

# BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

## March 2025

### This month's content:

- Editor's note
- Committee News
- Community Garden News
- February Meeting
- In the gardening world
- Plants around Braidwood
- Book of the month
- Kate's Tips and plant of the month



*Mrs Bevege's Roses Coronation Ave 2022*

### Editor's Note

As I am nearly retiring so much more gardening is happening in my world. A few weeks ago I went to Nirvalley Homestead Nursery to buy some trees for the community garden. It is about 15 mins from Tarago on Cullalla Rd, and is well worth the Sunday drive. It is an inconspicuous but large nursery and now is a great time to wander around as the trees are showing their true colours. We've been there at least 4 times and the prices are right! I sit in the garden and in my mind's eye I can see all those trees filling up spaces.



*Mexican calendula*

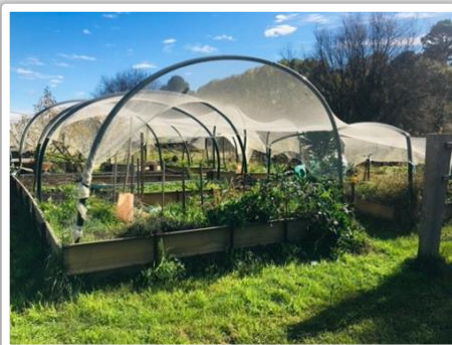
### Committee News

Next meeting is Wednesday 26 March Servicemen's Club. 10am. Please come join in the discussion or just listen.

Then you can join them for lunch.

## Community garden news

I can now spend more time in it, preparing it for visitors. I've picked about 8 eggplants, lots of basil and have 2 pumpkins growing in the paddock. You might have seen the yellow Jerusalem artichokes bending in the wind. If you need parsnips, come see me. We have a very nice bed of rhubarb growing and this week I am planting brassicas (according to Kate's tips)



## 2025 Garden Club Planned activities

- 10 April - Bombay gardens
- 8 May - TBC
- 12 June - Plant swap @ the Club

## April meeting - Thursday 10 April 2025 at 9am for 9.15am departure

Our outing on Wednesday 10 April will be visiting three interesting gardens in the Bombay area. Three very different gardens ... one an old historic property, the next a more modern property with a large well-designed kitchen garden, the third a property where excellent landscape design offsets a smaller garden. There are things to be learned from each of them.

Meet at the Park at our usual time (9am) for car-pooling. Morning tea cake/biscuits are to be provided by L-Z folks this time. It might be worth noting that once we've crossed the river, much of our drive is on gravel roads? (Heaven forbid .... !)

## In the gardening world

Click on the link to find out more

### March

- 23<sup>rd</sup>: [National Eucalyptus day](#)
- 26<sup>th</sup>: [Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show 2024](#)

### April

- 28<sup>th</sup>: Inaugural New England Autumn Garden Trail <https://negf.com.au/>

### May

- 3<sup>rd</sup>: last day of the New England Autumn Garden trail
- 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>: [Chelsea Flower Show](#) UK
- 23<sup>rd</sup>: [Orchids out West](#)

## Insects and plants around Braidwood



Bee on a Salvia



Butterfly caterpillar on Mexican orange blossom



Praying Mantis in that green somewhere



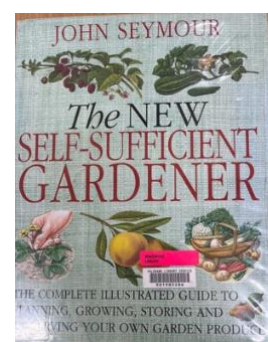
Robin on a Campanula

If you see good looking plants at your location and would like them included in this newsletter, please forward a small photo with description to [theboxgirl@gmail.com](mailto:theboxgirl@gmail.com)

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

The New self-sufficient gardener  
John Seymour

I found this book at the Braidwood Library. Even though tips and tricks don't really change, I enjoyed the illustrations. For example I like to grow broad beans, mainly for their flower, but I always stake them out too late. The book shows a great way of making a frame with string and a couple of poles. Well worth a look



Committee members: Dot Willcoxson, Jane Moore, Leonie & Richard Jolley, Fran Woods, Charmian Thomas, Jenny Sutherland, Chris James, Bronwyn Johnson, Sunita Kotnala, Erika Mordek

## Kate's Tips

Just in case you haven't gotten around to doing the following in 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

However read on.....

## What to do in April

- Trim evergreen shrubs so they recover before winter
- Choose trees for autumn colour
- Good time to plant or move Camellias, Rhododendrons & Azaleas
- Look for Liliun, 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



## Plant of the month – *Canna generalis*

- Robust rhizomatous perennials
- Belong to the same family as ginger and bananas
- All plants are hybrids, varying in height from 75cm to 1.8m
- Foliage comes in green, reddish, purple or variegated
- Flowers are also varied from plain, spotted or striped
- Prefers an open position in full sun
- Cut back to the ground after flowering
- Propagate by division in spring
- Good cultivars – “Lucifer”, “Brandywine”, “King Numbert” & “Lenape”



Reminder: all submissions for this newsletter to be sent to [theboxgirl@gmail.com](mailto:theboxgirl@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month