

Friendship through gardening

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

Cancelled due to COVID restrictions

HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

None this month

RETFORD PARK VISIT

To be re-scheduled as soon as possible

FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

Not possible this month

PLANT STALL

At Exeter Market on Saturday 6th
November if market open

Find the latest news on:



BUNDANOON GARDEN CLUB INC

E: gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com

W: www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au

A: PO Box 25 Bundanoon 2578

Committee

President: Phillip (Ted) Ayers

M: 0403 135 873

E: gardenclubbundanoon.president@gmail.com

Vice President: Faye Dillon

Secretary: Tessa Spencer

M: 0435 193 353

E: gardenclubbundanoon.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Trish Badami

Newsletter

Editor: David Humphrey

E: dghumphrey@hotmail.com

T: 4883 6634

Contributions welcome

From the President

Well, what a long lockdown it's been. Apparently, there's light at the end of the tunnel and we'll soon be able to get back together again.

Last month I mentioned in my report the benefits of eating more of our vegetables than we get at the supermarket. Broccoli leaves and stalks, carrot tops etc. And I asked the question – why didn't we get this from commercial growers and what happened to all this "good stuff"; was it just thrown away? After a few enquiries with the grocery giants and several "robot" replies via their Facebook sites, one of them, Woolworths, actually had the courtesy to have a human contact me with the answer. They'd checked with some of their farmers. The leaves and stalks aren't thrown away; they are re-purposed as green manure.

So what is green manure, you may well ask? They are temporary, fast-growing crops that are generally sown in Spring or Autumn, then slashed and worked back into the soil. This puts the nutrients back into the soil, can assist with the suppression of weeds and can change the balance of your soil.

It also brings in beneficial insects that can help the vegetables in the other beds.

There are different crops available, and you can buy packets of green manure mixes from nurseries and farm shops. For our climate and the veg we can grow, it's actually best to try growing your green manure in Autumn and then the bed will be ready for Spring. But it's worth planning early.



I'm still harvesting broccoli, so before my next crop goes in I'll have to dig it over, add some seeds and grow the green manure on for a few weeks before slashing it and planting in something like beans in December. Then, when the beans are finished (it was about Easter last year) I can start the process again.

Continued below

I found the following on the **Sustainable Gardening Australia** website:

What plants to grow: Warm season crops: Buckwheat, cowpea, French white millet, Japanese millet, lablab, marigolds, mung bean and soybean

Cool/cold season crops: Fava beans, broad beans, tick beans, fenugreek, lupins, oats, subclover, woolly pod vetch, ryecorn, yellow and black mustard seed, other brassicas, feed oats, wheat or barley.

Benefits of Particular Plants: Different crops have different benefits and can be grown in combination. Seed sellers will often sell individual seed types and green manure mixes.

Some examples: Biofumigants, like marigolds - planted in spring; brassicas and mustard - planted in autumn, help to control root rot fungal pathogens. These crops must be dug in to release beneficial gasses as they decompose. Legumes, like lucerne, clover, beans and peas, which fix nitrogen and will make it available to whatever follows the green manure crop.

Establishing your crop: It's usually as simple as choosing your seed mix, clearing the bed of weeds, broadcasting the seed and raking to cover, but check the seed packet to see whether your seeds have any special requirements. Most green manures will need moisture to germinate and while they're growing, so depending on rainfall, you might need to water the seeds in when you sow them, and to give them a hose as they grow.

Harvesting: For maximum benefit, harvest as your crop starts to flower – once the crop has fully flowered (and then set seed). You can either dig the crop in, or cut it and use it as mulch on the bed where it grew, or around the garden. If you decide to dig the crop into the soil, it will break down faster if you mow or chop it up a bit first. Allow 4 to 6 weeks after you dig the crop in before planting new seeds in the bed. If you need to plant seeds sooner, use your green manure crop as surface mulch.

So it's comforting to know that even the "Big Farmers" are using this age old process of sustainability. I just wish they'd do more about plastic packaging!

There's always another challenge.

