



# NEWSLETTER

Website: [www.strathgardenclub.com.au](http://www.strathgardenclub.com.au)

Email: [strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com)

Phone contact: 0416 173 573

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## THE STRATHALBYN GARDEN GROUP –a brief history

The formation of the Strathalbyn Garden Group was the vision of two people, Chris Elliott, a local horticulturist and TAFE lecturer, and Chris Ainsworth, who was in charge of the Community Centre in Strathalbyn.

They decided to bring together a group of keen gardeners providing them with an opportunity to socialise, swap plants, seeds and cuttings and share gardening hints and stories.

An advert was placed in the newspaper to invite any keen gardening enthusiasts along to a meeting to gauge if it would be worth forming some sort of Gardening Group.

And so it was, on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 1997, at 1pm, that the inaugural meeting of the Strathalbyn Garden Group was held.

This meeting, sponsored by the **Strathalbyn Community Centre** as part of the **1997 Term 2 Program**, was also shared by Norma Lindner of Milang, and attracted an attendance of approximately 20 men and women, which included members from the recently formed Milang Cottage Garden Club.

Following a general discussion it was agreed to form this new Garden Group and it was decided to meet on the 4th Friday morning of the month between 10am and 12 noon.

The Milang Cottage Garden Club members were thanked for attending the meeting and for helping the Strathalbyn Garden Group get off the ground.

Chris Elliott agreed to run the meetings for the first 12 months. It was decided that the next meeting would be at the Strathalbyn Community Centre on the fourth Friday in June 1997.

It was decided **not** to have a President, Secretary or even a Committee, and to keep the meetings informal.

Some of the keen gardeners who attended that June meeting, in 1997, are in fact still active members today. Other members gradually joined this original team of enthusiasts over the months and it became obvious that the Strathalbyn Gardening Group was destined to be a success.

The Strathalbyn Garden Group met informally for the first 12 months.

On 26<sup>th</sup> June 1998, the members convened at the Community Centre to hold its very first AGM (Annual General Meeting). To their dismay, the Centre had been double-booked on that day. Fortunately, Alexandrina Council solved the immediate problem by allowing the Garden

Group to hold its AGM in the official Council Chambers. And so it was, that the first Strathalbyn Garden Group AGM was held in style, in elegant surroundings.

At this meeting it was unanimously decided that the Group should formally become the **STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB**.

It was decided to introduce an annual subscription of \$5 per member, payable at each July meeting.

A Committee was formed, and those elected were:

President - **Ron Morris**

Vice President - **Norma Lindner**

Secretary - **Thelma Newman**

Treasurer - **Margaret Morris**

Committee Members - **Christine Elliott, Ros Ness & Kay Scott**

The newly named **Strathalbyn Garden Club** became an Incorporated body, with Ron Morris being made the legal Public Officer for the Incorporation.

The Club then became affiliated with the Garden Clubs of Australia. They took out an Insurance Policy, and the Executive Committee later met to draw up a Constitution.

At that meeting there was an attendance of 29 members.

In October of 1998, the Club organised its very first Garden Visit, this included visits to the gardens of Chris and John Watters and Kath Vivian in the morning, followed by lunch in the garden of Ron and Margaret Morris and in the afternoon, visits to the gardens of Louie and Jack Williams, and finally to Colin and Judith Digance.

By July 1999, the Club had outgrown the Community Centre and it was therefore time to find larger accommodation. So, as from August 1999, the Club moved to St Andrews Church Hall.

From that time, the Club has continued to grow with the current membership standing at 165 with a regular attendance of 110 at each meeting.

Ron Morris served as President of the Club for the first 5 years. He was followed by John Watters, Shirley Sampson, Ced Huxter and the current President Norma Keily who has been in the position since 2011.



# STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER/ACTIVITY	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
July 28th	Lorraine Thompson	Herbs and succulents
August 23rd	Neutrog pickup	Walsh Avenue
August 25th	Alice McLeary	Unley Gardeners Plant rescue group
September 22nd	Paul Depuglia	The benefits of Neutrog in the garden
September 22nd	Market Day	Book a space and sell plants and garden items
October 7th Saturday	Cavalcade of Gardens	1pm - 4pm
October 27th	Margaret Jenkins	Irises
October 27th	Annual Bloom Competition	4 categories to enter
November 24th	End of year lunch	Details TBA
January 19th 2018	Andrew Barker	Grow Free

## NEUTROG

## ORDER 2017



The procedure will be the same as in past years.

- ◆ Decide what you need
- ◆ Fill in the order form and place the form and the correct money in an envelope. Details are on the order form.
- ◆ Mark the collection day on your calendar: Wednesday 23rd August 9.30 - 1.00pm Walsh Avenue
- ◆ All enquiries to Frank Chapman 0466 416 314

### GREG THE WORM MAN 0438 808 066

Kilo packs of composting worms

Vermicast for soil improvement

Worm Farms to order

Worm Wee 3 litre & 20 litre containers

Catch me at the Strathalbyn Garden Club meetings!

### STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB MARKET DAY FOR MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 22ND TO BE HELD DURING THE CLUB MEETING.



- Bookings for selling space will be available at the July meeting.
- \$10 for a trestle/ \$5 a card table to be paid at time of booking.
- Members will retain all the proceeds of their sales.
- There will be no raffle at the September meeting.
- The Garden Club will have a sale table for donated items with funds going to the Club.
- Plants offered for sale should be healthy, well grown and clearly labelled.
- Other items offered for sale should be garden related and of a saleable quality
- Help will be needed to manage the day!

### PAYMENTS TO THE TREASURER

- Provide correct money in an envelope with your name and contact details on the front.
- Receipts will be available at the following meeting.
- Keep all receipts as proof of payment.

### SHEEP MANURE for Sale

\$5 / bag (delivered to Strath)

\$5/ bag (collected from farm)

\$20 / collected in trailer, i.e. 6'.4'

Tania & John Richardson

Woodchester

85375011

We're happy to make your garden happy! Spread the word.

### COMPOSTED PIG MANURE

\$9.00 per 27 litre bag

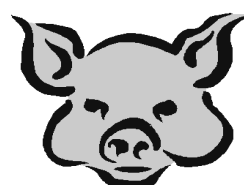
Free delivery in Strathalbyn

Phone 8536 2628

Ros 0428 362 628

Brian 0438 362 628

Practically odourless!



## ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW

Saturday, August 12 &

Sunday, August 13

Staged by Camellias South Australia.

Carrick Hill, 46 Carrick Hill Drive, Springfield.

Countless blooms on display and quality plants for sale. Free admission to show and Carrick Hill grounds. 10am 4.30pm



### COMMITTEE 2017/18

PRESIDENT	NORMA KEILY	8536 6276
SECRETARY	JENNY THOMAS	8536 4275
TREASURER & VICE PRESIDENT	CED HUXTER	8536 2215
ASSISTANT TREASURER	CAROLYN HUXTER	8536 2215
TABLES & PRINTING	JACKIE CHAPMAN	8536 8798
TRIPS & WELCOMING	MARIA MAXWELL	8536 3731

### VOLUNTEERS

MORNING TEA	JAN WITHERS & JULIE WILSON
GUEST SPEAKERS	RUTH FRANCK
NEUTROG	FRANK CHAPMAN
SPECIAL EVENTS	CHRIS PAPPIN
RAFFLE TICKETS	REN TREMAYNE & CHRIS BOURNE
RAFFLE TABLE	HELEN FAIRWEATHER & MARGARET JENKINS
NAMETAGS	JANET JONES

## GARDENAID



### For assistance or to volunteer

contact Mary Golden

Phone 8536 4267

Mobile 0418 800 040

Email: marygolden@bigpond.com

The volunteers have completed the pruning of Yvette's roses and have done some essential garden maintenance for Rex and Shirley Fountain. A request for help has been received from Tania Richardson at Woodchester and additional volunteers may be needed.

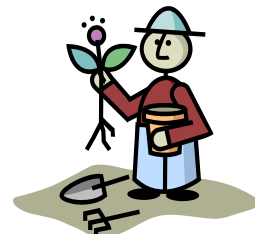
## SA SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL

MT PLEASANT

SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

In conjunction with The Mount Pleasant Farmers Market and with the support of Nursery and Garden Industry SA Inc . 8am - 3pm

The picturesque Mount Pleasant showground, (also known as Talunga Park) has plenty of parking and facilities to cater for large crowds, The SA Spring Garden Festival will showcase a wide selection of plants, garden accessories and information to get you blooming and ready for spring!



**Subs due - \$10.** Correct money in an envelope with your name clearly written on the front.

### DISCOUNT CARD

Swanson's Nursery and Gifts on Callington Road Strathalbyn is generously offering our Garden Club members 10% discount when their membership card is produced at point of purchase at the Nursery.

All members will receive a personalised Membership card (sample below) with the receipt for their 2017/18 subs payment.



**YOUR NAME**  
**MEMBER**  
**STRATHALBYN**  
**GARDEN CLUB**

[www.strathgardenclub.com.au](http://www.strathgardenclub.com.au)

## WILLUNGA ALMOND BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

29th July - 5th August 2017

Take the self guided Blossom Tour visiting Almond Orchards.

Enjoy the Family Fair, Market Stalls and Fireworks on Saturday and Sunday.

Festival Lunches on Monday 31st July, Tuesday 1st August, Wednesday 2nd August, \$25 (booking essential.)

[www.almondblossomfestival.com.au](http://www.almondblossomfestival.com.au)

