



NEWSLETTER

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2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT

July has been another month of welcome rain but still more is needed before the end of winter to ensure sub soil moisture is adequate for summer.

With the end of winter in sight it is time to start planning for spring which will bring us a busy round of garden visits from other Garden Clubs as well as our Cavalcade of Gardens in October and the judging of the Strathalbyn Show Spring Garden Competition.

When the weather permits cuttings can be taken of many plants and seeds sown in pots ready for planting out in spring. Pruning is another winter task to be done on a fine day, followed with preventative spraying to deter fungal diseases.

Wet winter days provide an excellent excuse to stay indoors and read gardening books, watch gardening DVDs, and browse through gardening magazines and catalogues. The internet provides access to a wealth of gardening information and many hours could be spent exploring gardens across the world. Almost, but not quite, as good as actually travelling to visit gardens.

Norma Keily

CYMBIDIUM ORCHIDS - GRAHAM MORRIS

Graham Morris started growing cymbidium orchids at the age of 16 and by the time he was 26 and married it had become a semi commercial business selling cut flowers.

In 1999 he purchased Valley Orchids a long established world famous nursery based on the Fleurieu Peninsula and now he is retired and has gone full circle with just a small collection in the back yard.

Orchidaceae is a diverse and widespread family of flowering plants with blooms that are often colourful and often fragrant. It is the most common plant family in the world next to grasses growing naturally in a wide range of habitats. Cymbidium orchids are easy to grow and propagate in a range of sizes including miniatures, standards and large standards. Some have an upright form while others cascade.

Cymbidiums are generally grown only in the southern states of Australia and they require filtered light, a consistent watering and fertilising regime, humidity and hygienic growing conditions. Pests include mice, rats, slugs and snails as well as scale, red spider mite, ring spot virus, mosaic virus and leaf tip die back.

Cymbidium orchids are propagated using tissue culture which can result in many hundreds of plants being produced from a small quantity of original tissue. Australia is a leader in breeding new varieties of cymbidiums with overseas growers source-

ing their stock from our breeders.

New varieties are created by breeding seedlings and there is always demand for new and unique orchids. Consideration has to be given to long flower life as some orchids die after two days while commercial growers are looking for longevity in flowers.



Temperature can affect the colour of flowers while 'splash' petals on orchids only reproduce from back bulbs.

Australia has three species of cymbidium which all grow naturally on the east coast, these are madidum, suave and canaliculatum.

Commercial orchids have all been developed from the wild species.

Orchids prefer to be crowded in their pots which makes fertilising with pellets awkward. Liquid fertilisers are more effective and fertilising with Seamungus during winter encourages root growth.

Orchid Clubs are well represented in Australia with six in Adelaide alone. Shows are held frequently and are open to the public.



SUBS DUE TODAY

\$10 TO THE TREASURER'S TABLE

Please let us know if you have changed your contact details

NEUTROG ORDERS

ORDER FORM AND CORRECT MONEY IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR NAME ON THE FRONT TO FRANCK CHAPMAN AT THE TREASURER'S TABLE.

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER/ACTIVITY	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
July 24th	Michael Coulson	CFS Fire ready
August 21st	Neutrog Delivery	Pick up from Walsh Avenue
August 21st	Murray Bridge Garden Club Visit	
August 28th	Mark Thomas	Gondwana Landscaping & consultancy
September 25th	Jeffrey Reid	Mangroves - Where the land meets the sea
October 10th	Cavalcade of Gardens	Visit local gardens
October 23rd	Kim Syrus	Roses and more
October 23rd	Bloom Competition	3 categories to enter
November 27th	End of year Lunch	Strathalbyn Bowling Club
2016 January 29th	5th Friday to avoid the Tour Down Under	

MURRAY BRIDGE GARDEN CLUB VISIT FRIDAY 21ST AUGUST

ITINERARY (ESTIMATED TIMES ONLY)

9:30am arrive Heather McMurtrie "Burnlea" 100 Burnley Road Bletchley - garden walk.
 10:30 arrive Norma Keily "Serenity" 775 Old Bull Creek Road Strathalbyn. Morning Tea and garden walk.
 12:00 arrive Cynthia Nicholson "Sgorra Bhreac" Marchant Road Strathalbyn. Garden walk and lunch.
 1:45 arrive Studio of Mosaic Art 25 Adelaide Road Strathalbyn. Linda Demasi garden walk and Mosaic talk.
 2:45 arrive Maria Maxwell 5 Haigh Court Garden walk and afternoon tea.
 3:30pm depart for Murray Bridge

HELPERS WANTED

Garden Club members will be needed on the day to act as hosts and travel guides between venues.
 Some assistance with supplying and serving morning and afternoon tea would be welcome.
 Murray Bridge Garden Club members will be carpooling and will supply their own lunch, chair and mug.
 If you are able to assist in any way at any time during the tour please let Norma know. 8536 6276

NEUTROG ORDER

Friday 24th July.

