

Friendship through gardening

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Thursday 2nd November – 10.30am until 12noon
at **Riversdale, Goulburn**

FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

Saturday 4th October – 10am - 1pm

HELPING HANDS WORKING BEE

None this month.

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING

Thursday 7th December – **CHRISTMAS PARTY**
4pm - 6pm at Exeter Village Hall

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: Alison Trotter

Newsletter

Editor: David Humphrey

E: dghumphrey@hotmail.com

T: 4883 6634

Contributions welcome

From the President

Preserving the past for the future.

I've always been passionate about history - people, their wardrobes and their day-to-day lives. That includes learning about how they gardened. It was two years ago that I met Anne-Marie, the head gardener at Golden Vale. She had some fascinating stories about the history of the house, but more importantly the garden. I had imagined that she had a crack team of willing workers to maintain this lovely plot of land in our Southern Highlands. I was shocked when she revealed that it was she and she alone tasked with the duty of care for this historic plot.

I offered to discuss a working bee in exchange to an exclusive garden tour with my committee and so I set the ball a-rolling. We had to gain permission from the National Trust and originally they wanted us there in July/August to help with planting new bulbs. Knowing what I know (after only five years) of the local weather, I pleaded with her to allow us a visit in spring, not the dead of winter, and so it was agreed. Unfortunately, it was to be a garden only outing. National Trust rarely opens the house to the public.

I was amazed and gratified by how many of the club were interested in helping out and related the numbers to Anne-Marie and Nick Corbett (GM of National Trust Properties). 40 members turned up on a sunny Thursday morning. Some dug weeds from the lawn, others cut back hellebores while an energetic group marched along the long drive way scattering fertilizer under the rows of oak trees. Unfortunately, my planned BBQ couldn't proceed, but fortunately, we had an abundance of cakes and slices, surplus from the previous Saturday's Friendship Gardens. Added to this were half a dozen bottles of iced French Sparkling Rose and the scene was set for a lovely outing.

After our morning tea, the National Trust had a surprise for us. They were so impressed with the turn out and the amount of work done in the garden, that they had arranged to have the house opened and to provide a guided tour. It was fascinating to learn the history of the house and the families who lived there, especially the last owners, Geoffrey and Karin Keighley.



Many of the members expressed a real interest in returning to help Anne-Marie and the National Trust maintain this lovely piece of our history. Who knows, maybe it will become an annual event.

Ted Ayers

President



President's Round-up

NOVEMBER AWAY DAY MEETING AT RIVERSDALE, GOULBURN – SELF DRIVE THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER – 10.30 am - 12.00 noon.

We have been given the opportunity to visit historic Riversdale Homestead, Goulburn with a guided tour by the head gardener. Riversdale is famous for its roses and iris. We hope the peonies planted by Emily Twynam in the late 1800s will still be in bloom.



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

Our guest speaker will be Marie Kennedy and the Head Gardener, Ros Loftus. She will show us the wonderful rose gardens and the magnificent, bearded iris beds. Don't forget to bring some cash, as Riversdale also sells rare iris rhizomes.

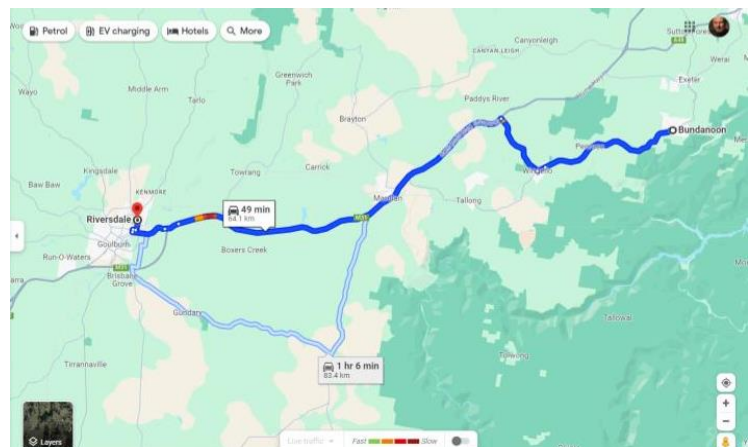
The National Trust is providing tea and coffee, and our Catering Team are bringing morning tea.
Please bring a cup!

