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COMING UP ROSES



Braidwood Country Garden

Sue Kingsford launches a book

In all my years of passionate rose growing, I've loved roses for just forever — I planted my first rose 78 years ago, believe it or not. My grandmother gave me a little plot of land, and I planted something, and it grew, and it was great.

I've loved roses ever since. But in all the years I was in the Rose Society and into heritage roses, I think I've learned more in the last three years from Dennis. He has completely revolutionised the official, normal rules of rose growing. Anybody who has looked at the Old Parliament House Rose Gardens in the last few years would understand that Dennis has a genius for training people and his methods are just amazing.

He has listened to his plants, whether they're roses or anything else. He's listened to them and learned what the plants want. He's changed all my old worn out methods of rose growing, his pruning methods are marvellous.

We're so thankful that he has put on paper the passion and the forty years of experience, both scientific and practical. The passion shines through with what he's done with Old Parliament House and thank goodness we now have this book.

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but I'm learning something from Dennis every day. I'm so glad that this has been printed and I think everybody in a cold climate should have one of these. It's not just roses. There's fruit trees that need attention, of course. And there are lists of what plants are suitable. I think most gardeners will try anything. If they love it, they want it in their garden, they put it in, and usually it's rather disappointing because it's the wrong climate for it.

Anyway, I urge you all to look at this wonderful book.

Sue Kingsford is President of the NSW Rose Society and co-owner of 'Roses & Friends' wholesale rose suppliers.

Dennis's book *Braidwood Country Garden* is on sale in Braidwood at: The Community Bank, Concepts Café, The Serrated Tussock and the Visitor Information Centre. \$30 rrp.



WHEN THE NEEDLE ARISES

Crafty or Not

Lynda Avery picks up the thread



Crafty or Not was started about two years ago when we noticed that a number of new women attending St Andrews Anglican Parish were not getting to know each other or other church goers. Craft, a chat, and the opportunity to have a cuppa seemed like a good idea. We did not want it to be exclusive so the word went out, eight to ten women turned up and the rest is history.

We have been encouraged to drag out those things that hadn't seen the light of crafty hands for all sorts of reasons, and after some encouragement, have now been happily completed.

Some have attempted new crafts they hadn't tried before, so, with the help of those who are slightly more skilled and who were able to put their teachings skills into practice, other things have been achieved. So in a way we are all teachers and learners alike.

We have even had cooking lessons

and when there is an over abundance of produce it is shared as are recipes that help deal with a glut of some vegetable or fruit.

An activity that has drawn interest has

been the knitting of little jumpers and beanies for babies in Bougainville where there is great poverty. We have contact with a medical team that goes up there every year so in early September we packed up a number of these little garments to go there. Thank you to all who have and still are participating in being able to send that gift away.

A number of our group participated in making a quilt for a couple who lost everything in a house fire. As needs are brought to our attention we are able to decide whether we are able to help or not.

The group started out meeting twice a month but we quickly realised that there was a need to make it a weekly event.

We meet at the Anglican Parish rectory from 10am to noon each Thursday. Everyone is welcome to pop in for morning tea and a chat.

FRAMING FOR CHRISTMAS



It's time to prepare for the Christmas season and gift giving. There are always particular loved ones for whom it is almost impossible to find the perfect present. Rebekah Hamilton at Round the Bend Art and Framing Studio on Monkitee Street has some suggestions.

Bek and her family moved to Braidwood two and a half years ago from Sydney where she had been framing and producing artwork (a happy combination) for over 20 years. She has been up and running as your local framer for 18 months now, offering a full custom picture framing service.

Bek has framed many a family treasure and believes that the gift of a custom framed item can be one of the most personal and unique ways to celebrate beloved relationships.

Here are some ideas:-

- Children's artwork — straight up or cut into shapes (a heart) and floated in a box frame.
- Photos photos photos!! Candid and quirky or those old wedding or baby shots that you never got around to framing. Maybe a photo collage.
- Old family heirlooms — jewellery that may never be worn but deserves to be displayed, lace gloves, doilies, hankies, needlework, christening gowns, ballet shoes, medals, documents, a favourite item from childhood.
- Special theatre programs, concert tickets, LP covers, letters.
- Tea Towels, T-Shirts, Trinkets
- Jerseys and collectible bits and pieces
- Significant music sheets, newspapers, posters
- Number plates, drum sticks, plectrums
- Memorabilia from travels — coins, tickets, maps

Round the Bend Art and Framing Studio is open Tues–Thurs 10-5 and many other times by appointment (kids willing).

Bek will be taking orders where possible right up to the 23rd December. Don't hesitate to give her a call to discuss any of your weird and wonderful individually custom framed Christmas gift ideas.

In this case — let Christmas drive you 'round the bend!



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