

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Friends,
President on Holidays.

Hello Members,

Our President Bill Saunders departed Melbourne on the 7th of April to travel overseas on a well-earned holiday. Bill will be reporting re his progress in the May newsletter. We wish him a safe and fulfilling holiday.

Our Autumn Show was once again a great success, with 240 entries. Thank you to all for such a good display. The judges were really impressed with the quality. We were unable to present the Dahlia Championship Section due to ill health of Dwight King, and Les Lawson who were unable to exhibit. On behalf of all members, we wish them a speedy recovery.

We thank our Show Manager Bill Saunders, for all the time and effort you contribute to ensure our Show's success, and Robert Strugnell our appreciation for preparation of Show Schedules, printing advertising material, all prepared before your return to China.

To Neil Lenne, words are not enough to express our appreciation of your valuable contribution to our two shows. Travelling from San

Remo on Thursday before the Show to assist Bill with the entries, helping to set up the hall on Friday, also stewarding and cleaning up on Saturday, even washing up the cups and saucers for the Devonshire Tea and assisting me to load the trailer with show equipment.

Thank you Margaret Trewella for organizing the Devonshire Tea, setting up the Trading Table with Daksha Singh on Friday and preparing Judges' Lunches, also Joy Snell and Val Newland and others who made scones and Cathie McMahon for your help with the Devonshire Tea.

To Cheryl and Gavin Warner for collating all entries on the computer, stewarding, and working all day Saturday, sorting out winners and their awards. Congratulations on your first Blue Ribbon.

To Noelene and Lindsay Park for helping setting up on Friday, stewarding, and kind donation for the raffle and assisting with the Devonshire Tea.

Jean Thomas for encouraging Show Visitors to buy raffle tickets.

Desiree Mathie, Maria Spagnolo for working all day manning the trading table.

Hilary and Geoff May for helping on Friday setting up, stewarding and assisting on the raffle table and then cleaning up.

Pat Kilpatrick, stewarding, helping with clean-up and donating to the raffle.

Wayne Hurley for your help in setting up, Stewarding and, cleaning up.

Our appreciation to Bunnings Northland and Bulleen Art & Garden for generous contributions to the raffle. Plus donation from Noelene & Lindsay Park & Elsie Carter.

Once again, many thanks to helpers and exhibitors for making our 2015 Autumn Show such a success.

Our next event is the Autumn Bus Trip on 12th April to Frogmore Gardens near Trentham and then to Blackwood Garden and Nursery, with a full coach of 57.

The spring 2015 bus outing has been organised for the 8th November 2015, details available at a later date. If you don't want to miss out on this trip, please put your name on list and prompt payment will secure your seat.

See you all soon,
John M



Judging of Vegetables



Cut flowers - Marigolds



Best Exhibit Floral Art Section - Jenny Peiper



Judging Cooking



Best Exhibit Container Grown Plants - Gavin and Cheryl Warner



Best Exhibit Vegetable Section - Rose Celestin



Councillor Bo Lin and President Bill Saunders



Best Exhibit Hanging Basket - Pat Kilpatrick



One Bunch of Silver Beet - Gavin and Cheryl Warner



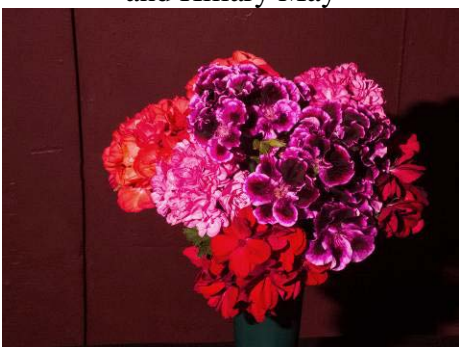
Autumn champion winner Geoff and Hillary May



Best Exhibit of Roses - Rosalie Parsons



One Boiled Fruit Cake - Geoff and Hillary May



Container of Geranium Flowers



Preston Floral Art Championship - Jenny Peiper



Raffle prizes

WENG'S BASKET

At the recent Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show Weng won 1st prize with his basket in the specialist plant section. It was all different varieties of bromeliads.



Costa Georgiadis with Weng

WINNERS OF OUR AUTUMN SHOW RAFFLE

- 1st Prize - Rotating Compost Bin
Red E61 - Glenda Edgar
- 2nd Prize- Patio Rose
Blue F49 - Janet Hays
- 3rd Prize - Hanging Basket
Hamper
Green E12 - Joanne Verga
- 4th Prize - Basket of vegetables
Black F40 - Daksha Singh
- 5th Prize - Hedge Sheers &
Succulent Plant
Red E79 - Peter (Hallkeeper)

Cheryl is having difficulty in getting in touch with Joanne Verga so if any of the members know this person please call Cheryl on 9467 3078.

AN AUTUMN POEM

The bustling wind, the crackling
leaves
See them blowing from the trees?
Smell the crisp refreshing air?
Wind is blowing everywhere!

Colours surround us, so vivid and
bright
What colours do you see, in this
beautiful sight?
I see orange and purple, yellow and
red
A big leaf just swooshed by my
head.

AUTUMN IN THE APRIL GARDEN

With the end of daylight saving this month we should be spending less time watering in the shorter cooler days ahead. Until today the rain has stayed away but 5mm and the promise of more to come means there should be more time to get on with the more normal tasks of harvesting and planting up for the cooler months ahead.

