

## Friendship through gardening

### NEXT CLUB MEETING

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October – 9.30 for 10am at  
Soldiers' Memorial Hall Bundanoon

### FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October – 10am - 1pm

### GOLDEN VALE GARDEN VISIT & WORKING BEE – SELF DRIVE

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 12noon

### VISIT TO WYNLEN HOUSE

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – 10.30am at  
65 Nerrim Street, Bundanoon

### HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – 9.30am at Nancy  
Kingsbury Memorial Park

### HABITAT GARDENERS PLANT SALE,

Sat .21<sup>st</sup> October - 24 William St. – 10am - 1pm

### BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Find the latest news on:



## BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC

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**Contributions welcome**

## From the President

Getting the balance right.

I love our birds. I try to make sure they have plenty of fresh water and I know that in my garden there is plenty of food. When we first moved to Bundanoon, we had multiple bird feeders and delighted in watching the parrots, wonga pigeons and currawongs move from station to station.

We had families of kookaburras visit our back verandah for their daily meal.

Then it all became a bit too much. Through our enthusiasm, we had created a feeding frenzy. With the daily insurgency of hundreds of birds, we soon discovered that they ate more than the seed we put out. They ate our plants.

Talking about the issue with Dr Holly Parsons at our September meeting last year, she advised that we probably didn't need to supplement our local bird population's diet, so we put away the seed, stopped buying roo meat for the kookaburras and currawongs.

Now, with less of those larger birds in our yard, we've seen an increase in the smaller birds. Tiny finches and spinebills are always fluttering through the shrubs and trees. Not only are they less destructive, but they are also helpful - I can happily watch the finches pecking off insects from the underside of leaves. Eastern spinebills hovering amongst the perennials and the BIG difference I've noticed is that our wisteria arbor is full of flowers.

Sure, the odd parrot stops by for a tasty treat, but it's no longer the marauding mass that it used to be.



**Ted Ayers**

President

# President's Round-up

## CHRISTMAS PARTY – THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER 2023

4pm-6pm Exeter Village Hall

We had a wonderful Christmas Party last year and we're planning to make this one just as much fun. Once again, we have a delicious canape menu by Chef In Your Kitchen, which includes many GF and Vegetarian options. Sparkles on arrival and complimentary red and white wine and sparkling water will also be available.

Members \$20 - Non-member \$30 (limit 1 guest per member)

Please book and pay at the membership desk at the October meeting, or make a direct deposit to our account Bundanoon Garden Club BSB: 633-000 account: 200099653 Please include name and reference: XMAS

## OCTOBER SPEAKERS

Our guest speakers are **Bronwyn Richards and Helen Lynch** from **Wynlen House Artisan Village Farm**.

Bronwyn and Helen describe their operation as “a small regenerative, permaculture urban demonstration farm growing fabulous food and showcasing self-sufficiency, resilience and care for the environment in cool/cold climate Australia.” We're delighted that they have brought their knowledge of soil regeneration, vegetables and poultry to Bundanoon, moving here from Braidwood a few years ago. They hold workshops at their patch, which is located right here in the village, and we are invited to visit on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am – 65 Nerrim Street**.



We'll also have **Nick Corbett, General Manager, Properties (NSW) from National Trust** at the meeting, to talk about Golden Vale and Riversdale historic homes and their gardens.

## GOLDEN VALE GARDEN VISIT & WORKING BEE – THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2023. 10am - 12noon – Self Drive



This is a great opportunity to tour this wonderful garden, and all they ask in return is some gardening assistance. Please bring gardening gloves and weeding tools. We will be spreading fertiliser and helping with other light garden tasks such as pulling lawn weeds. The club will have a Sausage Sizzle & Salad light lunch available, with a vegetarian option.

**Please register at the Membership Desk** or see Penny Baker, as we need to know numbers for catering. We will bring tea and coffee supplies. **BYO Mug, Morning Tea and Water**. Note: The historic home will not be open. We will have access to a kitchenette and a bathroom.

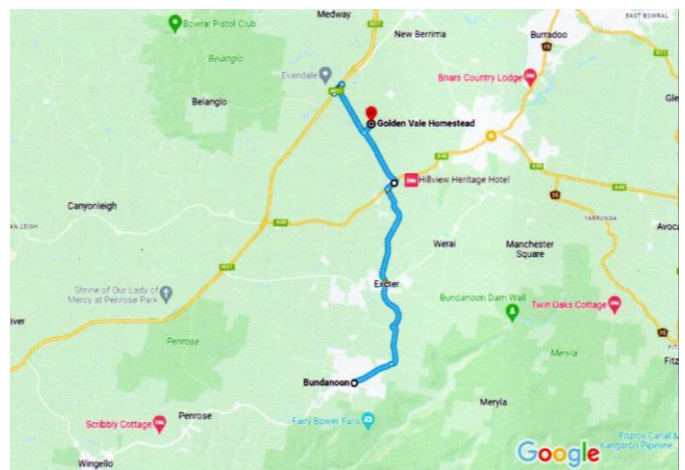


## DIRECTIONS:

Drive from Bundanoon Rd to Exeter Rd to Sutton Forest. Turn right on to Illawarra Hwy, then left on to Golden Vale Rd.