Do you ever get tired of working in your garden? I love researching, dreaming then jumping into a new project. Over the last four weeks I've built two curved espalier screens that have a combination of flowering peaches and plums intertwined. I've also planted in clematis to give the structure flowers long after the fruits have gone to leaves.



We inherited a large garden bed that was a gruesome combination of English Ivy and common violets (not that I have anything against a lovely clump or two of violets, especially when they are in their heavenly bloom, but not when they could take you down by the leg!) that had to go. The area is situated under a great elm and was to be recultivated and planted out in a woodland theme. The task of removing the violets was nothing compared to the ivy. Day after day of backbreaking pulling and digging out of ancient roots was taking its toll. A day off and a trip to Moidart was required. I love this nursery with its avenue of conifers, the crazy leaping

brown dog and the ever helpful and informative owners. Japanese Toad Lilies, Ornamental Buckwheat, Primula Veris, Lamium Pink Nancy, and Tellima Grandiflora were purchased and loaded into the car. These were combined with some azaleas, hydrangeas, windflowers, butter yellow clivia and hellebores that we needed to plant out or relocate. The centre piece of the bed was to be a weeping forest pansies we'd bought a year ago because we loved it but had no clue where it would go. Now it would have pride of place.

As you would imagine after 15 years of neglect, the soil was dead of any nutrients. Barrow after barrow of home-made compost, blood and bone and rotted cow manure was dug in. A few days later (after more required recovery and a few G&Ts to help ease the back pain) we started to plant in.

As so often happens in our lovely village, a notice appeared on Facebook. A kind person was giving away tons of driveway pebbles. The new garden needed an access path, so with haste we sped to their property to fill the boot of my Fiat 500 with the white gold. All that is left to do is to top dress the beds with my rotted leaf mould (remember we showed you how to make and accelerate leaf mould in autumn) and let the garden grow. Hopefully by next Ramble, my woodland will be a delight. I wonder what I can do next?

Ted.

Out & About – with Cat & Ted

Tulip Time – Corbett Gardens Bowral

Whilst the official Tulip Time Festival was cancelled, the annual planting scheme went ahead in Corbett Gardens and the results are breath-taking. Get along to see it before October 5th. Experience the drama of 75,000 tulips planted as mosaics, with interesting companion planting, sculptures representing the diamond anniversary of the Festival, and a general sense of joy from the carefully spaced visitors.



If you missed it – you can watch the event here - [Tulip Time 2021 Virtual Event - YouTube](#)

Cherry Tree Walk and more – Bowral

An annual must-do, this walk is even more special this year when grocery shopping and outdoor exercise are among our only 'outings.' The walk starts at the Bowral Pool, where there is good parking. Walk the full 5km stretch or enjoy a shorter section from Bowral pool through Venables Park. The trees are the 'great white' cherry, *Prunus 'Tai Haku.'* There is some variety in height and maturity. The trees have been planted in batches as sourcing such a large number of that specific tree proved difficult. This is a memorial walk - each tree represents an Australian who died in service to their country



during the Vietnam War.

The cherry blossoms have just passed their prime but there is still time to enjoy their snowy beauty. Add in some time to wander the surrounding streets for some quality real estate and garden perving. The area around Shepherd, Myrtle and Daphne streets is fun.



Boronia and other wildflowers in the Morton National Park

After fire, wildflowers. The Park is looking very lovely at the moment. The black-barked sentinels stand as a constant memory of the terrible fires, but at their feet the grasses and wildflowers have softened and filled in the understory. We are seeing some flowers for the first time in years. The *Boronia floribunda* is back and will reach peak bloom in October. A flower we haven't seen for a while is the *Kennedia prostrata*, a bright red native pea carpet. And the small *Pomaderris lanigera* tree is a stunner, taking on the wattle for the mantle of best yellow flower.

Ted has made a bingo card of flowers you might spot on your walks. Please send us your photos of any others you find.

