

*Friendship through gardening*

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April - 9.30 for 10am  
at **Exeter Village Hall**

## FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

None this month

## HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April - 9am in the  
Garden of Memories (Uniting Church)

Find the latest news on:



## BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC

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## Committee

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**Contributions welcome**

## From the President

Following our March AGM, I'd like to welcome our new BGC committee! Last week we had our first meeting with new committee members Penny Baker, Johnathon Murray and Virginia Fitzpatrick joining carry-over members Carlie Gould, Tessa Spencer, Faye Dillon, Alison Ayers, David Humphrey, Wendy Norris and myself. Alison Trotter was unable to attend. Lots of enthusiasm at the meeting and new ideas put forward for exciting happenings in 2023! We are here for you, so please talk to any committee member if you have suggestions, or concerns.

Well, it's that time of year, my favourite season; Autumn. The dahlias are in full bloom, Salvia Splendens stands 2 metres tall with its tassels of red flowers and my favourite woodland perennial – Tricyrtis puts on its show. This perennial from East Asia has masses of mini orchid like spotted flowers and is an easy care, but rare plant.



The veggie patch is producing buckets of tomatoes, capsicum, zucchini, Cavolo Nero and strangely for this time of year asparagus. April is my time to start pickling and making our passata to last us through the winter. I hope you're out there enjoying this time of year in your garden.

Ted Ayers  
President

# President's Round-up

## 6TH APRIL MEETING 2023

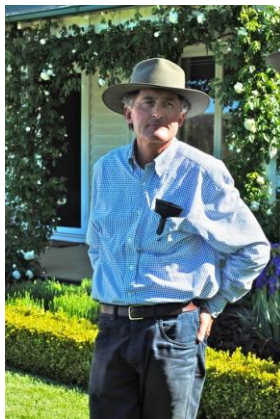
Just a reminder that our **April meeting will be held at the Exeter Hall**. We'll still have our Trade Table from 9.30am and the meeting will start at 10am. Morning tea as usual, please bring a mug if you'd like a cuppa. This venue change is due to projected repairs to the roof of our own village hall, and we expect to be back 'home' for the May meeting.

## THIS MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER – GEORGE WILLIAMS

George Williams, who you may know from his Bonsai Workshops last year, will give a presentation about notable female Australian Botanists and their international influence, from rebels of the colonial era to indigenous experts from the present day.



## MAY GUEST SPEAKER – MICHAEL BLYTH – BLA, AILA, PRINCIPAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT



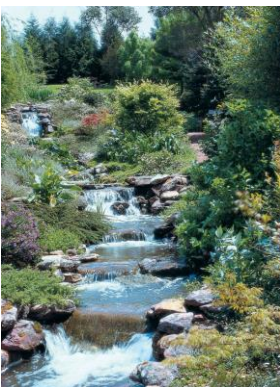
Michael was brought up at "Pejar Park", a grazing property near Goulburn where his mother, the gardening author Beatrice Bligh, created one of Australia's finest gardens. In 1965, it was considered the Champion Homestead Garden of N.S.W.

Today, Michael is well known as one of the most experienced and qualified garden designers in Australia. During the last 35 years he has been personally involved with the design of well over 4,000 gardens located throughout rural and metropolitan Australia.



Having gained the degree Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Canberra, Michael established his practice based in Goulburn which specialises in the design of town and country gardens and parklands throughout Australia.

The practice has been involved with some of Australia's finest gardens. A growing number are regularly visited by such groups as the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust, with over 45 chosen as part of the former 'Open Gardens' Australia. Examples of significant gardens the practice has been involved with include Greenbriar Park near Mittagong, Rotherwood near Sutton Forest, Tahara South near Wagga Wagga and Leylandergreen near Bowral.



As an indication of the quality of work Michael's firm provides, a number of their gardens have been featured in magazines such as Belle, Highlife, Landscape Australia, Trend, Capital, Highlands Country Living and the Italian magazine Abitare which is sold throughout the world.

We look forward to welcoming Michael to our May meeting.

## WORKING BEE – THURSDAY 20TH APRIL, LET'S CLEAN UP THE GARDENS FOR A.N.Z.A.C. DAY!

Our next working bee is at The Garden of Memories (Uniting Church) and the Southern Villages A.N.Z.A.C. Memorial, starting at 9.00 am. Come along, get social, pitch in and then enjoy a cuppa.

We need to tidy up the A.N.Z.A.C. Gardens and then finish it off with some red chip (this was incredibly popular when we did it last year).

We had a great working bee in Nancy Kingsbury Memorial Park last month. We trimmed back the camellias, weeded the back and side beds and planted jonquils and daffodils.



