

BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

August 2023

President:

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>



MEETING Thursday September 14

TULIP TOP Gardens Visit

WHEN: Meet at Ryrie Park at 9am for 9.15am to Car pool to Tulip Top, Sutton.

BRING: Morning Tea & Lunch.

COST: \$19 for garden entry

There is a garden café serving a range of hot & cold food options, free tea & instant coffee, and drinks.

Also, Tulip Top Gardens pancake parlour set at the base of the lookout in the gardens produces aromatic coffee and sensational Dutch pancakes with a range of toppings.

Wear good walking shoes & your name tag

'Spring at Tulip Top Gardens is a blissful haven that is a must see. Acres of stunning world class gardens framed by weeping willows, and 1000 blossoms, paints the scene for almost a million tulips, daffodils and other flowers creatively planted'.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

Please pay at Bendigo Bank – BSB-633 000 – Account Number 118 346 444 & add 'Membership' in the reference. \$20 / year plus \$16 for a printed & posted newsletter.

REPORT ON THE AGM-LUNCH & SPEAKER AT MONA FARM

Again we met at Mona Farm with 54 members present and some early bird members walking the gardens in windy and cold weather before gathering in the woolshed for our meeting. The formal proceedings commenced with the AGM and with President John Tuckwell giving his final report as he steps down from the position having been President since August 2018. The Committee acknowledges his organisational skills and the club owes him huge thanks for his leadership & dedication to the Garden Club. Amanda Scott, our Treasurer then presented her report, posted in full below in this newsletter.

Richard Jolley then took the chair for the election of a new committee. With the resignation of John Tuckwell as President and Chris James from the Publicity position, a nomination from Sunita Kotnala was accepted for the committee but no nomination was received for the position of president. Other positions were confirmed as below

Vice President - Rosemary De Martin

Secretary - Jane Moore

Treasurer - Amanda Scott

Newsletter Editor - Margy Gardner

Webmaster/Photographer - Fran Woods

Catering - Charmian Thomas

Raffle Coordinator - Leonie Jolley

Member - Bronwyn Johnson

Member - Sunita Kotnala

Following an appetising lunch, our speaker Jackie Warburton challenged us with the topic "Adapting your gardens in times of extreme weather".

She began.....Our gardens provide the physical, emotional and psychological wellbeing for us around our homes, so we must look at ways to build resilience in our gardens for now and into the future.

In comparison with Canberra, Braidwood has less rain in Winter and fortunately the rain falls throughout the year and the month with the most rain in Braidwood is February, and the least is August, and the wettest is November so that's the time for planting when the soil conditions are at its best.

The drier season is from March to October and the driest month is July so soil rejuvenation and work can be done at that time of the year to lessen the damage to the soil and its structure

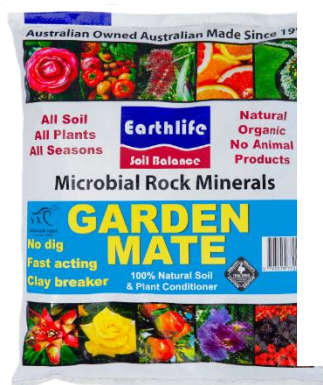
Some topics were-

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CLIMATE- The growing season in Braidwood typically lasts for 7 to 8 months from September to May, and planting to be done in October and November when the soils have warmed.

UNDERSTAND YOUR SITE, The Topography of Braidwood is at 667 m in elevation and within a few kilometres of Braidwood there are very significant variations in elevation, and a change of 260 metres with undulating hills and forests makes the surrounding site challenging.

UNDERSTAND YOUR SOIL, Your soil is your greatest asset, look after it. Nurture it and protect it. You have good soil; you have good plants

3 recommended additions for your soil.



Explanations of photosynthesis, C3, C4, and CAM plants extended our knowledge of plant biology and then Jackie was happy to take questions from the audience.

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Braidwood Garden Club

President's Report 2022-23

Programme of Meetings

We continue to follow our tried and tested mix of local garden visits with car-pooling, bus trips to gardens further afield and talks or workshops.

We ended last year with another wonderful and delicious lunch and AGM at Mona Farm enjoyed by 48 members, which was followed by a tour of Mona's gardens by their Head Gardener, Gavin Hardy, who gave a colourful description of the plants, and his future plans.

