

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

## JULY 2023

**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>



### **AGM, Lunch and Speaker at Mona Farm** **THURSDAY 10 AUGUST**

Our AGM is always a highlight of the year, and we hope you are able to come, enjoy lunch at Mona Farm and then enjoy a talk by Jackie Warburton, a renowned Canberra horticulturist, presenter and speaker, who will enlighten us on that pressing dilemma of '*Adapting your garden in times of extreme weather*'.

There will be an opportunity to walk through Mona Farm's gorgeous gardens from 10.15 and see how they have developed in the past year. Tea or coffee will be available from 11.00. The AGM will start at 11.30 and will include the normal reports and election of the 2023-24 committee.

Following the AGM there will be a delicious sit-down buffet style lunch served in The Woolshed and prepared by Mona's Executive Chef Tristan Rebbettes, comprising main meal, sides and petit fours, coffee tea and non-alcoholic beverage (alcoholic beverages can be purchased from the bar).

#### **Menu**

##### **Main**

Mona Farm's Lamb slowly cooked over local timbers

##### **Sides**

Roasted sweet potato, crispy paprika chickpeas, rocket, tomato and sesame dressing (gf, df)

Carrot, fennel, cumin and parsley (gf, df)

Roasted chat potatoes, garlic and rosemary (gf, df)

Mona Farm's Garden Salad offerings with Green Goddess dressing, croutons, anchovies and comte (gf)

##### **Condiments**

Beetroot, chickpea, tahini Chilli, walnut and capsicum Yoghurt, dill and cucumber Dojo Bakery Mixed Grain Rolls and Salted Butter

##### **Afters**

Tea & Coffee served with Petit Four, Paris Brest choux au craquelin (contains tree nuts)

(gf - gluten free; df - dairy free)

If you have any special dietary requirements, please email [braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com) and we will see if they can be accommodated.

Alcoholic beverages can be purchased on a consumption basis from the bar, purchased by card only.

There will also be a special AGM cash raffle.

#### **Bookings**

Bookings for the AGM and lunch are open at Bendigo Bank, although online payment to the bank is preferred (BSB: 633 000 Account number 118 346 444 and add 'AGM' in the reference). The cost is \$40 for members (at a Garden Club subsidised cost) and \$60 for non-member guests.

The final day for bookings is **Thursday 3 August**.

Members who have not booked for lunch can still attend the AGM, but need to email [braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:braidwoodgardenclub@gmail.com) by 7 August to indicate you want to attend the AGM part of proceedings so arrangements can be made.

#### **Membership Renewal**

As usual, the Annual Membership payment is due. The Committee has decided to leave the rate at \$20 per person, having been unchanged for 7 years, with an extra \$16 if you want the newsletter printed and posted to you (actual cost ~\$20).

Again, online payment is strongly preferred (BSB: 633 000 Account number 118 346 444 and add 'Membership' in the reference or 'AGM and Membership' if both the AGM and membership are paid together), or you can pay at Bendigo Bank, or at the AGM in cash. There is no need to complete a new application form unless your contact details have changed.

### **Directions**

Entry to Mona Farm is via 140 Little River Road. As you approach you will see the pink Coach House building. Please note, there are two gates and the main entrance is via the first.

There is an intercom at the gate which you can press on your arrival and the Mona Farm team will let you in.

Please drive through the property and before you reach the small bridge on the lake you will find a car park. For those who have difficulties walking, there will be a golf buggy to transfer you to the Woolshed.

### **Guest Speaker - Jackie Warburton**

Horticulturist and gardening columnist Jackie Warburton is a member of many garden clubs in Canberra and gives talks and presentations to regional garden clubs as well.

Jackie with her husband Bret run "Terra Solarus" and together have built a strong reputation as the "go to" team for everything horticulture; working on some of Canberra's most beautiful gardens and showcasing their own amazing gardens over the years.