**IMPORTANT:** Continue all the way to the Hume Highway (**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TURN RIGHT INTO THE HOMESTEAD**) and do a safe U turn at the end at Coney Hatch Lane. Then return along Golden Vale Rd, turn left into Golden Vale Homestead. There will be signage at the gate.

BUNDANOON TO GOLDENVALE – GOOGLE MAPS  
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/9YjYAnL7FAqBUHJ98>



## NOVEMBER AWAY DAY MEETING – THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AT RIVERSDALE, GOULBURN – 10.30am - 12.00 noon – Self Drive

We have been given the opportunity to visit Riversdale, Goulburn with a guided tour by the head gardener. Riversdale is famous for its roses and iris. You will be able to purchase rare and exotic iris, so bring some cash.

We'll also be able to take a tour of the house which has some **impressive botanical tapestries**. The National Trust will supply tea and coffee and morning tea will be provided by the club.



### History:

An estate with a rich history that is full of inns and schools, set in beautiful grounds.

Built in the late 1830s as a coaching inn, Riversdale later became home to the district surveyor, Edward Twynam and his family. Edward was appointed Chief Surveyor of NSW during the 1890s and his family occupied Riversdale for almost 100 years prior to its purchase by the National Trust in 1967. Sketches and furniture crafted by Emily Twynam still decorate the home.

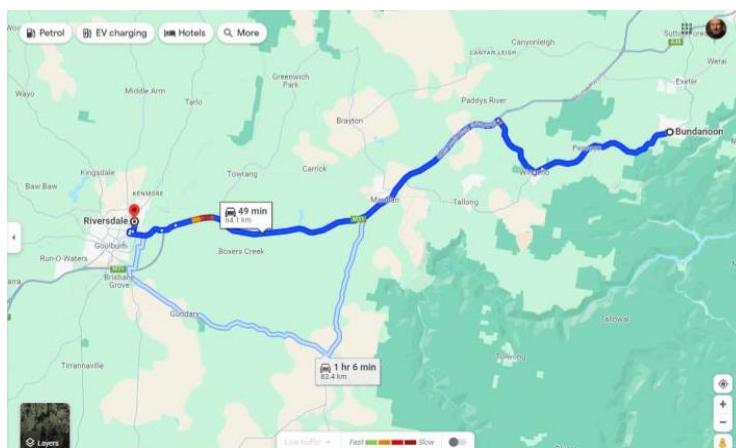
Standing within its original paddocks and outbuildings, Riversdale is a fine example of a Colonial Georgian home surrounded by splendid gardens and picnic grounds. Riversdale is renowned for its collection of fine Australian Colonial furniture and arts and craft.



**DIRECTIONS:** Head south to Goulburn on the Hume Highway/ Remembrance Drive. Turn off to Goulburn on Sydney Rd, then right at Union St, then first right at Chatsbury St which turns into Maud Rd past Super Max. Maud Rd become Twynam Dr, Riversdale entrance is on your right.

BUNDANOON TO RIVERSDALE - GOOGLE MAPS

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/H8LqPqqg7qDkGnWA>



## OCTOBER WORKING BEE – NANCY KINGSBURY MEMORIAL PARK – THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER – 9.30am

Time to pull up the forget-me-nots and have a general tidy up!

The Bundanoon History Group is launching a new display in the Old Goods Shed, to coincide with Garden Ramble at the end of October, featuring Garden history in the Southern Highlands. They are including NKMP and we'd like the park to look good for Ramble and history visitors.

BYO Morning Tea.

## SPRING IN A JAR – OCTOBER MEETING

It's that time again. Show us what Spring looks like in your garden. Please bring a posy to the October meeting, arranged in a humble jam jar.

## NATIONAL BIRD COUNT – 16 - 22 OCTOBER 2023

Taking part is easy. Simply spend 20 minutes in your favourite outdoor space and take note of what birdlife you experience in that period. Take note of the time of day it is and do it as often as you can. You can record the birds you see and hear via the Aussie Bird Count APP (Apple and Android) or via their web form. There's a built-in bird finder to help you identify birds you're not familiar with. You can submit as many times as you like, the more counts, the better. There are some great prizes on offer including an Olympus OM Camera kit, OPTisan Optics Binoculars and heaps more.

For more info, go to <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>



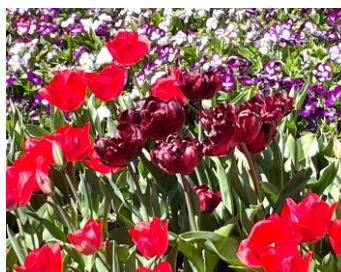
## TULIP TIME 2023 – 19 SEP - 2 OCT – 9.30AM - 4.30PM

The Tulip Time Festival is held every year in Spring in the Southern Highlands. The focus of Tulip Time is the spectacular display of 80,000 mass planted tulips in Corbett Gardens, Bowral.

*Please note that Corbett Gardens will be closed to the public for the Tulip Time Festival setup and dismantle on the following dates:*

- CLOSED Monday 18 September 2023
- CLOSED Tuesday 3 October 2023

[Tulip Time 2023 | Wingecarribee Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.wingecarribee.nsw.gov.au/tulip-time-2023)





# BUNDANOON Garden Ramble

**Saturday 28 & Sunday 29  
October 2023**

Wander through eight gorgeous gardens.  
Browse the plant and gift stalls.  
Enjoy a break at one of the cafés and restaurants.  
Explore the history and beauty of Bundanoon.

