

# NEWSLETTER

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Registered Number A0006535U

PRESIDENT:  
BILL SAUNDERS

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**F**riends,  
**Welcome back to Preston Garden Club in 2013.**

Hasn't it been a dry, hot 2013 so far? Australia has even recorded its hottest average one day temperature ever. Bushfires all over southern Australia are dominating the news, with Tasmania experiencing ferocious fires and now Victoria is taking its turn.

My garden, like yours I expect, is so dry and thirsty; the leaves on the plants hang limp, craving for a drink and some cooler conditions, and my back lawn is beige and crisp.

But, we are Australians, and gardeners into the bargain, so we accept these extremes of conditions, these challenges, just as our plants must do and plan for our autumn garden. Your committee already has great plans in the pipeline for our Autumn Garden Festival, with interesting topics lined up for meeting nights, a bus trip ready to make bookings for, and are presently preparing the schedule for our Autumn Garden Show 2013. We are a resilient lot, we Australians!

In a few days' time we will celebrate Australia Day and all the great things that make us the lucky

country. Take up the opportunity to make the most of all the events, most of them free, happening to enable you to enjoy, and to celebrate this wonderful day.

Cheers, and Happy Australia Day.  
Bill Saunders

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP



Congratulations to Margaret Trewella, who deservedly was presented with Life Membership of Preston Garden Club at our 2012 Christmas break up celebration in November.

Margaret joined our club in 1978, 35 years ago. In all of this time Margaret has been willing and able to volunteer her services to the club in any manner of tasks. Some years ago now, Margaret added to her contribution by joining the committee of our club and has been part of that planning team ever since. Margaret served her catering apprenticeship (the area which Margaret is responsible for now) under Norma Thomas, assisting in being responsible for all of the catering requirements at meetings, shows and special events.

Margaret, on behalf of us all, we are grateful for your contribution, you really do deserve your Life Membership recognition.  
Bill - President

## COMING EVENTS

February 23rd - Sat 12.30pm-5pm  
Sun 24th - 10am-3.30pm  
National Dahlia Society of Victoria  
Glorious Dahlias, State Show. Mt Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley.  
Entry: \$4 Adults, \$1 Conc.  
Children free. Enquiries: 9593 1413

February 23rd - Sat 10am-4pm  
Sun 24th - 10am-3pm.  
Melbourne Begonia Society  
Annual Show - Begonias for Modern Living. Moorabbin Seniors Citizens Hall. 964 Nepean Highway Moorabbin (MW 77D6)  
Enquiries: Marilyn 03 9758 6642 or Norm 03 9787 7838.

## STAMPS

Some members have been collecting stamps for Robert to take back to China. He will be at the February meeting so if you can bring those stamps along. Otherwise give them to Bill anytime.

## AUTUMN SCHEDULE

The schedule is well underway and will be available at the February meeting. If you like to donate a ribbon, cost is \$5. Your name will be added to the Award Page. (See Bill)

## **AUTUMN BUS TRIP SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2013**

**COST- \$25.00 per person.** Includes garden entrance fee (Morning tea supplied)

Coach leaving outside Preston Town Hall, Gower Street, **9.00am sharp.**

Returning to Preston Town Hall approx **5.30pm.**

BYO - lunch & folding chair or stool.

2 lucky ticket numbers draw (special surprise prize)

On way two or three games of free bingo.

Morning tea or coffee supplied on arrival at Gisborne market.

### **GISBORNE OLD TIME MARKET** - Hamilton St Gisborne.

Enjoy a relaxing shopping experience at the old time market, over 300 stalls, which include local produce, wines, cheese, olives, fruit & vegetables, quality hand made products, trash & treasure and many plant stalls. Lunch could be purchased at the market.

### **WOODLANDS PRIVATE GARDEN** - WOODEND

Sandie and Peter purchased this seven acre property, part of a former farm in 2004, with no intention of having anything other than an open, parkland garden. Finding large rocks in their car parking area was the catalyst for a total change of plans and its present appearance.

Various areas have been planted in many different ways. There are four rose beds, planted with pale coloured David Austin Roses. There is a conifer bed, under planted with daffodils, a Cornus bed, under planted with bluebells, a fernery; a flourishing vegetable garden; a bed for succulents and cacti; a large orchard, fully netted through which the chooks roam; and a greenhouse/conservatory. The back paddock is planted with local native plantings and Eucalyptus seedlings and other indigenous plants populate the front paddock. The piece de resistance for many visitors is the creek - not an original feature.

BYO picnic lunch at "WOODLANDS" PRIVATE GARDEN.

Tea or coffee available at lunch time.

### **GISBORNE NURSERY** - Cnr Prince & Hamilton Sts Gisborne.

The Nursery was voted Australia's best small garden in 2009, and stocks a wide range of quality plants, also an extensive selection of herbs and seedlings as well as water plants, ferns, topiaries, broad range of native plants, water features, Bird Baths, water bowls, quality outdoor furniture and mosaic wood wall panels.

Board coach at approx 4.30pm and settle back for your relaxing journey home.

More Bingo or Garden game if members so desire.

Arriving at Preston Town Hall approx 5.30 pm.

**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.**

## MONTHLY MEETINGS 2013 – Topic

Each month has been planned for interest, education and variety. Make sure to attend each meeting to enjoy the various speakers during the year.

<b>January 23rd:</b>	Our Choice
<b>February 27th:</b>	Products and their use – Seasol International P/L
<b>March 27th:</b>	Companion Planting presentation – Gardens-Aquilani
<b>April 24th:</b>	Johannesburg Rose Conference & Cape Town presentation – Rod Noonan
<b>May 22nd:</b>	Herbs - What they are used. Floristry. Useful Weeds - new ideas – Elsie Carter
<b>June 26th:</b>	Garden Tools, selection, maintenance – Ryset Tools
<b>July 24th:</b>	China – Robert Strugnell
<b>August 28th:</b>	Our Choice
<b>September 25th:</b>	Horticultural Therapy & Sensory Gardening – Steven Wells
<b>October 23rd:</b>	Growing orchids, showing & judging – John Sharman
<b>November 27th:</b>	Christmas Breakup Party

## MONTHLY COMPETITION 2013 – Item of the Month

<b>January 23rd:</b>	Three Tomatoes, Shown with Stalks
<b>February 27th:</b>	One Pot/Container Succulent
<b>March 27th:</b>	One Container Marigold, One Variety, C.V.A.
<b>April 24th:</b>	One Container of Chrysanthemum, C.V.A.
<b>May 22nd:</b>	Bowl of Floating Flowers. No More Than 6 Blooms
<b>June 26th:</b>	One Own Photograph of Horticultural Interest
<b>July 24th:</b>	Three Camellia Blooms, S.S., N.N.D.
<b>August 28th:</b>	One Container Spring Bulbs, One Kind
<b>September 25th:</b>	One Container Mixed Cut Flowers – At Least Three Kinds.
<b>October 23rd:</b>	One Iris
<b>November 27th:</b>	No Competition – Presentation of Awards.

### Dates to Remember

**March 23rd:** Autumn Garden Show – Preston City Hall

**October 26th:** Spring Garden Show – Preston City Hall



Sender: Preston Garden Club Inc.

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