Bundanoon Wild Flowers



CALADENIA



COMESPERMA
ERICIUM



KENNEDIA
RUBICUNDA



HELICHRYSUM



PIMELEA



STYLIDIUM
LABICIFOLIUM



PATERSONIA
SERICEA



KENNEDIA
PROSTRATA



TETRATHECA
PILOSA



ISOPOGON
ANEMONIFOLIUS



DAMPIERA
STRICTA



DILLWYNIA
FLORIBUNDA



‘Prevention is better than cure’ is a well known expression. We know that ‘eating our greens’ offers numerous health benefits that help reduce the risk of obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure and even mental decline. Vegetables in general are packed with vitamins and minerals necessary for our well-being, and when organically home grown they are tastier and fresher.

So here are some tips on preventing problems, and therefore giving our veggies the best chance to thrive.

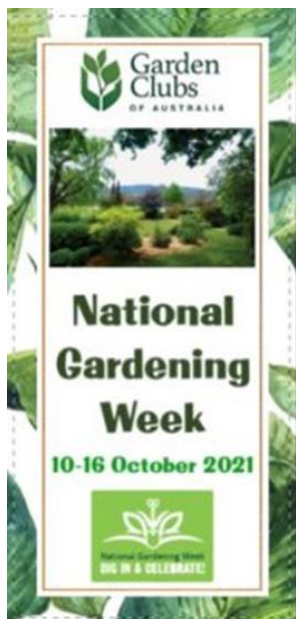
- Soil, or the composition of a no-dig bed, is the primary factor that will determine plant growth. The pH needs to be around neutral for most veggies, and a little sweeter with a handful of lime for brassicas. A good amount of compost adds nutrients to the soil and introduces valuable microorganisms, such as bacteria, fungi, and protozoa from decomposed organic material.
- Position is important. For veggies grown in rows such as peas and beans, a north-south aspect will allow equal sunlight to all plants. Shade should be avoided, and can be artificially erected if the need arises. Wind can be a problem for taller growth like sweetcorn, and a wind break such as jerusalem artichoke or sunflowers could be planted. Air flow around plants allows the foliage to dry, so preventing fungal diseases like powdery mildew. Remember to thin out carrots, beetroot and the like to allow for good growth.
- Food is necessary for anything to grow, and veggies may need a little more than the soil can provide to reach full potential. Blood and bone is a good standby, but it is worth researching the specific organic needs of particular vegetables.
- Water is key, and consistent application will allow constant growth, with no checks or spurts. If possible some form of soaker or drip hose system is best because it delivers the moisture to the roots without wetting the leaves. Another method is to attach a lance to your hose to direct the water where it is needed.
- Observation can reduce many potential problems. Watch your precious veggies as they develop from seedling to mature plants, and protect them when required. Don’t let the voracious hoards of critters get the meal first! If you need to use ‘friendly’ slug and snail pellets, so be it! Use only organic sprays if necessary; pyrethum or neem-oil for insects, and eco-fungicide for powdery mildew, black spot etc. Use prevention in the form of netting to exclude insects and especially butterflies, and perhaps birds and possums if they are a problem. As mentioned last month, watch out for stress!

Planting in October

Artichokes (Globe)	Sow seed	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
Beans – all climbing	Sow seed – frost protect	Harvest from December
Beans – all dwarf	Sow seed – frost protect	Harvest from December
Beetroot (also Beets)	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Celeriac	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from January
Celery	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from February
Chicory	Sow seed	Harvest from February
Cucumber	Start undercover. Plant after risk of frost	Harvest from December
Capsicum (Sweet peppers)	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December

