

Friendship through gardening

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Thursday 3rd June 9.30 for 10am at Soldiers Memorial Hall, with morning tea, trade table and library

HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

Thursday 17th June 10am at the RSL Sub-branch next to swimming pool

HIGHLANDS GARDEN SOCIETY

WINTER SEMINAR – Sunday 27th June at Mittagong RSL – see last month's newsletter for booking details

FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

None this month

Find the latest news on:



BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC

E: gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com

W: www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au

A: PO Box 25 Bundanoon 2578

Committee

President: Phillip (Ted) Ayers

M: 0403 135 873

E: gardenclubbundanoon.president@gmail.com

Vice President: Faye Dillon

Secretary: Tessa Spencer

M: 0435 193 353

E: gardenclubbundanoon.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Trish Badami

Newsletter

Editor: David Humphrey

E: dghumphrey@hotmail.com

T: 4883 6634

Contributions welcome

Online Library Catalogue

<https://bundygardenclub.libib.com/>

From the President

Winter has definitely come to the highlands. I love being able to get cosy with a hot bath and a nice fire after a day in the garden. All five of our compost bins are filled to overflowing with gorgeous Autumn leaves, slowly breaking down to become the new soil and leaf mould for Spring.

It's the perfect time in our garden to be cutting back perennials. This of course results in our two greenhouses being full of cuttings. It's a great way to grow your garden and with our monthly Trade Table and the Ramble Trade Table up and running, it's a great way to raise funds for the club. The will to live and grow that is inherent in plants always amazes me. From a small cutting, roots will form, branches will develop and flowers will bloom. The birds and the bees will thrive on the nectar and then the process will be repeated.

Three years ago I bought a 10 inch pot of Salvia Mystic Spires. Now I have 28 individual plants that give us a profusion of electric blue/purple flowers - all from cuttings.



We've had a lovely May in Bundanoon. It was great to finally get the mature trees and shrubs into the ground at the Garden of Memories. We celebrated with a light lunch and met the congregation. It was wonderful to speak to so many of them and find out more about the history of church and the garden. Once again, a big "thank you" to all our members who helped to secure the grant that made this possible and to those who have worked tirelessly on weeding, edging, trimming and digging. The gardens look wonderful and it's rewarding to see relatives visiting the graves and memorials as well as those who use the garden for leisure.

Nancy Kingsbury Memorial Park also looks wonderful. The new plants along the back fence have all settled in, the bulbs are up and the camellias and azaleas are in bloom. Sadly someone or "something" has carelessly trampled on the four pieris Christmas Cheer. The plants will survive, but they have lost quite a few branches. We will keep an eye out when at nurseries or markets for some new ones.

We're excited to be having local watercolourist Carmel Slater as our guest speaker this month. Carmel's watercolours offer a welcome distraction from our busy lives. They invite us to stop, observe and admire enchanted habitats with playful king parrots swinging upside down, delicate yellow robins and, after her recent trip to Thailand, gentle elephants, cheeky gibbons and beautiful sun bears. Her vibrant works abound with flowers and wildlife, and are in the artist's words, 'a salute to Mother Nature.' After living in Wingello for four years and being so close to the 2020 bushfires, Carmel aims to use her work to raise awareness for threatened species such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and others including koalas and native wildlife. Carmel started exhibiting her work in 2018, with her first sold out exhibition in Bungendore (March-May 2019).

Carmel will be demonstrating how to draw and we'll have three lucky members on-stage learning first-hand how easy it is to get started.

What better pastime on those cold and frosty mornings. Stay warm and enjoy the winter months ahead.

Ted.

Tree Planting in the Garden of Memories

On May 20th the club completed the project of tree renewal in the Garden of Memories at the Uniting Church in Bundanoon.

Five dead silver birch trees and one dogwood were carefully removed from the garden by arborists in late March. Three silver birches, a dogwood, and a weeping acer were then purchased from Winter Hill Tree Farm. A small dogwood and crabapple were donated to the Church by the Bundanoon Bloomery, and the Church acquired a coral bark maple to replace another memorial tree which had died.



