Dear <<First Name>> Your membership expires on << Membership Expiration>>

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welcome more.

 Membership Projects Report Volunteering at Open Gardens

tom's Tips and Tales

A Message from the President

After a cold and frosty winter we will all be looking forward to our spring open garden season. Over the coming three months we have seven gardens opening for members and visitors to enjoy. Our season starts on 9 and 10 September and continues through to mid-November. The open gardens are detailed below.

Thank you to the many members who have renewed their membership. For those who haven't done so yet we would encourage to renew before the first open garden. Become involved

When you renew your membership you will see a section that lists how you can become involved in Open Gardens Canberra. We have some wonderful volunteers and will always

We are looking for people interest in being on our committee. Our next AGM will be in November and we would welcome new committee members especially people who have IT skills, administrative skills and familiarity with social media. The committee meets each month and welcomes any visitors who would like to attend and meet the current committee. If you are interested in being on the committee and would like to attend a committee meeting prior to the AGM please email the president at

president1@opengardenscanberra.org.au **Recognising the contribution of Tom Baker** Tom has been on the Open Gardens Canberra committee since its inception eight years

ago. He has been very active on our garden selectors committee and has worked with many gardeners to open their gardens. Tom has also been a regular contributor to this newsletter with his Tom's Tips. In addition to Open Gardens Canberra, Tom has been

active in a range of local community based organisations including Queanbeyan Landcare, the Molonglo Conservation Group, Greening Australia, Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare, Kosciuszko to Coast and local government bodies. Garden Clubs of Australia have a range of awards recognising people's contribution to their community and horticulture. To recognise Tom's valuable contribution we have nominated him for the Category 5 Doris Killian award for outstanding service by an

individual to their local community. Successful recipients of awards will be announced at

the AGM for Garden Clubs of Australia on 13 September 2023. Our Autumn 2023 season Over autumn we opened three gardens and one community garden. Unfortunately one planned open garden did not go ahead due to ill health. Visitor numbers were impacted by the wet weather resulting in a reduction in average visitor numbers compared to previous

Spring Open Gardens - Save the dates Our next season will soon be under way with the following openings during September to

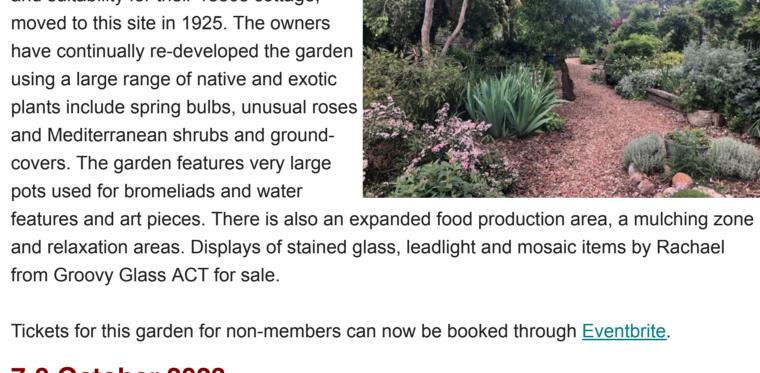
November. Details of the gardens are on the Open Gardens Canberra website. Eventbrite bookings for non-members only will open at least a month before each open garden.

A printable pdf of these Open Gardens is available here.

Nevertire 1 McEwan Ave, Queanbeyan,

This large naturalistic garden is a great garden to explore. Plants have been

and suitability for their 1880s cottage, pots used for bromeliads and water from Groovy Glass ACT for sale.



7-8 October 2023 **Brindabella Views** 11 Appel Cres, Fadden

With commanding sweeping views of the Brindabellas and the Tuggeranong Valley, this engaging garden has evolved with



the family for over 40 years. Late spring

sees a peak display of around 60 roses

nestled amongst clipped hedges. Follow

unusual plants and trees, including many

stone staircases and winding paths,

through two arbours, to admire many

shrubs – such as camellias, azaleas, conifers and many Australian natives. Extensive paths, with intermittent steps, meander through planted zones to provide easy access to most areas.