History:

An estate with a rich history that is full of inns and schools, set in beautiful grounds. Edward Twynam, the New South Wales Surveyor-General bought it in 1875 and it remained the family home until 1967. Sketches and furniture crafted by Emily Twynam still decorate the home. 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. 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/H8LqpPqqg7qDkGnWA>

MAKE AND LAY OUR WREATH THIS REMEMBRANCE DAY 11th NOVEMBER

Our Garden Club has a tradition of making and laying a wreath on A.N.Z.A.C. Day and Remembrance Day. The Committee likes to share the pleasure and fun of making of making the wreaths and we'd love to have some volunteers to make this year's Remembrance Day Wreath. We have all the tools you'll need, foam forms, ribbon etc and if you need advice on how to get started, we're here to help.

If you're interested, please chat to Ted or Alison Ayers at our next meeting, or email gardenclubbundanoon.membership@gmail.co



CHRISTMAS PARTY – THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER 2023 – 4pm-6pm – Exeter Village Hall



Sandra, Andrew and Veronica at Christmas 2022

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 your name and reference: XMAS

Ted.

Friendship Gardens - Saturday 4th November

Gardens one and two open 10am – 12noon

Garden three open 10am – 1pm and beyond

Our first two gardens in Lynne Close will be open between 10am and 12noon. This is to allow the hosts, sitters and members to visit the third garden in Westgrove Road, Exeter, where morning tea will be available, and the garden will be open from 10am to 1pm and beyond.

1: “Derwent” 8 Lynne Close, Bundanoon – Wendy and Derek Leaper

We purchased the rendered brick house on an acre of land in April 2014, drawn to Bundanoon by the warmth of friendships and the enjoyment of experiencing the variations of four seasons. We named the house “Derwent” and came for weekends enjoying time here with our five adult children and friends.

When we arrived, the structure of the circular drive and sandstone garden walls adjacent the front of the house were already in place. Beyond the house, the back garden was a sloping green paddock with established trees on either side boundary, and there was a swing set and a quaint timber studio “up the back”, which the latter we thought would be good to use as an art studio when we had retired and had more time.



Having only a recent interest in gardening and keen encouragement from friends with green thumbs, we started to develop an overall plan for the garden. We were aware of the slope of the land and wanted it to be possible to walk around the property without having to use stairs. We wanted several “rooms” in the garden to move through and enjoy. We wanted it to be functional and able to be maintained as we got older.

Initially in 2014-15 we extended the driveway along the road frontage side of the house to provide level access into the house if ever needed. We worked on replacing old sleepers around the driveway for steel edging. We planted up the driveway Buxus hedging and the two rose gardens either side of the front of the house stairs. Our neighbour Lauris Tomalin remarked that the front wall of the house was warm and ideal for growing citrus, so we espaliered lemons, oranges, and limes.

Our five children enjoyed time in Bundanoon and we all squeezed in for celebrations. We moved permanently to the property in May 2017. We knew that we wanted to extend the house to have more living and garage space. We worked with an architect friend to design the house extension.



Not sure when this would happen, we decided to start work on the back garden starting from the back fence. We had some family working bees to replace the fence and put old sleepers around the back garden creating a boundary garden under the tall trees.



We then worked with Arthur Latouris, a local Landscape Gardener to come up with a back garden plan which included all of the garden “rooms” we had dreamt of. There was the construction of an oval level grass area for family cricket/games, a shade garden along the left boundary under the cherry and liquid amber trees, a small orchard accessed through an arbour, a working area for vegetable and berry growing and chicken coop, and a two-level flower garden area which we wanted to plant up like an herbaceous border to frame the lawn.

2018 and 2019 were busy years doing most of the garden structure work - cut and fill of the lawn area; laying the sandstone blocks, building a mower shed behind the studio, putting in the chicken coop and timber vegetable beds and crushed granite walkways. Lawn turf was laid in May 2018 and then gradually the surrounding beds were constructed and planted up although the deepening drought had a significant impact on the garden. Derek built the first set of garden steps from the lawn to the studio in July 2019.