Carrot	Sow seed. broadcast sow	Harvest from January
Cauliflower	Plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from January
Chilli peppers	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks. After risk of frosts	Harvest from December
Chives	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Eggplant (also Aubergine)	Sow seed. Bring on in pots - need a long growing season	Harvest from February
Kohlrabi	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Leeks	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from January
Lettuce	Start in seed trays or plant out (transplant) or sow seed	Harvest from December
Marrow / Pumpkin	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks. After risk of frost	Harvest from January
Mint (also Garden mint)	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Mustard greens (gai choy)	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Onion	Plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from March
Parsley	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Parsnip	Sow seed	Harvest from February
Peas	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Potato	Plant seed potatoes	Harvest from February
Pumpkin	Sow seed	Harvest from January
Radish	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Rocket	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Rhubarb	Plant crowns	Harvest from 12 months
Rockmelon (Canteloupe)	Start undercover in seed trays and plant	
Rutabaga (also Swedes)	Sow seed	Harvest from January
Sage	Sow seed	Harvest from 18 months
Silverbeet (Swiss Chard)	Plant out (transplant) seedlings or sow seed	Harvest from November
Snow Peas (Sugar Peas)	Sow seed	Harvest from January
Spinach (English spinach)	Sow seed	Harvest from November
Spring onions (Scallions)	Sow seed	Harvest from December
Squash	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from December
Strawberry Plants	Plant out (transplant) seedlings	Harvest from January
Sunflower	Sow seed	from December
Sweet Corn	Sow seed. After risk of frost	Harvest from January
Thyme	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from August
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
Watermelon	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from January
Zucchini	Start undercover in seed trays and plant out in 4-6 weeks	Harvest from November

National Gardening Week



Here's a few ideas and activities that we have come up with to celebrate National Gardening Week – **10th-16th October**

Herbs in the garden or planted in pots

Herbs are easy to grow and useful in the kitchen – plant up a sunny spot in the garden or gather a collection of pots and enjoy the flavours!

Recycle/upcycle quirky containers

Old paint tins, tool boxes, gum boots, shoes make great herb pots or succulent displays.

Create unusual signage in the garden or veggie patch

Use some old bricks, pavers, roofing tiles, rocks and waterproof permanent marker or paint to make unique markers for your veggie or herb patch.

Make a scarecrow

Lots of fun for a classroom activity or rainy afternoon with the kids and a decorative feature in the garden!

Put in a Birdbath

Birds love a drink and somewhere to splash about especially in our hot and dry summers. Buy a birdbath or let your imagination go wild and create your own.

Flower garlands

Creating flower garlands is a fun activity for the classroom, garden club or group of friends and how pretty you'll look over a cup of tea afterwards.

Community Gardens

If you don't have the space to garden at home, check out if you have a local community garden. You'll get your own plot and a whole network of friends to advise and assist.

Create a sensory garden

Create a sensory garden at home, at school, in a nursing home, your local park – anywhere that will enhance the beauty of the place and excite the senses. When planning a sensory garden, it is important to combine plants and elements that appeal to all five senses – sight, sound, smell, taste and touch.

Plant a tree

Plant a tree in your garden, local park, school yard or bush regeneration project – benefits are amazing! Not only from the pleasure of watching a tree grow and mature, admiring its natural beauty but the fact that it purifies the air by absorbing CO₂ and other harmful pollutants and releases life giving oxygen. Trees give shade, cool our environment, provide shelter for our wildlife, prevent soil erosion and some give us delicious fruit such as apples and oranges.

Build a compost heap

Recycle all your vegetable and fruit scraps and create a wonderful soil conditioner and plant food.

Plant up a veggie patch

If your garden or school doesn't already have a vegetable patch, why not create one!

Build a bee hotel

Most native bees are solitary and make their nests in a variety of places such as soils, hollows in trees, decaying wood, hollow stems – building a bee hotel is the perfect way to encourage them into your garden, your school yard, etc.

Flower gardens

Whether in a pot, or beds in the garden, the fragrance and colour display that flowers bring to a space is magical.

Effective ways to deal with common weeds as the weather warms up



Longer, warmer days are causing plants all over Australia to spring into new growth. But with this welcome growth comes every gardener's nemesis — weeds.

[Effective ways to deal with common weeds as the weather warms up - ABC Everyday](#)

Seasonal Kitchen



Blueberries and strawberries are in season right now. Here's a recipe from our own **Carlie Gould**. Sounds easy and delicious!

100 gms cooled melted butter
2 eggs
200g castor sugar
1 vanilla bean
150 plain flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
90 gms walnuts
400 gms berries*
Icing sugar for dusting cooled & finished cake



Preheat oven 180c, grease and line 22cm cake tin.