Rumour has it that there is a Bundanoonian (who's not even in the Garden Club) who is going to mow the lawn in between the infrequent council activities! Keep an eye out for the Phantom Mower!



## AUTUMN DINNER in MAY

Last year's Spring Dinner was an absolute hit and everyone who attended had a lovely social night. So, as promised, we're holding an Autumn Dinner. This will be held at the Bundanoon Club on **Thursday 25th May from 6.30 pm**. Chef, Anthony Pellegrini will be preparing a special selection for the night as well as his club favourites.



We've negotiated a special 10% discount for all Garden Club Members for food and drink. You can view the current menu at <https://www.bundanoonclub.com/lunch-menu> . NOTE – This menu does not include the Autumn Dinner Specials at this stage. There will be options of vegetarian, vegan and gluten free meals.

There will be a special door prize donated by Silk Art Scarves.

Numbers are limited, you can reserve your seat at the Membership Desk at the April and May meetings or by emailing us at [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com).



## A.N.Z.A.C. DAY WREATH

We lay a wreath on behalf of the club at the ANZAC and Remembrance Day services. Cat and I have made the club wreath for the last few years. I'd love it if someone else would like to give it a go. We have the polystyrene form, you just need to add the flowers and foliage. It's fun to create and it should be shared amongst the membership. Drop me an email at [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com) or phone me on 0403 135 873.

## MEMBERSHIP DUE

Just a reminder that \$25 membership dues are due! All new members and renewals will receive our new green club branded lanyard. If you have already renewed and your badge has the new blue stripe you can pick up a lanyard from the membership desk.

You can update your membership by:  
Visiting the Membership Desk where you can pay by credit card or cash.  
Paying direct to our bank account  
BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB  
B.S.B. 633000  
ACC 200099653  
REFERENCE: RNW (YOUR NAME)



We have a new bank, BendigoBank, so please don't use the old account details that may be stored in your phone/ computer memory.

When you renew your membership we'll upgrade your name badge to the new branded lanyard. It makes it easier to wear and you don't have to worry about pins ruining your lovely clothes.

## GARDENNOON – A NEW SOCIAL AND FRIENDLY INITIATIVE

Are you new in town, new to your garden, or just stumped for new ideas? Are you 'what, when and where' to plant? We might have the answer. It's called "Gardenoon" a new concept we've just launched.

Simply host a "Gardenoon," where a small group of selected members will visit your garden and give you guidance and local advice on what grows well here, which plants to avoid, where to find the plants you are looking for, and so much more, in a relaxed and friendly forum. If this idea appeals, contact us, and we will help to arrange a Gardenoon for you. Email us at [email us at gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com)





## TRAVEL, TRIPS AND WORKSHOPS

As I outlined at the AGM, we will continue to bring you workshops, away-days, garden tours, self-drives, and we are even planning the elusive bus trip. More on that next month.

Penny Baker will be arranging the club workshops this year, and would like to hear your thoughts about the type of experiences you are interested in. Vegetables, topiary, perennial propagation, soil amendment, tree pruning, floral arrangement – what would you like to learn more about? Talk to Penny at the meetings, write in the suggestion book, or email us [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com)

**Ted.**

### **If an army marches on its stomach, then BGC members garden on morning tea!**

We had an excellent Friendship Garden visit to 'Allways' last month, and thank Belinda for her wonderful hospitality and daughters Eloise and Sophie for opening their ceramics studio for us.

The social morning tea was a success with grateful thanks to Maria, Paul and Tessa, and to Jo for her signature scones and everyone that contributed goodies.



***Our next Friendship Gardens will be Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May (with Brigadoon and Easter intervening) and if you have or know a garden that will be full of autumn colour that we could visit, please let me know – David – 4883 6634***

**Sylvia David's garden in William Street hosted the Habitat Gardeners' Autumn Plant Sale in aid of Wombat Care last month, and BGC members were welcome to view the garden – and it is well worth seeing.**



Ten years ago, Sylvia started with a blank canvas of lawn and a few trees, and over time she has created a flourishing oasis of mainly native and useful exotic plants, lawn, woodland, chicken run and a brilliant vegetable garden. She and her friends save seed and take cuttings from the garden to raise money for Wombat Care, and will happily let you have a list of available plants – [habitatgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:habitatgardeners@gmail.com)





**Veggieman – April 2023** – David Humphrey – 4883 6634 (Visitors welcome)



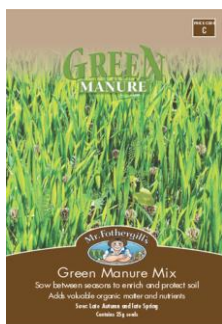
I'm sure you have heard of the 'Magic Porridge Pot', well, I grow the Magic Climbing Bean. It is called Vitalis, seeds easily available, and they keep producing beans on plants that look way past their best. These I have just picked (Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>) and there are more to come. Vitalis seems well accustomed to our Bundanoon climate, with good healthy growth and bean yield, plus the ability to keep producing is amazing.