Most of these trees were planted in during a working bee on Tuesday May 18th, which left us with just a general tidy up on the morning of the 20th.



Special guests arrived at 11.30am, there were prayers, brief speeches and a ceremonial 'watering-in' by three ladies from the Uniting Church. A casual lunch was then enjoyed by club and congregation. There was a wonderful feeling of happiness and community in the garden, and the sun shone warmly that day in an otherwise freezing week.



The tree renewal was made possible by a generous grant from Wingecarribee Shire Council, secured through the dogged pursuance and handling of copious paperwork by Steve Press and Tessa Spencer. It was a pleasure to have Corinne Buxton, WSC Community Recovery Officer, with us as we completed this wonderful project.

As gardeners we have enjoyed this task, and the appreciation shown by the Uniting Church is heartwarming.

Cat.

Friendship Gardens

So much effort is put into organising the Friendship Gardens visits by the committee, and of course by the hosts in many hours of preparation, so cancelling last month was very disappointing. But to quote the often heard phrase, 'we take the safety on our members very seriously!' The 273mm of rain recorded by Holy Trinity Church over the previous four days meant that the ground was waterlogged, the paths slippery with an abundance of leaf fall, and there was just no time to improve the situation.

With the assistance of our new committee member Carlie we have a number of willing hosts for Spring, so we will commence on the first Saturday in September (4th) with three gardens in the centre of Bundanoon. Of course we also have the Bundanoon Garden Ramble 30th - 31st October to look forward to, and Gwenneth and I will be 'rambling' with friends on Tambourine Mountain in Queensland in September, so will have photographs for the newsletter.

If you would like to offer your garden for a visit by your friends in the club, or are aware of a garden that would welcome our members, please let me know.

David.

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING AUSTRALIA

SustainABILITY
SERIES

MASTERING

Garden Pests *...naturally*

Numerous insects, reptiles, birds and other animals visit your garden daily. Most are welcome, but some can become a nuisance. Before you declare war on these intruders, perhaps learn to live with some incursions whilst heading off the main offenders. **That's the natural way!**



See this excellent information pack - [pests.pdf \(sgaonline.org.au\)](https://sgaonline.org.au/pests.pdf)

If you are 'grey nomading' this winter, remember to provide a watering regime for your veggies, or there won't be much to harvest on your return. Brassicas are the obvious stars of the show for the next few months, and sunny warmish days are speeding their growth. My broccoli is nearly ready (still didn't plant it early enough), and varieties of cabbage I should be cutting by the end of the month.

Carrots are growing well, and also I am harvesting swede, beetroot, spinach and lettuce. The broad beans and sugarsnap peas have germinated, as has the green manure on the potato bed which will be dug in to improve the soil structure before going to seed. The mesclun mix of salad leaves and radishes have germinated in the greenhouse.



I have my seed potatoes (Dutch Cream) laid out for chitting in the garage, to be planted the end of August with t

protection from the inevitable late frosts.

I have removed the overcrowded strawberry bed and replaced with bare rooted plants, and netted to give some protection from the cold.



Planting in June

Beans - broad beans, fava beans	Sow seed	Harvest from September
Garlic	Plant cloves	Harvest from October
Mustard greens (also gai choy)	Sow seed	Harvest from July
Onion	Plant out or sow seed	Harvest from November
Radish	Sow seed	Harvest from July
Spinach (also English spinach)	Sow seed	Harvest from July
Spring onions (also Scallions)	Sow seed	Harvest from August

This time two years ago I was thinking about my soil, keeping it balanced with the correct pH and minerals. Then I looked at 'My Productive Backyard's' blog on their website myproductivebackyard.com.au, and discovered that Kathy Finigan, who came to speak to us in 2019, is using a Katek product called Super Growth. She has found that instead of mixing chicken manure, blood and bone, potash, potassium, seaweed extracts and rock dust (for plenty of minerals and trace elements) together, this organic fertiliser does the job for her. She quickly follows one crop with another, so needs to keep her soil in best condition. Apart from the convenience, the cost of \$25 for 15kg is probably cheaper than purchasing all the ingredients. From the Katek website I found two local suppliers, Cooperative in Bowral (no stock) and Mount Murray Nursery where I bought a bag for the following season (it lasted two).

