

*Friendship through gardening*

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - 9.30 for 10am

## FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

None this month

## HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

None this month

Find the latest news on:



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**Contributions welcome**

## President's Report

Bundanoon is just about to get a little bit more beautiful! As your president, I had a very welcome phone call this week from Rosemary Hans, who is the Tree and Vegetation Maintenance Officer for Wingecarribee Shire Council. She informed me that a notice has been sent to residents along Railway Avenue to communicate the council's intention to plant 20 new Crab Apple (*Malus ioensis* 'plena' STD – Crabapple - Betchels Standard) trees from Osborne Street up to the service station. This will match the existing Crab Apples that start at the edge of the retail precinct and stop outside Bottega B.

This is encouraging news. In a follow-up letter they have confirmed that they are implementing a policy across the Council that will see many trees planted with special consideration to the "right tree in the right place." The process will ensure that the new trees work with the fabric of the villages, improve tree selection, increase diversity and aid climate change issues. The planting will occur during Winter and up to Spring 2022. I know our committee member, Carlie Gould was one of the residents to petition council, so well done Carlie!

Our May working bee concentrated on Nancy Kingsbury Memorial Park. The morning was sunny and cool. We raked the fallen leaves and stacked them in the back of the beds to rot down and return to the soil. Three oak leaf hydrangeas were planted along the side fence and two more in the beds to the rear of the park. Shrubs were clipped and tidied up. We finished the day with a warming cup of tea and cake.



Thanks to everyone who has helped out during the year in the town gardens. They all look wonderful and now they and us can have a rest over winter. We'll be back in September to battle the weeds, plant up more shrubs and shape and prune the trees.

Happy gardening in your own space.

**Ted Ayers – President.**

# President's Round-up

## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER – JIM POWELL – CAMELLIA AUSTRALIA

Our June speaker is quite the enthusiast. Jim Powell will be talking to us about the Colourful World of Camellias. Jim is a past president of Camellia Australia and is the current Registrar of Camellia Australia and has been instrumental in identifying, naming and cataloguing all known camellias in Australia. He often travels to China and Japan seeking new varieties to cultivate in Australia. He has a personal collection of over 700 camellias. He's a very lively speaker and I think that we'll have a very entertaining talk from Jim.



## JULY SPEAKER - DOMINIC WONG

I'm delighted to announce that our July speaker is the renowned peony grower Dominic Wong. Dominic will be showing us how to successfully grow these beautiful plants. He will also have some of his stock plants for sale, so make sure you get in early.

## WORKSHOP 1 – DIVIDING PERENIALS THURSDAY 14TH JULY 1.00 PM – 2.30 PM

Join us at a special Workshop at The Shrubbery, Exeter. Jason and Billy will show us how to best divide our perennials. This is a hands-on workshop and you'll learn all the professional tips and tricks. We'll also provide afternoon tea. You will be able to take a walk around their private garden and purchase plants at a special Garden Club discount. Tickets are limited (20 places only available), and the cost is \$10.00. You can book your place with Alison Ayers at the Membership Desk on Thursday. It will be a wonderful, insightful and social day, so don't miss out. Dividing perennials not only improves their performance, it's also a great way of making more plants at no cost. Old clumps of perennials often end up with a bare patch in the middle, or simply produce fewer flowers. There are many perennials that can be split now in autumn - among them sedum, primulas, hostas, astrantia and Bergenia. The secret to dividing perennials is to be brave. Dig up clumps with a fork or even a spade, getting all the roots out. It helps to shake off as much soil as possible so that you can see the roots clearly. Billy and Jason will show you how it's done and then – it's your turn!



## SEPTEMBER EXCURSION - TULIP TOPS, SUTTON



We're planning a self-drive excursion to Tulip Tops at Sutton on **Tuesday 20th September 2022**. Tessa has negotiated a special Garden Club admission cost of \$17 (normally \$20). The gardens will look amazing and facilities are incredible. There's plenty of on-site catering, or you can bring your own picnic lunch. There are winding paths, ponds and grottos, flowering cherry trees, conifers, streams, waterfalls, maples and of course – Tulips. Sutton is an easy 1.5hr drive, so pop it in your diary. We'll be

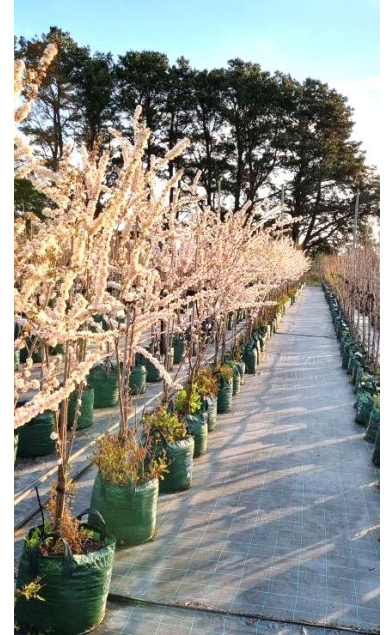
selling tickets from July.

