



## **BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC**

***"Friendship Through Gardens"***

***PO Box 25 Bundanoon 2578***

**[www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au](http://www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au)**

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

## **MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER**

### ***From the President***

Autumn is well and truly with us. The Bundanoon and surrounding district are absolutely beautiful at the moment with green paddocks and the orange reds of the deciduous trees all around.

Now into the business end of the garden club activities! I am happy to report that the garden club survey results were sent to Garden Clubs of Australia. In our section of the questions asked, there were many sensible comments from those who responded to the survey and I am busy collating the information. The committee will review the information that was gathered so that we can utilise your input accordingly. I will present the results of the survey to the garden club members at our meeting this month.

I am pleased that the club have been asked for some articles for inclusion in the Jordans' Crossing Gazette over the coming months. I would like to thank Tathra Fletcher and Lyn Curry for their assistance with these. It will be really important for the club to raise awareness and harness support from the local community and beyond as we work to our 50th anniversary in 2020.

The committee will be discussing the garden club finances and how we can improve our situation as we move into next year. We need to have some gains with little pain and whilst we need to make sure our club finances are in good shape, we will be conscious that we wouldn't want to put additional financial strain on our members. That said, I have been looking at the cost of joining other clubs and their charges are a little higher than ours at the moment.

The seminar committee have been working very hard under the watchful eye of Graeme Whisker and I am sure that there will be lots of information on the seminar at the meeting on Thursday. A wonderful suite of speakers has been arranged and this will be a great opportunity for us keen gardeners to hear them speak. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful garden club community who help organise these fantastic club activities for us.

I will also be providing an update on potential bus trips and how these might be organised.

That's all for now folks. I hope to see you on Thursday.

Janine Armstrong – 0400 120 141 – [info@bundanoongardenclub.com.au](mailto:info@bundanoongardenclub.com.au)



# Friendship Gardens

## Saturday 4 May

Between 10.30 - 1pm

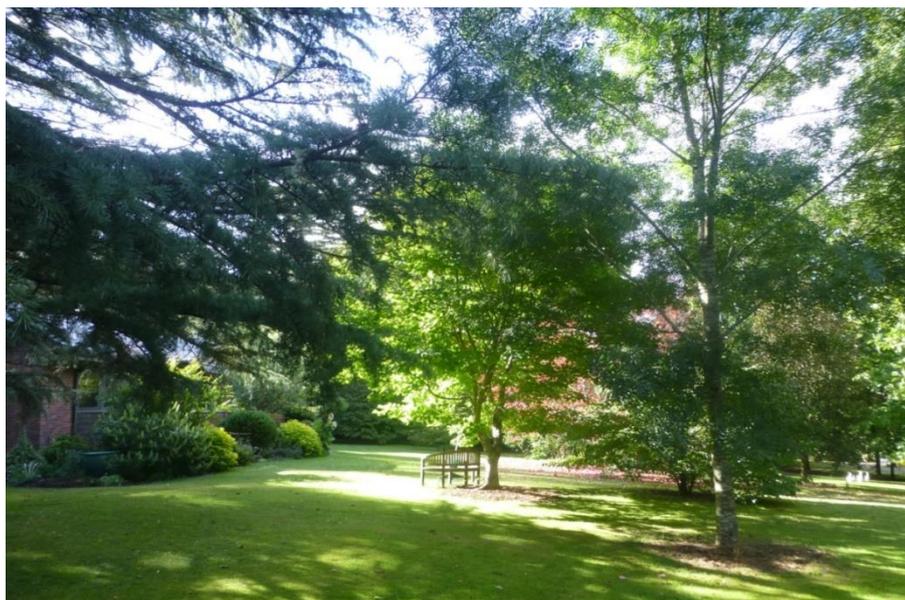
Please wear your badge, and sign the insurance sheet at the garden entrance

**Suzy Dowsett, 'Arden', 5 Amos Lane, Bundanoon**

Parking: best in Hawthorne Street/Viewland Street, and walk through on corner to Amos Lane, then turn left and 'Arden' is 100m on left.