We are well into autumn now, and final harvesting of summer veggies is nearly done. It's time to plant brassicas while the soil is still warm. Inspect the leaves for cabbage white butterfly eggs and rub them off, put down some snail bait then keep an eye out for any nibbled leaves. My butternut squash did well this year and should store well at least until spring. The bed also produced a good crop of sweetcorn, and two wigwams of beans.



If you are not replanting, then protect your soil from the harsh winter conditions with a thick layer of organic material. **Mulching is always a great idea because it improves soil structure and helps retain moisture for the warmer months ahead.**



Sugar cane mulch is made from dried sugar cane leaves and tops and is sold in bales. It is less expensive than other mulches, easy to handle and more readily available. This type of mulch breaks down quickly, encourages soil organisms and is good for vegetable gardens. Top it up regularly.



Alternatively, it is not too late to sow a green manure, which, when dug in before it starts to produce seed, will greatly improve the soil structure and beneficial micro-organisms.

**Planting in March**

|                           |   |                   |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Beetroot                  | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Sept |
| Broad Beans               | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Sept |
| Carrot                    | Sow seed  | Harvest from July |
| Garlic                    | Plant cloves  | Harvest from Sept |
| Kohlrabi                  | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Oct  |
| Lettuce                   | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from May  |
| Pak Choy                  | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Sept |
| Radish                    | Sow seed  | Harvest from May  |
| Rocket                    | Sow seed  | Harvest from May  |
| Rutabaga (also Swedes)    | Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings | Harvest from Oct  |
| Shallots (also Eschalots) | Sow seed  | Harvest from Oct  |
| Silverbeet ( Swiss Chard) | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Oct  |
| Spinach                   | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from July |
| Spring onions (Scallions) | Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed  | Harvest from Oct  |
| Turnip                    | Sow seed  | Harvest from Nov  |

# Flowers for the Winter and Spring Garden

Autumn's an important season to prepare for garden colour in late winter and spring. It's a good idea, though, to get flowers well established before winter because they'll slow down in cold weather. Be aware, too, that day length affects plant growth. Even though daytime temperatures might still be quite mild, many plants will grow more slowly as the days get shorter.

Lots of favourite flowers can be sown economically from seed in early autumn. These will then be ready for planting out into the garden or larger containers before the arrival of winter. Here are some choice varieties you can grow from Yates seeds:



- [Hollyhocks](#), because they grow up to two metres tall, need a wind-sheltered spot in full sun. In most places Hollyhock Double Elegance's puffs of multi-petalled flowers will appear next spring but, where it's very cold, they may not bloom until the second year. Regardless of this, these striking garden flowers are well worth having.
- [Pansies](#) and [violas](#), are closely related to each other. Both are best sown into pots or trays of Yates Seed Raising Mix and transplanted carefully once the seedlings are big enough. While there are many varieties, one of the most unusual is Yates Pansy Black Night.
- [Sweet pea](#) is possibly the most popular flower seed for autumn sowing. Traditional favourite sweet peas are climbers that need support but there are

others suited to pots. Sow direct into well-drained soil in a sunny spot. Make sure you have a [Yates Rose Shield](#) on hand to treat mildew as soon as it appears.



- [Aquilegia's](#) (pictured), name is a bit of a mouthful but, fortunately, this cottagey flower is also known by the friendlier 'columbine'. The pretty blooms with backwards spurs come in a range of pastel bi-colours. These plants do best in cool climates but, where it's warmer, will flourish in semi shade. If happy, aquilegias can last for a number of years.
- [Calendulas](#) are useful because their cheerful orange and yellow daisies add warmth to the winter garden. They're also helpful for deterring insect pests like white fly so it's a good idea to plant them all around the garden – even among the vegies! Calendula 'Pacific Beauty' flowers in a range of colour shades from soft salmon to deep orange.
- [Cornflowers](#) are synonymous with blue but also come in pink, rose, lavender, white and other colours. Start seeds in pots of Yates Seed Raising Mix and plant out about 40cm apart. They're great for picking.
- [Sweet William](#) is a form of dianthus, a close relative of the carnation. The flowers have a charming spikiness due to the small leaflets that sit below the clustered heads. All dianthus like sweet soil so, in acid areas, mix in some Yates Garden Lime before planting. The flowers are edible and make pretty garnishes.