## PLANTING IN MATURE TREES

Planting in mature trees is best done in late Autumn (when the leaves have dropped), Winter or Spring when the tree is either dormant (Winter) or is about to leaf (Spring). The recommended way to plant in a mature tree (up to 45 litres) is to first look at the site. Then take the time to research what tree is going to be best suited. Check the height and width details of the tree and the speed at which it grows. There's nothing worse than planting a large tree too close to a building, only to have to dig it up and relocate it a few years later.

Likewise, give your tree enough space to become the hero it wants to be. Try to imagine what it's going to look like in five to ten years' time. How will it sit with the other trees, garden beds and shrubs? Consider its shape. Will it be a vase shape, or a candle? Prune the branches to create a balanced form. One simple way to imagine this is to go from the bottom branch, then left to right of the trunk. If one side has too many branches on either side, remove these.

Dig your planting hole at least twice the size of the pot the tree is in. Give your new tree a good water. Knock it out of its pot and if possible tickle some of the roots apart. If badly pot-bound, I use my gardening knife to stab through the root ball and loosen the roots. Place the tree in the hole ensuring that the base of the trunk is higher than the ground. You don't want to create a well. Given that the heat of summers just a few years back is likely to return, I also put an irrigation pipe into the hole, so I can get water down to the deep roots if the summers are too hot.



Double check that you're happy with the profile that you will see the most. Fill the hole with a good quality garden soil and mulch. Water your new tree with a seaweed solution. To help the roots establish themselves, stake the tree. I drive a stake at 45 degrees into the ground with the top of the stake facing into the prevailing wind. Strap the tree to the stake using either rubber tree braces or cloth twine.

You must ensure that you keep the tree watered for at least the first couple of months.

For expert advice on mature trees try these local nurseries:

The Shrubbery - 650 Sallys Crn Rd Exeter, Billy 0437 333 304

Winterhill Tree Farm – 2233 Canyonleigh Rd, Canyonleigh, Ph 4878 9193

Mesara Tree Farm - 65 George Emery Lane, Glenquarry, Ph 02 4887 1284

**Ted.**

## Can you recommend someone for gardening and/or mowing?



Sometimes one of our members is unable to keep up with gardening tasks for a while and needs a helping hand. The Bundanoon Garden Club has provided help in the past and it is something we want to re-establish - it might be a small working bee or the offer of time from a professional gardener/landscaper.

We'd like to create a list of reliable, reasonably priced people who we can call on or recommend.

Please [contact the Committee](#) if you have someone you can recommend.

**Tessa.**

Last weekend Australians let Canberra know we are no longer prepared to wait for action on climate change. It is early days for the new Government but there is reason to be hopeful that meaningful action is on the way. About time! However, we can't rely on politics. Grassroots climate action is more important than ever. Growing our own food, composting, planting trees, reducing plastic, caring about our pollinators - these are all acts of climate champions! Let's all keep up the good work.

**David.**

I would not be without a greenhouse. For me it is not a panacea for every veggie, although it may be possible to grow just about anything in one, at any time of year (even in the Highlands) if your financial resources are unlimited – heat, grow lights, aircon etc, and you have lots of time.

Planting and growing are enjoyable tasks not only during spring and summer. For people who own a greenhouse, it is a year-round joy. A greenhouse is your healthiest backyard investment for fresh produce throughout the whole year. I use mine to supplement not what can't be grown outdoors in this cool climate, but rather what can be grown better, faster, earlier and relatively pest free in a somewhat controlled environment.

In the summer it is mostly tomatoes. As soon as mature plants hit the nurseries I purchase our favourite variety, Mighty Red. I will also from seed be growing a small variety Cherry Ripe, some for the greenhouse and some for outside. I will also plant cucumbers, and probably keep the perpetual spinach going. When all the tomatoes are finished, I revert to my autumn/winter sowings of cos lettuce, mixed salad leaves, rocket, radish and spring onions, and transplant new spinach plants grown from seed under my grow light. I also sow a row of climbing snow peas to over winter for an early spring harvest.



