

Book launch - Guide to a Gardener's Success: Part 1 - with Clive Blazey

This is an invitation to members of the Horticultural Media Association to attend the launch of Clive Blazey's latest book 'Guide to a Gardener's Success: Part 1' at Heronswood on Saturday 7 November.

To RSVP email media@diggers.com.au by Friday 30 October.

If you would like to cover the book launch event and/or the book release please contact media@diggers.com.au

About the book launch

Book launch with Clive Blazey - Guide to a Gardener's Success: Part 1

When - Saturday 7 November, 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Where - The Pool Lawn, Heronswood, Dromana

Join us to celebrate the launch of Clive's latest book - Guide to a Gardener's Success. Clive will be joined by renowned landscape architect Andrew Laidlaw and former Diggers Foundation CEO Tim Sansom for a conversation about the book, plants and gardens, moderated by Diggers board member Talei Kenyon.

After the discussion, enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent Heronswood gardens with Diggers head of gardens, Julian Blackhirst, followed by drinks, canapés and a book signing with Clive.

'It's always lovely to catch up with Diggers members, they're such a passionate and knowledgeable bunch, I often find myself learning from them. I'm honoured that Tim, Andrew and Talei, all very important parts of the Diggers story, will be joining me to discuss the new book. And it's always such a treat to see the garden at Heronswood in spring.' - Clive Blazey AM, Diggers Founder

Guide to a Gardener's Success: Part 1

This fully illustrated garden guide will show you how to:

- become a self-taught gardener
- learn the principles of organic food gardening
- bring carbon down to earth

- choose the right plants to thrive in summer heat and winter cold
- create garden pictures with your plantings
- combat climate warming by planting trees

Award-winning, subversive gardener Clive Blazey AM, together with his wife Penny Blazey founded The Diggers Club in 1978. This guide brings together Clive's and Diggers' decades of experience growing heirloom vegetables, fruit, flowers and trees, creating world-class gardens and sharing the knowledge that has inspired generations of gardeners.

Testimonials

"Clive Blazey is a true influencer and thought leader in the gardening world, championing productive gardening for decades, along with organic gardening practices, seed saving and sovereignty, and the importance of gardens to mitigate climate change. His easy-to-read books have inspired beginner and accomplished gardeners alike to appreciate the wonder of plants and create beautiful ornamental and edible gardens."

Sophie Thomson — Gardening Australia presenter and author of Sophie's Patch

"Clive and Penny Blazey have been true trail blazers in the field of gardening; empowering, educating and inspiring generations of gardeners for almost half a century. Their love and passion for healthy soils, heirloom seeds and plants has made this world a better place."

Andrew Laidlaw — Landscape Architect, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Clive on the book

Why was it important to you to write and share Guide to a Gardener's Success: Part 1?

I believe some of the best gardeners in the world are self-taught. Not everyone can go to university to study horticulture and have that academic experience. And whilst there are many ways people learn these days, I have a love for the power of books. I hope this book will offer new gardeners a foundation of knowledge to go on and enjoy success. The more gardeners the better as far as I'm concerned

You've dedicated the most pages in the book to the chapter 'Grow your own heirloom vegetables'. Can you describe the satisfaction of growing, nurturing and harvesting your own produce?

Well of course with heirloom varieties, you can collect the seed and grow the same plant the following year. That was certainly a big part of the joy for me, the seed collection and I know many Diggers members enjoy this practice and the associated cost saving. And the taste is far better with heirloom varieties than mass produced hybrid plants.

About the author

Clive and Penny Blazey founded The Diggers Club in 1978. Together they pioneered the preservation of heirloom vegetable seeds and garden-worthy flowers. With the purchase of historic properties Heronswood and The Garden of St Erth, and the establishment of The Diggers Foundation, they have inspired over 500,000 gardeners to create outstanding ornamental and organic gardens.

Clive has campaigned for gardening as a major solution to climate change and has devoted decades to fighting genetically modified seeds, corporate seed ownership, monoculture agriculture and climate deniers.