So now I have just bought my second bag from Mount Murray!

Town Gardens Report

We'd love to see you in the town gardens – this month we are turning our attention to helping the RSL. We're meeting at 10am on the third Thursday of the month (17th June) at the RSL Sub-Branch which is the small blue hut just inside the gates of the oval and The Bundanoon Club. Bring a mattock and a shovel and help us plant in! This is not an ongoing project for the club, we are just lending a friendly hand.

As we're into winter, we won't have that much work to do at our usual Helping Hands Working Bees. We will however, still be weeding, pruning and maintaining the gardens. We've also introduced a sausage sizzle and warm drink at the end of each day so we can get together as a group and have a good old natter!

Nancy Kingsbury Memorial Garden



The deciduous trees are dropping their leaves, the camellias and azaleas are in bloom and the new plantings have settled in. In July, we'll be doing some light weeding in the back bed and side bed. Hopefully we'll also plant in some new peris.

ANZAC Memorial Garden

The garden looked wonderful for the raising of the new flags on Reconciliation Day (27th May). Andy Carnahan (President of BCA) was on hand with a class of enthusiastic children from Bundanoon PS to hoist the flags high in the fresh breeze. This garden is a real focal point for town events.



Garden of Memories

We'll turn our attention to this garden in July. Only light weeding will be required and the hedges need to be trimmed. We'd also like to plant in some new ground cover at the base of the new mature trees. If anyone has any excessive ajuga or native violets they like to donate, please contact Ted on 0403 135 873.

WE NEED YOUR OLD POTS

Last month we suggested that we'd like to have a fully paid for Christmas Party. However, we really do need to ask all our members to help raise the money to make this possible. To get us started, we need your help by donating any surplus plants to our Trade Table. We also need your old black plastic pots. Please bring any clean black plastic pots that you have hanging around. Ideally we'd like black 8 inch and 10 inch pots.



Outings and excursions

We're in the process of organising two outings. **They will both be self-drive with car-pooling.** Hopefully the current status of COVID 19 restrictions will remain as they are.

1: Retford Park



Photo: National Trust

We are planning a special guided tour or self-tour of Retford Park gardens or the gardens and house on **Tuesday August 24 at 11am.**

- Self-guided garden visit with welcome & introduction – Adult \$15, **concession \$10**, National Trust members free.
- Private garden tour (allow min 90 mins) – Adult \$28, **concession \$20**, National Trust members \$17
- Private house tour + self-guided garden visit (allow min 2.5 hours) – Adult \$28, **concession \$20**, National Trust members \$17
- Premium visit – includes private guided tour of both house and garden (allow min 3 hours) – Adult \$43, **concession \$30**, National Trust members \$25

Booking is essential. We'll have forms at the next meeting for you to fill in your preference.

2: Crookwell Garden Festival



Crookwell Garden Festival invites us to experience the joy of their 2021 gardens.

Crookwell Garden Festival is in full planning mode now for the festival on **6-7 November** and they are looking forward to welcoming visitors in person this year. The gardens weren't able to open last November but all are likely to open in 2021. We're awaiting more details, but "SAVE THE DATE".

TIME FOR A YULE LOG



The Yule Log presents as a nice Christmas Tradition, and in Australia we like to add it to our Christmas In July celebrations, but the true origins are far older. Yule is a pagan celebration, tied to the Winter Solstice, which in the Northern Hemisphere occurs on 22 December. Early Christians were canny and quick to adapt the rituals of earlier religions to their own format.

Here in the Antipodes the Winter Solstice occurs on 21 June. So why wait till the end of July to get your Yule Log happening? Winterfest is coming!

If you have an open fire, you can follow the old tradition of burning a large Yule Log. The original logs burned for twelve nights, sound familiar? You might prefer something a little smaller. Decorate it with a red ribbon, pine cones, ivy and juniper or other greenery, and pop some aromatics into the mix. Attach all decorations with beeswax if possible. Pagans would ritually drench the log in ale, but perhaps it would be nicer to enjoy the ale while watching the log burn.