**\$25 for all 8 gardens**  
\$5 for a single garden  
Groups of 20 or more \$20pp

Tickets available online  
via the website or at the Ramble.

[www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au](http://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au)

Ted.

# Friendship Gardens – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October – 10am-1pm



What wonderful Friendship Gardens we visited last month. Our thanks to Tathra and Denis, and Louise and Olaf, for their hospitality. 'Timing is everything', and we missed the gorgeous wisteria display in Louise and Olaf's garden by just one week. That's gardening for you!



This Saturday will be just as delightful. Three very different gardens, and morning tea thanks to Susy. We had a record 75 plus member and guest visitors last month, so see you there!

## 1-3 Fidelis Street – Cosette Morris

In 2000 I bought the house with a view to it being a holiday home. The first thing I did was remove any trees that cast a shadow on the house. Next to go were the agapanthus of which there were many. Then I had a blank canvas to work with.

The next step was to rotary hoe all the garden beds. Then began the major task of improving the soil which was very poor, a clay base with very little nutrients. Since 2000 I have added at least 600,000litres of cow manure, thousands of kilos of blood and bone, leaf litter etc. etc. I worked on the soil for at least a year before planting anything.

In 2002 I had renovations to the house and yard. All the paths and paved areas were done. The pergola, fish pond and little summer house were built.

In 2003 the gazebo was constructed on top of the well which provides water for the watering system. As the years went by, changes were constantly occurring.

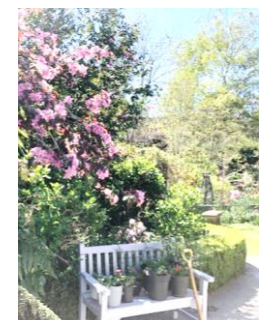
In 2004/5 the vegetable garden was enclosed to combat bower birds, English blackbirds, rabbits and other pests. In 2007 garden storage sheds were added.

Until 2007 I wasn't here all the time, backwards and forwards to Sydney fairly frequently. The garden has grown enormously over the years and is constantly changing with replacing plants that don't perform.

In 2013 I felt the need for a frog pond, so I dug one in the back corner. Lovely to hear the frogs croaking at night.

2023 – Still enjoying every minute in my garden, and I hope you do too.

**Cosette.**



## 4 Fidelis Street – Susy South

I purchased this unliveable renovator's delight in 2016, with mainly lawn and river pebbles only and no garden beds with decent soil. With valued advice from Cosette I am very slowly changing the personality with both 'no dig' garden beds filled with mainly perennials, small trees and shrubs. The annual bulbs bring much colour as do the summer windflowers and Xmas lilies. The huge rhododendrons and camellias have been in place for many years – perhaps someone might be able to predict their ages?

The trees on the front verge were provided by Wingecarribee council at my request, free of charge. A service provided by the council to beautify our streets. So far, I'm able to manage the maintenance solely on my own. **I'm happy to provide morning tea on the all-weather back deck on the day.**

**Susy.**



## 9 Ross Street – Pam Tippett and Kjell Goyer

Kjell and I acquired 9 Ross St at the end of 2006 while we were still living and working in Goulburn. In 2008 an addition was built and by the beginning of 2010 we had moved in. I had started gardening pretty much straight away, clearing away everything overgrown, and landscaping around the house.

I was keen to have a habitat garden so everything exotic that was small enough to dig up, I transplanted to the back so the front garden and nature strip are largely native with no lawn, a dense planting of shrubs, groundcovers, ferns and trees. Frogs moved in within days of the first pond being finished - they are so noisy at night now that guests are given earplugs.

Behind the extension we built a veggie cage to stave off rabbits, birds and possums and later created an annex for some of the fruit trees. The rear garden is largely exotic, with camellias, dogwoods, perennials and bulbs though natives somehow found their way there too.



Like all gardens, it is a work in progress, another pond here, a few more pots, a sculpture or a few more rocks there..... A dead plant is a new opportunity - usually one plant being replaced by half a dozen new treasures. I hope you enjoy the garden (and don't notice the weeds!!)

The above was written before the garden was to be open as a friendship garden in May of 2021. This was cancelled because of rain which continued for many months. I lost more than 50 plants to drowning even though the block slopes. Luckily the garden was over planted so no one can notice the gaps. Unfortunately, the weeds (mostly South African Veldt grass - also suitably known as panic grass) are just as prolific so please ignore, or imagine native violets and dichondra replacing the weeds! **Pam.**



Last year at this time we were talking about our veggie plants drowning in an abundance of rain; September 95cm, October 198cm and November 131cm. So far this month 5.2cm has been recorded by Rev. Jeremy Tonks, and the prediction for the next few months is very hot and very dry. So just a few pointers about applying that precious commodity – water.