The garden is flat for walking the many woodland paths, but watch for tree roots etc.

**Suzy is kindly offering morning tea.**



The entrance to Arden is near the top of a winding country lane. The two acre garden, formerly part of a larger estate, has had only two previous owners and there have been two major planting sprees in the 1930s and 1970s. Trees and bulbs abound. There are some truly magnificent specimens, a favourite of mine being the variegated tulip tree, one of the finest you will see.

There are maples, magnolias, ash, dogwoods, nyssas, liquidambar, Himalayan cedars, not to mention the 40 metre high Radiata pines which protect me from the west and provide a benign micro climate enabling me to grow a wide variety of plants on the rich volcanic soil. Having been in the nursery industry for 30 years, during which time I observed with chagrin what a limited number of species the public chose for their gardens, my aim at Arden is to open people's eyes to the wide range of rare and wonderful plants that are available.

Chooks, ducks and vegies have been introduced, the chook pen being rather glamorous and always causing amusement among the men folk. Cats, chemicals and whippersnappers are banned. I am experimenting with native plants in a wild area at the front gate. Providing small birds with protection from predators is always a consideration. (I have 12 birdbaths). Uninteresting shrubs are gradually being replaced with botanical beauties which offer interest throughout the year.

In short, I am aiming for an environmentally sound horticultural zoo without spoiling the elegance of the original design.

**Suzy Dowsett**

# Bundanoon Garden Club Seminar

Saturday 20 July 2019 9.00am – 3.30pm approx.

To be held in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Bundanoon

**Speakers: Meredith Kirton, Simon Rickard and Tino Carnevale**

Elaine Musgrave – Botanical Art Exhibition and for sale

Garden Tools, Garden Ornaments, Plants for sale

\$45.00/person all inclusive - (promotional pack, morning tea, lunch)

Bookings are essential - <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=496407&>

## Simon Rickard

Simon spent several years concentrating on his musical career before again looking to gardening. In 2001 he moved to Victoria to take a gardening job at the Diggers' Club flagship garden, Heronswood. There he set about renovating the herbaceous and annual borders and the grey garden. In 2002 Simon became Diggers' head gardener, overseeing both Heronswood and her sister garden, the Garden of St Erth. After three-and-a-half years living and working at Heronswood, Simon transferred to the Garden of St Erth where he worked as manager and head gardener until 2009.

From 2008-2012 Simon embarked on an ambitious project with celebrated Victorian restaurateur Annie Smithers, growing bespoke produce for her eponymous Bistrot in Kyneton. More recently, Simon has been collaborating with award-winning landscape artist Mel Ogden on private garden design projects.

Parallel to actual gardening, Simon has a busy career as a garden communicator. He has given innumerable workshops and masterclasses for the Diggers' Club on a wide variety of topics. He has given lectures and workshops for the University of Melbourne's School of Land and Environment (Burnley College) in their Summer School for Home Gardeners, Master Gardeners programme and the ever-popular Discovering Horticulture course. Simon has lectured and given practical workshops for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation's Kitchen Gardens in Schools programme, the Australian Landscape Conference and Castlemaine's BudaFest; and he appears regularly for regional horticultural societies, sustainability groups and community gardens.

Simon is very proud to be a botanical guide for Botanica World Discoveries for whom he has led garden tours to the UK and continental Europe, Japan, South America and New Zealand. Simon has conducted historic garden tours at both Heronswood and the Garden of St Erth on a great many occasions as well as historic Duneira on the slopes of Victoria's Mt Macedon.

Simon has appeared on television for Gardening Australia (ABC), Postcards (Nine), Digging with Ding Dong (with Denise Drysdale on C31) and Getaway (Nine). He has spoken about gardening on ABC local radio, Melbourne's 3CR community radio and ABC Radio National with Alan Saunders. In 2007 he chaired a garden history forum with garden historians Holly Kerr Forsyth and Richard Aitken for Writers at Como. As a garden writer himself Simon has contributed articles to ABC Organic Gardener, Your Garden Magazine and the Diggers Club notes. His first book, The New Ornamental Garden was published in 2011, and his second, Heirloom Vegetables was released in 2014.



