



NEWSLETTER

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From The President,

Autumn is well and truly here with variable weather, shorter days and cool nights.

While the soil is still warm and moist from the recent rains it is an excellent time to plant out seedlings of all the brassicas - kale, cabbages, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and cauliflowers. I like to plant the more colourful varieties of vegetables to add interest to the colour palette of the garden. The brilliant lime green, purple and orange cauliflowers, rainbow chard and frilly red Russian kale are all colourful additions to the vegetable patch.

I have given up growing the colourful red flowered broad beans as crops planted in previous years have not borne fruit and it is such a disappointment to nurture the plants through winter and not end up with any pods in spring.

With many garden plants showing healthy new growth now is also an excellent time to take cuttings for propagating. The workshop held in the park on 6th March was well attended and many cuttings were potted up for the Eden Valley Fires Garden Recovery Project. Let's hope they all take root and grow ready to be handed over in August.

Norma Keily

WANTED: PLANTS

As some of you know, Open Gardens Australia have invited me to open my garden and, after much hesitation, I have agreed.

It is to be open on September 20th & 21st 2014. Much of what I have to show has been bought in tubes, and as small plants at markets.

Many plants suffered or died when offered salty bore water this summer, so the garden isn't as lush or full as desired.

If anyone has, or knows anyone else who may have, plants of any size or description that are unwanted, I would love to offer them a home in my garden. A money tree is what I would really like (I would make sure that it received rain water!)

If you would like me to do the digging, let me know so a visit can be planned.

Many thanks!

Tania Richardson 85375011 / 0428170983



OPEN GARDENS AUSTRALIA PLANT STALL

Tania Richardson has invited Strathalbyn Garden Club to stock a plant stall at her Open Garden on the Saturday of the weekend of September 20th and 21st 2014. The funds raised from the plant sales could be donated to the Eden Valley Fire Recovery Fund.

FRUIT TREE PRUNING DEMONSTRATION AND PRACTICE.

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL AT - 9:30AM - 1A BERRY SMITH DRIVE.

Rex and Shirley Fountain have a variety of fruit trees that we can use to demonstrate different pruning techniques.

Dress for the weather as we will carry on regardless. Bring your pruning tools. Morning tea supplied.

RSVP to Norma 85366276 by Tuesday 8th for catering purposes.



EDEN VALLEY FIRES GARDEN RECOVERY PROJECT

We can help by propagating cuttings of hardy perennial plants that are drought and frost tolerant, will grow in a range of soils and are suited to full sun or part shade.

Suitable plants might include: pentstemons, geraniums, perennial wallflowers, lavenders, rosemary, carpet roses and daisies.

Many Australian natives like correas, grevilleas, crowea, and eremophila also grow well from cuttings although some may be slow to develop roots.

Some plants propagate well from root cuttings including

many of the salvias and herbs as well as chrysanthemums. When dividing iris, lirioppe, dianella, agapanthus and any other similar plants pot some for the project. Succulents are also suitable for propagating.

Please ensure that clean pots and sterile potting soil is used so that the risk of spreading soil borne diseases is reduced. All plants should be indelibly labelled with as much detail as possible.

Late developing plants could be suitable for Tania's stall. Our collection day will be the August 22nd meeting.

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
March 28th	Chris Perry	Perrys' Fruit and Nut Nursery
April 23rd	Visit to Sophie Thomson's Garden	Meet 1pm at Railway Station to share rides
April 25th	NO MEETING due to ANZAC Day	
May 9th	Coach Trip	See advert for details
May 23rd	Bloom Competition	1 entry in each category per member
May 23rd	Vince Davies	Neutrog Update and Q & A
June 27th	AGM	Consider nominating for the committee
June 27th	Sophie Thomson	"Spring into action"

COMING EVENTS

ENFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN SHOW

SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 12 - 5

SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 10 - 4

KLEMZIG COMMUNITY HALL, 242 NORTH EAST RD

TASTING AUSTRALIA

TASTE A GLOBAL GARDEN AT THE ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDENS daily 27th April - 4th May 11am - 12.30

Join the Garden Guides on a tasting tour of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. \$5 Bookings required phone 8226 8803.

AUSTRALIAN PLANT SOCIETY

AUTUMN PLANT SALE

Adelaide Showground,
Wayville, 26th -27th April

Not only do we have many thousands of plants available – many of them rare and unusual, but we can offer advice from horticulturalists and soils experts, books on gardening which are seldom available in bookstores, propagation workshops and much more.

SHREDDED ALPACA MANURE BLENDED WITH COFFEE GROUNDS

\$3 per bag

An excellent soil conditioner and
fertiliser.

775 Old Bull Creek Road,
Strathalbyn.

Norma 85366276

AUTUMN COACH TRIP

FRIDAY 9TH MAY

\$20 to be paid by March 28th

Depart 9am return 5pm

from the Strathalbyn Railway Station

Visiting:

Windmill Hill recycling Depot Mt Barker

Mt Lofty Botanic Gardens for guided tour

Lunch - Bring your own

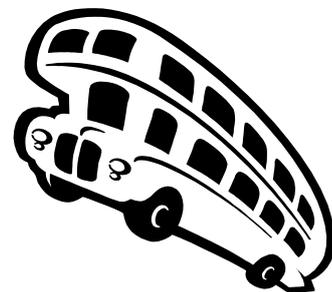
Tour 2 private gardens in Crafers

Trevor Nottle and the Roachs'.