[Flowers for the Winter and Spring Garden | Yates Gardening](#)



# Health Benefits of Gardening



Gardening is not only fun and rewarding, it is also great for your health and mental wellbeing. Here's just a few reasons why gardening is so good for you.

## Healthier Food

It's a well-known fact now that fruit and vegetables start to lose their nutrients as soon as they are picked from the field. Store bought produce can be a couple of weeks old before you even have purchased it. The healthiest produce you can get your hands on is from your own garden! This gives you the ability to harvest as you need, saving room in your fridge and retaining as many nutrients as possible.

Homegrown produce is also great for your health as you can ensure that their growing conditions are optimal. Conventional agriculture often uses pesticides and herbicides and their residue can remain on the products you consume, whereas growing your own you have total control over what touches your plants giving you peace of mind that what you're eating is safe.

## Mood Booster

Gardening is a productive yet relaxing activity that brings joy to many people. It may seem simple but there is something very rewarding about watching your gardening efforts pay off.

Green spaces also create a calming effect for the mind. Think of when you visit Botanic Gardens or Japanese Gardens. Simply enjoying something beautiful and organic is great for your mental health.

Studies have shown that exposure to plants and green space can reduce anxiety, whilst sunlight and digging in dirt can boost serotonin levels which may help you feel calm and focussed, further boosting your mood.

## Community and Employment

Another important impact gardening has on your health is a sense of community. Gardening brings people together from all ages and backgrounds. A sense of community and purpose helps prevent feelings of isolation which can lead to poor mental health and depression. Reach out to your local garden club or community garden and join us on Facebook and Instagram to interact with other fellow gardeners!

Gardening also opens up many employment opportunities, it is commonly used in disability programs and prisons, teaching skills to lead to a job in the horticultural industry.

## Physical Health and Exercise

Gardening can be a great method of exercise for all ages. Some activities like digging and pushing wheelbarrows can really work up a sweat! The Department of Health NSW recommends adults partake in 2.5 to 5 hours of moderate intensity exercise per week with mowing the lawn listed as an activity. Even some brisk walking whilst you garden is beneficial, bonus points if you garden on a hill!

## Healthier World

Gardening for a healthier planet means a healthier you! Planting trees and other plants in your garden will help absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere which will assist in creating a better environment for all. Planting trees also lessens the impact of the urban heat island effect in our suburbs reducing surface temperatures.

We encourage everyone to give gardening a go, if for no other reason than to look at what magic you can create with your own hands. You don't have to have a big space, or even an outdoor space to garden. Check out our other [gardening advice articles](#) for more tips on starting your own garden.

[www.mrfothergills.com.au/pages/post/health-benefits-of-gardening?utm\\_source=Klavivo&utm\\_medium=campaign&\\_kx=ZuF-5QgK6n4g7YnPx-gvOdh7db7rOaJO3NHpDri4I5o%3D.JxjThv](http://www.mrfothergills.com.au/pages/post/health-benefits-of-gardening?utm_source=Klavivo&utm_medium=campaign&_kx=ZuF-5QgK6n4g7YnPx-gvOdh7db7rOaJO3NHpDri4I5o%3D.JxjThv)

## A FIRST for the club, our Guest Speakers last month were 'beamed in'!

Clive Blazey, who together with his wife Penny established The Diggers Club, and Diggers' CEO Tim Samson were our 'remote' guest speakers in March.



The meeting began with a video interview of Clive discussing his latest book 'WE SPEAK FOR THE TREES'.

You can see the interview here and get lots more information...

['We speak for the trees' - The Diggers Club](#)



### A gardener's guide to tree selection

*Our new book lists different trees selected for climate suitability, shade, habitat protection and bushfire prevention. Each tree listed in this book is growing in*

*one of The Diggers Foundation gardens, so we have gained valuable first-hand knowledge by planting, trialling and careful study over more than 40 years. Information gathered over this journey has enabled us to compile a list of the best trees for Australian gardeners.*