Simon's gardening passions are many and varied... heritage fruit and vegetables, xeriscaping perennials, autumn and winter gardens, the social history of plants and gardens, ornamental grasses, temperate bamboos, tree peonies... like any passionate gardener the list changes weekly.

### **Meredith Kirton**

Meredith has worked extensively in media. As a horticultural researcher, as a presenter on the ABC's Gardening Australia Programme and on radio 2GB, 2UE, 702 and Radio National. She has also been Garden Editor for Sunday Life, House and Garden, Home Beautiful and Real Living Magazines, and freelance contributor to many other titles and newspapers. A published author and enthusiastic about sharing her knowledge with others, Meredith has also worked as a gardening lecturer, and guide to gardens and the outback of Australia.

She professes a lifelong commitment to gardening, horticulture and the environment. Over the last 20 years she has had a varied career including tour leading, writing, teaching, consulting, retail, garden design and speaking at various events across Australia. Meredith has also been Ambassador for Organisations and Companies such as Turf Australia, The Australian Nursery and Garden Industry, and Lindemans Wines

One of her most rewarding gardening experiences has been the development of two gardens which she calls home. The first is a normal 600m square domestic block, which has now a beautiful Australian native garden, and the other is her farm which has a large 2 acre country garden including an orchard and kitchen garden, wildlife corridor and bush regenerated river front, which she opens occasionally to help raise money for the community..

Meredith Kirton grew up in a bush land suburb of Sydney spending many happy hours playing in the Eloura Bushland Reserve, Westleigh. As a mother of two young children herself (Tess, aged 17 and Eden, aged 15) she believes strongly in involving children in the whole process of growing and eating food and behaving responsibly with the environment. She lives that ethos, having set up gardening clubs at three primary schools. She has also made a commitment to grow one meal per week, thus reducing green house emissions by 100kg per year.



### **Tino Carnevale**

Born and bred in Tasmania, Tino's lifelong interest in plants and gardening stems from growing up on his family's small vineyard and olive grove. He studied landscape design at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and has an Associate Diploma in Horticulture. As well as being a presenter on Gardening Australia, Tino teaches gardening skills to both adults and children. He is involved in the Feeding the Future Coalition, conducting accredited training at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Garden, as well as working with the local Aboriginal Cultural Centre and various other community groups. He is part of The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, teaching students at Moonah Primary School. Tino is a patron of the Tasmanian Weed Society, an organization that raises awareness of environmental weeds and their impact, and he is active in community programs and events and gives regular talks to local garden groups.



## [GUEST SPEAKER THIS MONTH](#)

Ei (pronounced like the letter “E”) is a horticulturalist who is passionate about planting design, ethnobotany and sustainability education.

Currently working for Nicholas Bray Landscapes in Moss Vale, Ei has a varied background. After majoring in sustainability during her undergraduate at the University of Melbourne, Ei worked with Karen Sutherland of Edible Eden Design, who has been seen numerous times on Gardening Australia, for her beautiful yet productive garden. Ei also spent time studying permaculture at the Southern Cross Permaculture Institute of South Gippsland in Victoria.

After completing a Master of Urban Horticulture at Burnley in 2010, Ei worked for several years as Produce Buyer and Manager for Bulleen Art and Garden, a large independent plant nursery in Melbourne and was known there for her passion for edible, medicinal and permaculture plants. Since moving to NSW, Ei has focused her attention towards developing her computer based landscape design to be able to offer permaculture based landscape design services more broadly Ei is passionate about sourcing, selecting and maintaining edible, medicinal and unique ornamental plants and incorporates her design training from Southern Cross Permaculture Institute into her work wherever possible.

During her presentation, Ei will talk about permaculture ethics and principles and how they might be incorporated into a garden design. Permaculture is an approach to design and is known mostly for its use in food production systems, but can be used wherever good design is needed. With an increasing need for sensitivity to our impact on the landscape from the current pace of environmental decline, holistic approaches to resource management become more necessary. Permaculture incorporates all aspects of a system in a dynamic and synergistic manner and offers solutions to the resource challenges that we will face more and more into the future solutions to the resource challenges that we will face more and more into the future.