In early spring when the first sown salad bed has finished, I sow bush beans. I leave a space behind them for the Mighty Red tomatoes, and the beans will be finished in time to plant the Cherry Ripe tomatoes.

I do not use any heat in the greenhouse, and in summer my only methods of temperature control are open doors, roof ventilation, a misting system to control humidity, and shade cloth. The yearly temperatures can range from 0 to 40 degree, but excluding frost, too many UV rays which can scorch the tomatoes, and regular watering to promote steady growth are all achievable.

My greenhouse is not pest free. I expect my usually resident blue tongue is a help, but snails, white fly and caterpillars, and an occasional rat, are on-going problems. It is wise to net the openings to prevent cabbage white butterflies from entering; I use eco-shield organic snail and slug killer; and eco-oil for whitefly and anything else aphid like.

I do not change all the soil in my greenhouse. I am careful to remove all dead material, and anything that looks in the least diseased. I do top up constantly with nutrient rich compost, adding blood and bone and Katek Super Booster pelleted fertiliser. As I mentioned last month, I am a Charlie Carp convert for foliar feeding, and I am as organic and eco-friendly as possible. My one wish.... a larger greenhouse!

This on average is my annual planting schedule:

9 Oct	– Plant Mighty Red tomatoes back of both beds
2 Nov	– Plant Cherry Ripe tomatoes and cucumbers (Lebanese and Burpless) both beds
25 Mar	– Sow salad on one side bed
7 May	– Sow salad, and snow peas back of second side bed
20 Aug	– Sow bush beans on first side bed

Planting outside in June (probably last opportunity)

Broad Beans (also Fava bean)	Sow seed	Harvest from September
Garlic	Plant cloves	Harvest from October
Mustard greens (also gai choy)	Sow seed	Harvest from July
Onion	Plant out (transplant) seedlings 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

## LAST MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKERS DIANNA AND ALLEN FROM ANTONIA'S IRISES

For those who missed 'Antonia's Irises' last meeting, here is a synopsis of the presentation.



The business is named after Dianna's mother who, with her husband, first emigrated to New Zealand from the Netherlands in 1957 to begin dairy farming. They were both keen gardeners and growing vegetables and fruit were part and parcel of country life. It was Dianna's mum, Antonia van Gaal, who loved seasonal colour from flower gardens, and she inspired Dianna to establish a commercial garden when she moved to Bathurst.

Neither Dianna nor Allen are horticulturists or botanists, but Allen's parents were orchardists so together they confidentially decided to start a garden business – building it literally from the ground up. That was in 2013. Antonia's Irises is based at the Beekeeper's Inn, which is owned by the Lockwood family.

Once the site was cleared truck loads of soil was tipped, the top 20cm of which was premium grade vegetable mix, the best soil for growing iris with a neutral pH of 6, and is porous and loamy.

Iris don't like getting their feet wet, so they built raised garden beds using old railway sleepers. Bearded Iris like to be planted about 30cm apart if they're tall, and 15cm if they're medium height. They like full sun so a north or easterly aspect is ideal.

Planting started in April with stock arriving from TAS, VIC, NSW and SA. It was a little later than they would have liked, but still two months before the end of Autumn which is the best time to plant. The beds are planted in colour bands so for example row 2 has the blues and purples: row 3 the reds and pinks; row 4 orange and lemons, 5 bi-colours and 6 multi-colours.

Over the years they've tried a number of colour combinations, and a favourite is chocolate and pink (Huckleberry Fudge and Taj Regis). They also like blue and white together, with a pop of colour using a blue and yellow multi-colour variety 'Designer's Art'.



Like every flower, the bearded iris has an air of romanticism. In Greek mythology, Iris was The Goddess of the Rainbow. It was believed she transverses the rainbow carrying God's messages from Heaven to Earth.

The genetic origins of the bearded iris however hail from Persia, or modern-day Iran. Surviving hot dessert heat during the day and cold nights the bearded iris became adept to capturing dew to keep it alive through extreme weather conditions. This is possibly why it did so well throughout our recent drought years.

Around Oct and Nov Antonia's Irises are open to the public. They try to choose a time when the early blooms are just about to finish and the mid season varieties have just opened.

At the end of the presentation we were given a very informative Dig 'n Divide demonstration.

Dianna and Allen have kindly provided some additional information.