A beautiful avenue of trees leads to

leading through a box hedge edged

vegetable plot, pergolas, loggias and

Cambrey Farm, a 6 acre Pialligo farmlet

established in the 1930s which features

major tree plantings dating from then. The

original cottage garden has winding paths

linearifolium. Mauve Prostanthera and Westringia contrast beautifully with the yellows and oranges of Micrantheum hexandrum and multiple Banksias and Grevilleas. The stunning exotic Cercis siliquastrum shades white Olearia and Veronica. In the back garden a small pond and creek make a lovely setting. A wisteria covered pergola creates a shady outdoor area for a cup of tea or

Els' garden is on a quarter acre, gently

variety of ornamental zones front and

back including a substantial variety of

nature strip leads to Isopogons sheltering

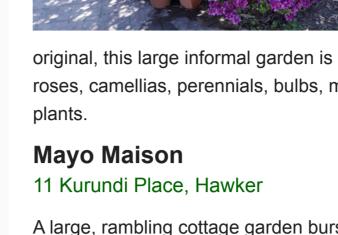
under a Chinese pistacio, near a young

Myoporum floribundum and Solanum

native plants. Phyla nodiflora on the

south-west sloping block, and includes a

18 -19 November 2023 **Amber's Garden**



over the past eight years from the 1980s original, this large informal garden is notable for its big collection of salvias together with roses, camellias, perennials, bulbs, maples, orchids and many unusual Australian native

this richly varied garden is a constant

delight, featuring a sequence of courtyards,

showcase a wide range of thriving exotic and

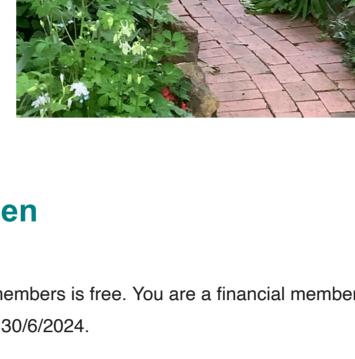
native plants, many of which are unusual to

find in Canberra. Extended and modified

lawns and garden 'rooms' that beautifully

A large, rambling cottage garden bursting with lots of typical spring flowers including Larkspurs, self-sown Sweet Peas, Lillies, Salvias and Ranunculi. Plants in pots also

Attending an Open Garden Members your membership renewal date is on or after 30/6/2024.



mark your attendance on the membership list. We need a record of the number of members who attended as we use this to calculate the payment to the garden owner.

You can renew your membership of Open Gardens Canberra through Join It our membership management system. Alternatively, pay for individual tickets at each garden.

You can book and pay for your ticket via Eventbrite. To book your ticket for an open garden, click on the Eventbrite link for that garden. The link will take you to the booking page, select the date and time you would like to attend. Enter your details and online payment. Don't forget to bring your tickets with you to the open garden. Either print them out or use the Eventbrite app.

It is time to renew your membership and many of you have already done this via the renewal message sent from Joinit. Thank you.

Some people inadvertently create a new membership when they try to renew due to foibles

line of text.

3. Click on the words "Already a member? Log In" (Top right corner) 4. Enter your email address 5. Click "Lookup email"

7. Click Log in 8. Click "Renew membership" 9. Check all listed details are correct 10. Consider ticking any of the Help boxes to support OGC

12. Enter Card details 13. Click Renew Membership 14. Log out. If all else fails you can do a bank transfer to BSB 633 000 Account number 155187628 and

We funded three projects in July of last year. Those projects have either been completed or are close to completion. Small plaques acknowledging the funding provided by Open Gardens Canberra have been provided to Holy Rosary Church and the Canberra High School for display on or near the gardens.

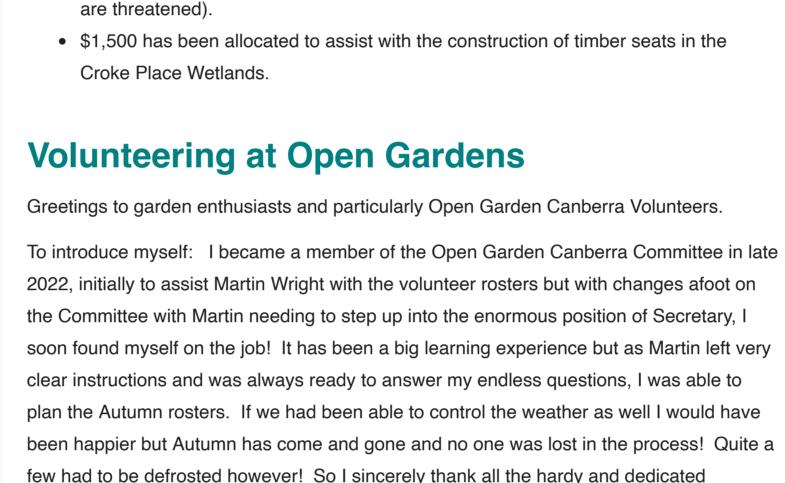
May's Special', a hedge row of Spiraea cantoniensis, and feature plantings of Arctostaphylos manzanita 'St Helena' and Citrus aurantium, which will grow to become defining elements of the new garden. In May-June 2023 three additional elements were installed - a memorial wall, a concrete bench for seating, and a meandering stepping stone path to symbolise a decade of the Rosary.

