



NEWSLETTER

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From the President

It is good to be back! Thank you for voting me in as president of the Garden Club for another year and it is always good to return home from vacation even though it was 30⁰ when we left London and so cold and wet here in Strathalbyn.

The day we left London the morning TV was featuring a story on the importance of gardening to good health and happiness. The London Daily Mail for July 15 reported that a poll of 1500 adults in the UK found that 80% of gardeners feel satisfied with their lives compared with 67% of non-gardeners. Gardening was shown to be the second most popular pastime along side walking or hiking. Research shows that engagement with green places is good for personal health. I am sure if we did a similar survey our results would also be very positive.

Thanks to Ced for standing in so capably at the last meeting and it sounds like I missed a treat with the guest speaker, Vince Davey. I see from the financial report that a lot of orders have been placed for Neutrog products already and it is not too late to have additional orders if placed before the end of July. We are fortunate to have a visit to the factory included in the itinerary for the forthcoming day trip. Something else to look forward too.

I would like to extend my thanks to the retiring members of the committee for their work over the past years and congratulations to Ruth Anderson who has joined the team. I would also like to thank the continuing members of the committee for their support and dedication to the Club. Many hands make light work!

Happy gardening,
Norma Keily

EVERY GARDEN HAS A CASTLE

The itinerary of our organised European Garden Tour tantalisingly offered at least one garden a day for 20 days from Lake Como, to Konstanz, Salzburg, Prague and London. Gardens attached to castles, palaces and stately homes as well as Botanic and research gardens. Not content with those, during our free time we sought out public gardens, street scapes and hanging baskets to delight in and photograph.

Fortunately tours through the castles were included as they gave a bird's eye perspective of the landscape as well as an insight into the lives of the folk who originally enjoyed the ornamental gardens. Statues depicting the ancient Greek Gods and mythical characters abounded, many showing the ravages of time and weather.

The slow start to summer had delayed the growth of many of the plants in the ornamental garden beds especially the roses while the last of the spring flowering azaleas were still providing colour. It was interesting to see old favourites in new settings like the Chinese star jasmine and Magnolia grandiflora in Como and standard Oleanders at Isola Madre. The beautiful flowering dogwood tree in the garden at Isola Bella, the fragrant Linden trees planted on the footpaths in Prague and the majestic copper beech trees used as focal points in many of the woodland gardens also attracted my attention.

It is hard to identify my favourite part of the trip because each stage was different. Weather, hotels, town centres, menus, gardens, tourist attractions and local culture in each of the places we stayed were all so different that they could not be compared to choose a favourite.

The second part of our holiday took in Scotland and although it was not garden focussed we managed to find some interesting examples. One in particular, on our day trip to John O'Groats, in the village of Wick, we stopped to admire a beautifully manicured English style cottage garden. The garden owner welcomed us in to take photographs and to tell us about his garden. Glimpses of backyards, front gardens, allotments and parks from the coach and train windows were also tantalising.

Yes, I have come home with new ideas and plans but first there is weeding and pruning to be tackled and 900 photographs to organise.



Tegernsee, Germany. A callistemon as the centrepiece of the pot display.

Norma Keily

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
July 26th	Prof. Chris Daniels	Backyard Biodiversity
July 26th	Last Day to Pay for the Trip	Last day to pay for Neutrog
August 16th	COACH TRIP	Neutrog, Monarto & State Flora
August 22nd	Neutrog Pick Up	5 Ashbourne Road 10am—1.00pm
August 23rd	Phillipa Lamphee	Geraniums and Pelargoniums
September 7th	Judging for Strath Show	Spring Garden Competition
September 27th	Judy Cross	Angas Plains Wines
October 12th	Cavalcade of Gardens	Strathalbyn
October 25th	Try McKenzie	The potted garden
October 25th	BLOOM COMPETITION	
November 22nd	Christmas Lunch	Details to come.

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB DAY TRIP

Friday 16th August 2013

Departing Strathalbyn 8.30am

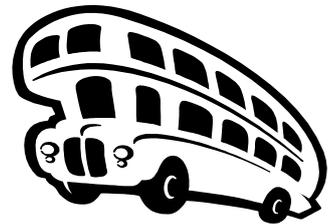
Visit Neutrog at Kanmantoo to see how their products are made

Visit Monarto Zoo for a guided bus tour

Visit State Flora at Murray Bridge

Arriving back at Strathalbyn by 5.00pm

Lunch is either BYO or purchase at the Monarto Zoo. Neutrog will provide morning tea.

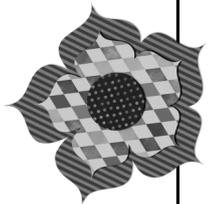


CAVALCADE OF GARDENS - SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2013

It is not too late have your garden included on the route as final details are still being planned and the more gardens the better!