Jackie is a registered horticulturist with 18 years' experience in the industry and several notable titles and memberships, including:

- City News Garden columnist since 2021
- Garden lecturer and presenter
- ABC 666 Radio Guest Garden presenter (from 2020)
- Member Australian Institute of Horticulture since 2015
- National Councillor since 2018
- ACT and SE Regional Convener for Australian Institute Horticulture since 2017
- Australian Institute Landscape Designers and Managers since 2020
- Diploma of Design (University of Canberra, 2018)
- President Cactus and Succulent Society of ACT 2012- 2018
- Member Organic Growers Society Canberra
- Member of Friends of ACT Trees
- Member Featherston Gardens in Weston, ACT
- Committee member for Open Gardens Australia 2011-2015
- Member of the Horticultural Media Association

Jackie has also spoken at our 2016 AGM on the topic of 'Growing Succulents'.



### **Braidwood Garden Club Annual General Meeting Notice**

**When:** 11.30 on Thursday 10 August 2023

**Where:** Mona Farm Woolshed, entering through the gates at 140 Little River Road.

**Agenda:**

- 1) to confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting
- 2) to receive the President's report on the activities of the club during 2022-23
- 3) to receive and consider the financial statement for 2022-23.
- 4) to elect office-bearers of the club and ordinary committee members

There is no other business proposed to be transacted at the AGM.

In accordance with the Braidwood Garden Club's constitution, any financial member who wants to serve on the 2023-24 Committee are invited to complete the nomination form [here](#) (copies also available from the Secretary – call Jane Moore on 0407 150 409 to arrange). This needs to be signed by 2 members of the club and submitted by Thursday 3 August.

Please note that the current President and Vice-President are looking to stand down from their roles. All other members of the 2022-23 committee have indicated their willingness to serve again in the same role.

### WANTED

An individual to lead a motivated, experienced, competent and skilled team of volunteers.

Not an onerous role – chair a monthly committee meeting and enjoy lunch afterwards; be the host of the monthly meeting of members; guide, encourage and support the volunteers; and listen to the needs of the membership of a joyful and vibrant club.

Option available for one year's training in the role as Deputy, before coming team leader.

Anyone interested and would like further information please contact John Tuckwell on 0408 625 156.

## Report on the Talk by Georgeanna Story, July 13.

by Jane Moore

On Thursday a group of members, two new members and a returning member met at the Braidwood Serviceman's Club. After morning tea and a chat, we sat down to listen to Georgeanna Story talk about attracting birds to your garden. The talk was both extremely interesting and interactive, with Georgeanna welcoming questions and discussion throughout the talk. She has sent these information posters for those who are interested in attracting birds.

Following the talk we had a delicious lunch provided by members whose surnames begin A-I, and of course lots more conversation.

**These websites are a must for anyone interested in bird and animal life in our region.**

<https://ebird.org/australia/home>

<https://naturemapr.org>

<https://www.birdsinbackyards.net>

<https://nestboxtales.com>

<https://canberrabirds.org.au>





# Birds in Your Garden

## How to bring back the little ones...

Australia-wide, populations of many of our small bird species are declining. Once common birds such as finches, fairy-wrens, silvereyes and small honeyeaters, are becoming rare or, in some places, are no longer seen at all. There are many reasons for this, the biggest being the loss of places for them to live (habitat) and successfully raise their families.

The situation exists in both rural farmlands and in built-up urban areas; from big cities to rural townships. That means that we can all contribute towards saving our small birds irrespective of where we live or how big our gardens are. We just need to do things a little differently.

## Small changes for a big difference...

### Garden design and structure:

Simple open gardens provide little shelter or food for birds. We need to plant:

- dense shrubs close together so they form protective thickets.
- shrubs that provide a range of foods: nectar, seeds, fruit and habitat for insects.
- local plants that provide what the birds in our local areas need.
- below trees, creating a dense protective understory.
- less grass for mowing, but rather use native grasses that can seed and only need cutting occasionally.

We should:

- avoid using chemical sprays or applying chemical fertilizers.
- use lawn clippings and leaf litter on garden beds as mulch.

## Providing water:

Birds need fresh water, but they are vulnerable when they are drinking or bathing and need to feel safe.