In January 2020 the bushfires came and we evacuated, not knowing what would happen. Then came Covid and a long period of rainy weather. Some plants died because of being waterlogged but gradually most plants responded and grew well in response to the rains.

In September 2020 we finally started the house extension and work in the garden was put on the backburner for quite a while. In 2022 with the exterior walls of the extension completed, we put in the last of the paths connecting the house to the garden and filled the beds. In May 2023 we renovated and reinstalled the children’s swing set for our young grandchildren to enjoy and this marked the construction of the last “room” of the garden, as planned.

Hope you enjoy walking in the garden today.

2: 3 Lynne Close, Bundanoon – Penny and David Baker

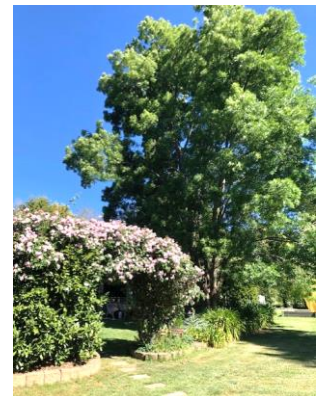


Welcome to our garden.

Having chosen Bundanoon for our next home we wanted a block big enough to entertain our respective passions of gardening and large-scale tinkering, and combine on the one site all my plant wish list and David’s factory unit workshop.

We took custody of a one acre garden block with great bones, lovingly filled with plantings, from Roslyn & Graeme Gentles in winter 2021.

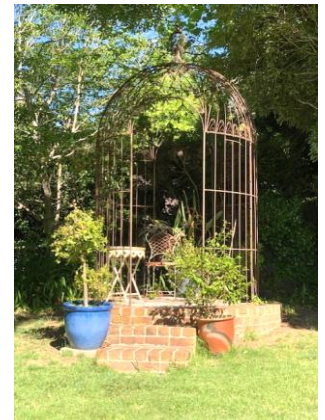
A year of (very damp) discovery followed as deciduous trees, roses and bulbs revealed themselves amongst the more recognisable camellias and evergreen hedges. It has been an ongoing delight to fill in the gaps with my six trailer loads of potted plants from Sydney and to prune back and uncover more treasures in the shadows.



Cedum, Hellebore and Linden have firmly ensconced themselves as favourites, with the newly discovered Olearia and Heuchera bringing great delight (and more than a little obsession).

We are definitely a ‘work in progress garden’ with clearing for the engineer’s shed and construction of the raised vegetable garden (to keep my feet out of the recently discovered bog, thank you 2 years of rain) evident.

Our journey to build and grow is well underway and my morning cuppa perusal and his evening beer by the fire pit bring us a great deal of satisfaction and gratitude that we are fortunate enough to live in such a beautiful place.



Remaining plants from the Garden Ramble stall will be available to purchase.

3: 'Tavistock' 55 Westgrove Road, Exeter – Eleanor and John Dartnall

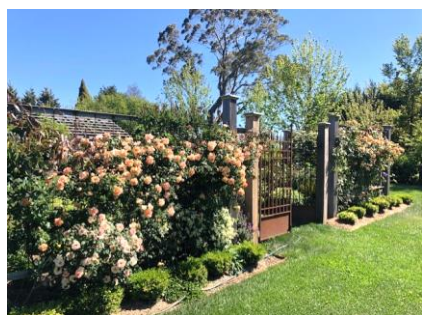
Directions: Take Ellsmore Road towards Exeter and turn left after the one-way restriction into Cornwall Road. Follow until just before the end when the road turns sharp left, and turn right into Westgrove Road. Parking near the garden is a little difficult, as there is a ditch on the opposite verge. If members can car share from Lynne Close that would be helpful.

TAVISTOCK

In 2019 John and I knew that a long-term dream to retain our 6-acre garden at "Allways" in Exeter had become an impossible one as we aged. The very idea of giving up was a huge hurdle to overcome; this garden we had made gave hundreds of people pleasure and peace, many coming back again and again. However, we knew if we wanted to start again with a smaller garden, we had to do it before it was beyond us physically.



