

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT:
BILL SAUNDERS

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PRESTON GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEE 2017/2018

President:

Bill Saunders

Vice Presidents:

Robert Strugnell
Wayne Hurley

Secretary:

Des Westhead

Treasurer:

John Mathie

Committee Members:

Pat Kilpatrick
Margaret Trewella
Daksha Singh
Dawn Walsh

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Friends,

This last financial year has been a particularly challenging one.

We advised last year that John Mathie, our vice president, was not standing for committee due to a recent heart attack. In September, Cheryl and Gavin Warner, our secretary and treasurer resigned.

These were three critical roles on committee attended to by three enthusiastic, experienced and hard-working members over many years – almost irreplaceable in a small membership. Their contribution has been sorely missed, as has been the presence of Cheryl and Gavin at meetings; a very popular couple.

However, with the support of dedicated members and individuals like Des Westhead, (secretary) and Dawn Walsh (treasurer), who took on unfamiliar and challenging tasks, albeit on a temporary basis, we took stock, pruned back on such things as bus trips, which are time consuming and demanding and got to work. Unfortunately, unexpected family and health issues necessitated Dawn to step aside. Fortunately John Mathie, at this point felt that he was feeling fit again and stepped in as treasurer.

We have delivered nine monthly meetings (we do not meet in December, and could not use the hall in January as it was required for Australia Day business and on ANZAC Day).

We pulled together to stage a successful Spring Show, which actually made a profit, and in April had a picnic day at Hawkestone Park, where we were treated to a talk by the manager/ranger on the history of the parklands as well as a great end of year night of frivolity, with entertainment by “The Real Paul Hogan”.

Although we did not win any prizes, we entered a basket in The Great Hanging Basket Competition at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, staged in the Carlton Gardens, where our

basket and name were displayed in front of hundreds of visitors.

Once again we give thanks to the City of Darebin, which through its Community Grants Scheme we were granted a considerable grant towards the cost of their facilities in which we meet and stage our show.

We are delighted this year to have the Office of Robyn Scott, our local member of parliament to give us assistance by printing our newsletter for us. This medium helps us to all keep in touch and we are most grateful for this help.

All of this, of course, does not happen without a willing committee and dedicated club members.

I personally thank the committee for their extra effort through tough times this year.

I thank you, the members, who have been understanding and loyal to your club, wear a smile and dig in and assist to get a job done.

Enjoy your gardening.

Your president,
Bill Saunders.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual subscription fees are due on July 1st every year. Now is the time to pay your membership fee.

Fees remain at: Single: \$15.00
Family: \$25.00.

Please make cheques payable to Preston Garden Club Inc, P.O. Box 1004, Preston, 3072.

OR

EFT to BSB No. 033 073 Account No. 231476, Reference (your "surname" = Subs).

OR

Payment made direct to the Treasurer at the meeting.

For more info contact John, phone 94581632 or 0402 633 739.

SPRING BUS TRIP

Spring Bus Trip Sunday 9th September.

Rhododendron Gardens Olinda, plus Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Spring Show. Garden Nursery (Depending on Time).

COST \$35.00 Includes Coach, Spring Show Entry, Raffle and Devonshire Tea. BYO Lunch or buy your Lunch at the Café Vireya located in the garden near the Bistro.

COACH LEAVING PRESTON TOWN HALL GOWER ST., 9.00 AM.

On the way two or three games of free bingo (prizes to winners).

2. NATIONAL RHODODENDRON GARDEN.

The Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens (formerly) the National Rhododendron Garden is our Spring host to the brilliantly coloured blooms of Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Camellias, Daffodils and countless Cherries. The gardens are a delight all year around! There are a

number of attractions, the site features two ornamental lakes, beside each, is a pagoda in which one can rest and take in the serenity of the gardens. There are several lookouts where views of the Yarra Ranges can be seen.



BYO lunch will be in the Gardens or you could buy your lunch at the Café 'Vireya'.

2. FERNY CREEK HORTICULTURAL SPRING SHOW, includes DEVONSHIRE TEA.



The Ferny Creek Horticultural Spring Show is held over a weekend with many varied sections comprising Pot Plants & Hanging Baskets, Cut Flowers and Foliage, Australian Native Plants, Camellias, Azaleas, Vireyas, Perennials, Annuals and Spring Bulbs. Winners are awarded Blue Ribbons and Trophies.

Also a photographic display, plant sales including rarer plants, and cut flowers and commercial vendors. A guided tour of The Ferny Creek Horticultural Society's Garden is also available. Refreshments, light lunches and sausage sizzle also available.

Free Lucky raffle prizes to be drawn. Arriving Preston Town Hall approx. 5.30 pm.

Phone John to book your seat, then make payment either by:

Make cheques payable to Preston Garden Club Inc, P.O. Box 1004, Preston, 3072.

OR

EFT to BSB No. 033 073 Account No. 231476, Reference (your "surname" = Bus).

OR

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OLD-FASHIONED PLANTS

A flowering garden is a thing of joy and with these old-fashioned favourites, it's not as difficult as you'd imagine to cultivate these beautiful old-fashioned blooms. If these flower varieties make you think of your grandmother, it's because classic cottage garden blooms are enjoying a renaissance in our gardens. Perhaps it's because they are hardy, simple to grow and, once established, with regular watering will pop up to delight you year in, year out. Give them a go and you might find you've inherited Grandma's green thumb.

