

NEWSLETTER

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Registered Number A0006535U

PRESIDENT:
BILL SAUNDERS

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Information:
Phone: (03) 9467-3078

E-mail:
prestongardenclub@hotmail.com

Web Address:
www.prestongardenclub.org.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Friends,
This financial year has been a busy one, packed with interesting speakers, two good shows, excellent bus trips, a great end of year party, with Brendan Scott making the audience rock with his entertainment skills, a busy trading table and profitable and entertaining raffles.

Above all we have shared great companionship with fellow members.

All of this, of course, does not happen without a willing committee and dedicated members. Your elected committee has volunteered their time and energy and worked together to organize and make everything happen so smoothly, and I thank them very sincerely for this. Many times these tasks could not happen without the contribution given by you, the volunteers, who dig in and assist, and I thank you too.

It is great to have a club built on friendship and sharing the load.

It is this attitude, which has enabled us to celebrate the next big event on our calendar; that is our eightieth anniversary next month. Not many volunteer organisations reach such a goal, but there must be a special liaison between

gardening, gardeners and their willingness to volunteer and to support their clubs and fellow gardeners; a good example of this is our own parent body, the RHSV, which is celebrating its one hundred and sixty-fifth anniversary this year.

What an achievement!!!!!!

Keep up the good work, my friends, we have something special going here. Above all enjoy your gardening.

Your president,
Bill Saunders.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscription fees are due on July 1st.

Any new members who have joined in the first half of this year, January to June, your subscription will be due July 2015.

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.



80TH CELEBRATIONS

Every member should have received their personal invitation to the Club's 80th birthday celebration. **Wednesday 27th August, starting at 6.00pm.** We are providing a sit down dinner.

Yes, I know the invitation is very pretty. Did you see the words on the bottom left, **RSVP.** Cheryl is waiting on some of you to phone her. We must know by July 30th are you coming or not.

If you have not spoken to Cheryl yet, do it now, Phone 9467 3078.

SPRING BUS TRIP

SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

Cost - \$ 30.00 (\$5 non-refundable deposit) includes entrance fee and guided tour of Mont de Lancey homestead and to the Wandin draught horse & machinery festival.

Coach leaving front of Preston Town Hall, Gower St, Preston at 9.00 am sharp.

Morning Tea will be provided on arrival at Mont De Lancey. BYO lunch or purchase your lunch at the festival. (BBQ or CAFE) On way two or three games of free bingo-prizes to winners.

Guided Tour of Mont De Lancey Historic 1880 Homestead, St Mary's Chapel, 1880 Slab Kitchen & Dairy, Museum and Heritage Garden.

Henry Sebire was born in 1828 in the Parish of St Guernsey one of the Channel Islands and was a stonemason by trade. In October 1849 age 21 years, he sailed from Plymouth England and arrived in Victoria in January 1850. In 1850 he married Martha Rihoy who was also from Guernsey and they settled in Melbourne.

In 1867 Henry, Martha and their four children came to Wandin where they selected 80 acres of bush land and began to clear the land by hand. In 1873 Henry purchased the land at one pound per acre. In 1880 Henry began to build a permanent more substantial home making bricks from clay on the property and quarry stones from the hills for the foundations. The house stands today as solid as ever on a hill overlooking the surrounding farms.

Henry and Martha's French speaking background is reflected in the name they chose for their home, Mont for its high outlook and De Lancey for a lane in their former homeland Guernsey. One of Henry and Martha's six sons, a grandson and a great grandson continued to farm the property. In 1993 members of the Sebire family generously donated the homestead and part of the property to be developed as a community based project.

After the tour, enjoy your BYO lunch in the gardens of Mont De Lancey. Browse the Festival activities in the grounds of Mont De Lancey.

Working Draught horses- Hay cutting, Hay bailing, Chaff cutting. Working Draught horses – Ploughing etc. Vintage Farm

Machinery Display, Vintage Engine & Machinery Display. Heritage Museum, Art Gallery & Working Blacksmiths. Sheep Dog Display, Chainsaw Carving. Market Stalls & Kiosk.

VISIT - KOOKABERRY BERRY FARM.

Kookaberry Strawberry farm is a family run business, having grown berries for 32 years. Enjoy fresh or frozen strawberries, blackberries, raspberries and of course, jams. Farm Store will be open for sale of berries & Jams.

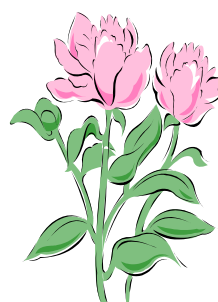
VISIT - MT EVELYN GARDEN CENTRE

(Depending on Time) Mt Evelyn Garden Centre has been retailing in its original location for 25 years. After changing hands in 2004, so did the style and structure of this garden Centre. The new garden Centre has quickly established a reputation for itself as a one stop shop for garden needs. Coffee Machine (\$2.50 per cup & cold cans of drink)

Approx. 4.30 pm Board Coach and settle back for your relaxing journey home, arriving Preston Town Hall at approx. 5.30pm. More Bingo if members so desire & Draw of Lucky Ticket Prizes.

The cost of trip is \$30.00, a \$5 non-refundable deposit is required to book your seat or full payment is required, please pay John Mathie at the meeting. You can also bring a friend or two.

If you have questions or problems and cannot go, let John know, phone 94581632.



MEMBERS NEWS



Happy Birthday Greetings to our members for July.