[A Planting Guide](#) for anyone who might like a refresher on digging, dividing and planting Bearded Iris. (*now on our website*)

The herbicide used to keep grass weeds under control is called Apparent Salvo 212. It doesn't harm the Iris plants and is less expensive than Fusilade. The best time to use it is September when grasses are just emerging.

[Antonia's Irises - Growers of Bearded Irises - Bathurst NSW \(antoniagirises.com.au\)](http://antoniagirises.com.au)

**David.**

# Seasonal Kitchen



This month we have a real treat – a lush dessert masquerading as a cake.



Many thanks to Carlie Gould for this recipe. Make it soon, while rhubarb is still in season. Serve warm with lashings of hot vanilla custard or cold double cream.

**Wholemeal and Ginger Rhubarb Upside-down Cake**

200g unrefined caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling and to finish

6-8 rhubarb stalks

175g butter, softened and cut into small pieces, plus extra for greasing

175g SR wholemeal flour, plus extra for dusting

½ tsp baking powder

Pinch of fine ground sea salt

3 eggs

3 pieces of stem ginger preserved in syrup, chopped

1 tbsp ginger syrup

Heat the oven to 180 degrees C, 160 fan forced.

Cut a circle of baking paper to fit the base of a 23cm springform cake tin. Remove the lined base of the ring and sprinkle over a little caster sugar. Then lay the rhubarb stalks over the base side by side, trim the edges so you are left with a nice disk of stalks that covers the base. Grease the ring of the cake tin with butter and dust with flour. Then pop the base, stalks in place, into the ring and secure.

Sift the four together with the baking powder and salt. Beat the butter and 200g sugar together until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time, sprinkling one heaped teaspoon of the flour mixture with each addition of egg.

Using a spoon, fold in the remaining flour mixture and the chopped stem ginger and syrup, until fully combined. Spoon the mixture carefully over the rhubarb in the tin, spreading it out lightly and

evenly. Place the cake in the oven and bake for about 40 minutes, until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Allow the cake to cool in the tin for about 5-10 minutes, then turn out on to a serving plate, so that the rhubarb is on the top. Sprinkle with a little caster sugar and serve.

**Cat.**

## From our Treasurer

Hello Everyone

Here are the Financials for May.

### BGC Opening Balance 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

<b>Rediaccess Account</b> was	<b>\$ 14991.36</b>
Income was:	\$ 1276.43
Expenditure was:	\$ 1678.91
<b>Balance as at 19/4/22</b>	<b>\$ 14649.84</b>

Add: Petty Cash	\$ 115.00
Add: Trade Table Float:	\$ 45.00
Add: Raffle Float	\$ 20.00

### Funds held as at 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022     **\$ 14829.84**

Regards

**Alison.**

## All About Weeds

by SGA

Let's find out more about why we call some plants weeds and why they are not all really bad. So that we can think usefully about removing unwanted species we need to get a full picture of their negative and, dare I say it, positive impacts.



There are many interpretations of what a weed is, dependent on, amongst other things, personal preference for

plants and their particular role, use or contribution to a home, person or landscape. We thank Bridey Oliver for research and draft of this article.

### What is a Weed?

*"....a weed is simply a plant which in a particular place at a particular time arouses human dislike..."*

William Stearn - Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society 1956<sup>1</sup>.

[All About Weeds | Sustainable Gardening Australia \(sgaonline.org.au\)](http://sgaonline.org.au)

## How to grow and care for phalaenopsis orchids (moth orchids)



Moth orchids (*Phalaenopsis* spp) are tropical orchids that are commonly grown as flowering indoor plants throughout the world. They display an exotic allure that defies the ease with which they can be grown.

What you need to know about phalaenopsis orchids.....

<https://www.bunnings.com.au/diy-advice/garden/planting-and-growing/how-to-grow-and-care-for-phalaenopsis-orchids?>

## June Winter Gardening

Winter is here! For some people this is cause for celebration. For others it is cause for commiseration. For your garden it is just another season which will either see it go from strength to strength or see it fall over, depending on how well you care for it.



There are many plants which hibernate throughout winter and so June is a good time to start giving them a trim. Roses can start to be pruned now though I myself usually wait until July to August.

Other flowers like Hydrangeas would benefit greatly from trimming off the old flowers and growth to allow it to jump into spring with a burst of energy and healthy new shoots. Remember, pruning promotes growth.