Another way to enjoy a Yule Log is to create a table centrepiece from a small birch log. Drill holes for thin red tapers, and decorate with holly berries – conveniently out on trees around the village right now. Add aromatics such as cloves, cinnamon sticks and rosemary, and essential oils such as

frankincense rubbed on to the wood or tucked away on a cotton ball. Originally created to ward off evil spirits, this will perfume your home.



And of course, if your preferred Yule Log is a rolled sponge cake, so much the better! Yum.

Happy Solstice.

Cat.



Early in May BGC members Tessa and Cat spent a fun, if damp, morning at the Bundanoon school assisting the potting up of local native tubestock. The Regrow Wingecarribee School Children Planting Project was created to help regeneration of bushfire affected habitats in residential and community green spaces.

The program provides local schools with local native tube stock for school children to nurture, grow and pot up for the purpose of providing them to



residents of the Wingecarribee impacted by bushfires. This opportunity provides school children the opportunity to learn about the local native plant species, habitats, ecosystems, along with the impact disasters have on the environment and communities.

All of the tube stock was sourced from local native nurseries, and Bunnings Mittagong contributed potting mix and tools for the children. Our club loves a good community initiative so we were very happy to assist.



Thanks to Corinne Buxton from Wingecarribee Shire Council and to Headmistress Mel for inviting us. The students were wildly enthusiastic and willing to learn the proper way to pot up. We might have some budding junior gardeners there!

This was also an excellent opportunity for our club to interact with the Activities Officer from Bunnings, as we have requested their assistance with sponsored soil/fertiliser/plants for our Town Gardens later in the year.

Cat.

From Our Treasurer Trish Badami

BGC Opening Balance of Rediaccess Account was:	\$14,141.40
Income was:	\$ 659.59
Expenditure was:	\$ 774.73
Balance as at 21/5/21:	\$14,026.00
Add : Petty Petty Cash:	\$ 135.00
Add: Trade Table Float:	\$ 45.00
TOTAL BALANCE as at 20th May 2021	\$14,206.26

Really enjoying this sunshine. Looking forward to seeing you all next week.

Trish.

Garden Club Annual Subscriptions

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you still need to renew, please see Trish Badami and Alison Ayers at the next meeting, or pay by bank transfer to the Bundanoon Garden Club BSB 802-101 A/c: 358047. The annual subscription is \$25.

MEMBERSHIP BADGE

You will receive your updated membership badge at the next meeting after you join or renew. It should be worn at meetings and any other official club outings.

NEW MEMBERS

We love new members. If you know anyone interested in joining, please direct them to the form on our website.

<https://www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au/membership>

Or of course just bring them along as a visitor to the next meeting and we can handle the paperwork then.

Cat.

Big picture: How artists paint enormous silo murals and city art



[Big picture: How artists including Rone paint enormous silo murals and city art - ABC News](#)

myopengarden



You might like to visit one of these gardens that are open regularly, or by appointment:

- [Campbell Rhododendron Gardens](#) : Blackheath
- [Everglades Historic House & Gardens](#) : Leura
- [Gory'u Japanese Gardens](#) : Little Hartley
- [Harpers Mansion National Trust \(NSW\)](#) : Berrima (pictured above)
- [Merribee](#) : Numbaa
- [Perenniale Plants Nursery](#) : Canowindra
- [Retford Park - National Trust of Australia \(NSW\)](#) : Bowral
- [Secret Garden and Nursery](#) : Richmond
- [Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens](#) : Bowral
- [Tablelands Trees and Shrubs Garden & Nursery](#) : Cooma
- [Wildwood Garden](#) : Bilpin

Click on the link(s) provided to get the full details about open days and times. Events are shown here because they are within about 300kms of your postcode area. Please double check our listing, and an events own website if available, prior to going to make sure that it is open when you are planning a visit.