Ken Beer
Shanthi Kandiah
Weng Lim
Val Stafford

Best wishes to you all.

JOBS FOR JULY

After coming home after five weeks overseas I find the list of jobs for mid winter is rather long. At least the rain kept everything green and the only plants to get away from control was the broccoli. I have a solution to the heads that start to flower; put them into the soup pot with carrots and parsnips that are past their best for eating.

When I have cleared some of the weeds from a few beds I will give them a dig over and plant the seed potatoes that I bought in May and are now producing their shoots. It is not too late to plant some broad beans and peas as to spread these crops over two sowings makes good sense as the harvest period is staggered and a huge crop can be avoided.

The roses can be pruned now but if you are enjoying a few late blooms it can be delayed until after these late flowers have finished.

A little citrus food can shortly be spread around the lemons, oranges, grapefruit etc as shortly these trees will be flowering as well as producing their current crops of delicious Winter fruit.

Keep those weeds down and get prepared for laying a mulch on the beds when Spring finally arrives.

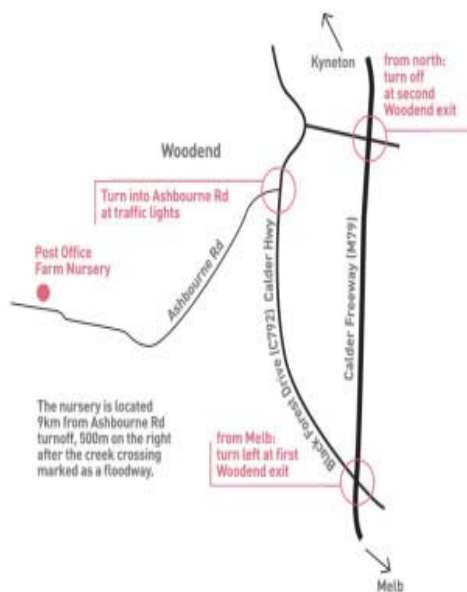
Geoff May

POST OFFICE FARM NURSERY

Hellebore Open Days

As a production Nursery we are not usually open to the public. However during Hellebore season, we present a series of special Open Days for the public to visit Post Office Farm. Our Hellebore Open Days are not to be missed for those with an interest in Hellebores.

See how we propagate and grow the famous Post Office Farm Hellebores and view a huge range of Hellebores which will be available for sale. Lots of different colours and forms, including some rare varieties are available in small numbers only. Every one of our open Sundays will feature, at 11am and 2pm, tours of the nursery with lots of information about how to get the best from your Hellebores in the garden.



When: Sundays only (10am to 4pm) from June 1st to September 28th. Where: 934 Ashbourne Road, Ashbourne (9km south west of Woodend), Victoria.

COMING EVENTS

July 26th - 27th 10am - 4pm.

Friends of Royal Botanic Gardens - Cranbourne - Winter Sale, large range of Australian Natives. Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. 1000 Ballarto Road, Cranbourne MW 133K 10. Enquires: Marjanne Rook 9769 7881.

August 4th 7pm.

Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria Inc. Annual General Meeting. South Melbourne Hub (Town Hall), Daly Street, South Melbourne. Enquiries: Secretary 5367 6363.

August 9th Sat 10am - 4.30pm.

August 10th Sun 10am - 4pm
Waverley Bonsai Group Annual Show. Mt Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley MW 70 E1. Entry: \$5 Adults Child U16 Free. Enquiries: Bruce 9802 8529.

August 16th Sat 1pm - 5pm

August 17th Sun 10am - 4.30pm
Camellias Victoria & Waverley Garden Club. Victorian Camellia Championships. Mt Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley MW 70 E1. Entry: \$5. Enquiries: Shirley 9802 3771.

August 22nd & 23 Frid & Sat

9am-5pm. Sunday **24th August** 9am-4pm. Orchid Societies Council of Victoria. Melbourne Orchid Spectacular. Victorian Canine Association "KCC Park", 655 Westernport Hwy, Skye. Enquiries: Julie on 5978 6045.

September 4th - 14th

Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival. Kyneton Township and Environs. Enquiries: 5422 2282



RED HOT POKERS

A striking red flower spires in winter is known as "red hot pokers". A perennial plant from Africa, its botanical name is Kniphofia, which forms a tufted,

grass-like clump. Although mainly native to parts of Africa these plants are highly attractive to native nectar feeding birds such as wattlebirds or rosellas, which feast in the flower spikes. Red hot pokers, can be used to add a strong architectural statement to a garden as they have bold leaves, grow in clumps and have tall spires of flowers.

Despite the tag of red hot poker, Kniphofias come in a range of colours including red, orange and yellow to almost lime green or a combination of these colours. There are many named varieties. Some are winter flowering, such as the red and orange variety 'Winter Cheer', while others flower in summer and autumn. Plants also range in size from dwarf forms such as white flowered 'Little Maid', which is only 60cm (24") tall, up to bold clumps that are 1.5-2m tall in flower.

All enjoy a spot in full sun with good drainage, although they will grow in part shade. Once established the plants can be left undisturbed to develop into a large clump.

MONTHLY COMPETITION

August 27th : No Competition

MONTHLY MEETING

August 27th : 80th Birthday Celebrations, **by invitation only**

STAMPS

Looking for more stamps.

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



Sender: Preston Garden Club Inc.
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Preston, 3072