You need to know how often to water an actively growing vegetable garden for successful plant growth. Frequent light watering may perk up your plants in the short term but also promotes shallow root growth. This causes plants to dry out quickly when the soil surface dries, which can happen fast on a hot, sunny day. It's better to water less often, but to water deeply by slowly letting water percolate down several inches in the soil. This encourages roots to grow down beyond the top couple of inches, where they're better protected from rapid moisture fluctuations and less likely to dry out. Deep soaking two to three times a week—considering rainfall—will promote healthier, more productive growth than frequent shallow watering.

Vegetables and herbs grown in containers or raised beds need water more often than in-ground beds. Why? First, the soil mixture used in containers and raised beds is designed to drain more quickly than the soil of an in-ground bed. Secondly, because their soil is above ground level, the temperature rises quickly on warm days, increasing evaporation. Check the moisture level in your containers and raised beds regularly by sticking a moisture meter or finger a couple of inches into the soil. If the soil is dry, water!

The best time to water your garden is in the morning when leaves that may get wet have plenty of time to dry before night. Watering during the day's heat is less efficient; water evaporates faster and less reaches the root zone. In the evening, when temperatures drop, evaporation slows again, but cooler night temperatures also favour the spread of some foliar diseases. Watering in the evening is okay, if applying water to the root zone only. Using a wand rather than a sprinkler gun on your hose can deliver water directly to the roots.

Having a reliable irrigation system can be an easy way to ensure your garden receives the water it needs without worrying if you have sufficient time in your schedule to reach for the garden hose. There are different styles and types of watering systems, such as sprinklers or tubes that you place around the plants. Drip and soaker irrigation are processes by which small droplets of water are released near the base of the plants, very efficient methods as water goes directly to the roots and there is no evaporation from wet leaves.

Mulching, whether with wood chips, grass clippings, straw, or a mixture of organic materials, serves many purposes in your garden. Mulch can prevent the sprouting of weeds, which compete for the same nutrients as your plants. And it can protect plant roots from extreme hot or cold temperatures. But mulch also provides a protective layer that prevents soil from drying out too quickly. Mulch shades the soil to conserve soil moisture. It reduces evaporation and protects the soil from drying out from heat and strong winds.

Compost plays an important role in retaining water in the soil as well as preventing soil from hardening into less water-permeable layers (known as soil crusting). Compost reduces soil crusting, helping water absorption into the soil. The addition of compost also helps water to move more readily through the soil. You can add compost regardless of the season, but it's especially helpful in the warmer months. The high-water holding capacity helps during summer droughts and reduces plant stress.

Water is a valuable commodity, and I try to be as frugal as possible. I have just paid my Water and Sewerage bill for four months to 15.08.2023 in the amount of \$464.78. Actual water used over 4 months was \$99.45, just \$25 a month. So don't waste it, but use it for a good harvest.



The warmer days brought on the spring harvest, with careful watering! The asparagus was at least two weeks early, and the snow peas in the greenhouse are plentiful. Also, the sugar snap peas are ready to start picking, and the broad beans will be another week.

People ask what we do with all our veggies. The short answer is – we eat them by the plate full! We freeze only the smallest broad beans, which taste fresh when thawed. Our last ones we had for dinner the other night, just in time for the new crop.

Purple sprouting broccoli and cabbages are still on the menu, and spinach and radishes from the greenhouse.

## Planting in October

Artichokes (Globe)	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from August
Asparagus	Plant crowns	Harvest from 24 months
Basil	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Beetroot (also Beets)	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from December
Borage	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Broccoli	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from November
Cabbage	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from November
Capsicum	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from November
Carrot	Sow seed	Harvest from January
Cauliflower	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from December
Celery and Celeriac	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from December
Chilli peppers	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from November
Chives	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Collards	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Coriander	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Cucumber	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings. Frost risk	Harvest from November
Dill	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Eggplant (Aubergine)	Sow seed	Harvest from February
Jerusalem Artichokes	Plant tubers	Harvest from February
Kale (also Borecole)	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Kohlrabi	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Leeks	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from January
Lettuce	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Marrow	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed. after risk of frost	Harvest from December
Mint	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Warrigal greens	Start in seed trays or plant out) seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Parsley	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Parsnip	Sow seed	Harvest from February
Peas	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Potato	Plant seed potatoes	Harvest from February
Pumpkin	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from December
Radish	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Rhubarb	Plant crowns	Harvest from 12 months
Rocket	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Silverbeet		
/Swiss Chard	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Snow Peas	Plant out (transplant) seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from December
Spinach	Plant out (transplant) seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Spring onions		
/Scallions	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Squash	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from October
Strawberry Plants	Plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from January
Sunflower	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from December
Sweet corn	Sow seed. After risk of frost	Harvest from January
Thyme	Start in seed trays or plant out seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from July
Tomatillo	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Tomato	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Turnip	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Zucchini - Courgette	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from October





Download the Aussie Bird Count app – then this link will show you what to do.....

<https://youtu.be/s4ziO5ebxnc>



## NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK

15th – 21st OCTOBER 2023

National Gardening Week is just around the corner, so what better excuse do you need to get out into the garden and enjoy all that mother nature has to offer!

[National Gardening Week - Garden Clubs of Australia](#)

## Spring gardening tips and ideas



Spring is the best time to get out in the garden. The winter chill has gone, the days are getting longer and your garden is about to burst into life. Bunnings Greenlife buyer Katrina Gatt has some great ideas to get your garden looking its best over the coming months.

