

# NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT:  
BILL SAUNDERS

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**F**riends,

Another financial year has drawn to a close, which brings upon us our 2012 A.G.M.

As promised, our 2011 – 12 year was packed with knowledgeable speakers on a large range of topics, from whom we were able to listen, look and learn from. We were also involved in many enjoyable activities, which you, the members supported with much enthusiasm.

John Mathie came on board in the role of “Minister for Tourism” and organised two very successful bus trips for us; one to Gisborne Sunday Market and then on to Mt. Macedon. The second, in autumn took us to Mont De Lancey Historic Homestead and Museum at Wandin. Truly an excellent venue; we did not want to leave. From here we visited Kookaberry Berry farm – yum, and Mt. Evelyn Nursery. We can also look forward to November, when a trip to Mornington is planned. Great work John.

In October we were involved in Darebin's tea party at Bundoora Homestead, where we staged a display, and thanks to Peter Douglass, from Scotsburn Nursery, who supplied us with seedlings had a stall, which raised money for the

Club and we were able to advertise our autumn show at the same time.

Once again we were involved with The Great Hanging Basket Competition at the Melbourne International Garden Show in the Carlton Gardens, where our name was displayed on our basket in front of thousands of visitors. A big thank you goes to Jean Thomas for creating our basket. A thank you too to the many members who assisted the Royal Horticultural Society by taking turns to man the stall.

We were able to stage two garden shows again this last financial year. It always amazes me how many of you come to the fore at show time. It takes many hands to run a show, particularly on the day of the show and is a real test of your dedication to put in the long hours of work to make it all happen. And, without exhibitors, we would not have a show, and we all know that you do not have an exhibit without a lot of planning and work.

A highlight of our Autumn Show was to have Don Rickerby, president of the R.H.S.V., present our own life member Neil Lenne, with the Gold, John Pascoe Fawcner Medal, for Distinguished Service to Horticulture. Congratulation again Neil – a medal well earned.

Our monthly competition table was well supported again this year. We are fortunate to have Noelene Park, a qualified A.H.J.A. judge to judge the merits of the exhibits. We are even luckier to have Noelene to give advice on how to improve your exhibits to have a better chance to take out first prize at the shows. Sharon Pollard does a great job as judges assistant and printing and distributing our newsletter, which starts off in Preston, travels to Robert Strugnell in China to be edited, and then returns to Sharon for distribution.

Members were once again treated to a break up party in November. As always this is a night of fun, food and entertainment. This keeps our catering co-ordinator, Margaret Trewella and her volunteers on their toes, as it did Norma Thomas over many years.

Our trading table and raffles are well supported, and it is surprising how the income adds up over the year. What would we do without Pat Kilpatrick, Geoff May and Wayne Hurley, who ensure that prizes and tickets are always there, and Jean Thomas, the antagonistic from the back row, who makes the whole process fun. We love you Jean, we really do!!

As you can see from what I am saying, we have a darn good club.

As you can see, it takes a lot of people to make a darn good club, and obviously you think so, because without your help we would not be able to achieve all that we do.

I cannot go further without thanking our excellent dedicated committee, which drives all of this activity.

Cheryl Warner, in the role of secretary, has been a breath of fresh air on the committee this year. Cheryl is ready to take on any job, and has it done in a flash. She not only keeps accurate minutes, but follows up on any matter in need of attention until it is solved.

Gavin Warner, the treasurer, will table his own report, but I assure you, that although he may grumble at times, particularly when it comes to handing out money, he sits and pulls out what hair that he has left contemplating over the books until he knows where every cent has gone. He assures me that we will be financially viable in the next financial year, and will be able to afford to have another darn good year.

I for one will take his word for it.

Thank you one and all for your support during 2011 – 12. It is an honour to be your president.

Bill Saunders

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscription fees are due on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Fees remain at:

Single: \$15.00 Family: \$25.00.

Cheques or money orders can be addressed to: Preston Garden Club Inc. P.O. Box 1004, Preston, 3072, or payment made direct to the Treasurer at the next meeting.

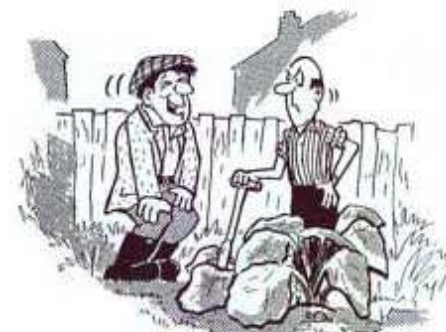
### COMING EVENTS

July 28th - 10am - 2pm, Werribee Park Orchard. Grafting Day at Werribee Park Orchard, Werribee Park Mansion, Werribee Heritage Fruit Society.