We have a nice lot of stewed apples, peaches & quinces in the freezer and shortly the pumpkins will be ready to store away in a cool airy spot for the Winter. In the meantime there are more beans to keep picking and the carrots & parsnips store well in the ground until early Spring sends them into regrowth when what we haven't eaten will go into the soup pot.

It is now time to start sowing an early crop of broad beans; this useful vegetable can be sliced and eaten as a French bean early in the season and the latter pickings can still be shelled and served without the need to watch if they are getting too tough for slicing.

Bulb planting should be in full swing by now as well as Spring flowering annuals of which the pansy is by far the most prolific if kept 'dead headed' and watered well into the Spring. I only pulled last year's crop out a fortnight ago; we had enough to fill several small vases throughout the Summer.

Leek seedlings are going ahead nicely and in May I shall be sewing the onion seed for transplanting in Aug - Sept into their permanent positions. The lemon tree and the camellia are well into new growth so the drastic pruning seems to be working.

Good luck with the Autumn garden.
Geoff May

MEMBERS NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Happy Birthday to You!
Happy Birthday to You!

John Mathie, Bill Saunders, Joan McNair, Hazel McGlone, Lila Oliver, Margaret Trewella, Pam White.

Best wishes from all of us.

COMING EVENTS

May 2nd - 1pm - 4pm **May 3rd**
12pm - 4pm, Chrysanthemum Society of Victoria Annual Exhibition. Burwood Heights Uniting Church Hall, cnr Burwood Hwy & Blackburn Road Blackburn MW61 K7. Entry: \$3.

June 13th - 9am - 4pm. RHSV Gardener's Day Out. Deakin University - Rusden Theatre, 221 Burwood Hwy, Burwood. Entry: \$10. Three presentations - Vertical Gardens (2020Vision) Graham & Sandra Ross. Lunch available through RHSV for \$15. (pre order essential) More information and bookings from Secretary on 03 5367 6363.

MONTHLY COMPETITION

May 27th – Bowl of Floating Flowers. No More Than 6 Blooms.

MONTHLY MEETING

May 27th - History of Gardening in Victoria - Don Rickerby.
Container Growing for the Show Bench - Jennifer Rickerby.

AUTUMN GARDEN SHOW MARCH 2015

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>PRIZE/SECTION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PTS</u>
R.H.S.V. S.S. McKay Medallion	OPEN	MOST SUCCESS SHOW EXHIBITOR	G&H MAY		54
PRESIDENTS TROPHY	NOVICE	MOST SUCCESS SHOW EXHIBITOR	JANET HAY		19
<u>DAHLIAS</u>					
No Competition					
<u>CUT FLOWERS</u>					
BLUE RIBBON		BEST CONTAINER CUT FLOWERS	J&D MATHIE	39	
CERTIFICATE	NOVICE	BEST EXHIBIT CUT FLOWERS	SUE OWEN	40	
TROPHY		MOST SUCC EXHIB CUT FLOWER SEC.	J&D MATHIE		15
<u>CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS</u>					
GOLD RIBBON		CONTAINER GROWN PLANT SEC.	PAT KILPATRICK	66	
BLUE RIBBON		BEST EXHIBIT CONT. GROWN PLANT	G&C WARNER	54	
BLUE RIBBON		BEST EXHIBIT HANGING BASKET	PAT KILPATRICK	66	
CERTIFICATE	NOVICE	BEST EXHIBIT POT PLANT SECTION	VAL STAFFORD	64	
TROPHY		MOST SUCCESS EXHIB POT PLANT SEC.	J&D MATHIE		20
<u>ROSES</u>					
BLUE RIBBON	OPEN	BEST EXHIBIT ROSE SECTION	ROSALIE PARSONS	77	
CERTIFICATE	NOVICE	BEST EXHIBIT ROSE SECTION	JANET HAY	87	
<u>FLORAL ART</u>					
GOLD RIBBON		PRESTON FLORAL ART CHAMPIONSHIP	JENNY PEIPER	94	
BLUE RIBBON	OPEN	BEST EXHIBIT FLORAL ART SECTION	JENNY PEIPER	99	
CERTIFICATE	NOVICE	BEST EXHIBIT FLORAL ART SECTION	VAL STAFFORD	102	
TROPHY		MOST SUCCESS EXHIBIT F/A SECTION	VAL STAFFORD		9
<u>VEGETABLES</u>					
GOLD RIBBON	OPEN	BEST EXHIBIT VEGETABLES SEC.	ROSE CELESTIN	113	
CERTIFICATE	NOVICE	BEST EXHIBIT VEGETABLES SEC.	JANET HAY	140	
TROPHY		MOST SUCCESS EXHIBIT VEGETABLE SEC	G&H MAY		33
<u>COOKING</u>					
GOLD RIBBON		PRESTON COOKING CHAMPIONSHIP	G&H MAY	149	
TROPHY		AS ABOVE			
BLUE RIBBON		BEST EXHIBIT COOKING SECTION	PAT KILPATRICK	154	
TROPHY		AS ABOVE			
<u>PRESTON AUTUMN CHAMPIONSHIP</u>					
<u>GOLD RIBBON</u>		1st Winner	G&H MAY	1	