[Spring Gardening Tips And Ideas - Bunnings Australia](#)

## The Habitat Gardeners Plant Sale

Saturday 21st October – 10 am - 1.00pm

24 William Street

For stock availability and prices please contact: [habitatgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:habitatgardeners@gmail.com)

Our plant sale coincides with **National Bird Week - 16-22 October**. Birdlife Southern Highlands are joining us - you can chat about creating bird friendly gardens and find out about local birds and nearby birding spots. If you've not used binoculars, you can have a go and pick up some tips on using binos when birding.

Our local wombat hero, John Creighton will be on site to chat about successfully sharing our gardens with wombats.

**Garden Club Members are welcome to visit the garden where many of the plants will be labelled enabling members to see what grows well in Bundanoon.**

*Sylvia David.*



## WINE and ROSES

Harper's Mansion

4pm – 7pm

Friday 10 November 2023

You are invited to join us on the evening of Friday 10th November from 4pm to 7pm for our 'Wine and Roses' Open Garden Event, at Harper's Mansion, 9 Wilkinson Street, Bermima.

Visitors will be able to wander through our collection of over 100 heritage roses, which will be in full bloom, while enjoying the produce of some of our best local wineries.

Entertainment includes "Persephone - The Goddess of Spring," a short play, performed by The Melting Pot Theatre (6:30pm)

Entry \$10.00

(Wine and food available for purchase separately)

No bookings necessary

Proceeds from the event will go to Challenge Southern Highlands, supporting people with disabilities in our community, and to our Regional Heritage Rose Group, for the conservation of old roses.

Contact Peter Rezek for more information  
P. 0413 153 650



Contact Peter Rezek for more information  
P. 0413 153 650

# Southern Highlands Australian Plants Society



Following up on the Potting Shed segment of September's Garden Club meeting, here is some information for anyone who is interested in joining the local branch of the Australian Plants Society.

Southern Highlands Australian Plants Society (SHAPS) is one of twenty local groups in NSWAPS, which in turn is part of the national APS. Meetings are held in Moss Vale CWA hall at 2pm on the first Thursday of the month, alternating between meetings and outings. Currently there are about 100 members and growing. Members receive email newsletters and hard copy national magazines - so though not all members attend meetings they can keep informed about what's happening.

The meetings in the hall are interesting and varied with guest speakers talking on a range of topics. There is a lucky door prize and raffle with plants being the prizes and there are sales of plants propagated by members as well as a plant table where members bring in labelled samples of plants from their gardens. And there is afternoon tea.

The alternate month outings may be visits to local gardens, bushland in the National Park and reserves, Botanic Gardens (a recent visit to Mt Annan included a tour of their herbarium and seed bank), native nurseries (last month's excursion was to Grevillea Park at Bulli).

Visitors are always welcome - if you are interested in planting more natives in your garden or just would like to know more about native plants in general feel free to come along to a meeting.

To find out more visit:

[www.austplants.com.au/Southern-Highlands](http://www.austplants.com.au/Southern-Highlands)

Email: [southernhighlandsaps@gmail.com](mailto:southernhighlandsaps@gmail.com)

**Pam Tippett.**

**Our September guest speaker was Ray Stanton, President of the Southern Highlands Orchid Society, and his wife Bronwyn (SHOS Secretary)**

Ray spoke about what makes orchids a little different to other plants, and that there are tens of thousands of genera in the orchid family, and are possibly the world's oldest flower.

Bronwyn then demonstrated how to repot a cymbidium. There were lots of questions as the results were taken around the hall.

Gwenneth and I visited the Annual Orchid show on Saturday (as did Penny, Jennifer and probably several other club members) and Bronwyn was busy repotting and answering queries. She is intending to join the BGC, and we hope to organise some workshops for our many interested members.

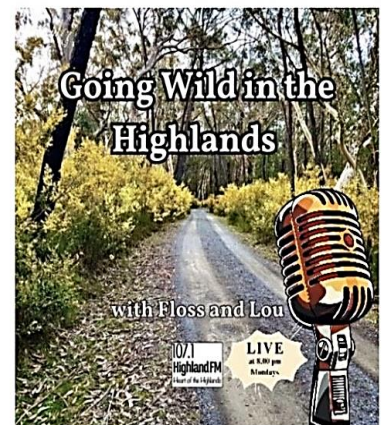


[Southern Highlands Orchid Society INC | Moss Vale NSW](http://Southern Highlands Orchid Society INC | Moss Vale NSW)

## Going Wild in the Highlands

"A fun new podcast, "Going Wild in the Highlands" with hosts Floss & Lou, has been launched. The podcast explores our very own beautiful and wild Southern Highlands.

In each episode, Floss & Lou take listeners on a journey to a different part of the Highlands, sharing their knowledge and experience about birds, wildlife, plants and more. They also tell us about nature events happening in the Highlands that month.



The first two episodes of "Going Wild in the Highlands" are now available. In each episode the two nature nuts poke their noses into places to go in the Highlands, talk about what you'll see there and recount their adventures.

The podcast is available on all major podcast platforms. [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#) or wherever you usually get your podcasts. Or listen on Highland FM 107.1 Mondays at 8.00pm - 8.30pm or anytime on the [Highland FM website](#).

