

Volume 25 | Issue 9
September 2025

Braidwood Garden Club Newsletter

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Your committee
meets the 4th
Wednesday of the
month at 10am at the
Club
All welcome

Committee:
President: Dot Willcoxson
Vice-President: John Tuckwell
Treasurers: Leonie & Richard Jolley
Secretary: Jane Moore
Web Manager: Fran Wood
Newsletter: Erika Mordek
Member: Sunita Kotnala

Editor's Note

Yes, you are receiving another newsletter very soon after the August edition. We are changing the press time. Now you can expect the garden news to appear in your inbox in the first week of the month. Makes announcing the news all the more pertinent.

The weather is certainly changing rapidly, and yet the plants can't help themselves but poke their heads out of the ground. My front yard is full of naturalized daffodils, mixed with white and yellow jonquils here and there. Pineapple lilies and Asiatic lilies are poking through the dirt and I haven't yet spread enough compost.

I helped Sonia out at Bedervale this week in her courtyard kitchen garden pictured below. I hope to see in it a variety of herbs as well as some leafy green vegetable pop up. She has a lot of wild strawberries growing on the ground.

Have a happy month in the garden!



*"The glory of gardening:
hands in the dirt, head in
the sun, heart with
nature. To nurture a
garden is to feed not just
the body, but the soul.." –
Alfred Austin*



Getting potato bed ready



Daylilies peeking through

Reminder: all submissions for this newsletter to be sent to theboxgirl@gmail.com by the 25th of the month

Committee News

The committee would like you to invite you to submit ideas for future talks and excursions appreciate any ideas for club activities. You can add any ideas to <https://braidwoodgardenclub.org/contact-us/>

Or just tell one of the committee members. And you might like to know that the Club has 56 members.

Also please remember that the Garden Club has organised a %10 discount on some gardening good at Mitre 10. Please ask at the desk for itwhen purchasing potting mix etc.

Community Garden News

This week was my first afternoon doing valuable work in the community garden. I have planted a few more grapevines and tidied the hops. The grass grows everywhere despite the mulch, so it is a never ending battle. However through this are some strong asparagus popping up. Still probably a bit early to pick as they are only two years old. I am creating a potato bed; my seed potatoes all have eyes and are rearing to go.

The Hospital Fete needs your plants

The Braidwood Hospital fete will take place on Saturday 18 October at the National Theatre. Some of the plants that I have been able to divide include Bordeaux chrysanthemums. Daylilies (pictured on left just popping out of the ground), some orange Euphorbia and some very pretty fuschia coloured asters.

I think the fete is a great way to share around your plants and make your gardens varied and interesting. I hope Many O'Brien donates some of her irises because I know she has a great variety.

To be a success the Hospital fete needs your extra plants. Please deliver your plants to the National Theatre on Friday 17 October.

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

Plants around town



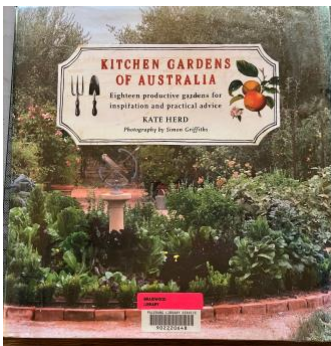
Pansies



Daffodils and jonquils with my chickens



Grevillea



Get it at the library

In the gardening world

Garden Clubs of Australia is the site to go to if you are travelling interstate and would like to know about events on your journey: <https://gardenclubs.org.au/>

September 25-26 Bundanoon Garden Ramble
<https://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au/>

October 4: Maleny Garden Club Spring Fair

Maleny Showgrounds Pavilion 13 maleny Stanley River Road, Maleny, QLD, Australia Come along to the Maleny Garden Club Spring Fair at Maleny Showgrounds pavilion. There will be open gardens and a garden market featuring a variety of plants and products from Queensland nurseries.

October: Braidwood Open Gardens

October 18& 19: Goulburn Open Gardens

<https://stoga.org.au/goulburn-spring-gardens/>

This is the first Goulburn Open Gardens. 8 gardens are on show. The website above has all the information. \$5 per garden. \$25 for all gardens

November 1: New England Garden Festival

New England Garden Festival Barney Street, Armidale, NSW, Australia

The 2025 New England Garden Festival (NEGF) will be held at the Armidale Racecourse on the first weekend in November, offering plenty of gardening activities, demonstrations and stalls for gardeners!