Whip eggs & sugar together on high speed for 4 minutes.

Slowly drizzle in cooled melted butter, fold in dry ingredients before finally adding berries.

Bake 60 minutes.

Turn out after 10 minutes in tin and when cooled, sift over icing sugar.

*substitute seasonal berries

Australian Bird Count

You're invited to join in the 2021 Aussie Backyard Bird Count, running **October 18 - 24!**

Last October we had a cold snap and many birds went into hiding. Hopefully this year we'll be able to submit counts that represent the wonderful diversity of bird life in Bundanoon.

Our common backyard species give us the best indication of the health of our natural environment – think of birds as a barometer for nature!

That's why each October, people count how many birds they see within 20-minutes in their backyard, local park, or any other area. This provides a snapshot at the same time each year, allowing us to look at trends in our bird communities, and enabling you to make an important contribution to citizen science from your own home!

Especially important in 2021, the Bird Count is a fun, safe activity that can be enjoyed no matter the Covid situation in your area. Counting birds isn't just a fun activity for you and the environment – spending time observing nature has been proven to provide benefits to mental health and well-being. All it takes is 20 minutes in your backyard, local park, or favourite outdoor space – anywhere you can count birds.

The smartphone app is free and easy to use. You can also submit your counts via your computer. Past counts allowed you to send in a paper form, but Covid restrictions prevent that this year. Follow this link for all the practical information you need about the count -

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/faq-how-to-count/>

Count the birds that are counting on you - register now to be part of the nation's largest annual citizen science event!

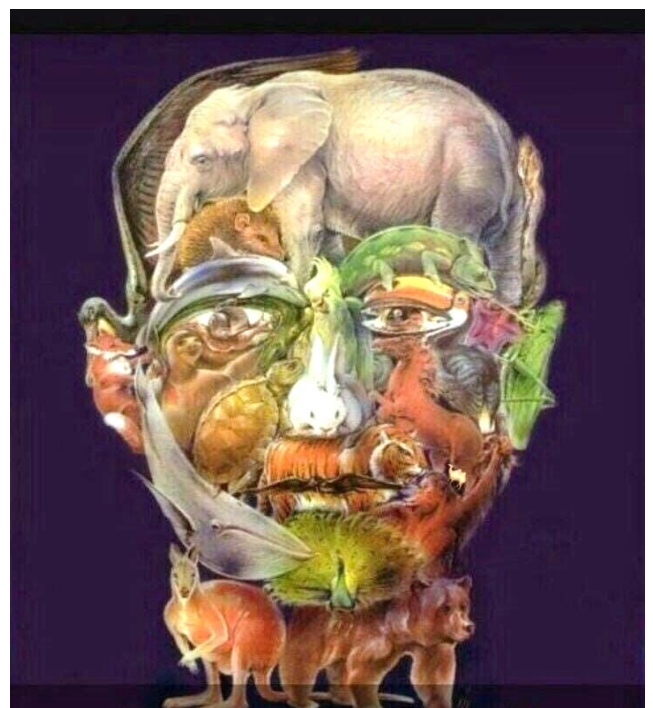
To find out more, visit -

www.aussiebirdcount.org.au

One bird to watch out for is the Spine-tailed swift. These migratory birds from Siberia appear in Bundanoon in October. It is said that rain follows their appearance within three days.



Members may have time to **Find the Camel** in the picture below. Those who can find it are sure to keep Alzheimers at bay.



Lyn.

Horn Manure 500

If you watched Gardening Australia last weekend, you may have been intrigued (or bemused) to learn that farmers fill cow horns with cow poo and bury them over winter.

Watch the item:

<https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/marga-ret-river-magic/13553564?jwsourc=em>

Horn Manure 500 is the original biodynamic soil spray. It is a powerful soil activator helping root development and growth of the plant, as well as humus formation in the soil.



Founded in 1924, Biodynamic farming is the oldest 'green' farming movement, and forerunner of organics. All biodynamic farmers and growers practice organic methods of cultivation and are against genetic modification (GM), but there are important differences. Biodynamics has metaphysical and spiritual roots that organics does not. Biodynamics thus embraces the mystery of all life processes, including the subtle and energetic realities that are not necessarily easy to measure or justify using current scientific methods.