Final works, involving the installation of another 100+ plants around the memorial wall,

the 60th anniversary of the Parish and official opening of the garden in late 2023.

seat and path and a statue of St Dominic, are planned for Winter and early Spring ahead of

Within the courtyard they also planted some creeping saltbush. They aim to continue to plant bush foods in the courtyard and are working with the cultural integrity team on this aspect. Over time, They will remove some of the other plants such as the agapanthus and replace these with plants that can be used for food eating/teaching purposes. Canberra High School have thanked Open Gardens Canberra in conjunction with their P&C for help and support to rejuvenate their kitchen/garden program. Staff and students are excited to watch the progress and continue to grow the program.



Lynne Bliss

Volunteer Coordinator

Constructing the planter boxes.

Projects funded for 2023-24

Martin has already sent out emails to volunteers so don't be bashful; please put up your hand; we need a good response to look after the 18 or so days of open gardens. If you have never volunteered, please do so and you will be paired with a seasoned volunteer who will show you the ropes. Looking forward to meeting you during the season.

Invasion One of the highlights of a Ross Gardens tour of wonderful gardens in New Zealand's Marlborough region, north east of South Island, was a boat tour of the Marlborough Sound, which has heavily wooded steep islands where there are secluded homes and their own

creating greater fire hazards. Different regions are resorting to different measures. For example, an organization called Whakaitpu Wilding Control Group are allocating plots to volunteers, businesses and families to adopt a plot, and clear introduced seedlings ('wildlings'). A company is thinking laterally by exploiting the invasive conifers to make an essential oil.

Planet Ark established National Tree Day in 1996 and still coordinates the registrations for

alphabetical reference on Australian plants, categorised according to size and form. See Resources.austplants.com.au. I checked this out and was impressed with the ease of use and the amount of useful information, such as the level of flammability of plants. <u>Planet Ark</u> also runs the Seedling Bank to support community plantings.

what is Australia's biggest 'nature care' event. In this context of replacing unwanted

species, the article invites readers to consult the Australian Native Plants Society

Queanbeyan. About 160 people turned up, including groups from various ethnic communities. A great amount of effort went into site preparation and planning the best plants for the site, including how to plant for a diversity of habitat types and aesthetics. Invasive willows, Salix fragilis, have been largely removed. Now our main woody weeds here include privet which is exploding since the rain, plus some other berries. Check out <u>Invasives.org.au</u> for the latest on species that are out of balance. That's not us, of course, is it? Tom Baker

than 1000 members. To continue to receive member notifications, please don't unsubscribe from our Mailchimp list.

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years. It is great to see that our members are enjoying the open gardens. Our long term records show that ticket sales as a percentage of attendance have decreased with an increase in member visitors. Meryl Bradley President

9 -10 September 2023

selected for hardiness in this exposed site moved to this site in 1925. The owners have continually re-developed the garden using a large range of native and exotic plants include spring bulbs, unusual roses and Mediterranean shrubs and groundcovers. The garden features very large

staghorns, a large sunken pond garden, a gazebo, entertainment area with firepit, delightful mosaic pavers, a chicken house and a productive area of fruit, herbs and veggies including raised beds and a green house. There are many places for children to explore. Morning and afternoon tea on the large back deck, which has excellent views. Access to the garden is via a steep staircase; there is no wheelchair or pram access. 14 -15 October 2023 Serendipity 29 Fitzalan Place, Kambah Now more than 40 years old, Serendipity is sited on a moderately sloping block with an area of some 2200 m2 in

garden was to have a visually attractive landscape with enough variety and detail to always have something of interest around the next corner. Many, now mature, trees including Tulip Trees,

Dogwoods, Maples, a Crab Apple and Eucalypts have been planted. The planting scheme encompasses a range of exotic 21 -22 October 2023 Els' Garden 3 Ramage PI, Flynn

Kambah. Our aim in developing the

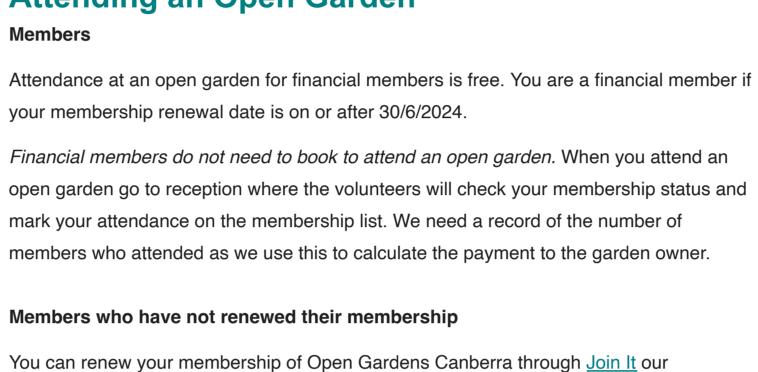


formal box hedge edged rose gardens to the Old Barn, built in the mid 1930s and recently restored to display its beautiful old timbers. Art displays, plants, apple products, alpaca manure for sale. Devonshire teas and food stalls. Rodney's Nursery will provide vouchers giving garden visitors a 10 % discount on most purchases made that weekend. 8 Andado Place, Hawker Set on a gently sloping north-facing block,

