

# NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT:  
BILL SAUNDERS

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**F**riends,

Bill Saunders is up, up and away on a well-earned overseas holiday- the highlight will be being present at the Gallipoli Anzac Day Ceremony, and then in London at the 100th anniversary of the wonderful Chelsea Garden Show. We wish him a safe and fulfilling holiday time away. Our Autumn Show was a great success even though entries (152) were down. The judges were really impressed with the quality of entries. Due to ill health of Rosalie Parsons our Rose section was short of entries and on behalf of all members, we wish Rosalie a speedy recovery.

In the Dahlia Section, Les Lawson was the sole exhibitor, so ultimately picked up all the awards with his magnificent blooms. Good on you Les. Remembering fondly the absence of Bill Sullivan's prize dahlia blooms- sadly Bill died on the 17th February.

We thank our President and Show Manager Bill Saunders, for all the time and effort he contributes to ensure our show's success. And, to our Vice President Robert Strugnell words are not enough to express our appreciation of your valuable preparation of Show Schedules, printing advertising material all before departing for

China and always available via email to confirm any queries.



Also, thanks to Neil Lenne who travels from San Remo on the Thursday before the Show to assist Bill with the entries, tirelessly helping to set up the hall on Friday and also stewarding on Saturday, great job Neil.

To Gavin and Cheryl Warner for collating all entries on the computer, helping to set up and stewarding and working all day Saturday.

To Noelene and Lindsay Park, for their assistance setting up, stewarding, awards and raffle donations.

Devonshire tea would not be possible without Margaret Trewella, who also helps setting up the trading table and Joy Snell for her scones. Thank you Pat Mather for making all those sandwiches for the judges and stewards.

Hilary and Geoff May for setting up on Friday, cleaning up on Saturday and making scones for the Devonshire Tea.

Pat Kilpatrick for your help setting up, stewarding, and organizing and donating to the raffle and helping with the clean-up.

Jean Thomas and Jessie Velis for sitting out front, enticing the public to purchase raffle tickets.

Desiree Mathie, Glenda Edgar and Cathie McMahon for manning the trading table.

Wayne Hurley for your help in stewarding and helping to clean up and Sharon Pollard for her valued assistance always.

Success story of our member Weng Lim. Bill our Show manager mentioned to him that the Floral Art section was short of entries, Weng offered to put in an entry in the championship. This was Weng's first ever entry in Floral Art, and guess what, he won the Floral Art Championship. Weng also put a couple of entries in the Cooking Section for the first time and won first and second for his Chocolate Cake, he tells me that he will be having a go at the Cooking Championship at the next show, watch out Pat Kilpatrick! Congratulations Weng.

Our appreciation to Bunnings Northland for their generous contribution of a garden setting, which was first prize in our raffle, happily won by Cheryl and Gavin Warner. Thanks to Bulleen Art & Garden for their kind donation of four \$25.00 vouchers to redeem at their nursery, much appreciated by our major award winners. Thank you all for your participation, which made the Show such a success.

Show raffle was won by -

Black Ticket C33

1<sup>st</sup> prize Bistro Setting - Gavin Warner

Black C62

2nd prize - Greenhouse - Hilary May

Green A22

3rd prize - Fruit Tray - John Mathie Red B58

4th prize - Kneeling Pad - Lyn Ford

Door prize - \$20 Coles/Myer Voucher - Doris Waugh

## MIFGS – HANGING BASKET

MIFGS 2013 attracted some 105,000 visitors over its five days and contributed over \$9 million in economic activity to the state of Victoria.

Best basket – affiliated society  
1ST Melbourne Begonia Society.  
2ND Latrobe Rose & Garden.  
3RD Preston Garden Club.



We are so proud and excited to announce that Preston Garden Club was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the Great Hanging Basket Competition at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. Congratulations to Robert Strugnell for creating such a beautiful exhibit. Such a feat!

Desiree Mathie.

## NEW MEMBERS

Recently we gained three new members to our club. "Welcome new members" and hope you enjoy the club and the activities.