Horn Manure is a specially fermented cow manure preparation. It is sprayed towards evening as rough water droplets directly on the soil prior and after sowing and planting. It encourages healthy root growth, assists the plant in finding nutrients and mediates the terrestrial forces of life. Under drought situations it encourages deep rooting.



Just fifteen grammes of horn manure stirred in 7-10 litres of water is sufficient for 1000 square metres/quarter acre.

If you want to give it a try, Horn Manure 500, and an improved Biodynamic Soil Activator, is available from:

<https://biodynamics.net.au/product/horn-manure-500/>

How to apply:

Late in the afternoon i.e. after 3pm in most climates, add the horn manure to good quality water. Use rain water if possible. If using town water, leave in the bucket for several hours so that the chlorine can evaporate. If using bore water, ensure that there is no contamination from excess iron, aluminium or calcium.

For a home garden, stir in a copper, stainless steel, glazed ceramic or a food grade plastic bucket with a stick or by hand, creating a vortex. Then reverse the direction of stirring until you have created another vortex. Continue to stir in this manner for 20 minutes. This kind of stirring allows the powerful forces within the horn manure to be taken up by the water. Then sprinkle it out sparingly, in large droplets, over the garden and pot plants using a hearth brush or a pump spray.

The cost of 35 grammes is \$10.50 plus a similar amount for P&P, which will cover an acre.

I will be giving it a go, so watch out for my giant veggies!

David.

Garden of Memories

Camellia Expert needed please



Help is needed! Could an expert camellia pruner please give some attention to two small trees? The Buttons N' Bows in the bed with the peonies has had a growth spurt and needs shaping. In the larger bed by the fence, the medium tree with

large blowsy pink flowers has had a bumper season and is congested and weighed down with new growth. Please contact Ted. 0403 135 873.

Lots of weeds here as well, but also lots of beauty. With no official working bee possible just yet, members might like to visit the parks with a friend and spend a gentle ten minutes weeding.

Good Deeds



Spotted, good deeds on Church Street. John Pryce-Jones has been pruning the blossom trees in front of the Anglican Church. They were badly damaged in August 2020 when the big gum came down. John gave them a heavy prune at that time and they have slowly recovered. This spring they put on a mass of blossom.

Although we can't meet for our official working bees during this time of restrictions, it is heartening to know that many of our members are quietly and individually making a difference around the village.

Friendship through Gardening!

Nancy Kingsbury Memorial Park

The current popularity of 'picnics' has made NKP a favoured destination for breakfast, lunch, dinner and everything in between. We haven't seen so many people using it in years! This has actually resulted in a decrease in litter, but we'll continue to lobby for a bin. The Park is looking good, albeit a bit weedy. The azaleas and the blood red tulips are putting on a show. There have been a few 'mishaps' involving frolicking dogs and children, but overall, our plantings are coping well, and we've heard many compliments about the park. The white wisteria will be in full glory in a few weeks, so be sure to visit.

The new sprinkler system has had a few hiccups, coming on at inopportune times. It is switched off and the installers will be fixing the issue. It will be operating at 6am over summer.

Cat.

A snail: it can terrorise your garden for five years



'They crept behind a shining star / The going slow the distance far / And came just thirteen years too late / (The gospels don't record their fate)' – from Snail Morning by Gus Ferguson. Photograph: 19th era/Alamy

Snails – Know your Enemy!

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/commenisfree/2021/sep/23/a-garden-snail-it-knows-the-rose-only-by-its-smell-and-soft-petals?CMP=Share_AndroidApp_Other

October in Our Patch

With the weather warming up nicely, there's no better place to be than the backyard. October is a huge month in the patch. With so many varieties to plant, you'll be struggling to get it all done. So, welcome to October, a fine time to be in any sort of garden. Remember to use all your senses in the garden. Watch for pest issues, feel for soil moisture, smell your soil, and... most importantly... taste the fruits (or vegetables) of your labours. Let's get into it...