We hope you have a chance to enjoy the above event or one of the regularly open gardens.

... and when you visit don't forget to let the garden owners or event organisers know that you heard about them on My Open Garden! Then afterwards why not add a comment to their profile page on our website.

Warm regards from
The My Open Garden team.

Elaine and Les Musgrave's Garden – The Kaya

As announced in the [myopengarden](#) item last month, we visited The Kaya on Sunday 2nd May.



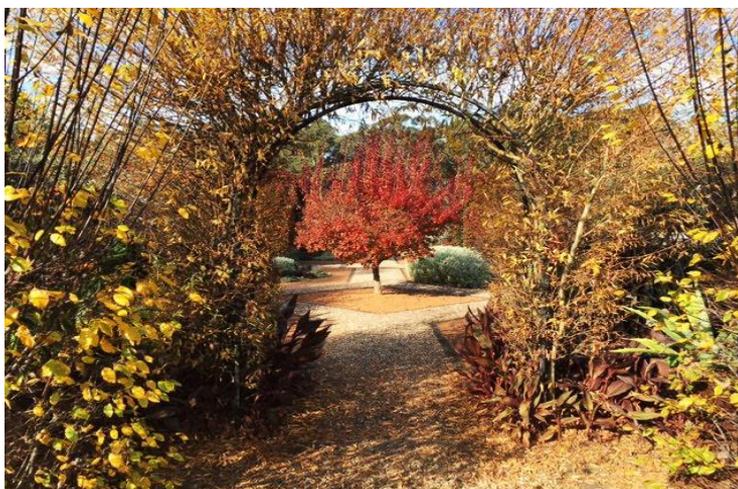
When this 5 acre property was purchased 12 years ago by horticulturist Les Musgrave and his botanical artist wife Elaine, they set about making the garden their own by incorporating evergreen structure and extending the garden beyond the immediate house area into the surrounding 5 acres.



It has become an outstanding garden of exceptional design and inspirational plant combinations. The large gravelled parterre has been designed as a 'non green' garden and includes plants chosen for their interesting foliage, colours and textures including arches of trimmed 'Crimson Century' maples. There are meadow-like mown grass paths leading past dramatic plantings of ornamental grasses, hydrangeas and exuberant groupings of moisture-tolerant plants. There are many deciduous trees including Maples, Oaks and Claret Ash. This is a true plantsman's garden.

Also within the garden at The Kaya is Elaine's working studio. Elaine works in watercolour and in graphite and on display were a number of original paintings as well as limited edition prints and greeting cards.

Gwenneth and David.





Excellent website and free online magazine, take a look! Thanks Carlie for finding this.

<http://www.aussiegardener.com.au>

TRADE TABLE

We're very happy to see the return of the Trade Table. We do however need your help. Any spare bulbs, tubers or plants are most welcomed. The Trade Table is not only an important way for us to raise money for club activities, but it's also a great way to share your garden with other members – at a very good price \$\$\$\$!

PROPAGATE FOR RAMBLE (another reminder)

Every Ramble the Garden Club has a Trade Table where we sell our plants. NOW is the time to be taking cuttings of your perennials and potting them up to help us have another successful Ramble. Most soft wood plants propagate easily from cuttings. Here's a quick set of tips:



- Take a cutting about 10-15cm from the top where the leaves meet the stem
 - Strip back the next set of leaves
 - Dip into hormone power or liquid (some use honey or Vegemite)
 - Set the cutting in a loose well-draining propagation mix
 - Water with a weak fish or seaweed mix
 - Keep them in a warm sheltered place
- ...and in 2 – 4 weeks, you should see some roots developing. Pot them on and keep them sheltered. By Ramble, you'll have plants that our visitors will love and buy! By helping out with this, you're helping raise funds that will go back into our club so we can have more fun activities!