In September, we visited four delightful Araluen gardens with 34 members attending. First, was Greg and Margaret Stone's new garden which they started with just only one tree but is now magnificent. Sally Matthews was next and quite a contrast, with her house and garden dating back to the 1860's benefiting from some very old trees in her fine garden. Tracey Armstrong and Peter Sweedman showed us their large garden which has some quite tall trees, different pergolas and garden rooms, and some lovely natives. The final garden belonged to Lyn and Trevor Irving with stunning mountain views, and they have been busy extending the garden, adding more garden beds, trees and hedges. We finished the day with lunch at Araluen Campground, surrounded by majestic casuarinas.

For our October meeting, we were meant to visit 3 gardens off Cooma Road. Our thanks go to Teresa Lindwall at 'Tillarra', Harolds Cross, Karen Butler and Peter Treyde in Harts Road, Krawarree and Michael and Anna Robson at Warragandra Homestead, Jerrabattgulla for preparing their gardens for us to visit. Disappointingly, it was just too wet to get access to the gardens, so the visits had to be cancelled.

In November, 25 members went on a great bus trip to Southern Highlands. Our first stop was the colourful Leighton Gardens Park in Moss Vale for morning tea. Then we enjoyed Red Cow Farm Gardens at Sutton Forest, where first-time visitors were simply blown away by this truly outstanding and delightful garden; and finally, we visited the Southern Highlands Botanical Gardens at Bowral where we had a wonderful welcome.

Our Christmas party was held at the Braidwood Servicemens Club, with 40 members enjoying a delicious lunch provided by Vanilla Catering. There were lots to occupy us, with a Christmas decoration competition with many excellent entries, plant swap table, extra special Christmas raffle and lucky door prize, and of course the now world-famous garden quiz composed by Rosemary De Martin and Bronwyn Johnson who really excelled themselves with some great questions designed to make us think more about how we garden.

In February, Alex Rofe led a Terrarium and Kokedama Workshop, with 13 members participating, learning lots and having great fun.

For March, 49 members visited three gardens in the Majors Creek area on a great autumnal day. We started at Gay and Peter Schrieber's delightful young and peaceful garden. Then we went to Marjorie and Randall Lemin's garden again which is now well-established with so much to enjoy including a wonderful pergola covered in wisteria. We ended the day with a visit to Tim and Janie Lenehan's parklike garden at the historic 'Nithsdale' homestead, where it was all about the trees and stories of the history of the property.

In April, we had a bus trip to Tilba with 25 members enjoying a lovely day out, albeit a tad damp. The main attraction was the large rambling Foxglove and Co's garden, with the standout aspects being a spectacular Manchurian Pear arbour and its restful lake and folly. We then had lunch and some retail therapy in Central Tilba. On the way home we stopped at the Post and Telegraph Boutique B&B in Moruya, which has a delightful town garden, and our hosts could not have made us more welcome.

For May, 35 of us enjoyed visits to three Braidwood gardens. We started at John Maddrell's peaceful old garden at his historic 'Garran Vale' family property with its immaculate green lawns, rural views and the many large old trees. 'Longsight' was our second garden, which is a lovely 3-acre garden dating back to the 1850s, with Samara Zeitsch working hard to restore it. Our final visit was to the productive property of Laurie and Inge Camilleri, in a picturesque setting close to Mount Gillamatong. Laurie is a phenomenal vegetable grower, and everyone learnt a lot from this visit.

In June, 14 of us benefited from a very informative propagation talk given by Tracey Bool who took us through the various aspects of seed saving, division, cuttings and layering and inspired us to try more propagation.

For July, Georgeanna Story spoke to 15 members about attracting birds to your garden. The talk was both extremely interesting and interactive. Everyone went away better informed and even with a plant or two to attract more birds to their gardens.

Membership

Membership continues to be very strong and reached 126 by the end of the year, just 4 down on the record level set the previous year. The committee resolved to keep the membership rates unchanged at \$20 but increase the charge for the newsletter to be posted from \$13 to \$16 a year, as the costs are closer to \$20.

We have noticed though, that the number of members attending meetings is dropping, with the average numbers attending this year at just over 30 or under 24% of the membership, when last year it was 35.6 or 28% of the membership, and 3 years ago an average of 31% of members attended events. This makes it more difficult to manage events especially when there is a fixed charge, like a bus trip. In response the new committee may be making some changes to how we organise the activities.

