

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS AUTUMN GARDENS WEEKEND + *Plant Fair*

SATURDAY 26 & SUNDAY 27 APRIL 2025 | 9AM-4PM



BIBURY BURRADOO | KUNAMA BURRADOO | HATTERSLEY FARM BURRADOO
TAVISTOCK EXETER | THENFORD LODGE EXETER

Weekend Ticket to 5 Gardens + Plant Fair = \$50

Single private garden ticket = \$15

Single entry to the plant fair = \$10

Group discounts for the 5 private gardens + Plant Fair entry= \$48

A group is 10 or more people

Please note – No dogs at the Plant Fair or the private gardens except registered assistance dogs.

Tickets valid for both Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets & full details at shbg.com.au



Southern Highlands
Botanic Gardens



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Welcome...

About the SH Botanic Gardens

Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens is unique for a number of reasons:

- It is one of the newest botanic gardens in Australia, established in 2010, on a 15-hectare council owned site in Bowral.
- The garden is wholly community funded and operated, unlike most other Australian botanic gardens.
- The design of the garden reflects all seasons in a cool climate, with something to see all year, showcasing flora not often seen by the public elsewhere in Australia.
- The garden design encompasses a town garden, represented by exotic plantings; a country garden, with a mix of exotic and native plantings; and a regional garden, characterized by native plantings.
- Our four national registered collections of box (*Buxus*), birch (*Betula*), dwarf dogwoods and Tony Davis daffodils, all help ensure the conservation of significant plants. Importantly, they



are all suitable for the home garden in a cool climate like the Southern Highlands.

- Although we are a new botanic garden, we have aspirations to be an important tourist drawcard in the Southern Highlands. The garden will make a vital contribution to the public parks in the region. It will complement, in a significant way, the private gardens in the district that are rarely open to the public. In due course, the garden will make a major contribution to the economic and social wellbeing of the Wingecarribee Shire.

Visit our website to read more about us shbg.com.au

By the Community, for the Community

Working bees at the garden are held every Tuesday morning. Around 30-50 community volunteers regularly attend and perform tasks to suit their abilities. The work can be general garden maintenance to suit the season, propagation and growing of plants in the nursery. The plants we grow are either planted out in the garden or sold to the public. Some people also get involved in our children's education program.

We welcome everyone to the garden, which is open every day of the year from 9am to 5pm, free entry.

Our plant nursery sells plants that are growing in the garden and is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am.

Our events during the year are designed to engage with the broader community – people of all ages, cultures and abilities.

In April, our Autumn Garden weekend and Plant Fair, usually features the opening of five beautiful private local gardens and a plant fair

with rare and unusual plants for sale. This annual event attracts garden enthusiasts from near and far. In 2024 a single exceptional local property, but with four different garden spaces on show, has been the attraction.

In May, open day guided tours and a plant sale. Bring a picnic; enjoy the gardens!

In August we have our kite flying day. There's a workshop for kids to make their own kite while Mum and Dad enjoy food and drink and walk around.

In October our Rare and Collectables Plant Stall is always a popular event for all gardening enthusiasts during Spring.

In December, our annual sale of seasonal hydrangeas including many heritage varieties, plus lots of other special plants and succulents to fill your Christmas stockings.

Our Structure

- SHBG (in full) Limited is a company limited by guarantee
- Seven volunteer board directors
- Part time paid CEO and Administration Officer
- Friends committee
- A band of eager and enthusiastic Volunteers





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Website: ferriswheel.com.au



Become a Friend of the SHBG

Friends of the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens began around 2003. It's still going strong. Being a Friend means you are helping us to provide a botanic garden for the community.

You can become involved in an active or passive way.

Passive Friends are 'armchair' Friends who look on from the comfort of their home and get value from the Gardens existing for future generations, visit the events and enjoy the knowledge you are supporting the growing gardens.

Active Friends get pleasure from participating in activities that help the Garden grow. You can choose something to suit you.

- Help promote community awareness of the Gardens – become an ambassador for the gardens
- Support SHBG activities by visiting and inviting your friends to events
- Help with fundraising events
- Help keep the garden to look primped and preened as a regular Volunteer
- Join our book team who manage the donated garden books and prepare them ready for sale
- Join our seed collectors group, gathering and managing seeds for use in the gardens or for sale to the public
- Join our 'Growing Friends' group, managing plants in our nursery or growing your own to add to the diversity of the SHBG nursery
- Join our 'Baking Friends' group who donate home produce and baked goods to each of our plant sale events during the year. This group has raised over \$15,000 for the gardens over the past 5 years.

General SHBG Working Bees are held each Tuesday morning and the specialist nursery working bees operate on Thursday mornings, 10am – 12 noon.