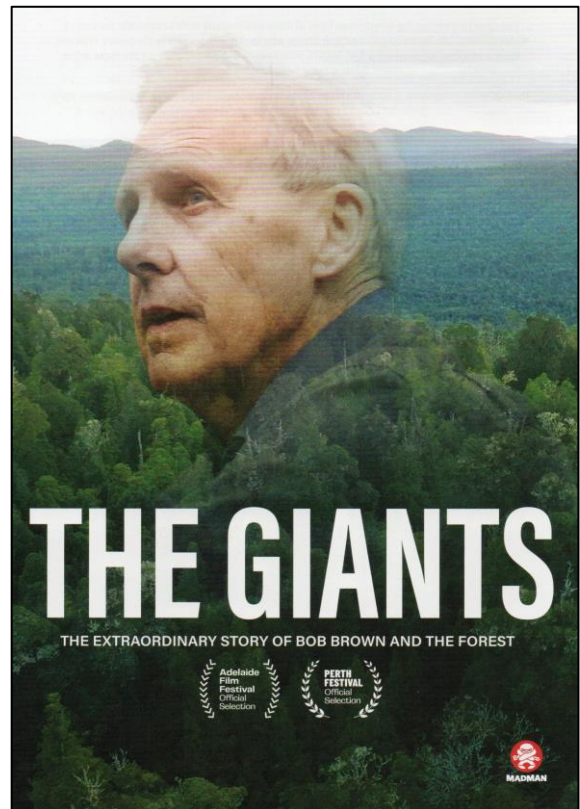
*This book includes comprehensive notes on almost 100 ornamental, fruit and nut trees recommended for gardeners so we can all play our part in solving climate change. With expert guides on local climate adaptation, tips on gardening basics and lessons on how to avoid tree planting mistakes, this book contains all you need to plant with confidence.*

*By planting trees, you too can accelerate the capture of carbon.*

***Now, more than ever, we must all speak up for the trees.***

Then followed a live Q&A session about the Diggers Club and the necessity of tree planting, especially oaks and broad leaf trees rather than eucalypts, with messages flashed on the screen from Rachel Blazey, Diggers' Communications, Philanthropy and Partnerships Manager, who was unable at the last minute to join us in the hall to host the meeting.

Definitely a club first – well done Ted!



**RELEASE DATE APRIL 27 – EMPIRE CINEMA BOWRAL  
GET INVOLVED, VISIT [WWW.THEGIANTSFILM.COM](http://WWW.THEGIANTSFILM.COM)**

The Giants explores the intertwined fates of trees and humans in this poetic portrait of environmentalist Bob Brown and the Forest. From a seedling to forest elder: the film is a masterclass that draws on Bob's 50 years of inspiring activism, from the Franklin campaign for Tasmania's last wild river, to today's battle for the Tarkine rain forest.

Told in Bob's own words, his story is interwoven with the extraordinary life cycle of Australia's giant trees, brought to the screen with stunning cinematography and immersive animated forest landscapes.

[Australia's Native Forests - Bob Brown Foundation](#)

## Spreading the Load



Millie shares a tip for reducing compaction on your hard-won healthy soil.

[Top Tip: Spreading the Load - Gardening Australia \(abc.net.au\)](#)



## 'We don't have a moment to lose': Latest climate report comes with dire warning!

The world's climate scientists have issued what one expert said is a "final warning" before global warming exceeds 1.5 degrees Celsius.



Warraber man Daniel Billy is afraid for his homeland, including the burial grounds of his family, as the ocean creeps closer to his community. (Supplied: Regina Larry)

'The world is in deep trouble on climate change, but if we really put our shoulder to the wheel we can turn things around.' Loosely, that's the essence of yesterday's report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The IPCC is the world's official body for assessment of climate change. The panel has just released its Synthesis Report, capping off seven years of in-depth assessments on various topics.