We hope you'll join Floss and Lou on their journey through the Highlands! Don't forget to like and subscribe."

This podcast has input from one of Bundanoon's SHAPS members.

# Please bring a mug to a meeting!



With the cost of living on the rise, growing your own produce from seed is becoming increasingly popular and it's easy to see why. When you do the sums on the value of a humble packet of seeds, it's clear that significant savings are there to be had. But how do you narrow down what seeds to grow to get the best bang for your buck?

Here are our top tips:

Grow **high-value crops** that sell for a high retail price at the supermarket such as **herbs**. These are easy to grow and can be picked fresh as needed.

**Leafy salad greens, microgreens and sprouts** are also great options to grow at home, they have a **short shelf life** so are best eaten straight after harvest.

**Multiple harvest varieties** can provide food over several weeks or months from just one plant, some of the most generous croppers include **tomato, cucumber, and zucchini**.

It also pays to focus on growing crops **'in season'** as these will thrive in your climate and will provide the most amount of food.

It's not all about food, if you love **flowers** but can't stretch the budget for that bunch of blooms from the florist, try growing your favourites from seed so you enjoy **fresh-cut flowers** all season long whilst encouraging pollinators to visit your garden!

[Vegetables From Mr Fothergill's Seeds and Plants  
\(mr-fothergills.co.uk\)](http://mr-fothergills.co.uk)



This is your automated alert to let you know about Open Gardens and Gardening Events.

The following gardens will open this week:

- [Highfield Gardens](#) : Little Hartley
- [Leura Gardens Festival](#) : Leura
- [The Secret Garden Wildes Meadow](#) : Wildes Meadow
- [Wild Meadows](#) : Little Hartley

Then, coming up in about 4-5 weeks time the following events are due to open:

- [Bathurst Gardeners' Club Spring Spectacular](#) : Bathurst : \* Sat, 28 Oct 2023
- [Bundanoon Garden Ramble](#) : Bundanoon \* Sat, 28 Oct 2023

\* Note: May open for one or more days. Please check the listing.

Of course there could be other events coming up sooner so please do check all the listings on our website. Also you might like to visit one of these gardens that are open regularly, or by appointment:

- [Campbell Rhododendron Gardens](#) : Blackheath
- [Erydene Historic House and Garden](#) : Gordon
- [Everglades Historic House & Gardens](#) : Leura
- [Gory'u Japanese Gardens](#) : Little Hartley
- [Harpers Mansion National Trust \(NSW\)](#) : Berrima
- [Perenniale Plants Nursery](#) : Canowindra
- [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 one or more of these gardens/events.

# Gardening for October

Spring is in full swing around the country. It is the perfect time to get into the garden with these handy hints!

## ROSES AND FLOWERING PLANTS

Wisteria is growing a mile a minute. About 4-5 weeks after flowering is the ideal time to start pruning off the vigorous new growth back to 5-6 buds from the older wood. This will encourage the plant to put its energy into next year's flowering.



Check the watering system for your roses and flowers to ensure there are no leaks, and the plants are getting the recommended amount of water. If the water is pooling around your garden bed or running down the side of pots, this is a good indication that it is time to apply a soil wetter. Then don't forget to Mulch or top up your existing mulch so your garden beds remain well hydrated as the temperature warms up.

October is the perfect time to plant summer colour. It's also rose season, with your pruned roses now starting to shoot with new life. Fertilise and protect your roses now. Roses may be suffering from Blackspot, so it would be good idea to spray them now with a good rose fungicide. Improving your rose garden soil with a good compost will help in making them more resistant to diseases and pests.

## NATIVES



As a general guide, prune spring flowering shrubs such as Callistemon (Bottlebrush) after they have finished flowering. This includes pruning spring flowering varieties.

Mulch or top up Mulch to protect plants against weather extremes and keep soils moist.

## FRUIT TREES AND VEGIES

Thin the fruit on the stone fruit trees, as this will ensure what fruit is left is large and well formed. Make a decision on what treatment you are going to use for fruit fly as it will soon be time to spray some of the early varieties. Unfortunately, if you elect not to do anything and you know there is fruit fly around not one fruit on that tree will be free of larvae.

Follow up planted summer veggies and add a good organic fertiliser to see them through till November. Pests will start to attack your lovely vegetables so make sure you use a naturally based insect spray. Apply at the first sign of attack and then keep in a good routine of spraying over the leaves (don't forget underside) every 10-12 days during October to repel them.



## LAWN AND TURF MAINTENANCE

If your lawn is spongy, mow it to remove the thatch. The build-up of organic matter reduces the amount of water getting to the root system. Buffalo lawns can be scalped at this time of the year to reduce sponginess and organic matter build up.



Lawns can now be cut weekly, encouraging new growth. At the very least it should be done fortnightly, but don't leave it much later than that. Fertilise now, and apply a grub killer to stop pests attacking the lawn.

## GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE TIPS

Keep weeding!!

- Don't forget to apply some blood and bone fertiliser to give everything in your garden that great natural boost.
- Good time to clean out your pond. Replenish no more than 50% of your water, divide any water lilies and remove any muddy build up on the bottom.
- As it warms up, apply a wetting agent to ensure the water being applied is soaking into the soil. This includes your veggie gardens and pots.
- Mulch garden beds to keep in moisture, and control weeds. Beds that aren't mulched will dry out quickly.