Rudbeckia

Rudbeckias or cone flowers are tall, bright yellow flowers, similar to an Echinacea with a black centre, surrounded by soft petals. They work well planted all in a big drift, then you can interplant with other flower like lilies, all growing up on top of them.



Hydrangea

Nanna's favourite and easy to grow from cuttings, hydrangeas need plenty of water daily. A position in full sun to semi shade helps to avoid these summer flowering beauties getting hit too hard by brutal midsummer sun.



Sweet Pea

Delicate and sweetly scented, plant sweet peas in a sunny spot on St Patrick's Day in March, the saying goes, for a bumper crop in Spring. Support with trellis, climbing frames or against fence as the tendrils grow thicker. Pick flowers as they appear and more will follow.



Larkspur

Classic cottage garden favourite, this old-fashioned bloom is more delicate than its bigger brother delphinium and looks great planted en masse. Flowering in spring and summer, once planted it will reseed itself and reappear each year.



Poppies

Who can go past a poppy? Enjoying a resurgence in popularity, commercial growers are experimenting with size and colour blocking to produce some incredible blooms. In your garden, their gently nodding heads blowing in the breeze like paper to add a bright pop of colour from late winter into spring and summer.



Hollyhocks

Another cottage garden classic, the hollyhock adds wow factor to your garden, growing striking flower-covered stems up to 3 metres tall. Great to add height to your garden, they're easy to grow and flower in full sun.



Love in the Mist

Now this is an old-fashioned lady. Nigella produces delicate star-like pale blue and white blooms atop ephemeral-leaved stems, in contrast to its hardy nature and strongly scented seeds that can be harvested and dry roasted for salads and curries.



STAMPS

Looking for more stamps.

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

SPRING SHOW RIBBONS

The show schedule will be finalised this month and then printed. Both blue and gold ribbons have been ordered. If any member would like to donate the cost of a ribbon, it's \$5 and your name will appear in the show schedule on the Awards Page. Contact Bill on 94780269 this month.

MEMBERS NEWS

Don't forget to bring your cup to the meetings.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

July: Ken Beer, Val Stafford, Des Westhead.

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, 4 August - Sunday, 5. Warringal Orchid Society - Winter Show 2018. Times Sat 9am-4.30p., Sun 9am-4pm. Location St Sava Community Centre, 212 Diamond Creek Rd, Greensborough 3088. Contact George on 0411 372 537. www.warringalorchidsociety.com.au

Sunday, 5 August. Heritage Fruits Society-Grafting Demonstrations & Plant Sales Day. Free entry. The Heritage Fruits Society will hold grafting demonstrations and sell apple trees and scion of its heritage varieties. One-year old trees \$25. Newly-grafted trees \$15. Scion \$3. Location Petty's Orchard, 1 Homestead Rd, Templestowe. Contact Enquiries to heritagefruitsociety@gmail.com

Saturday, 11 August - Sunday, 12. Waverley Bonsai Group - BONSAI SHOW 2018. Times Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Entry Adults \$5, Children U16 Free. Excellent display of Bonsai. A well stocked trading area with Bonsai plants & related items for sale. Demonstrations. Speak to Group members for advice. Location Mt Waverley Community Centre, cnr Stephenson's Rd & Miller Cres Mt Waverley (MW 70E1). Contact Bruce on 0433 733 446

Saturday, 18 August - Sunday, 19. Waverley Garden Club & Camellias Victoria - Camellia, Garden & Floral Art Show. Times Sat 1pm-5pm, Sun 10am-4.30pm. Entry \$5 Adults, Children Free, pay at door.

The Victorian Camellia Championships will feature hundreds of blooms on display including many rare varieties. There will be plants for sale and club experts will be on hand for advice.

The Floral Art Winter Championships along with many creative & exciting floral designs will be on display and will fill a whole hall. Posies, made on-the-spot, will be available for sale.

There is a Children's Competition engaging the younger generation in gardening. This section has attracted many innovative exhibits and had visitors talking and enjoying them.

The Garden Exhibits will feature cut flowers, container grown plants, home grown fruit and vegetables all grown by Garden Club members in their own gardens. These include: Bonsais, orchids, ferns, succulents, daffodils, herbs and foliage.

Enjoy a Devonshire Tea with freshly baked scones, jam and cream. Location Mount Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent Mount Waverley. Contact Linda on 0412914388, linda@trikarso.com or Sandra on 98933247 sexton@optusnet.com.au

Thursday, 30 August - Sunday, 9 September. Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival 2018 - Great Program of Events over several days and nights. "Come Dancing With The Daffodils." Come and Stay and Enjoy a Great Country Event. Dancing With Daffodils. Contact more info on 03 5422 2282 or at www.kynetondaffodilarts.org.au

FIND THE WORD

Well, how did you go with finding the word in the last newsletter? The word is –

KILLER

The word this month has 5 letters. What could it be?

Look at the four pictures for the clue. Answer next newsletter.



MONTHLY COMPETITION

August 22nd: Three Camellia Blooms, S.S., N.N.D.

MONTHLY MEETING

August 22nd: Gardens National Trust England DVD.