### Key points:

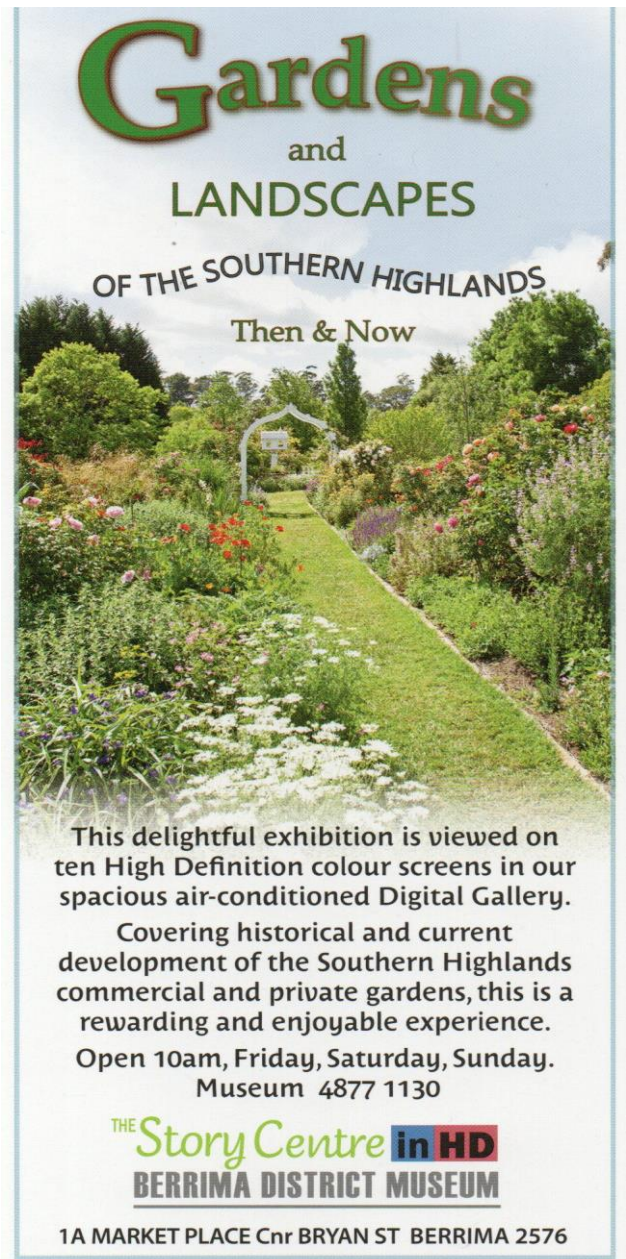
- The IPCC says it's "unequivocal" that climate is changing as a result of human activity
- At present, between 3.3 and 3.6 billion people are living in places "highly vulnerable" to climate change
- Meanwhile, the UN has called on developed countries to phase out coal by 2030

"The climate time-bomb is ticking," said UN secretary-general António Guterres, at a meeting of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which this week released its final "synthesis report", marking six years of work by about 700 scientists.

"Today's IPCC report is a how-to guide to defuse the climate time-bomb," he said. "It is a survival guide for humanity."

Representatives of 195 countries negotiated an agreed text for the summary report, after assessing tens of thousands of scientific studies.

<https://apple.news/AhF5HXikBTla5L3sLDKss8w>



**Gardens**  
and  
**LANDSCAPES**  
OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS  
Then & Now

This delightful exhibition is viewed on ten High Definition colour screens in our spacious air-conditioned Digital Gallery.

Covering historical and current development of the Southern Highlands commercial and private gardens, this is a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Open 10am, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.  
Museum 4877 1130

**THE Story Centre in HD**  
**BERRIMA DISTRICT MUSEUM**

1A MARKET PLACE Cnr BRYAN ST BERRIMA 2576

The cool climate of the area has inspired successive generations of garden lovers to create splendid gardens and landscapes that give the Southern Highlands such a distinctive character. This has been revamped from last year.

Open for the foreseeable future - \$10 (\$8 concess)

## Growing Leeks

Leeks are an extremely versatile member of the onion family. They taste great in all sorts of cooking, and they're easy to grow.



[Top Tip: Growing Leeks - Gardening Australia \(abc.net.au\)](http://abc.net.au)

## Wingecarribee Garden Waste or Organic Waste

### Where to dispose – Green Bin

Grass clippings, small branches, twigs, leaves, flowers and prunings can be placed in the council provided green waste bin (Green lid).

Larger tree branches and stumps that are thicker than 15 cm in diameter and over 60 cm in length cannot go in the green waste bin.

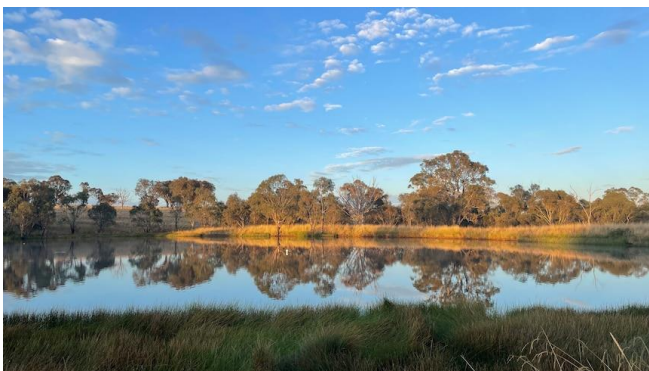
All green waste including tree branches and stumps can also be dropped off at the Resource Recovery Centre for a fee.

Environmental weeds such as **Agapanthus heads, fireweed and blackberries** can be placed in the Organic waste bin (Green bin).

Green waste is collected and processed by partner organisations. It is shredded and pasteurised to create a soil conditioner or mulch. Soil conditioner can be purchased from the Resource Recovery Centre.

[Wingecarribee Resource Recovery Centre - Recycling Near You](#)

## Should farmers be paid to protect wildlife? The federal government thinks so



Farmers, Indigenous rangers and local councils are a step closer to being paid to protect nature, with the federal government introducing legislation that would establish a biodiversity trading scheme.

