seen. Tim gave us a run-down of the history of Nithsdale and a tour of what was once the jail, now converted to a residence.

All in all we had a very pleasant day.



### Lady Hudson Rose Gardens, Khancoban.



Lady Eileen Hudson made an enormous contribution to the Snowy Scheme during its construction. Along with her husband Sir William Hudson, the first Commissioner of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority, Eileen worked tirelessly to promote the Scheme and give the public an understanding of its progress. In 1959 she was awarded an OBE in recognition of her commitment as an ambassador for the Snowy Scheme. She hosted many Australian and overseas visitors at her home in Cooma and at other locations. Lady Eileen, who cut the ribbon to formally open the Guthega tunnel in 1954, was a huge support and ally for her husband, who was responsible for coordinating the construction of the biggest civil engineering project ever undertaken in Australia.



Lady Hudson was also an independent, strong woman with a deep love for gardens and gardening. When touring the Scheme in the early days, she would always bring her gardening gloves and tools to tidy up around the work sites. Later she helped establish the Lady Hudson Rose Garden in Khancoban.



Snowy Hydro has named a tunnel boring machine (TBM) for the Snowy 2.0 project, after her as she was an important Snowy Scheme ambassador. (Did you know? There is a convention for tunnel boring machines to be given female names, a tradition stemming from the 1600s, when miners working underground prayed to Saint Barbara for protection. TBMs must be named before they are launched. )

The garden is situated near the Olympic pool and shopping centre at Khancoban. Easily missed as the road between Jindabyne and Corryong by-passes these.

It's not a big garden but is very peaceful with wonderful views out to the mountains behind Khancoban. Opened in April 1990 on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Khancoban garden club, these gardens are well worth a visit if you are travelling that way.



The garden is set out formally and is well maintained with easy access for everyone. The roses are wonderful in full bloom, surrounded by plenty of well-manicured lawns, and there is a welcoming pergola for a picnic.

(NOTE Lady Eileen and William Hudson once hosted the Royal Family at their home for dinner and served lamb chops, followed by tinned peaches and ice cream!)

### **INFORMATION ON SOIL WETTING AGENTS**

As our soils are often hydrophobic, I have been looking for information on the types and actions of wetting agents and came across this article online giving some clear descriptions of these products. Though the article is written for Western Australian conditions, I found it interesting so thought you might too. There are some other useful articles to access so check out Garden Deva.

<https://gardendeva.com.au/article/dirt-wetting-agents>

### **WHAT'S ON**

**APRIL Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Southern Highlands Open Garden And Plant Fair, 9-4pm

5 privately owned gardens open their gates to visitors in support of the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens. A map and garden locations available at each Open Garden and the Plant Fair.

*Individual open garden addresses will be available after 1 April 2023*

Plant Fair, 1 Old South Rd Bowral NSW 2576

<https://shbg.com.au/open-gardens-plant-fair/>

**OCTOBER Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> -Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Visit beautiful Bundanoon on Ramble weekend**

Wander through eight gorgeous gardens, Browse the plant and gift stalls, Explore all Bundanoon has to offer. <https://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au>

**OCTOBER Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> -Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>**

Bathurst Gardeners Club Spring Spectacular 9-5pm [springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.au](mailto:springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.au)

Contact:Terri Crumpler 0423 709 484

# THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



**Hibiscus  
syriacus**  
(Rose of Sharon)

- Native to temperate Asia
- Deciduous shrub, evergreen in warmer climates
- Grows to 3.5m with spread to 1.8m
- Flowers freely all summer in white, pink, mauve & blue
- Leaves are small and hairless
- Prefers full sun in any well drained soil
- Flowers from summer to autumn
- Propagate in spring from seed or cuttings
- Prune to shape in the first two years of growth

## What to do in the garden for April

- Trim evergreen shrubs so they recover before winter
- Choose trees for autumn colour
- Good time to plant or move Camellias, Rhodo's & Azaleas
- Look for Lilium, Hippeastrum & Sprekelia Bulbs
- Complete planting of spring bulbs
- Tidy leaves of Hellebores, Winter Iris & Aquilegias
- Sow Asian Greens, Broad Beans & Peas
- Plant all Brassicas (cover with fine netting against white butterflies, old lace curtains ideal!)
- Remove all old leaves from Strawberries (put in garbage)
- Remove 3 year old Strawberries & replace with new stock
- Repot herbs and pot plants with new potting mix
- Pick up any fallen fruit & dispose of if diseased