[Calendar: Gardening For October In Australia - Richgro](#)

# Nowra Bus Trip

## Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Our group gathered bright and early under cloudy skies to be swept up by Trish and Les, our wonderful driver. Buckled in and well on time we collected our ready and waiting Moss Vale contingent and headed off at a steady clip through the rolling hills.

We descended through the misty clouds into the beautiful Kangaroo Valley and climbed up over Cambewarra Mountain to interesting snippets from our knowledgeable local driver, emerging into Nowra in the sunshine on a bus filled with lively chatter and the oohs & aahs of those happy to leave the tight twisty bends behind us.

Les served us a welcome morning tea under the shady trees of the Nowra Showground amongst the caravans and frolicking local hounds.

Mim's Yellow House front garden was a delightful babble of shared knowledge as we picked over her rare and unusual potted treasures. The tables were rapidly cleared, despite the initial protestation of those who weren't going to add to the collection of yet unplanted pots at home, with Mim having to replenish them from her heavily laden stock tables in the back garden. Some lucky members took home cuttings from admired garden plantings and the team came aboard to thank us for being such lovely guests, satisfaction all round methinks. I look forward to having a 'Mim' moment when visiting future Friendship Gardens in Bundanoon.



With our plants safely stowed by Les and our self-drivers' settled in our empty seats, sadly vacated by illness on the day, we enjoyed a guided tour of old Nowra and a visit to the stunning Culburra Beach lookout where we took the sea air and stretched our legs. Such a joy!

The first glimpses of Merribee reaped us in as we were warmly welcomed by Lucy & Richard to lunch in the historic timber pioneer cottage moved from a nearby property and carefully reconstructed. It was a



pleasure to see the tables of ten or so chatting and enjoying the quiche, salad and a glass of bubbles followed by cake with lemon butter cream and a cuppa, on a blue-sky day with just the right light breeze to keep us cool.

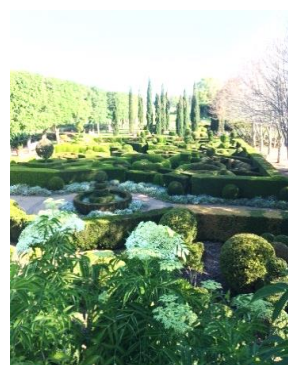


On the wide veranda we had a short history about the purchase, design, development and accumulation of the land which is Merribee today, seven acres of gardens, restored cottages, out buildings including silo accommodation and the family home, set amongst large dairy farms.



Lucy also shared her passion, one hundred roses: documenting the chronology of this ancient and beautiful species from its origins to its' present-day form incorporating all the attributes of colour, vigour, perfume and abundance, adorning the garden around the cottage. A special treat for the rose enthusiasts in our group.

We all then scattered about the property to wander the avenues, groves and garden rooms of clipped and topiarised bay and box hedges. There were roses and heavily fragrant white wisteria, crunchy gravel paths and whimsical structures such as the Topiary Garden viewing tower with a spiral staircase, rustic water tank lavatories and an old bath resplendent with a reclining topiarised lady.



From eye burning red chard stalks in the vegetable patch to the elegant smooth trunks of a trimmed crepe myrtle stand, the soft green lawn paths and contrasting deep burgundy of the Loropetalum to the port wine magnolia cloud tree, our gaze was drawn in every direction with colour and ideas and inspiration.

And so, shepherded back onto the bus after day of companionship, with food for physical nourishment, the soul and thought we say a heartfelt thanks to our hosts for their hospitality and knowledge, to Alison, Cat, Ron, Tessa and Trish for the planning, execution and administration of the trip and to Les for his careful and safe transportation on the day.

**Penny Baker.**

Tour Whistler & Counter of Seats

# From our Treasurer

Hello Everyone

Here are the Financials for July 2023.

## BGC Opening Balances 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

<b>Rediaccess Account</b>	<b>\$ 19694.35</b>
Income:	\$ 928.43
Expenditure:	\$ 2542.31
<b>Balance as at 24/4/23</b>	<b>\$ 1808.47</b>

Add: Petty Cash	\$ 115.00
Add: Trade Table Float:	\$ 40.00
Add: Raffle Float	\$ 20.00
Add: Visitor Entry Fee Float	\$ 5.00

**Funds held as at 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023** **\$ 18,260.47**

Regards

*Alison.*

## INDIA & GARDEN TOUR

27 February – 28 March 2024  
 South India 19 nights, incl Goa  
 North India 11 nights, incl Delhi

Small group of 8-10 people, own a/c vehicle & driver, staying in heritage hotels/elephant camp/beach accommodation in Goa

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Gardens:** Mughal, sustainable (Auroville), Botanical Gardens, Tea Plantation, Spice Farm, Brindavan Garden, Deeg Palace, Tipu Sultan Palace & Garden