The Nature Repair Market Bill seeks to establish a market for biodiversity certificates that would be regulated by the Clean Energy Regulator and traded similar to Australian Carbon Credit Units.

<https://apple.news/AQWyBCdihTcalYN8JHaLcGA>

## How farmers use sunbeds, sunscreen to give their apples the perfect hue



The pink lady apple variety is known for its rosy colour, but more goes into developing the hues than just letting the fruit grow on the tree.

Apple growers go to extreme lengths to make their fruit look its absolute best so consumers grab it at the supermarket.

Donnybrook grower Neil Yates said he had laid down reflective sheeting ahead of his upcoming harvest to give his apples the best shot at a consumer-friendly colour.

<https://apple.news/ARI2GNz2NShOR3dcaBkK6Ag>

## Why these ghostly white rainbows known as 'fogbows' are such a treat to spot in Australia



Marlene Pointon is still pinching herself at the sheer joy of being in the right place at the right time to see her first fogbow and capture the fascinating phenomenon on camera.

The Goomeri grazier lives "up in the clouds". She walked down the hill from her home to photograph cattle in the early morning fog.

"I looked up and here's this white rainbow. Oh my god, it was really exciting," Ms Pointon said.

"I'm 69 years old and I thought I had discovered something fantastic. As quick as it appeared it disappeared."

<https://apple.news/A9ipdHTKaQoG2mTcE1uUB9w>



22 & 23 April 2023 9am to 4pm

Open gardens and plant fair



Five privately owned gardens open their gates to visitors in support of the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens.

The gardens include two large estate gardens, and artists country cottage garden with magnificent views to Sydney, a fully native town garden, and an artist's stylish town garden.

The gardens are located in Bowral, Mittagong and Glenquarry. The full detailed list of gardens will be available in early April.



The **Plant Fair** will feature specialist nurseries offering collectors plants, trees, perennials and bulbs along with plants from the 'Growing Friends' of the gardens. Garden art, tools and accessories. Refreshments available.

[Open Gardens + Plant Fair - Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens \(shbg.com.au\)](https://www.shbg.com.au)

## From our Treasurer

Hello Everyone

Here are the Financials for March 2023.

### **BGC Opening Balances 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Rediaccess Account</b>     | <b>\$ 15494.78</b> |
| Income:                       | \$ 2121.26         |
| Expenditure:                  | \$ 1426.82         |
| <b>Balance as at 21/11/22</b> | <b>\$ 16189.22</b> |

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

**Funds held as at 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023** **\$ 16369.22**

Regards

**Alison.**

## Farmer's New Permanent Lawnmower



'Happy' the Holstein calf's unique markings guarantee his role as a lawnmower for life.

It must have been hard not to crack a smile the morning this unusually marked cow was born!

<https://apple.news/A9srCyXwIT6a6Re41C2jdHA>

## Guide to Garlic

Hannah helps you to grow one of the most high-value and rewarding crops in the garden and kitchen.



/

[Guide to Garlic - Gardening Australia \(abc.net.au\)](https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/guide-to-garlic)

**Tomatoes, zucchini, basil, squash:  
Easy ways to cook and preserve  
summer herbs and vegetables**



For the first time in my life I have an abundance of homegrown tomatoes. It's exciting and a tad overwhelming. If you're in the same boat, here's a list of easy recipes to help you cook what you have — whether it's for dinner tonight, the pantry or your freezer...

<https://apple.news/AA2WwxwYGGqKqkFhMu9GENg>

## Let there be light! How much depends on the plant

Keep indoor plants healthy with the right amount of sunlight.



Plants have been evolving on land for millions of years and finding their own unique niche — whether in full-sun open plains or shaded beneath the canopy. Tammy Huynh, presenter with Gardening Australia, sheds some light on how to keep these highly evolved organisms healthy once you bring them indoors.

<https://apple.news/AaqdynBdoQW27WumBfnkF1g>

## I've earned about \$20k crocheting hats for chickens in my spare time



Mandy Watts learned how to crochet granny squares as a child but gave up the hobby after making a blanket at the age of 10. It wasn't until 2017 that the 58-year-old, who lives in Toowoomba, Queensland, felt the urge to pick up a hook again after seeing a picture her friend had posted on Instagram of a broody chicken wearing a cowboy doll's hat. That post would become the catalyst for Mandy's transition to part-time chicken milliner.

