



NEWSLETTER

Website: www.strathgardenclub.com.au
Email: strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com
Phone contact: 0416 173 573

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After seven years at the helm of the Strathalbyn Garden Club as President, I feel I am beginning to master the role. Setting up for the monthly meetings has settled into a routine beginning with jiggling the key in the locks to open the various doors, turning on lights, moving tables and arranging chairs. I am grateful that Ced Huxter manages the task of setting up the sound system and Audio visual equipment before heading for the Treasurer's table as Carolyn starts the prep for morning tea and Jackie Chapman arranges the sellers table. Prior to meeting day there is the newsletter to prepare for printing as well as writing an article for the Southern Argus and remembering to book a table at Jack's Café for the committee's lunch meeting which follows the Club meeting.

It is always a pleasure each month to be able to greet members as they arrive and to watch as the hall gradually fills. Attendance at meetings has remained steady over the year but is often dependent on the weather, dipping in the hot months and in mid-winter when so many Strathalbyn people head north. Membership sits between 150 and 160 and it is heartening to realise the continuing popularity of the Strathalbyn Garden Club.

Guest speakers for the year have been well received and we have been treated to a wide range of interesting topics. Thanks to Ced and Caroline Huxter and Ruth Franck for all their efforts in co-ordinating the speakers.

We have enjoyed talks ranging from Growing Capers with Brian Noone; Althorpe Island Conservation Park presented by Michiel Lucieer and the history and design of Oriental Gardens with Elizabeth Caldicott. In January local resident Andrew Barker spoke about establishing the Grow Free carts and in October 2017 Margaret Jenkins presented a delightful, illustrated talk about iris.

Edmund Gooden from Belvidere has demonstrated the health care products created from his locally grown *Eremophila alternifolia*, Sandalwood and Native Pine and Lorraine Thompson of Hillside Herbs and Succulents visited to share her enthusiasm and knowledge.

Paul Depuglia from Neutrog Australia Pty Ltd gave an entertaining talk about new products and the benefits of using the many Neutrog products in the garden. The ability to order Neutrog products at very reasonable rates continues to be popular with members and we greatly appreciate the support of the Strathalbyn Lions as they permit use of their depot on Walsh Avenue for the distribution of the supplies.

At the September meeting we held a Market Day to provide Club members with the opportunity to book a table and sell garden related items. Although quite well supported by members the committee decided that we would not attempt it again.



The Cavalcade of Gardens continues to be a highlight on the calendar and the weather on Saturday 7th October was fine and warm as members visited the gardens of Annie Hughes, Jan and Grahame Daniel, Joy and Chris Bourne and Barbara and Colin Colquhoun. Four very different gardens all offering ideas and inspiration to Club members and their families and friends.

The annual Bloom Competition was well supported as usual and the range and quality of blooms and pot plants entered for judging by members is always high despite the vagaries of spring weather. Having the blooms displayed for judging in the main body of the hall meant members had greater access to them as they placed their voting buttons. Thanks to Bob Pappin for managing the event.

During the year car pool visits were made to Sacred Grove and Talinga Grove ending with lunch at the Bridge Hotel and on a hot October day to Mandalay on Back Callington Road. We are continually grateful to Maria Maxwell for her organisational skills in planning the excursions.

Our Garden Club participated in the inaugural Australian National Gardening Week October 8th – 14th by delivering congratulatory postcards into the letter boxes of attractive gardens in the community.

Good fiscal management of Club funds is vital and we have been fortunate that our Treasurer Ced Huxter has carried out the role diligently and efficiently and the records are in good order. The raffle table continues to be a major drawcard at meetings with an excellent range of produce, plants and garden accessories. Along with the Sellers table and the Donations Table the income from the raffle ticket sales is almost sufficient to cover the monthly running costs of the Club. Although running costs for the club continue to rise the annual subscriptions have been kept to \$10 for another year.

Thank you to all the volunteers who assist the committee members in the smooth running of the Club. Special thanks to our committee for their on-going commitment and their willingness to rise to new challenges.