August 5th - 10am - 4pm. Petty's Orchard - Grafting Day. Petty's Orchard, Homestead Road, Templestowe. Learn techniques for grafting fruit trees. Buy one year old grafted trees. Enquiries: Cecilia 0419 305 242

August 11th - 10am to 4.30pm, Sunday 12th August - 10am to 4pm. Bonsai Show 2012. Waverley Bonsai Group. Mount Waverley Community Centre, Cnr Stephenson Rd & Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley Mel Ref: 70 E1. Adults \$5.00 under 16 free. Enquiries: 0431 773 446

August 18th, 1 - 5 pm. Sunday, 19th August 10am to 4.30pm Camellia Show. Mount Waverley Community Centre, Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley (Melways 61 E 12), opposite the Mount Waverley Railway Station. Admission is \$5, children free.



"Manure, you say? We always put custard on our rhubarb!"

### MONTHLY COMPETITION

**August 22nd:** One Container Spring Bulbs, One Kind.

### MONTHLY MEETING

**August 22nd:** Clivias, All aspects, growing and cultivating – Erika Spuy

### GARDENS OPEN OCCASIONALLY

#### **Broughton Hall - 125 Palmer Road, Jindivick**

Open Spring & Autumn. Cost 6 per person. 4 acres with over 1000 roses, amazing trees, shrubs, hedges on sloping site faces the Tarago Reservoir Enquiries: David on 03 5628 5316 (Bookings essential)

#### **Secret Gardens of the Dandenongs**

August to November. Includes full day tour with lunch, escorted on a mini bus. 17 gardens, 11 different tours. Tickets on sale from 1st July - \$99 Enquiries: Cloudehill Gardens 03 9751 1009. (Bookings essential)

### GARDENS OPEN REGULARLY

#### **Beechmont Garden - 12 Mernda Road, Olinda**

Open all year around. Entry: A small entry charge will be donated to charity. 10 acres of beautifully landscaped garden with sculptures, water features and quirky statues are complimented by Daphnes, Southern & Northern Hemisphere Beeches, Cornus, Wollemi Pines and Vireya Rhododendrons and other treasures. Visitors welcome by appointment. Enquiries: Marcia 03 9751 1801

#### **Chrysalis of St Andrews - Mornington Peninsula at St Andrews Beach**

Open all year by appointment. 1.5 ha garden, we have the largest collection of Bromeliads, growing outside, in the most southern region of the world, over 10,000 plants. This garden has featured on Gardening Australia and in Your Garden magazine. Many other rare and unusual plants abound with a special collection of over 150 Aloes and other succulent species. Open to public by appointment only. Enquiries: 03 5988 6921

## **SPRING BUS TRIP SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2012**

Cost \$25.00 per person. Includes bus fare plus entrance fee also morning tea provided.  
5\$ Non-refundable deposit required for booking.

Coach leaving outside Preston Town Hall Gower Street at 9.00am Sharp.  
Returning Preston Town Hall approx 5.30pm.  
BYO lunch & folding chair or stool.

4 LUCKY TICKET NUMBERS DRAW (SPECIAL SURPRISE PRIZE)  
On the way Two or Three games of free Bingo-prizes to winners.  
Morning Tea will be provided on arrival at the Mornington Market.

### **1 MORNINGTON RACECOURSE MARKET**

A huge market with over 300 stalls offering quality Australian handmade products. Range of very appetising gourmet take away and packaged foods determined to stimulate the taste buds. Inspirational arts and crafts, fine clothing, fashion accessories, baby ware, natural beauty products makes looking for that unique gift easy. For the green thumb, a varieties of plants, outdoor furniture and fresh flowers. Relax on the picturesque green lawns. There's something to please everyone at the Racecourse Market.



### **2 MORNINGTON BOTANICAL ROSE GARDEN**

BYO picnic lunch and then browse around the garden. Opened in November 2008, which features 230 varieties of roses and about 4000 bushes. Garden was cleverly designed by Barry Johnson ex President of the Victorian Rose Society and has been a labour of love for volunteers. There are about 86 beds of Roses, including space made for native plants which are bird attracting and also compliment the roses. The Garden would be in full bloom in November and best time to visit.



### **3 GARDEN WORLD NURSERY. (Depending on time )**

Gardenworld is a group of 7 independently owned businesses.  
Collectors Corner Amazing bonsai, cacti, orchids, gems and fossils.  
Gardenworld Nursery quality plants, fertilizers and potting mixes.  
Lotus watergardens fountains, watergardens and statues.  
Gardensmart Hydroponic gardening and hanging basket experts  
Smart Water Shop Lawn and irrigation specialists.  
Semken Landscaping garden design, construction and maintenance  
Gardenworld Café delicious meals and great coffee.



Board the coach and settle back for your relaxing journey home.  
More Bingo or Garden game if members so desire.  
Draw lucky ticket prizes.

**To make a booking see John at the next meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting phone John Mathie to reserve your seat. Home phone 9458 1632 or mobile 0402633739.**

Note: Already 23 people have placed their names on the list. So don't miss out on the great day out, book your seat now! Full payment will be required soon, to reserve your seat on the bus.