<https://apple.news/Aa-8arkORWaJRRzTE4wpUw>

## Join in a Gardenoon

It can be challenging moving to our village and taking on a new garden, whether brand new or established – getting to know local gardeners and gaining a little knowledge from others at a Gardenoon can really help.

What is a Gardenoon? A member offers to host an afternoon tea in their garden and we invite some nearby members, an experienced gardener or two and/or other new members to spend some time chatting and wandering the garden. Plants can be identified, tips and knowledge can be shared and suggestions made. It doesn't matter if the garden is not at its best – that's the point. No one ever thinks their garden is finished!

If you would like to host or join a Gardenoon, email [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com)

A big thank you to Susan Gray, a new member, who suggested a Gardenoon in her garden. We had a lovely afternoon under umbrellas, exploring a garden that has been much loved before, perhaps Susan will share it at a Friendship Garden in the near future.

*Tessa.*

## The 2023 Committee

The new members of the committee bring some fresh ideas and perspectives to our planning and tasks for 2023. Welcome to Penny Baker, Virginia Fitzpatrick and Johnathon Murray who have joined the previous committee to bring us to the maximum eleven members. But we are one of the biggest garden clubs in NSW.

### The 2023 Committee

Ted Ayers - President

Tessa Spencer - Secretary

Alison Trotter - Treasurer

Cat Ayers - Membership Secretary, Social Media

David Humphrey - Newsletter Editor, Friendship Garden Co-ordinator

Faye Dillon - Welcome Desk

Carlie Gould - 2024 Seminar Convenor

Wendy Norris - Librarian

Penny Baker - Workshops Co-ordinator

Virginia Fitzpatrick

Johnathon Murray

Virginia and Johnathon will be finding some speakers for this year and welcome your ideas. The Committee aims to provide a range of garden related activities, information and social events that our growing membership can enjoy, particularly new members. If you have suggestions or comments please approach a member of the committee, we look forward to hearing from you.

Or email us: [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com)



# April In Your Patch

BY SGA

The perfect month for chocolate lovers and practical jokers alike, April is also a top time to get into the patch! There is a little bit of rain around, the weather is cooling down, and shed loads of stuff is ready to plant! So, don't be a bunny, get into gardening this April! Hop to it!

- There is still a whole heap of things you can pop in the patch at this time of year. Tasty herbs in the 'burbs that are ready to roll include our old favourite, coriander. You could give mint and lemon balm a go as well, but be careful to contain it, otherwise it can take over!
- Try these tasty wonders into your Yummy Yard this month: Chinese cabbage, most Asian Greens, spinach, rocket, broccoli, spring onions, asparagus, celery, endive, squash, onions, silverbeet, leeks and lettuce. Don't be a bunny, remember to plant some carrots during April!
- Set aside a bit of space and pop in an artichoke! These are gorgeous additions to the patch, look amazing, and taste pretty good too!



- Add some colour and movement to the patch, and pop in some of these little pretties- dianthus, cornflower, pansy, viola, Echinacea, stock, verbena and lupins. Having these around your veggies will give some interest to the patch, and act as beneficial insect attractors!
- Top up mulch on your veggie patches, herb gardens and ornamental beds, especially important for weed suppression at this time of year. A hot tip is to mulch after watering the patch, to a depth of about 7cm. Keep mulch clear of plant stems... especially young seedlings. Choose a low environmental impact mulch, one that will enrich your soil as it breaks down.

- Green manure crops, including oats, wheat, fava beans and field peas are good to go now... improve that dormant veggie patch, and get ready for next seasons heavy feeding plants!
- Plants feel the need for a feed at this time of year. A seaweed tea, or any low environmental impact liquid fertiliser, is perfect for the seedlings you've just popped in. Apply to the soil early in the morning, and in the concentrations mentioned on the packet.
- Weeding is an awesome job to do at this time of year. Cut down the competition between your tasty treats and these space invaders, and tidy up your patch. It may sound tedious, but it's incredibly rewarding!
- Water smarter at this time of year. Water first thing in the morning, and instead of quickie irrigation, a nice, deep drink a couple of times a week is far more beneficial! Always check soil moisture before watering at this time of year... don't waste your precious drinking water if Mother Nature has already done all the hard work for you!

[April Garden tips | Sustainable Gardening Australia \(sgaonline.org.au\)](http://sgaonline.org.au)



**The next photo competition is  
“The Essence of Autumn  
in the Highlands”.**

Can you capture in a photo, Autumn in your garden? The photos must be taken in a garden, preferably yours, and a maximum of 5 entries each please.

The closing date is **15<sup>th</sup> May**, and the prizes of a \$50 Mt Murray Nursery voucher for the two most inspiring photos will be presented at our first winter meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Email to: [gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com)