## [GUEST SPEAKER IN JUNE](#)

Our speaker next month is Stephen Utick who is the current Director of the International Camellia Society. Stephen has been involved with many of the established gardens in the Southern Highlands and has a special interest in heritage Camellias. In fact, there's nothing that Stephen doesn't know about Camellia's, so please come equipped with lots of questions.

### [LOCAL OPEN GARDENS](#)

May - June

[www.southern-highlands.com.au](http://www.southern-highlands.com.au)

for more details

#### [RED COW FARM OPEN GARDEN](#)

TUESDAY - SUNDAY UNTIL 19 MAY, 10AM - 4PM  
7480 ILLAWARRA HIGHWAY, SUTTON FOREST  
PH. 02 4868 1842

You are able to visit this unique cool climate garden every day, 2.5 acres, 20 garden rooms, lake, kitchen garden and MORE.

#### [RETFORD PARK OPEN GARDEN](#)

SATURDAY 4 MAY - SUNDAY 5 MAY, AND  
SATURDAY 1 JUNE – SUNDAY 2 JUNE, 10AM-3PM  
RETFORD PARK, 1325 OLD SOUTH ROAD,  
BOWRAL  
PH. 02 4861 1933

James Fairfax AC has always believed that Retford Park should be preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations, particularly those of the local district.

#### [HARPERS MANSION HOUSE, GARDEN AND MAZE](#)

EVERY WEEKEND 10.30AM-4PM  
WILKINSON STREET, BERRIMA

The two-acre garden at Harper's Mansion complements the National Trust-owned heritage building. Wide grass paths and plenty of seating encourage you to linger. It is spectacular in Oct/Nov when a hundred heritage roses bloom but a woodland walk, a pond framed with giant gunnera, a herb and a produce garden provide interest throughout the year. Add the hedge maze and it becomes a garden for both you and your children to enjoy!

### [Garden Club Annual Subscriptions](#)

A reminder that subscriptions of \$20.00 per person are due and payable before 3 May, by direct debit to Bundanoon Garden Club, BSB 802-101, Acct No. 358047 (please include your name and the word 'membership' in the transaction reference), or by cash or cheque at the monthly meeting. Unless any contact details have changed, no forms are required for renewing members.

## [Discounts for Members](#)

The following local businesses give a 10 % discount to Bundanoon Garden Club members.

**Roses and Friends**: 881 Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls

**Bundanoon Bloomery**: discount given anytime for cash purchases of plants, fertilisers and chemicals

**Mt Murray Nursery**: discount given on the last Tuesday of each month for all purchases.

## [Garden Maintenance Directory](#)

The following contractors provide a range of gardening services in large and small gardens.

### **Petite Tree and Lawn Services**

Mobile: 0407 118 965

email: [layne.petiteservices@gmail.com](mailto:layne.petiteservices@gmail.com)

**Kristy Connelly**: 4883 6354 or 0449 274 339

**Courtney Whip**: 0422 525 620

**Michael Sutton**: 0405 237 727

**Steve Curtis**: pruning, mowing, window cleaning, green waste removal

0427 979 419 A/H 4841 0328

**Marc Varnhed**: Total Tree Services qualified local arborist 0449 221 420 or 4883 4743

## [Bundanoon Garden Ramble](#)

One of the special aspects of the Garden Ramble weekend, Oct. 26 & 27, is being able to provide shuttle buses to take the Bundanoon visitors from one garden to another. John Pryce-Jones, who has been a crucial part of Garden Ramble is taking a break this year but is keen to ensure the shuttle bus service continues.

Could you take on the role of Co-ordinator? You'll be well trained by John and he has completed much of the preparatory work already. Many drivers and others involved in helping from year to year will be on board again.

You can contact John on 0417 406 069 or [jpryce-j@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jpryce-j@bigpond.net.au)

Please get in touch - it's a fun weekend.

## [Seven autumn gardening tips](#)

Your soil will still contain a fair bit of warmth from summer before the winter rain hits, so it's a great time to get planting. And you'll also enjoy doing some D.I.Y. without the summer heat. Autumn is a good time to get into the garden.

