



BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC

"Friendship Through Gardens"

PO Box 25 Bundanoon 2578

www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au

**Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month,
9.30 for 10.00am**

March 2016 Newsletter

From the President

Summer having begun slowly with lovely balmy days is ending on a high with the recent hot weather! I am looking forward to cooler temperatures as autumn tints herald a change of season. Likewise, the AGM this month sees the end of 2015 and the beginning of the 2016 year at Bundanoon Garden Club.

I thank the Committee for their tireless work that led to the enjoyment and success of the year and ensured the smooth functioning of the Club. We shall miss the valued input from John Pryce-Jones and Sue Davis who are retiring after several years service on Committee; they leave behind big shoes to fill. There are four vacant positions on Committee, so please consider joining us as you will find it an enjoyable and fulfilling experience.

Judy

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker this month is past president Robin Coombes. Whilst overseas last year, Robin visited two very beautiful gardens, "Villandry" in the Loire Valley of France, and "Sissinghurst Castle Garden" in Kent in England. Do come along and hear Robin's recount of her journey through these renowned gardens.



Friendship Gardens Open in March

Both gardens are open from 10.30am to 1pm. Please wear your club badge and be sure to sign in.

Please park on the road when visiting Marilyn and John Evers' garden at 16 Greasons Road, Bundanoon. This garden will inspire you with its pretty mix of cottage garden plants, natives and vegetables. Pathways lead from a formal walled area, past John's impressive four bin compost bays and on to the 100m frontage onto the creek with its background of natives. The tranquil summer house provides a place to rest and take in this lovely setting.



View of the garden at "Highfield"

Highfield', is the garden of Leonie Bullions at 6 Ardross Street, Bundanoon. For the past two and a half years, Leonie has worked wonders in her half acre garden, establishing garden beds and planting many trees. The garden design and layout compliment her home and its orientation. Especially of interest will be the lovely salvias and dahlias growing amongst many other exotic plants.

**President: Judy Andrews 48836898 email: judyolivia1@gmail.com;
Vice-President: Patricia Varley 48837656; Secretary: Judith Myers 48837141;
Newsletter Lyn Curry 48836510; Welfare: Julie-Ann New 48834532;
Treasurer: Elaine Hills 48834925; Membership Secretary: Susan Davis 48837452;**

NOTICE BOARD



March 4th – 12th **Canberra ACT**
Night time festival of illuminated buildings and rare chance to visit the courtyard gardens of Parliament House after hours. For more information visit enlightencanberra.com.au

March 12th – 13th **Goulburn Rose Festival**
Sat 11.00am – 5.00pm and Sun 10.00 – 4.00pm
Soldiers Club, Market Street, Goulburn Entry \$5 pp

March 12th & 13th **NSW Begonia Society Exhibition**
Annandale, NSW: gold coin entry.
Sat 10.00am – 4.00 pm and Sun 10.00am – 3.00pm

March 16th – 20th **Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show**

March 20th **Bonsai Market Day**, Killeen Street, Auburn
Free

March 22nd **Chinoiserie** Mittagong

From March 25th: **Wild Meadows** at Little Hartley
Flower meadows and woodlands

From March 25th: **Wildwood Garden** Bilpin

From March 26th: **Hillandale Garden and Nursery**
Yetholme

2016 Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions set at \$20 pp for 2016 are now due. Members may pay in one of the following ways:

1. DIRECT DEPOSIT:

BSB 802101 Account No. 358047.

Please include your name and the word "Subs" in the payment description line.

2. CASH AT THE MARCH OR APRIL MEETING

Please place in an envelope clearly marked with your name and indicate if a receipt is needed.

3. POST:

Please pay by cheque to Bundanoon Garden Club

PO Box 25, Bundanoon 2578

Many thanks

Free Bulbs and Plants for Garden Club Members

If you are looking for extra plants and bulbs for your garden and are happy to remove them from the ground, why not visit Norma Davis, one of our club's life members, at Jordans Crossing Park.

Shellharbour Garden Club Visit

Shellharbour Garden Club will be visiting Bundanoon on Wednesday 27th April looking for autumn colour. They will visit two gardens and enjoy lunch in the village.

Bus Trip

Save Thursday 12th May for the bus trip to "Nutcote" which was the home of children's author May Gibbs in Neutral Bay. We will tour both the house and gardens and enjoy views over the harbour. More information about the planned activities and costs will be given by Patricia at the meeting after which, bookings will open.



Wanted – Open Gardens

The Garden Ramble Committee would like to hear from anyone who would be happy to open their garden for the 2016 Bundanoon Ramble to be held in October.

Participants will find this a very rewarding experience in many ways. Meeting hundreds of other enthusiastic gardeners who delight in your garden, are keen to ask questions and gain new ideas for their own garden, makes it a very social occasion and very worthwhile.

Support is given throughout the weekend and a celebration is held in the hall at the conclusion of events.

Our Garden Club supports this event each year.