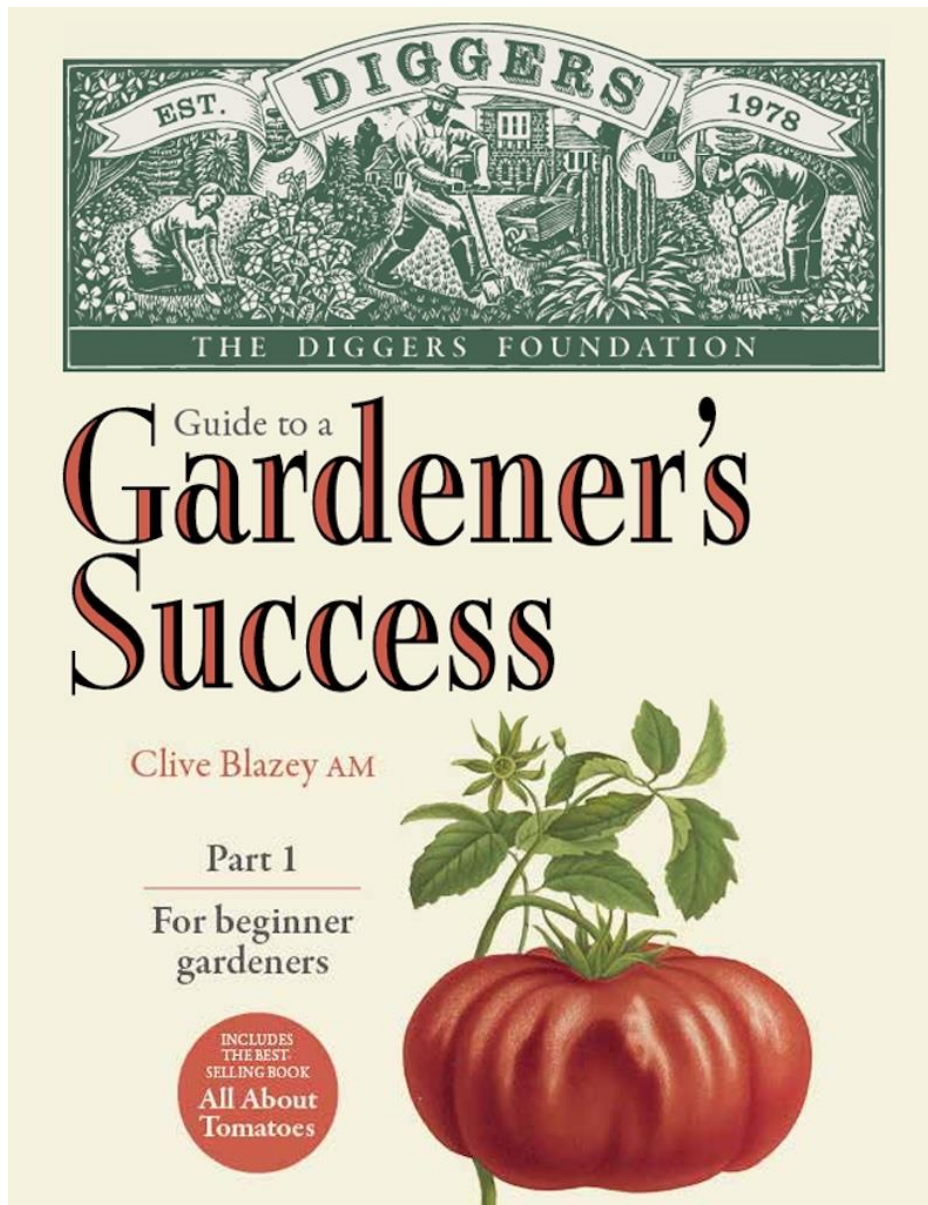
Clive and Diggers have received honours including the 2000 Gourmet Traveller – ‘Jaguar’ Award; 2007 Vogue – Entertainment & Travel Award; 2007 Seed Savers Exchange – Award of Merit; 2012 Melbourne Food & Wine Festival – Food Legend and 2017 Australian Institute of Horticulture – ‘Silver Gum’ Award. Clive was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2019 Queen’s Birthday Honours list for his significant service to horticulture, to conservation and to the community.

Other Diggers titles by Clive Blazey:

- Guide to Gardening Success (Transworld), 1994
- The Australian Vegetable Garden (New Holland), 1999
- The Australian Flower Garden (Penguin), 2001
- The Australian Fruit & Vegetable Garden, with Jane Varkulevicius, 2006
- Growing Your Own Heirloom Vegetables, 2008
- All About Tomatoes, 2011
- The Australian Vegetable Garden (2nd edition, New Holland), 2012
- Complete Guide to the Flower Garden, 2014
- 40 Years of the Best Garden Ideas, 2018
- We Speak for the Trees, 2021
- The Australian Vegetable Garden (3rd edition, New Holland), 2025

Images

Book cover



Clive and Penny Blazey