### **Mulch**

Mulch is your garden's best friend. It helps the soil hold in moisture so you don't have to water it as often and it also keeps down weeds. Over time, mulch will break down into your soil and improve it by adding nutrients. There are a few different types of mulch, including organic and inorganic varieties.

### **Fertilise your lawn**

Fertilising your lawn will ensure that it stays green and healthy throughout the year. Autumn is a great time to fertilise because it protects your lawn through the winter months. You should aim to fertilise twice a year for the best results.

### **Prune trees**

There are many reasons why you should prune your trees. It helps improve the health and appearance of your trees, removes dead or dying branches and it can even promote crop growth in fruit trees. We'll show you how to prune trees correctly, how to avoid damaging the tree and which tools you should be using.



### **Plant bulbs**

Planting bulbs is a great way to add a splash of colour to your garden. You'd be surprised how many different colours, sizes and types of bulbs that you can choose from. Autumn is the perfect time of year to plant them as they'll have enough time to grow before they are ready to flourish in spring. Bulbs are really easy to grow although make sure that you choose a spot with plenty of sunlight.

### **Build a garden bed**

A garden bed can be a great feature to have in your garden. It's the perfect place to grow vegies or act as a focal point in your backyard. For the best results, use a good quality top soil so your plants get enough of the good nutrients they need

to start growing. Also make sure before you build your garden bed to consider the location because the levels of sun and shade will determine which type of plants will grow.

### Plant fruit trees

Australia's climate and conditions are ideal for growing fruit trees. All they need is full sun, good drainage, room to grow and they'll be thriving in no time. A good tip is to avoid overcrowding your trees with other plants or structures like fences as this will curb their growth.

### Make your own compost

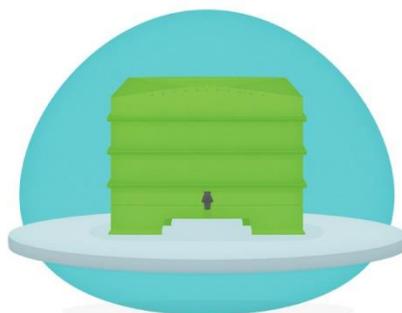
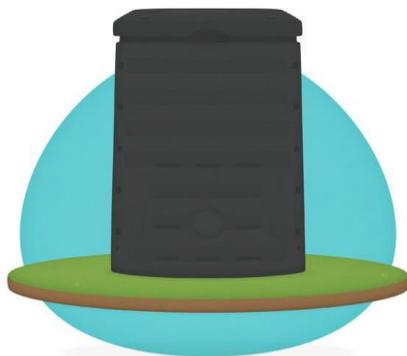
Compost is a natural fertiliser that is great for your garden. It can help you save money and it's good for the environment. Autumn is a great time to start making compost because many trees are dropping their leaves, which you'll need to use. Make sure you get the balance right between garden waste and kitchen scraps in the compost mix for the best results.

(Source: Bunnings)

## Recycle your food scraps

WSC Resource Recovery Centre (02) 4868 0888 - <https://compostrevolution.com.au/wingecarribee/>

**Wingecarribee Shire Council residents - get 50% off RRP + FREE delivery of a compost bin, worm farm or bokashi bin from your council to cut your waste in half, reduce your carbon footprint, and make rich soil and fertiliser by recycling your food scraps.**



**Compost** works by aerobic decomposition (breaks down with air) which creates heat. It needs garden materials as well as food scraps.

Composting suits if you

- have garden materials (you need twice as much as your food scraps).
- have space on bare earth to put the compost bin.
- are in a household with more than two people.

The benefits are

- can add a greater variety of food and other materials than in a wormfarm including you garlic, onion and citrus.
- you can recycle your garden materials.
- you can add larger volumes of materials.

**Worm farming** works by worms and other micro-organisms eating the food, you don't need to add garden materials.

Worm farming suits if you

- don't have any garden materials to get rid of.
- don't have access to any bare earth.
- have a small household or you don't produce a lot of food scraps.