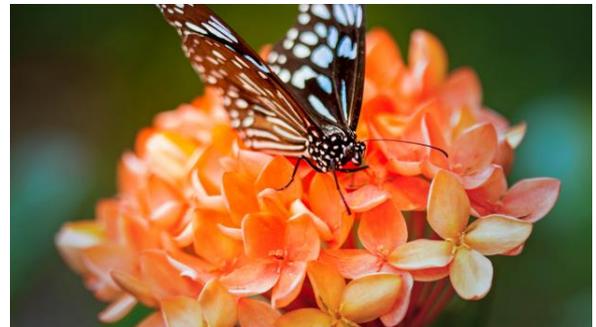
Ted.

Our Speaker this month – CARMEL SLATER

On Thursday have the very talented water colourist Carmel Slater. Her art offers us a view of the world from her perspective. Whether it's playful King Parrots, dainty petals or flower and native wildlife, Carmel's work never ceases to amaze and delight.



The power of pollination



[The power of pollination | Organic Gardener Magazine Australia](#)

Ecosia Search Engine



It may be of interest to club members that there's an alternative search engine to Google called **Ecosia**. It is a non-profit organisation that contributes its profits to tree planting and soil regeneration around the world. This aspect alone might make it a more attractive search option to garden / nature lovers.

It has other benefits in that searches are encrypted and not stored permanently and data is not sold to third-party advertisers. The company does not create personal profiles based on search history. It also provides its financial reports on its site for the public to view.

Here's the **Ecosia** site: <https://www.ecosia.org>
And here's a blog which explains its advantages in detail: <https://blog.ecosia.org/50-reasons-to-use-ecosia/>

Ruth Spence-Stone.

A frosty reception

Frost delights children with its crunchy white lawns (the closest thing to snow for many Aussie kids), but it's rarely welcomed in the same way by gardeners. Certainly, at the right time, its touch intensifies autumn foliage colour, improves flavour and yield of many brassicas and cool climate berries, and encourages robust bud formation in fruits such as cherries and pears. When it arrives too early, however, it ruins autumn harvests and, if it lingers into spring, shrivels flowers and decimates crops....



[A frosty reception | Organic Gardener Magazine Australia](#)

New recordings of critically endangered night parrots music to ears of Kimberley rangers, scientists



It could be Australia's rarest bird and was only photographed for the first time in 2015, but new evidence collected by Indigenous rangers has uncovered the country's largest known night parrot population.

Ngurrpa and Kiwirrkurra rangers have been making recordings of night parrot calls for the past six months, from sites across 100 kilometres of the Great Sandy Desert in the southern Kimberley.

The recordings are music to the ears of University of Queensland night parrot researcher, Nick Leseberg.

"It's probably the largest population that we know of at the moment," he said.

[New recordings of critically endangered night parrots music to ears of Kimberley rangers, scientists - ABC News](#)

How to grow sweet potatoes in water at home



Just one tuber and a bit of light and water can give you a stunning indoor plant and your own homegrown sweet potato harvest.

[How to grow sweet potatoes in water at home - ABC Everyday](#)

Monstera deliciosa: Everything you need to know about the Swiss cheese plant



Did you know you can eat the fruit on your fruit salad plant?

When the *Monstera deliciosa's* fruit is ripe, its green scales fall off and its inside turns a creamy yellow colour.

Rudi Louis Taylor-Bragge, a horticulturalist and plant shop owner, says the *deliciosa's* fruit "kind of looks like a straight banana". When ripe, the fruit "is delicious," Rudi says.

[Monstera deliciosa: Everything you need to know about the Swiss cheese plant - ABC Everyday](#)

Indoor plant sales boom due to COVID-19, says nursery industry



More than 2.2 billion plants were produced and sold in Australia in the past year.

[Indoor plant sales boom due to COVID-19, says nursery industry - ABC News](#)

Autumn daffodil!

This daffodil made its appearance in my garden last Saturday - 1st May. In our 15 years here I have never seen one in bloom so early. Perhaps it knows the winter is going to be very cold & is getting a head start!



What a great meeting yesterday - all very professional indeed. And I could hear everything very well. All of your speakers were excellent.

Annette Wade.

Dishing up a natural solution



Here's a simple, natural recipe for dishwasher soap tablets to use in your dishwasher.