2025 Garden Club Planned activities

- **11 September** *Cool climate gardening with Rohan de Britt.*
 Rohan de Britt is the NSW/ACT Area manager for Searles and travels to talk to various garden clubs. He has been in the horticulture industry for 15 years, both in retail nursery and wholesale environments. He is a keen gardener himself and a member of the NSW Cactus and Succulent Society.
 We will be meeting at the Braidwood Servicemen's Club on Thursday September 11 at 10:00am. We will begin with morning tea, provided by members L – Z, followed by the talk.
- **16 October** – Bus trip to Berry Open Gardens; price is set at \$50
- **13 November** – Braidwood Ridge Gardens
- **11 December** Christmas Party and catering by Vanilla

Book of the Month

Kitchen Gardens of Australia by Kate Herd

I believe it is important that a balance diet contain some homegrown herbs. These are easy to propagate, and many will self seed. The kitchen garden also includes vegetables.

Trip to Berry information

- Trip is on 16 October
- **Monies to be paid by 10 October**
- Cost: \$50
- Depart 8.45 Ryrie Park
- BYO morning tea, lunch and thermos

It is important that you add a reference to your online payment such as:

*Name Berry Trip.
The name being your name or whoever you are paying for.*

We cannot buy tickets at the door; they must be pre-paid, so please pay by the due date either at the bank or pay online
Account Name:
Braidwood Garden Club
BSB: 633 000
Account Number:
118346444
Ref: *Your name Berry trip*

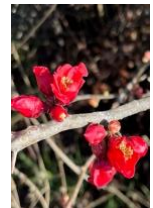
Kate's Tips – What to do in September

- 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, Rhododendrons, 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

Plant of the month

Chaenomeles Speciosa (Japonica, flowering quince)

- Native to China
- Deciduous shrub, many branched
- Tough springy branches are often thorny
- Very frost hardy and adapt to many garden situations
- Flowers appear in late winter or early spring, pink, red, white and orange
- Yellow green fruits are strongly perfumed and make good jams and jellies
- Cut back older branches each year
- Propagate from cuttings in early Summer



The final word..... by Bronwyn Johnson

Although uncommon, *Myoporum floribundum** occurs naturally on the coastal ranges of southern NSW and Victoria. In NSW the species has been reported below Jenolan Caves and near the Nepean River growing in sclerophyll forest. In Victoria it has been found in the Upper Snowy River and Deddick River valleys where it grows in woodland on steep gravelly slopes. (Gardeners may be more familiar with its relative *Myoporum parvifolium*, a popular native ground cover).

A slender, fragrant shrub to 2.5 m high, *Myoporum floribundum* is adaptable to a wide range of soil types and different levels of soil moisture, though it performs better with good drainage.

The shrub has long, arching branches with narrow pendulous leaves up to 9 cm long, providing an interesting contrast in a garden even when not in flower.



The biggest factor in favour of the species is its delightful appearance during the flowering season from September to November. The five-petalled white flowers are small but massed together along the upper parts of the branches, attracting both insects and birds. In full flower the shrub appears to be covered with snow, with branches often arching under the weight. Flowers are followed in November and December by a succulent fruit which falls to the ground when ripe.

Plants at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG) are reported to have performed well across the seasons in various positions, whether exposed to summer sun or winter frost. However, plants receiving some shade or overhead protection from nearby trees were more bushy and well-covered, so a semi-shaded, well-drained position would be more satisfactory. Only minor pruning is needed, perhaps to tailor shape or correct straying branches, as it does not respond well to harsh pruning.

Propagation of *Myoporum* from seed is difficult, although the ANBG notes that cuttings strike readily. Cuttings can be taken at any time of the year, with best results in spring and summer.

The unusual foliage and profuse white flowers are the main attraction of this species, which has been known in cultivation for many years. It requires good drainage and at least partial sun, is frost and drought tolerant, and no serious pests have been noted in the Botanic Gardens. *Myoporum floribundum* is not widely planted but deserves a place in any garden.

**Myoporum - from the Greek, myo, to shut, and poros, a pore, alluding to its ability to exist in dry areas; floribundum - botanical Latin, meaning abundance of flowers.*