This is not a competition so there is no compulsion to have the garden completely weed free and immaculate.

Keep the day free between 10am and 4pm to drive around with your family and friends for a feast of spring gardens. Refreshments will be available at some gardens and maps will be provided at the September Garden Club meeting



GARDEN CLUBS OF AUSTRALIA DIARY DATES FOR THE TRAVELLER

August

3-4 Berry Camellia & Floral Show held at the Berry School of Arts, Alexandra Street, Berry, NSW
Sat noon-4pm, Sun 10am-2pm. Entry \$4.

9-11 Cymbidium Club of Australia (NSW) National Orchid Extravaganza at the Recreation Centre, Ellerman Park, 25a Kenthrust Rd, Dural NSW.

10-11 The 15th Annual Reticulata Show by Camellia Illawarra Inc at TAFE Function Centre, Foley's Lane Nth Wollongong, NSW. Entry \$4.

10-11 Camellias SA Annual Camellia Show at Carrick Hill, 46 Carrick Hill Drive, Springfield, South Australia. Sat Noon-4.30pm, Sun 10am-4.30pm

16-18 St Ives Orchid Fair & Show at St Ives Showground, Mona Vale Rd, St Ives, NSW. Entry \$5

AUGUST GARDEN TASKS AND HINTS

Rose pruning - even though they may still have leaves on them roses should be pruned before mid August. Cut back a third of the oldest branches and shorten the remaining growth by 40%. Remove all old leaves and bin them.

Prune deciduous Trees and Shrubs as soon as possible.

Evergreen Shrubs should be pruned late in August. Photinias, abelais, oleander and berberis all benefit from a trim.

Fuchsias should be regularly tip pruned to keep the bushes compact.

Strawberry Plants - remove immature fruit and runners and any old leaves.

Protect from snails.

Winter colour in the garden - try polyanthus and cineraria

Look Out for New Plants :

Blueberry Burst- a new Australian bred Blueberry which is early maturing (late winter to spring), evergreen, produces fruit for 3 - 4 months, is naturally dwarf and bred for warmer conditions. It is suited to pot growing and should be planted in an acid potting mix.

Indoor Plants - make sure they have adequate light, are not over heated or in the warm draught from air conditioning, mist the leaves but reduce the amount of water to the soil.

Fertiliser - It takes three weeks for fertiliser to be converted in the soil for plant use so apply to Citrus and Stone Fruit late in August ready for the first burst of growth.

Pome and other fruits should be fertilised in September.

Bulbs in flower should be fertilised fortnightly with a liquid fertiliser high in potash.

Dwarf Stone Fruit Trees are ideal for the back yard as they are compact yet high yielding, can be grown in containers and eliminate the need for ladders! Varieties include apricots, peaches and nectarines.

Vegetable seeds for late winter and spring can be started in pots on a warm window sill.

Beneficial Insects can be encouraged into your garden by growing saltbush varieties - ruby, fragrant and creeping; Correas; Hills daisy Oleara ramalosa; Myoporum.

Attend to perennials - cut back old flowering stalks to ground level; split clumps that have grown too large; mulch around with compost mixed with blood and bone.



N.B.

NEUTROG SALES

Please pick up your order confirmation/receipt from Mary Golden, Treasurer, today and remember to take it to the pick up day on Thursday 22nd August. 10am—1pm from Helen and Rob Fairweathers' at 5 Ashbourne Road.

If you are not able to pick up on the day please phone Norma 85366276 to make alternative arrangements.

Help on the day would be welcome. See Norma

GOT A PROBLEM?

If you have a problem, something to share, need a cutting or seeds or scion wood then the newsletter is a good means of communication. Norma edits the newsletter and will gladly find space for your request.

Email strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com or phone 85366276.

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

If you have been on holidays and have visited interesting gardens and don't mind putting pen to paper why not write a short article for our newsletter?

Photos of interesting gardens, birds, plants or wildlife (not the grand children) are also welcome. Send them to Norma.

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

Just a reminder that the lucky winner of the door prize has first pick from the raffle table and this can be taken before the raffle draw so there is ample time to make a choice.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you have changed your address or phone number or have acquired an email address please tell our Treasurer Mary Golden so that we can keep our records up to date. A check list will be available near the sign in book.

GOT AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

Sign up for the Club Newsletter to be sent electronically.

Also sign up for Jon Lamb's Weekly Garden Reminders

www.gardenandoutdoorliving.com/newsletter.html

SHREDDED ALPACA MANURE

\$3 per bag

An excellent soil conditioner and fertiliser.

775 Old Bull Creek Road,
Strathalbyn.

Norma 85366276

SHEEP MANURE for Sale

\$5 / bag (delivered to Strath)

\$4 / 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.