In late 2019 we sold "Allways" and set out on a new journey at Tavistock in Westgrove Road, still in Exeter. The 1.4 acres appeared to be within our physical capacity, that was until we realised the huge task ahead of us. Removing nine enormous macrocarpas, and sadly, many other huger conifers planted too close together, many years ago, fell to John to tackle and amazingly he accomplished this on his own.



During 2020 the renovation of the house went ahead while John undertook the clearing of the block and the tree felling. Poor soil, sun deprived for over 35 years, would make a poor start to a new garden.



It was early 2021 before we could begin the garden. Some good soil had to be brought in (at great cost) and of course there was plenty of mulch from the felled trees. The decision about what trees to plant had to include some large, advanced specimens, or at our age, the garden would not have the scale we desired. The bedding came next and of course I have overplanted, but this will sort itself out over the coming year or two.



Sadly 2022 saw the rear of our block pretty much underwater for months, old Torulosas died and much of our new garden in these areas drowned, including some lovely old citrus trees. You will therefore see remnants of removed trees and a relatively young garden to the rear of the block.



This still is a very new garden and I know I will need to thin out some planting, but I can see the road ahead, and that it is within our capability to do the upkeep ourselves.

Welcome to Tavistock, and please enjoy your time wandering around the garden beds.



Growing up after WW2 in England, Gwenneth and I were used to the 'meat and two veg' concept for dinner, designed to provide a balanced post war diet. Still today that tends to be so, but including fish, pasta and vegetarian dishes, but we try to have three or four different vegetables on our plate. We are not lovers of Asian greens or anything spicy, so I grow just the typical English veggies we like to eat seasonally. Winter brassicas are followed in spring by asparagus, peas and broad beans, with bush beans and zucchini going into summer followed by climbing beans, and potatoes before Christmas.



Onions and butternut squash take us into autumn, and carrots, leeks and spinach we try to have fresh all year round.



I have noted previously how different have been the ten growing seasons since arriving in the Southern Highlands, very unlike the fairly predictable seasons in the UK. This year everything is early, and with diligent watering crops are very good. Sugar snap peas are all but over, and I am picking 100 broad beans a day, eating the large ones and freezing the rest for winter. My second crop on snow peas are still producing, and a third crop will be ready at the end of the month.



Potatoes will be ready late November and will last until May. The other veggies I store are butternut squash, still half a dozen remaining from last season, and onions that seem to be quickly used up. I have given up growing sweet corn, since it all matures at the same time and shop bought seems to taste sweeter. Broad beans are the only veggie we freeze since they taste like fresh.

Salad items are growing well, radish, cos lettuce, and mixed leaves being picked, spring onions, and beetroot not far behind. Tomato plants, our favourite 'Mighty Red' bought in from the garden centre are in flower, and seed sown cherry tomatoes and cucumbers are ready to join them in the greenhouse.

The other day Gwenneth bought some purple bliss potatoes with purple flesh. *'Purple produce provides vitamins, minerals, and fibre. Purple fruits and vegetables are high in anthocyanin, which has a positive effect on brain health, inflammation, and heart disease. Purple foods may also enhance calmness and boost mood, giving people a few more reasons to add them to their meal plan.'* We liked the flavour when baked, and seed potatoes are available online, so I will be growing something different next season!

Planting in November

Everything as last month plus...

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Beans - climbing (also Pole beans, Runner beans, Scarlet Runners) | Start in seed trays or plant out or sow seed | Harvest from January |
| Beans - dwarf (also French beans, Bush beans) | Start in seed trays or plant out or sow seed | Harvest from January |

Garden Club Ramble Stall

Thanks to our wonderful club members and friends we had a huge array of over 350 gorgeous plants to offer the many buyers who visited our stall in the Bundanoon Hall over the weekend.



Our rustic aprons and beautiful stall display attracted compliments from locals and those from further afield. We had many opportunities to act as ambassadors for our village and tour guides for the gardens whilst sharing our various plant knowledge and recommendations.

The plants we had available often reflected those that had been newly admired in the ramble gardens which certainly helped our sales, with some customers returning more than once. There were a great deal of other plants for sale so it was very rewarding to have ours chosen so often.

This was our first sale for some time so we were all learning along the way, and I would like to thank all the team who worked so hard to make it happen.