Bibury

'Bibury' 29/31 Burradoo Road, Burradoo | Owner: Brian Thornton



The garden at Bibury surrounds a heritage listed house designed by the renowned architect Prof. Leslie Wilkinson, in his influential Mediterranean style. The house was constructed in 1929 and parts of the garden are from this time although numerous owners have contributed to the current garden fabric. The garden features a central courtyard, recently replanted to complement the architecture, an enormous wisteria clad pergola, Buxus maze, rose gardens, towering hedges and many fine old trees. The recent renovation of the house and garden in 2018 will ensure the property will endure for many years to come.



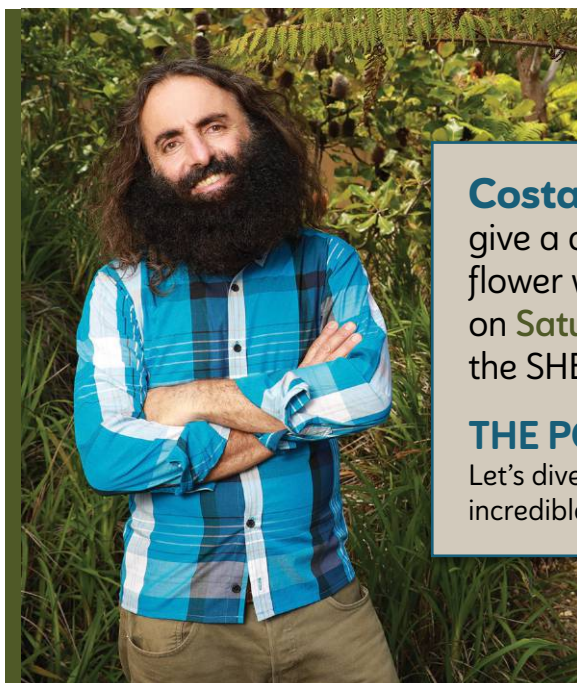
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Costa Georgiadis will give a children's talk and flower workshop from 10:30am on **Saturday 26 April 2025** at the SHBG Plant Fair.

THE POWER OF FLOWERS

Let's dive into nature and explore the incredible super powers of flowers

Kunama

68 Osborne Road, Burradoo | Owner: Ellie Scott



This charming large town garden of around two acres, has been developed by the current owner over the last twenty years. Large established trees provide the bones of the garden with many large sweeping garden beds brimming with perennials, roses and an array of interesting shrubs link the established plantings. Hydrangeas, particularly Pandiculata's feature widely as do masse of Hellebores.

An intimate sheltered courtyard provides a quite place to take in the long view into the garden. More recently a meadow garden with ornamental grasses and large perennials enveloping a wisteria covered pergola has been installed.

This is a garden for all seasons.



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Hattersley Farm

Owners: Warwick & Kathryn Smith

Take the Shuttlebus from the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens Car Park for a 5-minute ride to the garden. There's no parking available at the garden.



A manicured garden of around 5 acres surrounding a house built in the 1990's adjacent to the Wingecarribee River. The treelined driveway terminates in a large turning circle beside a large pond with it's own flock of ducks. The extensive garden features many elegant sitting areas and terraces overlooking the river. Perennial and shrub filled garden beds sweep beneath the structure of century old trees, remnants of a bygone garden. Vast Oaks, Gleditsia and Elms provide the sense of age in a relatively modern garden while many sculptures and garden ornaments provide a contemporary flavour.

This secluded garden with views across the river is a hidden gem in Burradoo.

To support their daughter's charity the Mustard Seed Institute in Rwanda, there will beautiful hand crafted MSI Baskets of Peace for sale. All profits from the sale of the baskets goes to the local women artists. This income enables them to escape extreme poverty, provide for their families and send their children to school.



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Tavistock

'Tavistock' 55 Westgrove Road, Exeter | Owners: John & Eleanor Dartnall



A one acre rural garden recently established around an existing, now renovated house. The garden features a large collection of roses, hydrangeas and perennials utilising the existing trees for structure.

The entrance frames a stand of trees either side. Your journey can take you through a gated entrance on the left, onto a layered border of roses with varying textures rising behind, across a manicured lawn to the house on the right. Alternatively, go past the house and turn left into a completely different garden, where herbaceous plantings and raised beds catch eastern morning light. To the south Torulosa conifers which died in the extreme wet have become the supports for swagged Lamarque roses.

Despite being planted out only since 2022, the additional established trees, completed new garden beds, water features and extensive structural formwork are already looking well established. A garden of unexpected vistas, rich rewards and infinite variety.



SHBG WORKSHOPS

Upcoming workshops for 2025

14 & 15 June – Smartphone Photography for the Garden

Learn how to get the best from your smartphone in the garden. *Suitable for both beginners and advanced users.*

17 August – Winter Propagation Workshop

Learn how to grow more plants from your garden – *at no cost!*

27 & 28 September – Dahlia Workshops

For both beginners and advanced gardeners.

12 October – Pest Identification & Organic Pest Control

Identify common pests and learn organic ways to manage them.