The benefits are

- you can collect the liquid and soil fertilisers from your wormfarm.
- you can keep your wormfarm in a courtyard, on a balcony or even inside.
- you don't need to add garden materials.

**Bokashi** composting uses fermentation to pickle food waste in an air-tight bin. Waste is broken down without bad smells or insects. It's perfect for small households where space is limited.

Bokashi composting suits if you:

- live in an apartment
- work in an office with a kitchen
- have somewhere to bury or compost the semi-solid fertiliser afterwards (a veggie patch, compost bin or community garden)

Some of the many benefits are:

- it doesn't smell, you can keep it in the kitchen
- it can handle meat, dairy, citrus, and onion; which worms don't like
- the liquid fertiliser is easy to harvest

NOW **\$49.90**

NOW **\$49.90**

NOW **\$37.40**

## Veggieman – May 2019

Leaves are falling, but temperatures are holding up well, so the soil is still warm enough for planting. Brassicas are the obvious choice, but also Carrots, Leeks, Onions, Salad Leaves, Rocket, Radish, Spinach and Asian Greens. I have lifted all my Potatoes, and I am preparing the bed for planting Sugarsnap Peas and Broad Beans in the middle of May.

We are eating Carrots, Spinach and Bush Beans (a great crop from variety 'Banjo'), and the first Broccoli of the season, as well as Potatoes, Onions and Butternut Pumpkins in storage. The green manure on next year's potato bed is growing well, and in the greenhouse I have seeded the beds with a mixture of Lettuce, Rocket, Radish and Spring Onions.

At this time of year I begin thinking about seeds. As mentioned last month, I have collected different pea and bean seeds from healthy plants, to take advantage of my organic growing conditions, and I will buy organically if possible. My two favourite suppliers are Eden Seeds ([edenseeds.com.au](http://edenseeds.com.au)) and iLiKESEEDS ([ilikeseeds.com](http://ilikeseeds.com)). Both have a good selection of organic seeds, and iLiKESEEDS sell a smaller number of seeds, some heirloom varieties, and usually enough for two seasons for \$1+

I am also thinking about my soil, keeping it balanced with the correct pH and minerals, so I need to get a soil tester. Brassicas benefit from nitrogen, but with Broccoli and Cauliflowers it is the 'flower' that we eat, so potash should be added, which is missing from blood and bone mixes. An occasional handful of rock minerals, which releases trace elements to stimulate microbial activity, will help organic growth.

## International Compost Awareness Week Australia (ICAW).

**Sunday 5 May – Saturday 11 May 2019**

It is a week of activities, events and publicity to improve awareness of the importance of compost, a valuable organic resource, and to promote compost use, knowledge and products. We can compost to help scrap carbon pollution by avoiding landfilling organic materials and helping to build healthier soils.

**Wingecarribee have organised these activities:**

**Sunday 5 May - Four Seasons Community Garden - 182 Bowral Street, Bowral - Open Garden Day**

Join us at the Bowral Community Garden between 10am and 12 noon. Visit the garden, meet the volunteers and see the results of the hot compost that was put together at a workshop earlier in the year.

**Thursday 9 May - Moss Vale Community Garden Tour and Hot Composting demonstration - Railway Street Moss Vale**

Join us at the Moss Vale Community Garden from 10.30am till 12 noon. See how they use compost on site and then check out the hot composting demonstration

**Saturday 11 May - Composting systems explained workshop - Resource Recovery Centre - 177 Berrima Road Moss Vale 10am till 1pm.**

At this workshop we will go through four different types of composting systems. Come along to see what would suit you best - the compost bin, worm farming, bokashi or the digester. Participants will have the option at the end of the session to choose a system (excluding the digester) to try out at home.

***Bring a packed lunch to enjoy in the Education Garden - tea/coffee provided***

***Enclosed shoes required for all activities, and sensible garden clothes for community garden activities essential.***

### **BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

[Click here](#) to book for Composting week activities and nominate the activity you are booking for in the subject line.

**If any members would like to view my veggie patch, give me a ring– Tel: 48836634.**

David Humphrey.

