

NEWSLETTER

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Registered Number A0006535U

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ISSUE NO. 243

OCTOBER 2023



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LUNCHEON



End of year luncheon for members will be held on Sunday December 3rd, meet at 12 noon. The best part is free for members, for non-members cost is \$20.

Location: Junction Hotel, 1 Plenty Road Preston, intersection of High St & Plenty Rd.

Public transport, both Tram and Bus pass by.

It will be 2 course, main meal and dessert. Drinks are available from the bar at your cost. You will need to choose one main meal from the attached menu. Cut off for bookings is the November meeting. If you wish to book and cannot attend the meeting, top of newsletter is Club's email and a phone number, to book.

Yes, you can bring along a friend, partner, neighbour or someone who might be interested in joining our Club. Cost will be \$20 per person pay at meeting.

IVANHOE BUS TRIP

We are invited to join Ivanhoe Garden Club's bus trip on Sunday, November 12th. The trip will include Werribee Rose Garden and Werribee Mansion grounds, Connie's garden near Werribee and Roraima Nursery and display gardens at Lara. Morning tea is included. Meet at Ivanhoe Town Hall at 9am. The cost will be \$35 each. BYO picnic lunch and lightweight folding stool.

A reminder of last chance to pay Barbara \$35 at this meeting for a ticket to the bus trip. She has to return unsold tickets after this date.

90th ANNIVERSARY

In August 2024, Preston Garden Club will celebrate its 90th anniversary.

As part of planning a celebration for this milestone, the committee is interested in hearing ideas from the members about how we do this, and what a celebration might look like - please feel free to forward your ideas to the committee at the next General Meeting, or email them to the club at: prestongardenclub@hotmail.com

The committee also invites members to contribute photos and other club memorabilia as we look

to document and tell the story of the club's history.

If you have any items you would like to loan or share, you are welcome to provide them to Bill Chamberlain or Robert Strugnell at the General Meeting, or email the club.

If you have any question or ideas, speak to me at the next meeting.
Bill Chamberlain.

TOMATOES



As summer approaches and the weather is slowly starting to warm up we start getting back into the garden. One vegetable that is easy for the home gardener to grow is the tomato. Most families would only need to grow a couple of plants to give them a fresh supply of fruit the season.

There are two ways to start growing Tomatoes, either by seed or buying young seedlings from your local nursery. The local nursery will have a small selection available. A far wider range of varieties is available from seed. Some people collect and save their own seed to use the following season. Make sure you collect from the strongest, healthiest and tastiest plants.



To have Tomatoes for Xmas you will need to sow the seed in early spring. Sow the seed into pots using a good seed raising mix. The mix should be open and drain well. Keep the pot in a warm position and in a couple of weeks pot seedlings into individual pots.

Don't over feed the young plants, as you should encourage them to flower and start producing fruit. A good location to plant is a sunny warm part in the garden that has good drainage.



A number of varieties are available as seed from various suppliers. Here are a few you may like to grow. Black Russian, Burnley Surecrop, Cindel, First Prize, Green Zebra, Jubilee, Moneymaker, Oxheart, Roma, Rouge de Marmande, Sweet Bite, Tiny Tim, Tommy Toe, Yellow Pear, KY1.

Generally speaking, it will take between 10-14 weeks for tomatoes to mature (11-13 weeks for cherry tomatoes). So as long as you have enough warmer days ahead of you for your tomatoes to mature, then it's okay to plant.

What is the best time to plant tomatoes according to the moon cycles?

The best times for planting tomatoes for the rest of this year are the fertile signs of the zodiac.

The following dates are ideal for planting tomatoes:

October: 2, 6, 7, 8, 26, 27.

November: 3, 4, 7, 26, 27, 30.

December: 4, 5, 6, 24, 27, 28.

DAHLIAS

Do not plant Dahlias until the danger of frosts has passed. The old saying was plant around "Cup Day". It is normal for tubers to grow shoots before they are planted. If shoots are damaged, cut them off and wait for the tuber to grow new shoots.

How To Grow:

1/ Choose a location in full sun or part sun with well draining soil.

2/ Dig over soil and enrich with compost or blood and bone.

3/ Space tubers 40cm apart.

4/ Dig a 10-15cm deep hole and plant the tuber horizontally with the "Eye" or shoot pointing upwards.

5/ Cover with soil and water in well. Do not water further until shoots emerge.