If you have decided that you actually want to plant a new rose garden then June is the month for you! By planting new roses now, you give them a good chance to get established throughout winter and ready for solid growth and flowering into spring.

Pick a mix of colours and aromatic roses and place them in a well prepared garden bed. Feed them a good rose fertiliser. Also make sure you mulch well.

Don't mulch too close to the stem, leave about a 15-30cm gap all the way around. This will help keep moisture close to the young plants but will also help to fight off frost in cold areas.

Make sure you keep your winter vegetables well fertilised. Thrive All Purpose fertiliser is as good as any, in my opinion, for this. Follow the directions on the label for application.

Generally it is best to apply fertiliser to your winter vegetables every two weeks. This will help your veggies to grow fast and give you a solid yield. Also during winter it is very important that you get on top of your garden weed situation.

Preferably this is solved by maintaining a solid layer of mulch but if you still have not gotten around to this the manual option is important. If you don't get on top of weeds in winter, they will spread because the extra water available will allow them to really thrive.

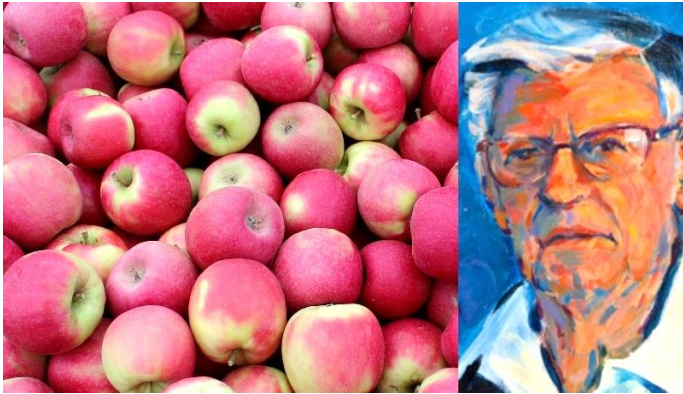
This can cause them to move into new areas of your garden that may have previously been free from the serial pests.

June is another good month to split up shrubs like daisies and lavender and plant them in other parts of your garden. Make sure you choose big sections to transplant.

The extra water (in mild and temperate climates) will help the plant to establish well but the lack of sun can still be an issue. Also make sure that you cut off any flowers, both alive and dead to ensure that all of the plants energy can be directed towards growing new roots.

[Monthly Gardening Tips Australia - Aussie Green Thumb](#)

## Creator of the world famous Pink Lady apple John Cripps dies, aged 95



- John Cripps AO was the inventor of the Pink Lady apple, a culmination of 25 years of research
- He is recognised by the apple growing industry for his "remarkable contribution"
- His legacy lives on as the Pink Lady apple is sold internationally

<https://apple.news/A6Lce3F3cQx6uxReleaUS0Q>

## The rush to renewable energy means a new mining boom. But first, Australia needs to make some tough choices



Electric cars, solar panels, large batteries and wind turbines — the technology needed to go green relies on what can be a dirty industry.

"It's absolutely ironic, but to save the planet we are going to need more mines," says Allison Britt, director of mineral resources at government agency Geoscience Australia.

The need for one of the biggest increases in mining the world has ever seen is forcing some tough choices and redrawing old battlelines between environmentalists and miners.

[https://apple.news/ABA8g7CI1SLsvXKUPins\\_rw](https://apple.news/ABA8g7CI1SLsvXKUPins_rw)

## The best plants for different areas of your home



For Jason Chongue, plants are what brings a home together.

The author and plant stylist says plants are an affordable (and sometimes even free) way to brighten up a space, especially if you focus on interesting colours and textures.

However, it's important not to focus on looks alone.

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### TURN YOUR HOME INTO A COMPOSTING MACHINE

Our in-depth guide for turning waste into garden gold.



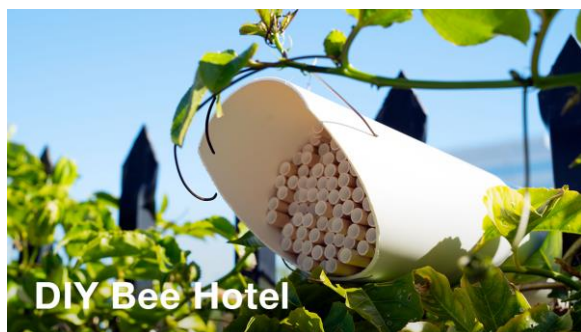
Did you know in Australia at home we throw out 2.5 million tonnes of compost potential at home into the bin each year?