16 November – Succulent Workshop

Care for your succulents and create beautiful succulent gifts – *just in time for Christmas!*



Thenford Lodge

136 Old Argyle Road, Exeter | Owner: Hon. John Sharp AM



This is a stunning large park-like country garden, which has been extended and further developed by the owner over the last few years. The inclusion of new buildings, such as the barn, has required the extension of the garden to incorporate it. There are many defined garden rooms, water features, bridges and fountains all of which are complemented by the many large existing trees. Sculptures adorn the garden and enhance the many stunning vistas and garden vignettes. The garden will be a riot of colour in Autumn with its vast array of deciduous trees and shrubs. This has become one of the grand gardens of the Southern Highlands.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **25 MAY 2025**
BGANZ open day, guided tours and plant sale
- **31 AUGUST 2025**
Kite flying workshop for the whole family. Build a kite guaranteed to fly and join our growing kite flying community in the Southern Highlands
- **26 OCTOBER 2025**
Special plant collector's sale, with lots of hard to find plants available at the Botanic Gardens
- **7 DECEMBER 2025**
Hydrangea and Christmas sale. Many heritage hydrangeas and lots of home baked goodies to fill your Christmas stocking.



SHBG Plant Fair

1 OLD SOUTH ROAD, BOWRAL (CNR KANGALOO ROAD & OLD SOUTH ROAD)

2025 is the fourteenth year of our traditional Plant Fair at the site of the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens. The Plant Fair offers a lot more than plants. Tools, art, sculptures as well as an array of plants, together with coffee and refreshments.



Specialised visiting nurseries

A number of specialised nurseries will give the visitor a great selection of plants from which to choose. These nurseries will supplement the highly coveted plants being offered by the SHBG growing Friends. All the visiting nurseries have a recognized reputation in their own right, providing quality produce especially suited for the cool climate of the Southern Highlands.

Local and regional stall holders, including a number of new exhibitors in 2025, will bring an array of offerings, a small taste of which includes:

- Camellias in all colours and of the highest quality
- Rare and collectable cool climate plants
- Perennials for that difficult spot, shade loving, hot and dry, sunny or perfumed
- Perennials for grasses and meadow plants

- Sought-after seeds
- Select tools and garden accessories

Check our website to view the Plant Fair stall holders on shbg.com.au/open-gardens-plant-fair

Refreshments, Plant Crèche and EFTPOS facilities available

Make the day an enjoyable one by relaxing after your serious shopping. Grab a coffee or bar-b-que, available at the Fair.

A plant crèche will enable everyone to safely leave their precious purchases so they can continue to browse, have lunch, listen to a speaker or just have a coffee or glass of wine. Make your day a full one confident your plants are in our safe keeping.



Sunday Jazz in the Gardens

Don't miss the live jazz music at the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens Plant Fair on Sunday 27 April, featuring **Short & Horny**.

Short & Horny is a band of very experienced musicians who play a great variety of music for jazz festivals, balls, weddings, parties, pub and club venues etc.



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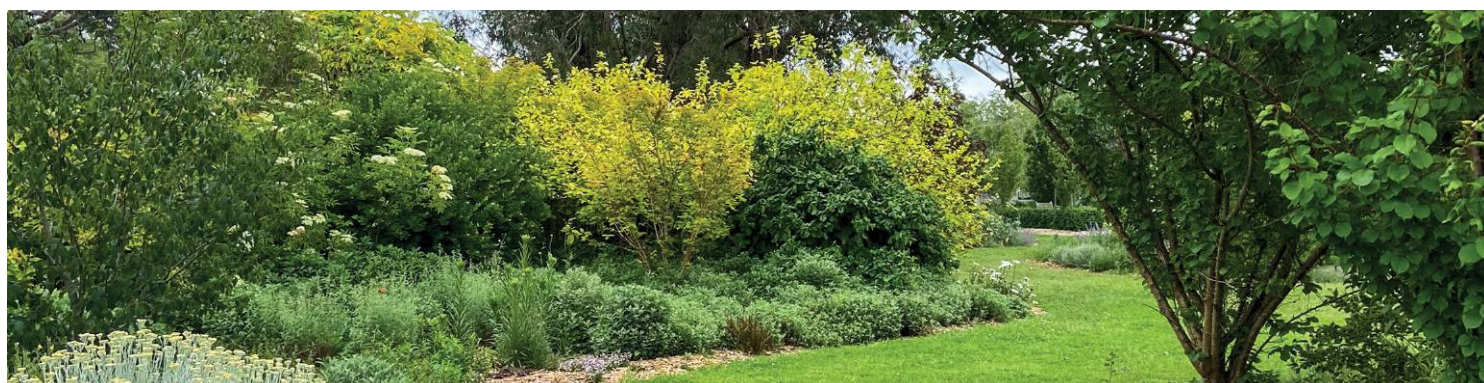


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SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS
AUTUMN GARDENS
WEEKEND + *Plant Fair*

For more info about the Autumn Gardens Weekend
please email autumngardens@shbg.com.au



Southern Highlands
Botanic Gardens

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