To my stall volunteers, Kathy Hirtzel, Naomi Smith, Ron Keir, Lyn Macbean, Linda McDonald, Bronwyn Richards, Sandy Coe, and Wendy Norris, thank you for learning new skills and being such fabulous team workers over the weekend. To Cat and Glynis for plant and technology assistance again thank you.

To the clever and hardworking husbands, Geoff for his wonderful plant stands and David for holding down the home fort and bringing cups of tea, and both for muscle when required, many thanks.

Most especially to Tina, Jane and Lyn whose creative efforts, pot cleaning, decorating, labelling, pricing, dogged plant identifying and personal support made our plant stall beautiful, functional and a pleasure to work on.

It truly takes a team effort so please take the opportunity to congratulate all these people and our growers, and thank them for raising approximately \$2000. But more importantly for

presenting such a positive image of our club and our village.

Please visit the Trade Table at my Friendship Garden on Saturday where we will be selling the last of our plants.

Yours in gardening....

Penny.



**Another
successful
Ramble!**

Thank you to all the volunteers from Garden Club who helped make the 2023 Ramble the great success that it was. As the Ramble is an initiative of the Bundanoon Community Association (BCA), the Ramble sub-committee truly appreciates the gardeners of Bundanoon who sit at garden gates to welcome visitors to the inspiring selection of gardens. Having so many involved, makes it an all-inclusive community event.

After the refreshing rain on Friday last week, all eight gardens were sparkling in the sunshine of the weekend, particularly Sunday. Crowds flocked to town to experience the gardens, the markets in the Hall and in the gardens.

Gate-sitters always say what a delight it is meeting and talking to other gardeners, many from far and wide. And those who open their gates wide to welcome visitors, very much enjoy sharing all the hard work and love they have lavished on their gardens. It is an amazing experience, albeit often exhausting, to bask in the admiration and shared joy of gardening.

It seems very appropriate to me, that the sharing of an activity as down to earth and basic as gardening, that nourishes the soul of those who till the earth, raises money to supplement activities of the BCA that add to the health and wellbeing of the whole community.

The Bundanoon Garden Ramble sub-committee look forward to seeing you all at next year's Ramble.

Robin Coombes
Convenor

Please bring a mug to a meeting!



Garage Sales all over Australia

11-12 & 18-19 NOV



NATIVE PLANT SALE

Follow the Garage Sale Trail on Saturday 11th November to "Watershed"

at 24 William Street
between 9.00am and 2.00pm
and support

Wombat Care Bundanoon

Who knows?.....

This glorious mauve / magenta with gold tips is a mystery Callistemon variety (at least to us). From a rather unpropitious plant to this magnificent show. I thought it was Western Glory and bought two others by that name only to find they both have bright red brushes. Does anyone in the Club recognise this variety? Is it rare?



Ruth and Peter Spence-Stone.

Sunhats with Neck Protection.



Quite a few people asked about the hat I was wearing at the Golden Vale working bee. It is made by a company called Solbari, which uses fabrics with a UPF 50+ rating. Ted has a nice dark green one. The wide brim washable sunhats have a legionnaire's style back flap which provide extra protection, and best of all a chin strap for windy days. We also bought gardening shirts from Solbari, with the same UPF50+ rating, and hand protectors for driving.

Other companies make that style of hat, but not always using the special fabric.

www.solbari.com.au

Alison Ayers.

Why bees swarm and what you should – and shouldn't – do when you come across a colony on the move



A huge, chaotic whirl of bees hanging on a branch or piled on the ground may naturally give you cause for alarm.

Spring is the time of year when you're most likely to come across swarms of honey bees in seemingly random places.

But beekeepers say swarms are nothing to fear and are essential for the future pollination of a third of the food we eat.

So, let's find out why bees swarm, and what you should – and shouldn't – do when you come across a colony on the move.

<https://apple.news/AVzZUIA2rT4yTv6ieGtKJHg>

November is ideal for freshening up your outdoors and getting ready for summer entertaining in the garden. Add bursts of colour with flowering plants or spruce up your outdoor furniture setting. You can also summer-proof your lawn now, for long lazy days ahead.