2000m2 block also includes a large productive vegetable plot and a tennis court, and backs on to parkland so there is always lots of birdlife.

add splashes of colour. Camellias and

azaleas flower prolifically in season. The over



Non Members/Visitors

You can join Open Gardens Canberra or renew your membership through Join It our membership management system. Membership

No EFTPOS is available at gardens, however cash payments are accepted.

within the Joinit system. To avoid this try following this step by step process: 1. Go to Open Gardens Canberra website 2. At Home page [NOT THE GREEN BOX] Log in to Joinit by clicking on "Joinit" on third

6. Enter your password

11. Click "Pay Now"

Projects Report Projects funded in 2022-23

Looking forward to a magical Spring season.

use your name as the Reference.

Ian Davenport - Membership Officer

St Dominic's Garden, Holy Rosary Church Following the completion of Stage One in October 2022, adjacent areas were cleared, excavated and filled with imported topsoil over Summer in preparation for Stage 2.On 1 April 2023 over 80 plants were installed including a swathe of Tulbaghia violacea 'John

The funding recipients have provided the following progress reports.



designed as a 'pick and go' where

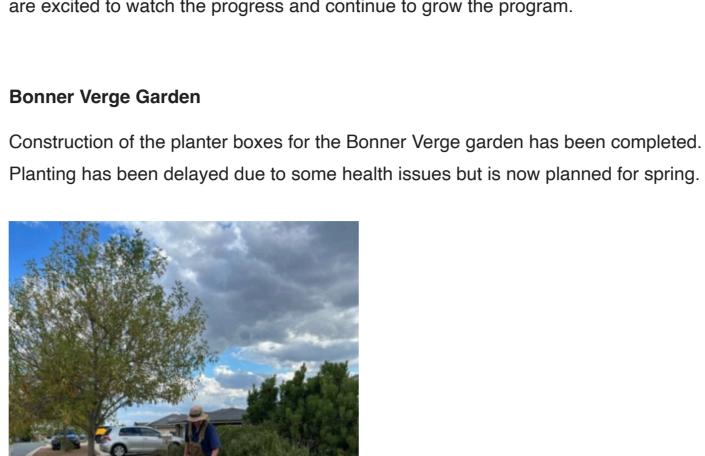
strawberries/blueberries when

students can pick

they are ready.

Canberra High School

New plantings in the St Dominic's Memorial garden.



In June of this year we approved two projects for funding. • \$3,000 has been provided to support the Dryandra Woodlands group to continue the restoration of 16 ha of urban park bush land between Black Mountain and Bruce Ridge Nature Reserves. Over 800 species of plants and animals have been recorded on this site which is also habitat for 19 orchid species (a number of which

plan the Autumn rosters. If we had been able to control the weather as well I would have been happier but Autumn has come and gone and no one was lost in the process! Quite a few had to be defrosted however! So I sincerely thank all the hardy and dedicated volunteers during this past garden season. Now to preparations for Spring 2023 and Martin is again stepping back into the role temporarily while I am away on a long-ago planned trip (my one stipulation for coming onto Committee was doing this trip!), so I will miss a few of the gardens. (But gardens in France and Italy are on my itinerary.)

Tom's Tips and Tales

jetties and mail and supplies come by boat. Many of the islands have dense native vegetation, however, many others still have the signs of when the steep forests were totally cleared and planted to exotic pine trees. It was obvious however, that New Zealanders had started to rid the islands of the pines.

So I was interested in reading an article in the Planet Ark's Good News Weekly Newsletter.

(august 3) concerning the massive effort across New Zealand to control the spread of a number of introduced trees, such as Douglas Fir, which spread quickly and thickly, forming 'monocultural dead zones'. Introduced trees are not only obliterating biodiversity but

Queanbeyan Landcare and Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council organized the annual National Tree Day event in Queanbeyan on 30 July on Barracks Flat Creek in South

MailChimp You will notice that we use MailChimp to distribute emails to members. Using MailChimp ensures that Open Gardens Canberra is treated nicely in the internet world. Without it, our emails would be treated as spam simply because we send emails to a lot of people - more

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