6/ Place a sturdy stake next to the tuber to support the plant as it grows.

7/ Protect shoots from slugs and snails.

Types of Dahlias



Cactus



Decorative



Fimbriated



Ball



Waterlily



Collerette



Pompon



Orchid

ORANGE WORLD



On a recent road trip to Mildura I ventured over the border to visit 'Orange World' a working 50 acre citrus property offering tours around the picturesque orchard of avocado trees, numerous citrus varieties and tree grafting areas. We boarded the tractor train and headed into the trees.



Our first stop was to pick mandarin. Mandarins are picked with the stalk attached as pulling the fruit directly from the tree results in breaking the skin where the stalk is attached. Mandarins don't keep on the tree like other citrus do. They should be picked as soon as they turn orange.



The above photo shows a mandarin tree whose rootstock has taken over

the tree. Although it is covered in fruit, they are very sour and the tree has been marked to be removed.

The farm is owned by Maria and Mario. Maria makes preserves from the fruit to sell in their shop and they also sell wonderful blood orange sorbet and orange sorbet. I tried blood orange before the tour and the orange after the tour. Both were outstanding. If you are in the area I would recommend a visit.
Helen Salisbury

SENIORS MONTH LAUNCH

On Thursday 28th September, Darebin Council conducted the launch of Seniors Month, in the Centreway at Preston Market.

Our Club with a number of local groups had been invited to have a stall to promote their own group. We sent along two young seniors, Bill Saunders and Wayne Hurley to promote our club to the public visiting the market. It appears Wayne's Bonsai plant attracted some attention. Maybe we will see some visitors at our October meeting?



1831 MARLBOROUGH PIE



The origin seems to be in England, with the first written recipe for this pie appearing around 1660.

Ingredients:

3 large eggs, beaten
175 mL stewed apples
175 mL sherry
175 mL sugar
175 mL butter, melted
60 mL 35% cream
5 mL (1 tsp) nutmeg
5 mL (1 tsp) cinnamon
Pie dough for a single crust 9" shallow pie dish

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C (350°F)
In a bowl mix together all of the ingredients and place in a lined 9" pie dish. Bake for about 60 minutes or until the custard is just cooked.

COMING EVENTS

October 21st & 22nd 11am - 2pm. Broadmeadows and District Garden Club - Spring Display. Floral / Plant Display, Devonshire Tea, Sausage Sizzle, Plant sale, Stalls, Raffle. Location Hadfield Community Hall, 88 Middle Street, Hadfield. \$4 entry "cash only" Children free. Contact Enquiries to enquire.badgc@gmail.com

October 28th 12pm - 4pm, 29th 10am - 4pm. Ferny Creek Horticultural Society. Flower Festival.

November 4th 12pm-4pm, 5th 10am-4pm. Pelargonium & Geranium Show. Admission \$5

(cash only). Plants on Show and For Sale. Location N G Wishart Senior Citizens Centre, 964 Nepean Highway, Moorabbin, Mel 77E6.

November 5th. Victorian Iris Society - Iris Show. Iris Rhizomes, Afternoon Teas, Souvenirs, Literature - All for Sale at The Show. Admission \$6, Children U13 FREE. Location Mount Waverley Community Centre 47 Miller Crescent Mount Waverley Opposite the Mt. Waverley Station. Contact Enquiries 0412 457 725

November 11th 9am-4pm, 12th 10am - 3pm. Bromeliad Society of Victoria - The Bromeliad Show. Admission Adults \$5, Seniors \$3. Colourful bromeliad Display, Huge range of bromeliads, inc Tillandsias for sale, Books & Information Available, bring Your own bags. Location N G Wishart Senior Citizens Centre, 964 Nepean Highway, Moorabbin, Mel 77E6. Contact Further information bromsocvic@gmail.com

MEMBERS NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

October: Ken & Shirley Kendall, Lisa Mayer, Joy Raftopoulos & Carolyn Asquith.

We wish you all a wonderful celebration.

FIND THE WORD

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

BATTER

The word this month has 6 letters. What could it be?

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



MONTHLY COMPETITION

October 25th: One Stem Iris.

November 22nd: Three Flowers shown separately.

MONTHLY MEETING

October 25th: Kat Laver - Permaculture.

November 22nd: Yukima Cameron - 'Good bugs', The good, the bad and the bugly; getting to know your garden's bug life and how to get the most out of beneficial insects. Plus Presentation of Monthly Awards.