[Turn Your Home into a Composting Machine | The Little Veggie Patch Co](#)

Just a reminder...



We missed World Bee Day on 20<sup>th</sup> May, but here is an easy DIY Bee Hotel project that you can make with the children in your family, to help the abundance of native bees in your yard!



Australia is home to more than 1,600 species of native bees, the majority of which are solitary. Unlike honeybees, solitary bees build their own nests, but they also appreciate man-made bee hotels. These hotels mimic a stack of reeds or plant stems that a bee might find in the wild.

[Build a Bee Hotel](#)  (mailchi.mp)

## I NEVER HEARD CREATION EXPLAINED THIS WAY BEFORE!

**1.** In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth and populated the Earth with broccoli, cauliflower and spinach, green and yellow and red vegetables of all kinds, so Man and Woman would live long and healthy lives.

**2.** Then using God's great gifts, Satan created Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream and Krispy Crème Donuts. And Satan said, "You want chocolate with that?" And Man said, "Yes!" and Woman said, "and as long as you're at it, add some sprinkles." And they gained 10 pounds And Satan smiled.

**3.** And God created the healthful yogurt that Woman might keep the figure that Man found so fair. And Satan brought forth white flour from the wheat, and sugar from the cane and combined them. And Woman went from size 6 to size 14.

**4.** So God said, "Try my fresh green salad." And Satan presented Thousand-Island Dressing, buttery croutons and garlic toast on the side. And Man and Woman unfastened their belts following the repast.

**5.** God then said, "I have sent you heart healthy vegetables and olive oil in which to cook them." And Satan brought forth deep fried fish and chicken-fried steak so big it needed its own platter. And Man gained more weight, and his cholesterol went through the roof. God then created a light, fluffy white cake, named it "Angel Food Cake" and said, "It is good." Satan then created chocolate cake and named it "Devil's Food."

**6.** God then brought forth running shoes so that His children might lose those extra pounds. And Satan gave cable TV with a remote control so Man would not have to toil changing the channels. And Man and Woman laughed and cried before the flickering blue light and gained pounds.

**7.** Then God brought forth the potato, naturally low in fat and brimming with nutrition. And Satan peeled off the healthful skin and sliced the starchy centre into chips and deep-fried them. And Man gained pounds.

**8.** God then gave lean beef so that Man might consume fewer calories and still satisfy his appetite. And Satan created McDonald's and its 99-cent double cheeseburger. Then said, "You want fries with that?" And Man replied, "Yes! And super-size them!" And Satan said, "It is good." And Man went into cardiac arrest.

**9.** God sighed and created quadruple bypass surgery.

**10.** Then Satan created Cuts to the Health Care System....

## Palm Beach Bible Garden



A couple of weeks ago Gwenneth and I had a day out from grandchild minding in Sydney and motored up to Palm Beach on a lovely, if rare, sunny day. There we visited a garden with a difference, the Bible Garden.



The garden contains trees and plants mentioned in the Bible, with reference information as to book, chapter and verse. The pond adds to the peace and tranquillity of the setting, and the views along the coast are truly magnificent.



[Home | Friends of the Palm Beach Bible Garden NSW](#)

**David.**



## How to plant and grow

## chrysanthemum

Looking to grow chrysanthemums in your garden or indoors? Find out how to grow and care for your chrysanthemums.

[How to Plant and Grow Chrysanthemum - Bunnings Australia](#)

## How to Grow and Force Bulbs Indoors



Bulbs are a beautiful addition to any home garden, but did you know that you can grow them indoors too? Forcing bulbs is a technique where you can encourage the flowers to bloom outside of their normal environment, earlier than the main flowering season. The process is actually quite easy and particularly handy if you have missed the planting season and still want a great pop of colour in your home.

[How To Grow And Force Bulbs Indoors - Latest Help & Advice \(mrfothergills.com.au\)](#)

## Hi, my name is: Cabbage White Butterfly



### Describe yourself:

I am quite a striking white butterfly, *Pieris rapae*, with two lovely grey/black spots on my wings. Don't confuse me with *Pieris brassicae* which is a little smaller and has a slightly different black pattern on its wings or with other unrelated moths with similar appearance. I'm probably the most common butterfly in your home garden. In my youthful (but destructive) days, I am a silky, blue-green colour... very attractive, if I say so myself!

[Cabbage White Butterfly 101 | Sustainable Gardening Australia \(sgaonline.org.au\)](#)