Weeding

Weeding is a great 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. While the kids are on school holidays, why not give them a "buck a bucket" for each bucket of weeds they remove? It gets them out in the sun, having fun and learning about nature.

Tomatoes

It's time to plant everyone's favourite – tomatoes. By now your soil should be good and ready, so head to the local garden centre, pick a few varieties, and get going. This is the moment we have all been waiting for. Don't forget their mates Basil and French Marigolds. They are great companions, and no tomato patch is complete without them.

Sunflowers

Now is the time to plant some sunflower seeds. Find a sunny spot where you would like to see some happy sunflowers later in the year, and plant the seeds to double the depth of the seed. Cover lightly with dirt and wait... they'll be popping their heads up in no time!

Remember to mulch

Top up mulch on your veggie patches, herb gardens and ornamental beds. Choose a sustainable, low environmental impact mulch that will enrich your soil as it breaks down.

Tools

On non-gardening days head out to the shed, and sharpen, clean, oil and maintain your garden tools. It's really rewarding and will save you money and plant problems in the long run.

Time to plant

Get planting these tasty treats: cabbage, celery, leeks, lettuce, silverbeet, spring onions, Brussels sprouts, capsicums, chillies, eggplants, and beetroot. For big patches, why not try a globe artichoke? Tough and tasty... what a combo.

Go crazy with climbing beans. Why not build a trellis or archway in your patch, and grow these green machines over the top. It looks awesome, doesn't take up much space, and makes it easier to pick the beans.

In the herb patch, try some parsley, calendula, chamomile, marigolds, oregano, pyrethrum, rue, sage, rosemary, thyme, and Echinacea. Also try lemon balm and mint, but keep them in a pot, as they have a tendency to take over.

Why not try some aurora and Livingstone daisies, pansies, violas, snapdragons, verbena, marigolds, cornflowers, petunias and phlox. These guys are great at attracting pollinators and beneficial insects to your garden.

<https://www.sgaonline.org.au/october-in-your-patch/>

Purple Sprouting Broccoli

Following our President Ted's enthusiastic support for broccoli last month, not only would I like to endorse his sentiments, but being a keen grower of the stuff, I would like to go further.

Conventional green broccoli which produces one large central head, followed by a significant number of side shoots, is in fact calabrese. In the highlands this is a winter vegetable, continuing into early spring.



In the UK purple sprouting broccoli is popular, but not widely grown in Australia. You need to track down the seeds on the internet, and therefore punnets of ready plants are not available.

I sow seeds inside around late February, planting out at the end of March while the soil is still warm, to give the plants a good opportunity to become established. They can grow 75cm across, so good spacing is necessary. Apart from lots of green leaves, nothing much happens until early spring, when the plants are transformed with plenty of delicious purple shoots that will continue until summer. N.B. – a prime candidate for netting!

David.

From our Treasurer

Hello Everyone

Nothing happening in the Garden Club World of Finance, no income and a couple of bills!!!!
Therefore, a healthy bank balance.

Stay well.

BGC Opening Balance	
Rediaccess Account was	\$14,540.16
Income was:	NIL
Expenditure was:	\$ 102.10
Balance as at 21/9/21	\$14,438.06
Add : Petty Cash	\$ 135.00
Add: Trade Table Float:	\$ 45.00
<u>TOTAL BALANCE as at</u>	
<u>20th September 2021:</u>	<u>\$14,618 06</u>

Trish.

Kings Park bursts into vibrant colour, but you can get the same result at home

With the botanic gardens inside Perth's Kings Park in full bloom for the annual spring festival, staff are hoping to inspire home gardeners to reconsider everything they have ever thought about native plants.



Amanda Shade, nursery curator and head of the training, says staff are constantly asked how to achieve the same colourful look at home. "Why wouldn't you?" she said.

"[Native plants] are adapted to our local environments. They are beautiful, [and] despite what some people might think about some of them, and a lot of them are actually not that hard to grow."