PLANT

- November is a wonderful month for planting a range of beautiful blooms including alyssum, calibrachoa, columbine, cornflower, cosmos, daisy, delphinium, gazania, geranium, gerbera, pentstemon, petunia, snapdragon, New Guinea impatiens, salvia and stock.
- It's time to plant container-grown trees, shrubs and climbers of all kinds, including dwarf fruit trees. Remember to pop a saucer under your pots to help retain moisture and to prevent stains on your pavers or deck.
- November offers an edible smorgasbord. Plant beans, beetroot, capsicum, carrot, celery, eggplant, herbs, lettuce, parsnip, pumpkin, sweet corn, tomato and zucchini. As you harvest, replace spent plants with seasonal crops so there's always something delicious growing!
- Now's the time to create a water feature in your garden - whether it's a shallow bowl or a pond - with plants like water iris and water lilies.
- Encourage frogs to your garden by planting groundcover, small shrubs and grasses.

FERTILISE

- Feed your lawn now so that it's lush and green by Christmas. You should also cut your lawn as high as you can to keep it looking well-maintained as well as help shade the roots and reduce water loss from the soil.
- Give rose bushes some love with an application of Sudden Impact for Roses, making sure it's watered in well.
- Give veggies and summer-flowering annuals complete fertiliser or a dressing of blood and bone.
- Acid-loving plants including daphne, azaleas, camellias and rhododendrons will appreciate a feed at this time of year. Use a specially formulated acidic fertiliser.

PRUNE

- Prune any spring growth which is fading in the heat. You can also cut back plants that don't like summer heat, like lavender.
- Trim jasmine polyanthum to keep it under control.

- Prune climbing roses to shape after flowering. For all other roses, now's a good time to cut the flowers for indoor displays - this will help prolong flowering.
- Lightly prune native shrubs after flowering.
- Spring bloomers fading? Pinch off dead blooms to encourage more flowers.
- Cut off strawberry plant runners to help redirect your plant's energy toward producing fruit.
- Love a good topiary? Now's the time to trim buxus and lilly pilly topiaries to help keep their shape.
- Now's an excellent time to trim and divide clivias.

PESTS & DISEASES

- Protect fruiting trees and ripening vegies against fruit fly with fruit fly bait.
- Keep lace bug away from azaleas with eco-oil, an organic alternative.
- Keep your eyes peeled for bronze orange bug on citrus trees. If spotted, be sure to remove and destroy - wearing eye protection, of course, as they may spray you!
- Apply Derris Dust to prevent beetles attacking pumpkins, cucumbers and melons.
- Caterpillars are on the hunt for annuals and vegies. Use pyrethrum spray to keep them away.

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

- With summer just around the corner, it's time to summer-proof your lawns and gardens with a little care and attention. Apply a seaweed tonic to your lawn and plants to help 'drought-proof' them.
- Tender seedlings may suffer in the heat over the next couple of months. Keep them protected with some temporary shade.
- Water citrus and fruit trees regularly to ensure healthy fruit. Keep outdoor container plants well-watered. Place saucers underneath pots.
- Make sure your garden beds are well mulched, ready to capture and retain the November rain. Place some cow manure under the mulch to give the plants a boost. If you need to top up your mulch, do it after a good watering (or some rain!)
- Once tomato plants begin to set fruit, keep them well watered and fertilised and prepare for fruit fly. A bait like eco-naturalure is your best defence.
- Divide and re-pot orchids if they have formed a dense clump, using a quality orchid potting mix.
- Put out some shallow water bowls and dishes for thirsty wildlife. Make sure that you pop a couple of sticks and stones in the bowl too, so that smaller insects and animals can escape if they fall in.

From our Treasurer

Hello Everyone

Here are the Financials for October 2023.

BGC Opening Balances 20th September 2023

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Rediaccess Account | \$ 18,080.47 |
| Income: | \$ 1947.00 |
| Expenditure: | \$ 2546.78 |
| Balance as at 24/4/23 | \$ 17,456.47 |

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Add: Petty Cash | \$ 115.00 |
| Add: Trade Table Float: | \$ 45.00 |
| Add: Raffle Float | \$ 20.00 |
| Add: Visitor Entry Fee Float | \$ 5.00 |

Funds held as at 23rd October 2023 **\$ 17,641.47**

Regards

Alison.