Last day to submit order forms with money

Friday 21st August 9:30am - 1:00pm

Neutrog pickup at Walsh Avenue. (Turn right at the top of Coronation Road).

HELP WANTED.

Able bodied assistance will be needed to take delivery and sort the order.
 Able bodied assistance will be needed to help load the orders into members' cars.
 Members assisting with the Murray Bridge Garden Visit which is on the same day will need to make alternative arrangements to collect their orders.
 Frank Chapman is organising the Neutrog order this year. phone: 8536 8798
 mobile 0466 416 314
 email: fchapman44@googlemail.com
Offers of help to Frank please.

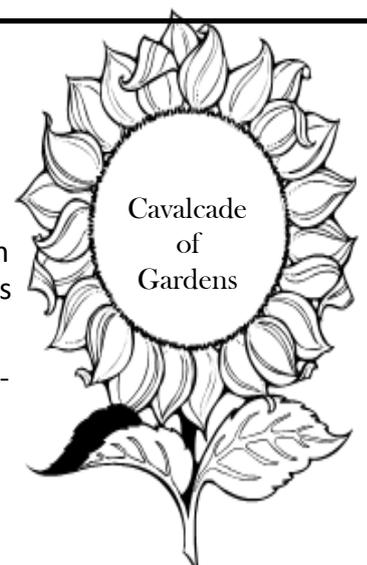


THE CAVALCADE OF GARDENS SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 1PM - 4PM

This is not a competition and perfection is not required. It is merely the pleasure in having other folk enjoying your patch of earth and showering you with compliments on what you have achieved.

The day is free to members and their families and friends. Mark the date in your diaries. Details and maps will be made available closer to the date.

If you would like to volunteer your garden or just need more details speak to Jenny Thomas 8536 4275 or email jnd115@bigpond.com



SPRING BLOOM COMPETITION

The October Garden Club meeting has traditionally incorporated the bloom competition and this year will be no different.

As usual there will be three categories - Ornamental, Native and Pot Plant.

Members may have one entry in each category and it would be greatly appreciated if the exhibits were labelled with common and/or botanic plant names.

Two or three people will be needed to manage the day - arriving early to set up the room, fill the bottles with water and then receive and record the entries. All equipment is supplied.

Help is also needed to pack up at the end of the meeting.

In previous years the display has been spectacular and if we start preparing now 2015 could surpass previous efforts..

Offers of help to Norma or a committee member please.



GARDEN VISITS

Our Club regularly receives requests from other Clubs and groups for gardens to visit in and around Strathalbyn.



It is always a rewarding experience for the garden owners as visitors are genuinely enthusiastic and complimentary. They do not expect perfection just a warm welcome and a home garden experience.

I am currently needing additional gardens to visit on 21st August, 14th September and 22nd September. In spring Strathalbyn gardens are spectacular so please consider sharing yours.

Visitors often look for plants and produce to purchase as well.

Thanks to the garden owners who have already volunteered:

21st August - **Murray Bridge Garden Club** - Heather McMurtrie

14th September - **Victor Harbor Garden Club** - Ren Tremayne & Louie Williams

22nd September - Dawn Hill

Bordertown Garden Club is also planning a two day trip to Strathalbyn sometime in spring. More details to come.

Talk to Norma Keily 8536 6276.

COMPOSTED PIG MANURE

\$7.00 per 27 litre bag

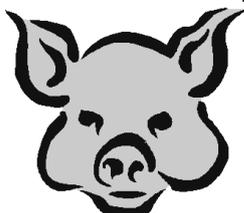
Free delivery in Strathalbyn

Phone 8536 2628

Ros 0428 362 628

Brian 0438 362 628

Practically odourless!



N.B.

SIGNING IN

Members are reminded that it is important to sign the Attendance Register on arrival and when picking up your name badge for the meeting so that our record keeping for insurance purposes is accurate.

Apologies can be recorded with an A in the appropriate column.

Known future apologies can be recorded in the space provided.

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.

2015/16 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	NORMA KEILY
SECRETARY	JENNY THOMAS
TREASURER	MARY GOLDEN
HOSTESS & TRIPS	MARIA MAXWELL
NEWSLETTER & TABLES	JACKIE CHAPMAN
GUEST SPEAKER	VACANT

SUPPORT

RAFFLE	REN TREMAYNE
MORNING TEA	YVETTE HOLDSWORTH & ANNELIE DALY
BLOOM COMPETITION	VACANT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE CLUB.

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!

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.