Our Garden

Toni and Les Valentine retired to Moss Vale in 2004 having purchased a new home which provided them with both an established garden and a large studio, both of which were on their wish list. Over the past twelve years the garden has been extended and the trees and shrubs have matured providing a tranquil, shady haven in summer and warm sheltered spots during winter under deciduous trees such as maple, claret ash and golden elm. Their land was once part of a large orchard and old dairy and they enjoy beautiful rural views towards Sutton Forest at the rear of the property.

A mature hedge of camellias interspersed with equally large hydrangea runs down one side of the house and must be an impressive sight when in flower. Throughout the garden the trees are under planted with bulbs and flowering shrubs, with contrasting foliage and textures which keep drawing the eye in. Ken has constructed a raised rose garden along the other side of the house where a variety of roses including a favourite deep red called the 'General Macarthur', enjoy their sunny spot heavily mulched with straw.

The vegetable gardens are also heavily mulched and Ken is happy to share his green weeds and green garden waste with a neighbour's hens and in return eggs mysteriously appear on the front step. What a great reward for recycling! Ken uses a three bin recycling system and to that adds stable straw (alpaca and horse) and wood shavings. On the verandah of the house a variety of shade loving plants are thriving, including maidenhair ferns, orchids, begonias and fungi, in particular aseroe rubra commonly called a red sea anemone (one of Toni's favourites).

Besides the gardening, Ken is a collector of red mustard seeds which he sends to his son's nursery in Byron Bay where they are cultivated for the micro herb market. Ken is also a member of the Moss Vale Men's Shed where he willingly shares his knowledge and expertise in web design.

Toni's studio is full of all manner of things related to her hobbies including creative embroidery and photography. She is a member of the Embroiderers Guild, takes part in the Southern Highlands Art Studio Trail and is a member of an international group "The Artful Dodgers". Her work is exhibited locally, nationally and internationally. Toni's web address is www.astitchdesign.com

I really enjoyed meeting Ken and Toni, both of whom are members of our club, and thank them for sharing their garden with all of us.



The Royal Botanical Gardens are celebrating their bicentenary in 2016 and have a huge program of gardening and other interesting events planned throughout the year. Visit the web site to read more. Amazing!

Morning Tea Many thanks to all those who made a contribution to last month's morning tea. It was really scrumptious! We are again calling on the generosity of members for this month's morning tea. As this is the AGM, the meeting agenda is quite brief, and following the election of the new committee, we can all enjoy morning tea. That gives us plenty of time for catching up, choosing books from the library and checking out what's on sale at the trade table. Along with talking is munching, so if you are able to bring a plate to share that would be wonderful.



What to do in the Garden in March

- *Divide bearded irises
- *Plant spring flowering bulbs –grape hyacinths, Spanish bluebells, daffodils, jonquils
- *Sow new lawns or repair existing lawns
- *Plant herbs including lemon balm, chives, thyme, basil, marjoram, mint, parsley, sage, tarragon
- *Plant English spinach, broad beans, lettuce, radish, silverbeet, turnips
- *Grow a crop of green manure and dig into the soil in the first week of September
- *During the last week of March, transplant evergreen trees and shrubs if the heat has passed
- *Move citrus, azaleas, camellias & rhododendrons with root balls intact
- *Keep deadheading flowers and cutting back perennials as they wither.



Bundanoon Garden Club

Our next meeting will be held in the hall on Thursday, 7th April, 2016. We look forward to seeing you then.

The Committee.

Thank You

Thank You to the following local businesses who give a discount to our members:



Roses and Friends, Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls



Highland SAND & GRAVEL

10% discount for goods ordered and paid for on meeting days.



Bundanoon Bloomery 10% discount for plants, fertilisers and chemicals paid in cash at any time.

Making Compost



This is the ideal month for making compost. Don't forget to layer materials as follows – begin with about 20 cms of dry material such grass, weeds, leaves or straw and wet it thoroughly. Next add a thin layer of manure (chook, horse, cow or blood and bone) and again water it in. Next add a layer of kitchen scraps (no cooked food), torn paper or cardboard, followed by green waste eg grass clippings. Keep layering and watering and turning will aid decomposition. Compost can be used before it has completely broken down.



make your own
FREE COMPOST

and have
HEALTHIER SOIL

in only
10 MINUTES
per week

eliminating up to
30 PERCENT
of your garden
water bill

and up to
30 PERCENT
of your garbage

**EARTH DAY,
EVERY DAY**

Garden Maintenance Directory

If you are looking for assistance in your garden you may like to contact one the following who provide a range of services including pruning, mowing, hedging, window cleaning, weed control, mulching, fencing, handyman work, high pressure washing and waste removal :

Kirsty Connelly: 4883 6354 0449 274 339

Courtney Whipp: 0422 525 620

Michael Sutton: 0405 237 727

Steve Curtis: 0427979419

If you are happy to recommend a provider please let Judy know.