**Architecture:** French (Pondicherry), British (Ooty), Portuguese (Goa)

**Spiritual buildings:** Temples, mosques, churches, Tibetan Buddhist colony

**Differences between South and North India**

A relaxed tour at the pace of the members

**\$3995 twin share, \$2125 single suppl., \$245pp flight Goa to Jaipur (Rajasthan): Int'l flight extra (e.g. MAS \$1009 return, 8.9.23). Those interested are asked to join group on 5 October at RUSH CAFÉ, Bowral, behind Ampol Service Station, at 10am.**

**Please RSVP, Fran Turland**



Fran Turland  
[fturland@yahoo.com](mailto:fturland@yahoo.com)  
 0432 556 063  
 Full itinerary on application

I had the pleasure of organising your tour and welcoming the Bundanoon Garden Club to Retford Park on 15th Feb 2022 and of attending a meeting at which Rick Shephard spoke about his work there. I saw then what a vibrant Club you have, and on many an occasion have visited Bundanoon gardens on a Ramble during October in past years.

As a 3 year resident of Karwar, South India, during the early 2000s I became aware of the variety of gardens, both formal Mughal in the north, and tropical in the south - all having to be sustainable through droughts and monsoons. We developed our own garden whilst living on a Naval Base beach as husband Rick was resident engineer on the Kadamba Naval Base, for the Indian Navy.

I've put together a tour of India, both South and North, in which I've sourced as many Botanical and private gardens, spice farms as possible for a 30-day small group tour. Of course, the tour is not limited to gardens, but also takes in the main sites that travellers to India want to experience. As a 'long term' resident and extensive traveller there I have become aware of some places that most larger tour companies don't take visitors, ie., Auroville, alongside French Pondicherry, and Brindavan Gardens in Karnataka. I would love to lead a small local group of intrepid garden lovers on this journey. I am not a travel agent, but I do have a trusted company in India that was introduced to us whilst living there - Uday Tours & Travel. They put together and cost the itinerary that I plan and I pay my own way - no commission. I've been doing this amongst friends since returning to live in Bowral. India is now in my blood and I plan travel when I 'need' to go back.

*Fran Turland*

Hello Everyone,

As you know we have a very good relationship with Harper's and the recent introduction of our garden Working Bee group is already having a positive impact. Due to unforeseen events, the Harper's House Volunteer Team is shorthanded and looking for additional people to help with meeting and greeting visitors and handing out self-guided 'tour of the house' information. Volunteers are also needed to collect payment and help operate the shop.

The property is open every weekend from 11am to 3pm and the occasional day midweek for visits by tour groups. A roster system based on availability is used.

They are a friendly and social group, so if you are interested in supporting such an historic property and helping ensure its accessibility to the public, please contact Doug Werner on 0415 207 245 or drop in on the weekend and see for yourself what is involved.

Cheers

Peter Rezek  
 0413 153 650

## What's Australia's worst insect stinger? Hint: it's not the dreaded fire ant

The dreaded red fire ant is a real pain. But it is far from the biggest pain in the insect world.



This invasive species — which now infests parts of Queensland and is subject to a national eradication program — gets its name from its sting, which apparently burns like fire.

On the pain scale that measures insect bites and stings, from mild tingling to bullet-wound agony, it rates a relatively modest 1.2, however.

The scale reaches 4.0 — the sting of a giant wasp earning the description "blinding, fierce, shockingly electric" by the scientist who developed the [index](#).



The sting of spider wasps like the Australian orange spider wasp tops the pain index. (Supplied: CSIRO)

<https://apple.news/AWTi9mHm0SzSmXTP1JnoPxxw>

## Dimethoate use suspended after insecticide residue found to exceed safety levels



A range of tropical fruit including mangoes and avocados are now no longer allowed to be dipped in dimethoate, a neurotoxin [banned in Europe](#) but still used in some countries as an insecticide.

<https://apple.news/AoOJAK4jzTjKoA8PGPAMupg>

## If something happens to bees, it's hoped these flies can fill the role of pollinator

As bees face threats like varroa mite, a fly is proving its pollination skills. They don't sting, don't bite, and don't have a hive. Instead, they nest around the foliage of crops.

A Tasmanian company is sending out 2 million hover flies to pollinate carrot crops this summer to prove their commercial use.

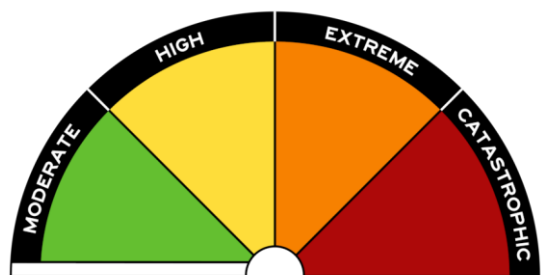


Hover flies collect pollen on their fine hairs and move between male and female carrot seed plants. (Supplied: Hannah Allwright)

<https://apple.news/ApHMKwAroQgSKuXoelggPVA>

## What makes a bushfire alert 'catastrophic', and how should you respond?

It is only September and already Australia's fire danger dial has been swung to red on several occasions.



With projections for a [hot and dry end to 2023 under the El Niño climate pattern](#), and increased fuel loads across some parts of the country, it is unlikely to be the last warning like it.

So when you see a rating of extreme and catastrophic fire danger, what is it actually telling you? And what should you be doing?

<https://apple.news/A15UEH8AmSr-loFnXBo8n7g>