Life Membership

As mentioned in the September 2023 Garden Club meeting, nominations for Life Membership are now open. If you feel that a member should be awarded a Life Membership, please complete the nomination form and return to the club's Secretary - bundanoongardenclub@gmail.com or return a completed hardcopy at the February 2024 meeting.

Nominations for 2024 Life Memberships close on the club's first meeting of 2024 - 1st February 2024.

The nomination form (which includes criteria for life membership) can be downloaded and printed from: https://www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au/files/ugd/34bc7a_802629928bd44e64a547af0e131ac46d.pdf

The policy has been formalised and can be found here: https://www.bundanoongardenclub.com.au/files/ugd/34bc7a_2323ce252fa74551a7fd00c273a93668.pdf

Both the nomination form and policy are found by selecting *Membership* from the menu on the club's website.

Our Garden Club visit to Wynlen House



Highlands Garden Society Annual Rose Show



Friday 17 November 2023
Bowral Uniting Church
Viewing from 12 noon

Residents of the Wingecarribee Shire Council area are most welcome to exhibit at the show.

[Events | Highlands Garden Society Bowral](#)

**October's guest speakers were
Bronwyn Richards and Helen Lynch
from Wynlen House
Artisan Village Farm.**

Their presentation talked about good soil ecology, smart interplanting, and the dangers of Big Agriculture.

On Tuesday 17th October twenty plus club members were given morning tea and a guided tour of [Wynlen House Artisan Village Farm](#). Fascinating insights into maximising crop diversity within a small plot, soil amendment, plants to combat/attract insects, good garden tools, easy composting and more. Plus a secret recipe ginger cake! Thanks so much to Bronwyn and Helen for inviting us and for such generous sharing of their knowledge.

This is the link for stirrup hoe.

www.allsun.com.au/



Info on how to make a broad fork broad fork.

<https://www.humblehouse.biz/tools/>

**Wynlen House Artisan Village
Farm & Learning Centre**
Bronwyn Richards and Helen Lynch
**Practicing regenerative horticulture and
organic farming since 2006**
**Check the website for resources and the
grow great food mentoring program:**
www.wynlenhouse.com.au

Useful Soil Fertility and 1sqm Planting Plan from Wynlen House

MAINTAINING SOIL FERTILITY

GARDEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Soil preparation is the key to any successful garden. Strong healthy soil with accessible nutrients means strong healthy plants. A fertile soil is the key to growing garden vegetables.

Standard bed preparation and amendments

The soil needs to be aerated to allow the soil to access oxygen and to enable good water penetration. Gentle 'working of the soil' is recommended to develop and maintain good soil structure.

Amendments are added to the produce garden at the end of each growing cycle, when new planting is to occur. These amendments are added directly to the cleared garden bed or section.

- Compost** - application rate will be dependent on the amount of compost available. A general guide is **1 standard bucket per sq. metre**. If you have more be generous. It is always a good idea to check the pH of the compost you are using. Compost if well matured and well-made should be pH neutral.
- Blood and Bone** - contains nitrogen, calcium and phosphorus and is applied at the standard rate of application according to directions.
- Seaweed Meal (kelp)** - is a complete garden health treatment that contains plant nutrients, trace elements, alginic acids and other bioactive compounds. 1/4 cup per 1 sq. metre
- Dolomite / lime mix** - 1/2 cup measure (approx. 125 grams) per 2 sq. metre. This is not aimed at changing pH but to provide calcium and magnesium which is essential for plants.
- Sulphur** - about 1/4 cup per 2 sq. metre

The above amendments are used for all root and legume plantings. A bed that is to have an **intensive planting, brassicas, or other heavy feeders**, will require all of the above amendments **PLUS some additional nitrogen. This needs to be well rotted animal manure, a compost made from animal manure (Curleys Compost) or a natural pelleted animal manure such as sheep, goat or alpaca. 1 standard bucket per sq. metre as a general guide.**