Kim Madjarevic  
Marisa Valentini  
Bo Li

## MONTHLY COMPETITION

**May 22nd:** Bowl of Floating Flowers. No More Than 6 Blooms.

## MONTHLY MEETING

**May 22nd:** Herbs - What they are used. Floristry. Useful Weeds - new ideas – Elsie Carter.

## AUTUMN BUS TRIP

9 am, Sunday 7th April, a full coach of 56 happy members and friends headed off from the Preston Town Hall bound for the Gisborne Country Market. On the way we drew two lucky tickets of five dollars each, won by Carmen DeSilva and Jane Brakes. Also, we had a couple of Bingo games with prizes, then arriving at 10 am at the Market for morning tea and a nice hot cuppa with Geoff and Hilary May's delicious date scones. Thank you both. Then, we departed to browse the Gisborne market and found so many great goodies from the varied stalls. Loaded with purchases after 2 hours, we boarded the coach at 12 noon to proceed to Woodend, stopping on the way at Woodend's Burkie's Bakery for some mouth-watering famous vanilla slices and sausage rolls.

Soon after, we arrived at 'Woodlands', the private garden of Sandie and Peter, where we all settled down with our lunches on the lawns and had nice chats with other 'bus trippers' and then a lovely stroll through their beautifully planned garden, lots to see. Our raffle of 5 plants was a great success, which all helped towards the coach hire, and garden entrance fee and keeping the cost of the trip to \$25.00. Congratulations to all the winners.

Time to hop on the coach again to call in on the 'Woodend Nursery' for more browsing and purchases, a very good little nursery stocked with a wide variety of plants; also they gave us a good discount.

4.30 pm: Time for a relaxing journey home, the coach once

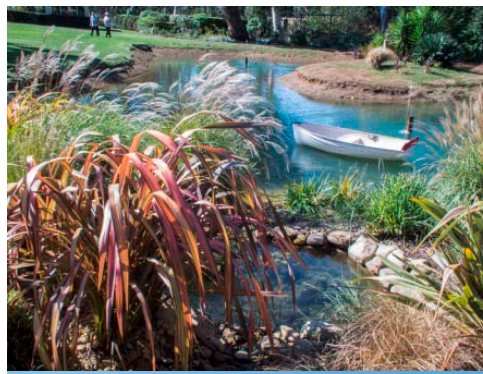
again loaded with more plant purchases. Many thanks to Desiree Mathie and Pat Kilpatrick for providing all the extra little prizes for the bingo and lucky tickets.

Our next bus outing has been organised for the 10th November 2013, details available at a later date.

See you all soon,  
John M

### MY WIFE THE GARDENER

She dug the plot on Monday the soil was rich and fine,  
She forgot to thaw out dinner so we went out to dine...  
She planted roses Tuesday she says they are a must,  
They really are quite lovely but she quite forgot to dust.  
On Wednesday it was daisies they opened up with sun,  
All whites and pinks and yellows but the laundry wasn't done...  
The poppies came on Thursday a bright and cherry red,  
I guess she really was engrossed she never made the bed...  
It was violets on Friday in colours she adores,  
It never bothered her at all all crumbs upon the floors  
I hired a maid on Saturday my week is now complete,  
My wife can garden all she wants the house will still be neat!  
It's nearly lunchtime Sunday and I cannot find the maid,  
Oh no! I don't believe it!  
She's out there WITH THE SPADE!



### COMING EVENTS

**April 27th** 12noon-4.30pm  
**April 28th** 10am-4.30pm  
Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Autumn Show, Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Hall. 100 Hilton Road, Sassafras (Mel 66 E12). Entry \$5 U14 free. Enquiries: 9755 1882

**May 3rd/4th/5th.** Better Homes & Gardens LIVE. Melbourne Showgrounds. Epsom Road, Ascot Vale. Exhibition featuring all about Home and Garden activities. Visit the Royal's stand and say hello. Come along for an adventure.

**May 5th** - 10am -3pm. Australian Plant Society - Yarra Yarra Group Native Plant Sale and Propagation, Demonstrations, Tube stock, advanced and grafted plants, many unusual species including Native Peas. Propagation starts from 12pm. Enquiries: Jill 9439 7228

**May 15th.** Mt Macedon Horticultural Society – Herbs. Mt Macedon Horticultural Hall, Main Road, Mt Macedon. Enquiries: 5426 2176

**May 18th** - 9am - 1pm. Australian Plant Society – Melton. Bacchus Marsh Native Plant Sale. Featuring Australian Native Plants including Hakea, small eucalypts, orchids and more.

**June 15th** - 9am - 4pm Gardener's Day Out – RHSV. Mt Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley (MW70 E1). A great day with 3 fantastic speakers, rare and unusual plants for sale and a tremendous special effort. Lunch available. Not to be missed. Book early. Enquiries: Jennifer 53676363



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