Norma Keily

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER/ACTIVITY	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
June 22nd	AGM	Subs Due \$10
June 22nd	John Zwar	Pt Augusta Arid Lands Botanical Gardens update
July 18th	Neutrog Pickup 9.30 - Noon	Lions Shed Walsh Avenue Strathalbyn
July 27th	Alice McCleary	Unley Gardeners Plant rescue group
August 24th	Paul Depuglia	Neutrog - the latest developments
August 25th & 26th	SA Garden Rally	Cornerstone College Mt Barker + local gardens
September 28th	Jan Forrest	Great Victoria Desert
October 6th	Cavalcade of Gardens	
October 19th	Paech Farm and Highcroft Garden Visit	Car pool, full day trip.
October 25th	Bloom Competition	Best blooms in 4 categories
October 25th	Margaret Jenkins	Water irises
November 23rd	End of Year Lunch	The Oval Function Centre

CUT ABOVE GARDEN TOOLS.

Trevor from Cut Above Tools prefers to visit field days, shows, garden clubs and garden societies where he can explain and demonstrate his tools and so that gardeners can try before they buy.

Points of interest from the demonstration:

- ⇒ All parts are replaceable at very reasonable cost and all tools have a 2year manufacturer's guarantee against faulty workmanship.
- ⇒ Keep tools clean 30% metho in 70% warm water.
- ⇒ Use an appropriate sharpening tool with a small amount of oil.
- ⇒ If secateurs get stuck pull them out at the same angle they went into the wood.
- ⇒ On roses use a saw for dry wood not secateurs or loppers.
- ⇒ The springs on their tools are designed not to 'pop out'
- ⇒ Clean the anvil on 'Anvil Secateurs'
- ⇒ Use the right tool for the job - do not cut wire with secateurs.
- ⇒ Ratchet secateurs and ones with rotating handles can be helpful to arthritis sufferers.
- ⇒ Left handed secateurs are available.
- ⇒ Their gardening gloves are thorn and cut proof and are available in a wide range of sizes from the Strath Neighbourhood centre
- ⇒ Orange tools are easier to find in the garden!

Thanks to Annelie Daly and Althea Grove for assisting with the demonstrations.

GARDEN CLUB SUBS DUE \$10

Correct money in an envelope with your details on the front to the Treasurer

or EFT Strathalbyn Garden Club Inc
 BSB 105019 Account Number 037 873 640
 with your name in the remitter line.
 Email cchuxter@aussiebb.com.au to confirm

SHEEP MANURE FOR SALE

\$5/ bag

\$20 collected in a trailer (6X4)

Tania & John Richardson

Woodchester

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

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!

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!



GARDEN RELATED SHOWS AND EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED

Saturday 25th - Sunday 26th August 2018

SA Garden Rally 2018 - "Down the Garden Path" Cornerstone College Theatre \$95 per person covers speakers, garden visits, morning and afternoon tea and lunch. Plus first choice of the plant sale. Registrations close July 31st.

Details and registration form in our April 2018 newsletter or spare copies available from the Treasurer's table.

Saturday August 25th 11 - 4pm - Sunday August 26th 10am - 3pm .

Down the Garden Path - rare, unusual & interesting plant sale Cornerstone College Mt Barker \$5 entry



Saturday 22nd September 2018

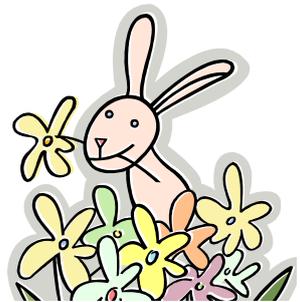
SA Spring Garden Festival Mount Pleasant at the Mount Pleasant Showgrounds Melrose St Mount Pleasant 8am - 3pm entry \$5 great range of stalls featuring quality plants, garden furniture, décor and garden care products. Guest Speakers.

Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd September 9am - 4.30pm

Currency Creek Arboretum - Open each day. Guided 1 hour tours 10am and 2pm each day. Adelaide Place Currency Creek. **(Sign posted on the corner of the Strath to Goolwa Road and Adelaide Place about 1.5 km north of Currency Creek.** Book sales, plant sales, drinks and snacks available. Good walking shoes needed for rough terrain.

Sunday September 23rd

Port Elliot Garden Day Port Elliot - various locations around the town. Bookings required through the Open Gardens SA Website. - check their website closer to the date for details and to book.



Saturday 20th - Sunday 21st October (plus some activities on Friday 19th October)

SPRING INTO BURRA GARDEN EXPO

Approximately 14 gardens open to visitors over the weekend in Hallett, Mt Bryan, Farrell Flat and Burra showcasing the skills of gardening in the difficult conditions of the area - frost, hot harsh summers and limited water.

The Burra Regional Art Gallery will mount an exhibition "The art of the flower and Garden"

High profile guest speakers including Trevor Nottle, Amanda Reynolds, Sophie Thomson, Demonstrations and Workshops.

Self guided walks, self guided tours and \$40 bus trip to secret gardens and historic homestead. Public gardens.

27th & 28th October 2018

SA Iris Show. Saturday 11 - 5 Sunday 10 - 4pm \$5 entry Goodwood Community Centre Rosa St Goodwood. - displays, floral art, plant sales

Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show 27th - 31st March 2019

March 2019 is a five Friday month again so this iconic show will not clash with the Strathalbyn Garden Club meeting.



HERE'S A THOUGHT!

Why not combine a trip to the Arid Lands Botanic Garden at Pt Augusta (144 Sturt Highway, open daily from 9am) with a visit to Burra's Garden Expo? Take a few days either side of the weekend 20th - 21st October for a 'short break' and still be back in time for the club meeting 25th October.

Strath to Burra - 204 kms = roughly 3 hours driving

Burra to Pt Augusta - 200 kms = 2.5 hours driving approximately

Pt August to Strathalbyn - 360kms = 4.5 hours driving unless a stop is made at the Virginia Garden Centre!

Plenty of accommodation options around Burra and Pt Augusta with other points of interest along the way. Why not travel with friends!





STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

General Meeting held at St Andrews Hall
Friday, 25th May 2018

Meeting commenced: AT 10am President Norma remarked on what a lovely cold morning it is and thanked everyone for turning out. Note that Maria is away today but we have managed. A reminder to switch off mobiles, sign in and record apologies please.

Welcome Visitors: Sarah Keough, Rae Edwards **New Members:** Tracy Cross, Noreen Wendelborn

Attendance: 85 **Apologies:** 15 **Lucky Door Prize:** Grace Stead.

Announcements & Correspondence

Neutrog Order if possible please have your order and payment in by the end of this meeting. It can also be done on line.

Cavalcade of Gardens 6th October. As this is National Gardening Week 2018, we will try to do something special. There is a possibility to involve Sophie Thomson as a guest. The implications of this to be thought through. Helen Fairweather, Bridget Knight, Penny Fairweather and Shirley & Rex Fountain have offered their gardens.

AGM next month – We are a 6 people committee and we would really like to increase this number by 1 or 2 in order to facilitate a succession plan. Please consider becoming a member, it does not take up much of your time. Nomination forms available.

Minutes of the last meeting: 27th April 2018 page 4 in the newsletter **Moved:** B. Merrick **Seconded:** J. Kent

Business Arising: Nil

Treasurer: Subscriptions are coming in on line. If you do this please include your name plus subs to enable correct recording.

Member's talk: Tania Richards asked members to become more involved with Face Book. She would like to see it expanded within the club.

Margaret Jenkins spoke about the Garden Clubs Convention. The Liliium Society is running this event to be held in the hall at Corner Stone College Mt. Barker. August 25 – 11am-4pm August 26th 10am -3pm \$5.00 entry. You chance to find some rare plants. Victoria Bulbs with be there, plus lots more.

Guest Speaker Trevor from Cut Above Garden Tools demonstrated his companies tools.

Next Meeting Friday 22nd June AGM