[Dishing up a natural solution | Organic Gardener Magazine Australia](#)

Speaker for July meeting

The guest speaker for our July Meeting will be Luke Maitland from Native Grace Nursery at Robertson. One of the things Luke will discuss is how to create a pretty cottage garden look with hardy native plants.



Sandy Weir will be in the Garden Lounge segment with Ted and will update us on all the latest news about Garden Ramble.

The Garden as Breath: A Sydney Garden Designed by Spirit Level



<https://theplanthunter.com.au/gardens/the-garden-as-breath-a-sydney-garden-designed-by-spirit-level/>

This is an article about a Sydney garden and I love the philosophy behind the design, and the beauty of the garden.

Veronica Rickard.



Members who attended our May meeting will remember Faye's fabulous scoop made from a plastic juice bottle. **Reduce, reuse, recycle!**

Ted has made a short film showing how to make the scoop. You can also use a milk bottle, but the juice bottles are more rigid. Faye prefers a sharp point on her scoop. Controversially, Ted advocates a rounded profile. See the how-to film here. - [\(2\) Watch | Facebook](#)

6 things to get done in your garden this winter

Don't let the cooler weather deter you from getting stuck into the garden. Here's what to get done during winter.

While it might be cold outside, work in the garden will give you a [warm glow in both body and mind](#). Here are some winter gardening jobs to get you started.

1. Help the rain soak in

If your soil has been dry for an extended period it can become water-repellent (hydrophobic), even after heavy rains. Look for water pooling on the surface, which can be fixed with a good soil wetting agent and/or seaweed-based additives.

Remove heavy layers of autumn leaves that can stop the rain getting to the soil. Use these excess leaves to make nutrient-rich compost.

2. Get stuck into weed control

With rain comes weeds. Make sure you remove weeds before they mature and set seed. Weeding by hand can give an effective result. Be careful to remove roots and all, and use garden hoes or tillers for larger areas.

3. Get on top of those jobs

This is the perfect time to get on top of 'those jobs'. The ones that have been niggling in the back of your mind.

Do you need to relocate underperforming plants to a more suitable spot, or replace them with something else? Do you need to attend to a garden path or fix some irrigation?

Life is busy but once these chores are ticked off your list, you will have time to focus on the more satisfying activities.

4. Veggie patch-up

Winter's the time to prune your existing fruit trees or buy new ones to put in the ground. It's also a great time for planting brassicas (such as brussel sprouts and cauliflower), lettuce and Chinese vegetables.

Take the time to tidy up your veggie garden, enrich the soil with compost and start thinking about what you're going to plant next season.

Check with your local nursery to see if they have any new veggies you'd like to try growing.

5. Take time to prune

Winter is a good time to prune for structure on young deciduous trees. Because these trees are without leaves, the form of the tree can be seen easily, so crossing wood, double leaders and a plethora of other problems can be picked up early.

Hydrangea pruning can also be done now the flower buds have set. The old wood can be pruned out and the shrubs pruned back to those healthy fat flower buds for a good display next year.

Rose pruning is a winter must – any time from July onwards is fine. When you've finished, apply a seaweed-based product to condition the soil, which will help the plant with drought tolerance, resistance to frost and attack from pests and disease.

6. Start something new

Put the kettle on and get cosy indoors as you make plans for your garden. Think about whether you would like a new design or theme for your garden.

Is it time to add more shade or to plant native plants [to encourage native wildlife into your outdoor space?](#) [Birds](#) [bees](#), [butterflies](#) and other [little creatures](#) will do wonders for your garden by helping to pollinate veggies and gobble up pest insects. [Native bee](#) hotel, anyone?

So when the rain pours and the wind howls, get online to do some research, plan your project and you'll be ready for action when there's a break in the clouds.

[From the Botanic Gardens of South Australia blog](#)

Winter Savory

Little known and used, winter savory, *Satureja montana* comes into its own in winter. As the days draw in and cold nights become more



frequent, its warm, spicy fragrance and taste enhances the flavour of slow-cooked soups and stews.

[Winter savory | Organic Gardener Magazine Australia](#)