Other activities

Our resident photographer, Fran Woods, has again printed Greeting Cards featuring her stunning photos of the gardens we have visited for members to purchase. Fran also continues to manage our website (www.braidwoodgardenclub.org). It is well worth a visit.

We were lucky enough to be donated \$1,100 from the Third Canberra Garden Club which has closed down. So far, your Committee has decided to spend \$500 of this on trees to be planted at the new Skatepark.

We also continue to look after the Sensory Gardens in Ryrie Park North near the playground.

Thanks

A number of thanks are in order. To Bendigo Bank staff, who do our banking and take our bookings. To Braidwood Buses, we thank you for getting us to and from our destinations safely. To the Braidwood Servicemen's Club and Michelle Griggs and her team for always having the meeting room ready for our events and Committee meetings and making us feel so welcome.

To Braidwood Rural for kindly providing Garden Club members a 10% discount on their garden lines and for agreeing to continue this in 2023-24. In turn they thank us for our custom.

Thanks also to Kate Chinnick for her ongoing contributions to our monthly newsletter, with her columns on “Plant of the Month” and “What to do in the Garden” each month, and for making our name badges.

The Garden Club is extremely lucky to have such a terrific committee of able and dedicated people who have continued to work as a true team and delivered the excellent programme outlined above, with every member contributing to the successful outcome.

I would like to thank each and every one on the committee individually, namely: Rosemary De Martin (Vice-President and Instagram Queen), Margy Gardner (our outstanding Newsletter Editor, who has been in this role now for 9 years), Chris James (our tremendous publicity officer), Bronwyn Johnson (general roustabout, awesome event and quiz organiser), Leonie Jolley (brilliant raffle organiser), Jane Moore (our amazing Secretary), Amanda Scott (our ever reliable Treasurer), Charmian Thomas (catering officer extraordinaire) and Fran Woods (magical web manager and photographer). Thank you all.

Moving on

I have decided to step down as President after 5 years in this role. It has been a blast, but it is time for a change. I feel honoured to be able to build on the great work my predecessor, Sue Murray, and continue to develop and grow the Club.

I am very proud of what the Braidwood Garden Club team has achieved during this time, in addition to organising an awesome program of meetings. Some examples include: trying to save roses from the old Braidwood Hospital by taking cuttings, including engaging students from Braidwood Central School in repotting the cuttings and building linkages with the youth; providing tulips and other plants dug up from Floriade to the Hospital Auxiliary Fete; working with Braidwood Urban Landcare Group to improve Braidwood Common, including planting Braidwood Brilliant Waratahs to mark our 40th anniversary; donating plants and cuttings to individuals in various locations affected by the bushfires; establishing and maintaining the sensory garden in Ryrie Park north; and participating in Canberra Tree Week, with tree walks in Braidwood. These led to us being awarded the Garden Clubs of Australia prestigious Eleanor McLeod Award for “Outstanding Service by an Affiliated Club to their local Community” in late 2021. This was both surprising and humbling.

But what I am happiest about is that we provide a forum where likeminded people can get together, have a good time and catch-up. The Garden Club is simply joyful – I like to describe it as the happiest club in Braidwood – and I intend to continue to be an active member.

Rose is stepping down as Vice-President but has indicated she is willing to still be on the Committee. Chris, who is involved in almost everything in Majors Creek, has decided she needs to cut back and is not standing again. So, we have several positions vacant in the forthcoming election. I wish the new Committee well for the future.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all our members for their continued support of our club, because without you there would be no Braidwood Garden Club.

Thank you all and Happy Gardening.