We should:

- place birdbaths beyond the reach of cats, and in dappled shade.
- grow plants close to birdbaths so birds can perch and observe the area first.
- replace the water and clean the water container regularly.
- ask a neighbour to add water when we're away, so the birds don't lose their water supply.

## Provision of supplementary food:

It is much healthier for birds to glean natural food from our gardens than to be fed directly by people. However, many people really enjoy the contact they have with birds that they provide food for. If you want to provide extra food for birds make sure that:

- the feeding area is kept really clean.
- you don't feed meat-eating birds - encourage the small birds that are declining, not their predators.
- only provide good quality natural foods, e.g. finch seed rather than bread.

## Be a responsible pet owner:

Keep your cat inside or within an outside enclosure. This is safer for the cat as well as other wildlife.

- De-sexing prevents unwanted kittens.
- Deter other cats from entering your yard by spraying them with water.

To find out more about the birds in your area, creating gardens and habitat for birds at home, in school grounds or any open spaces, or undertaking bird surveys in your own garden or local area, see the Birds in Backyards website [www.birdsinbackyards.net](http://www.birdsinbackyards.net)

Photo credits: Wilson Leaman (Australian King Parrot Male), Ian Wilson (Olive-backed Cuckoo), Cam Borker (Eastern Kestrel, White-headed Cuckoo, Australian Kestrel, Common Myna, Grey Fantail, Willie Wagtail, Grey Backbird), Diana Holt (Grey-gang Cockatoo), Graham Carr (Grey-gang Cockatoo), Brian Fox (Laughing Kookaburra), Glenn Pave (Australian Magpie, Crested Rattle, Little Boobied Female, Common Starling, Ostrich, Shrike), Roger Williams (Olive-backed Oriole), Gary Kay (Superb Fairy), Lindsay Black (Magpie-lark), Superb Fairy-wren Male, Bill Harding (Little Boobied Male), Emma Silver (Red Whistled), Brian Smith (Eastern Kestrel), Jennifer Carr (Southern Boobied), William Bero (Black-bellied Cuckoo-shrike)

## Australia's voice for birds since 1901

BirdLife Australia is dedicated to achieving outstanding conservation results for our native birds and their habitats.

With our specialised knowledge and the commitment of an Australia-wide network of volunteers and supporters, we are creating a bright future for Australia's birds.

[birdlife.org.au](http://birdlife.org.au)

## Add your voice

join us

Enjoy the rewards of membership, making a real difference for our native birds.

volunteer

Contributing your time is one of the most effective ways to help.

donate

Help us create positive outcomes for birds and their habitats.

**BirdLife Australia**  
Suite 2-05, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3063  
T: 03 9347 0757 | [info@birdlife.org.au](mailto:info@birdlife.org.au)

Member of BirdLife International, the global network of bird conservation organisations  
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## **WHAT'S ON**

### **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

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## **THE PLANT OF THE MONTH**

**By Kate Chinnick**



**Leucojum**

**"Snowflake"**

- Bulb native to central Europe
- Blooms late in winter
- Grows to 45cm high
- Prefers a fertile moist soil in a sunny position or part shade
- Naturalises freely, making small clumps
- Frost hardy
- Flower heads are white, bell shaped and marked with a green spot
- Propagate from division in summer

#### **What to do in the garden for August**

- Prune and spray Roses later this month
- Plant new bare rooted Roses (soak in seaweed solution before planting)
- Plant summer and autumn flowering bulbs
- Winter flowering shrubs can be pruned now
- Prune and feed Daphne after flowering
- Prune Crepe Myrtle, which flowers on new wood
- Cut ornamental grass clumps to the ground
- Perennials may be divided as the weather warms up
- Prune Jasmines and summer flowering Clematis
- Prune Hydrangeas to two strong buds
- Spray Peaches and nectarines for leaf curl
- Plant Onion seedlings, Asparagus crowns & Spinach seedlings
- Check herbs for dividing and replanting
- Prepare vegetable beds for spring planting