Basic Soil Terminology
Soil structure refers to the physical features that determine the ability of the soil to hold water and air. Soil fertility refers to the ability of soil to provide the nutrients required by plants. Both structure and fertility can be adjusted to suit the needs of vegetables by adding soil amendments and carrying out certain practices. Organic matter improves both soil structure and fertility and feeds soil life. It releases many plant nutrients and minerals slowly over a long period of time as it decomposes. It needs to be added regularly as it is continually decomposing. Compost is made from organic materials that have broken down into a dark, crumbly substance known as humus. It is an excellent source of organic matter and will improve almost every measure of soil quality and health. Microorganisms play a critical role in nutrient recycling and enabling plants to take up nutrients. They exist in large numbers in the soil as long as there is a carbon source for energy. Soil pH is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the soil. Most vegetables grow best on a slightly acid soil—one with a pH between 6.0 and 7.0. Incorrect pH can conspire to restrict root growth and limit access to water and nutrients.

Fertilizing Through the Growing Cycle
Regular fortnightly applications of a liquid fertilizer is an important way to maintain plant health. Suitable liquid amendments include:
 * worm wee
 * home-made water extractions - compost tea, nettle tea, comfrey tea, seaweed tea...
 * Seaweed based products
 The easiest way to apply liquid fertilizer is with a watering can.

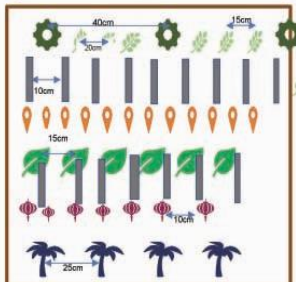
After adding amendments gently 'turn' the soil with a fork so that the amendments are mixing into the soil. Planting can take place immediately.

This amendment program is a 'fast' turn around program. There are 'slow' programs to increase soil fertility, such as sowing green manures. However, these 'slow' approaches mean that garden spaces are not growing food for a full season.

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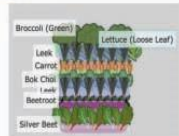
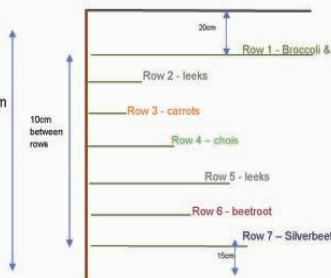
| | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct |
|---------|---|-------|-------------------------------------|---|---|-----|------|-----|
| Plant | Broccoli, Leek, Carrot, Bok Choi, Silver Beet | | | | | | | |
| Harvest | | | Leek, Carrot, Bok Choi, Silver Beet | Broccoli, Leek, Carrot, Bok Choi, Silver Beet | Broccoli, Leek, Carrot, Bok Choi, Silver Beet | | | |

1sqm



- Broccoli** - Plant as seedlings 35cm apart. Max 3 plants) Harvest 12-14weeks (early July)
- Lettuce loose leaf** - Plant as seedlings 15cm apart. 6 to 7 plants. Harvest from 6 weeks (mid May)
- Leeks** - Plant as seedlings 10cm apart. 2 rows planted - total 20 plants. Harvest from 10 weeks. (mid June)
- Carrots** - Sow seed thickly. (do not thin seed out) Start harvesting thinnings from 6 - 8 weeks. Continue harvesting as carrots grow. Approx. 16 to 20 full sized carrots.
- Chois - pak bok joi** - Plant as seedlings 15cm apart. 6 to 7 plants. Harvest from 4 weeks or leave to grow larger
- Beetroot** - Plant as seedlings 10 - 15cm apart. 6 to 10 plants. Start harvesting from 8 weeks (baby beets)
- Silverbeet** - Plant as seedlings 25 - 30cm apart. 3 to 4 plants. Harvest from 6 weeks (mid May, through winter.) Radishes from seed could be grown between silverbeet plants. Harvest from 6 weeks

1sqm



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Learn about cooking with Bush Foods with **Jacqui B** from 'Earth, Seed and Fire'. Sample a range of bush foods and treats!

WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2023
2PM - 4 PM at BUNDANOON BOWLING CLUB
 \$30pp including afternoon tea

Bookings essential
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Supporting Indigenous Culture in our Community



Whimsical Bundanoon! Thanks to Laurel.