John Tuckwell, August 2023



BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2022 TO 31 JULY 2023 AS PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 10TH AUGUST 2023					
	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
STATEMENT BALANCE 01/08	\$6,693.89	\$4,673.91	\$4,816.90	\$4,345.99	\$3,717.88
<u>INCOME</u>	-	-	-	-	-
MEMBERSHIPS	\$1,680.00	\$3,045.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,960.00	\$1,965.00
OUTINGS AND PRESENTATIONS	\$3,875.00	\$3,100.00	\$4,320.00	\$5,220.00	\$3,396.00
AGM	\$1,310.00	\$3,385.00	\$755.00	\$720.00	\$580.00
RAFFLES	\$910.00	\$1,263.60	\$1,147.90	\$718.10	\$844.00
SALES - CARDS	\$90.00	\$275.00	\$310.00	\$340.00	\$70.00
SALES - MAGAZINES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$77.00
SALES - PLANTS	\$108.00	\$55.40	\$45.00	\$13.00	\$38.90
POSTAGE (NEWSLETTER)	\$89.00	\$182.00	\$175.00	\$121.00	\$143.00
DONATIONS	\$1,100.00	\$30.00	\$66.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
OTHER		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$9,162.00	\$11,336.00	\$8,818.90	\$9,122.10	\$7,113.90

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	-	-	-		
BUS HIRE	\$2,200.00	\$880.00	\$990.00	\$2,695.00	\$1,870.00
OUTINGS AND PRESENTATIONS	\$3,211.00	\$3,665.85	\$3,780.51	\$2,958.00	\$1,931.81
AGM	\$2,603.25	\$3,019.04	\$1,682.19	\$888.43	\$775.64
ROOM HIRE	\$250.00	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$225.00	\$700.00
HOST/SPEAKER GIFTS	\$101.00	\$228.50	\$531.00	\$328.92	\$192.85
RAFFLES	\$94.00	\$171.95	\$216.49	\$230.70	\$199.95
MORNING TEAS	\$0.00	\$98.36	\$31.21	\$77.37	\$207.90
NEWSLTR/PRINT/ADMIN/W EB	\$695.42	\$279.59	\$340.07	\$299.09	\$126.50
GCA AFFILIATION	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$40.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
GCA INSURANCE	\$250.27	\$180.74	\$180.74	\$177.20	\$218.14
DONATIONS/SPONSORSHIP	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$455.19	\$225.00	\$110.00
ADVERTISING	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32.00
PURCHASE FOR RESALE	\$0.00	\$388.99	\$392.49	\$471.48	
DEPT OF FAIR TRADING	\$50.00	\$48.00	\$47.00		\$46.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$9,634.94	\$9,316.02	\$8,961.89	\$8,651.19	\$6,485.79
TOTAL SURPLUS/LOSS	-\$472.94	\$2,019.98	-142.99	\$470.91	\$628.11
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10% discount for on Braidwood Rural Mitre 10 Garden & Greenlife products

Braidwood Garden Club members are eligible for a 10% discount on Braidwood Rural Mitre 10 Garden & Greenlife category products (note: some products in those categories which are already at reduced prices do not get a discount).

Braidwood Rural Mitre 10 has a list of current members, and you should only have to give your name and state you are a Braidwood Garden Club member to receive the discount. For those with accounts it should be automatically applied.

Thanks to Braidwood Rural from Braidwood Garden Club and we are very appreciative of this ongoing discount for its members.

BRAIDWOOD RURAL MITRE 10

WHAT'S ON

OCTOBER Saturday 28th -Sunday 29th

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 28th -Sunday 29th

Bathurst Gardeners Club Spring Spectacular 9-5pm springspec@bathurstgardenclub.org.au

Contact:Terri Crumpler 0423 709 484

THE PLANT OF THE MONTH

By Kate Chinnick



**Osmanthus
Fragrans
(Sweet Olive)**

- Found In China and Japan
- Evergreen shrub growing to 3m
- Dark green glossy leaves to 10cm long
- Pure white tubular flowers in late winter & spring
- Highly perfumed
- Chinese use flowers for house decoration and making tea
- Prefers full sun to partly shaded position
- Frost hardy, cool moist climate
- Propagate from half hardened cuttings in late summer to winter
- Osmanthus fragrans f. aurantiacus has orange flowers

What to do in the garden for September

- Tie Sweet Peas to supports
- Dahlia clumps left in the ground can be divided now
- Plant new perennials & pot on any cuttings
- Winter flowering Sasanqua Camellias can be pruned after flowering
- Feed Camelias, Rhodo's, Azaleas, Daphne, Pieris and Ericas with old animal manure
- Plant and repair lawns
- Still plant onion seedlings
- Tomato seedlings should not be planted yet (late frosts!!)
- Weeds are thriving, keep them clear
- Spray Peaches and nectarines for leaf curl at pink bud swell
- Prepare vegetable beds for spring planting
- Enjoy the spring bulbs