Read in ABC News:

<https://apple.news/ApxumI5u0TXi1bMMYhS1IAA>

What trees to plant if you have a small space



"Gardening is about maths. It's all related to how much water your trees and plants get." That reasoning, from horticulturalist Tim Pickles, may sound simple enough, but also not if you don't consider yourself a green thumb.

Planting a tree, even a small one in a pot on your veranda, may seem a big step up from, say, cultivating a devil's ivy which are notoriously 'hard to kill'. But Tim, who runs a gardening centre in Campbelltown in south-west Sydney, says if you need any incentive for trying to plant a tree, it's that it can do wonders [for your mental health](#).

Read in ABC News:

<https://apple.news/AvUQR348zQ-GbuZgmPBUocg>

'It's spectacular': Flannel flowers burst into bloom after bushfires and floods



Flannel flowers have burst into bloom in huge numbers in a bushfire-affected landscape, and are reaching towering and unexpected heights.

Read in ABC News:

<https://apple.news/AW6iL40aER6exuiPKcKhiuQ>

Snakes In the Highlands

What You Need To Know



The weather is warming up here in The Highlands.

You know what that means, don't you?

Snake season!

[Snakes In The Highlands // WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW | The Fold Southern Highlands](#)

Photographs of weeds needed!

We are often inspired to take photos of the stunning flowers that surround us at this time of year, but I doubt you take photos of weeds. Yet this is just what the CISS (Centre for Invasive Species Solutions) are asking people to do. CISS are developing an app which will enable a weed to be identified and provide information on best ways to manage it. Lots of photos of weeds are needed to 'train' the app to recognise types of weeds.

About the Weed ID Project

A National Project is being conducted by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, CSIRO and The New South Wales Department of Primary Industries. Researchers are building a weed identification smart phone app, they need to teach the system to recognise weeds and photos are the data. For the app to work successfully, at least a thousand pictures of each weed species needs to be collected from locations across Australia. That's where gardeners can help.

It is estimated that 80% of invasive weeds in Australia are escapees from gardens. So Garden Clubs of Australia are encouraging all members to get involved, collectively we could submit more than 1 million photographs of weeds across Australia making identification, mapping and eradication so much easier.

How to contribute

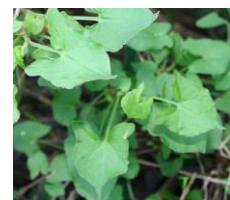
Contributing photos to the Weed ID project is easy. All you need is a mobile phone or a digital camera. Then spend a little time between September 2021 and May - June 2022 photographing weeds in your garden, on street verges in your neighbourhood, in parks, gardens and sportsgrounds, on the sides of roads or on the banks of creeks and waterholes. Make a note of the location and submit the photos of each weed species together with its scientific or common name via the WeedsAustralia website.

For each weed, photograph the whole plant then take photos of leaves, flowers (if present) growth habit or distinctive features. Photos don't have to be textbook examples of perfect plants. Take photos of grazed plants, mown plants, old plants and drought affected plants as researchers need to see the full range of what each weed can look like. However, they do need to know the type of plant being photographed, the photo quality is less important.

Learn more about the types of photos needed -

[Submit your weeds photos - Weeds Australia](#)

I shall be starting with photos of the stubborn turkey rhubarb which hides among my daffodils.



Tessa.



Leonore asked for the story behind the large deep pink rhododendrons in some of the old gardens around Bundanoon.

Examples can be spotted at the Police Station, the Nancy Kingsbury Park and Invergowrie.

Carlie was able to provide the answer.

The rhododendron is "Sir Robert Peel" and well known in NZ where it was one of the first available. Sir Robert Peel' is probably regarded as one of the toughest varieties of all Rhododendrons. Hybridized by J. Waterer, It is vigorous and easy to grow. In cooler areas like ours, it can grow to tree-like proportions. A 10-year-old plant could be at least 2.5 metres in height.

One of the first Rhododendron to start flowering, Sir Robert Peel is soon covered in light cerise red conical trusses. The flowers then fade to pink in strong sunlight.



Do you have a question for garden club members to answer?

Send it to: gardenclubbundanoon@gmail.com