The Depot Nursery Mt Barker.

Pit stops and afternoon tea are

scheduled as well!



OPEN GARDENS AUSTRALIA 2014

The annual Guide is now available at bookshops and news agencies for \$19.95

Most gardens are open 10am—4.30pm both days with an entry fee of \$7 (under 18 free)

March 29 - 30

Tupelo Grove: 104 Bradbury Rd Mylor. Hardy Mediterranean plants and salvias.

April 5 - 6

Panmure - 32 Sturt Valley Rd, Stirling. An historic garden with year round interest from maples, azaleas, camellias, clivias and laburnum.

April 12 - 13

The Prickly Pair House - 63 Sturdee St, Linden Park. A contemporary garden with massed plantings in strongly themed areas.

April 27

Scary Gully Gardens - 282B Deviation Rd, Carey Gully. A wonderful collection of 1000 trees, many of them rare fill the garden which runs for one kilometre along the valley floor. Swamp cypress beside the lake are an autumn highlight. 25 acre garden.

VISIT TO SOPHIE THOMSON'S GARDEN

394 Springs Road Mt Barker.

Wednesday 23rd April 1.30 - 4.00 pm

\$10 entry includes afternoon tea to be paid by March 28th

1.00 pm Meet at the Strathalbyn railway station to car pool.

Parking will be in the paddock at Sophie's.

Dress for the weather as there is no shelter and wear covered shoes because there is manure.

Sophie will also have her garden open with Open Gardens Australia 18th & 19th October 2014 and on that weekend there will be plant sales, refreshments, guest speaker program and more.

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.

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!

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.

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.

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.

SELLERS TABLE

It was decided at the January Committee meeting that Sellers may give a donation either in cash or kind for the privilege of using the **Sellers Table**. The choice and amount is up to their discretion. We encourage members to make use of this service as well as to continue making donations to the **Donations Table**.

GARDEN HELP

Later in the year three of our members will be opening their gardens with Open Gardens Australia. Maggie Minchin, Tania Richardson and Joy & Chris Bourne might be delighted if Club members would offer some volunteer time to help in the preparation of their gardens. Working Bee times will be planned closer to the dates but help might be needed earlier with pruning, weed control and planting.

Assistance during their Open weekends might also be appreciated. It is a great opportunity to meet other gardeners and promote Strathalbyn.

FLEURIEU REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITY

CINDY MOLLER



South Australia is one of the leaders when it comes to recycling, with more than 70% of our waste sent to recycling facilities each year. However there is still room for improvement. Putting the wrong items in your recycling bin can contaminate the whole load, meaning valuable material that could be recycled, ends up being sent to landfill instead.

FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING

Most people tend not to think of food scraps as having an adverse impact on the environment because it is biodegradable. However, most food scraps end up in landfill where they create methane, a greenhouse gas with 21 times the warming potential of carbon dioxide. Wasted food also wastes the energy, water, money and resources used to produce, process, store and transport it.

WHAT CAN GO INTO THE GARDEN ORGANICS BIN?

Anything that once grew can be put in your green organics bin for composting. So remember, if it grows, then it goes in your green organics bin! This includes garden organics and food scraps including:

- lawn clippings, prunings, small branches, twigs, leaves and weeds
- fruit and vegetable scraps, cake, takeaway foods, bread, teabags and coffee grounds
- meat scraps, bones (cooked and raw), eggshells, oyster shells and seafood
- pizza boxes, shredded paper, tissues and paper towels
- cheese and yoghurt

and even hair

Just make sure you keep plastics and other inorganic waste out of your green organics bin. Plastic bags are not compostable - avoid them, or put them in your rubbish bin. Only compostable bags should go in compost.

RECYCLING BASICS

Some points to remember when preparing your household recyclables are:

- Remove the lids: plastic bottle lids are usually made from different materials to the bottle itself and can't yet be easily recycled. Steel jar lids can be recycled, but remove them before you put them in the recycling bin.
- Give them a quick rinse: when it comes to recycling, it doesn't need to be spotless or have the label removed, but to cut down on vermin and odour problems in your bin, make sure they are reasonably clean.
- Flatten your cardboard: the machinery that sorts your recyclables is far more effective if cardboard boxes are flattened out. Bundling newspapers together can also hamper the sorting process, so keep them separate.

Separate the component parts of recyclables: if something contains components of different types of materials, separate them out before recycling. For example, if junk mail is wrapped in plastic, be sure to remove the wrapping and put it in the waste bin before recycling the paper.

WORM FARMS

Worms are the ideal new age pet—they take up very little room, they don't smell unless they are 'sick', they don't cost a fortune in vet's fees and they turn food scraps into garden or pot plant fertiliser.

DEAD LIGHT GLOBES

In the dark about where to dispose of used light globes? Recycle them for FREE at Banner Hardware, Mitre 10 or True Value Hardware.



NO MEETING FRIDAY 25TH APRIL

Next Meeting Friday 23rd May Guest Speaker Vince Davey from Neutrog

+ Bloom Competition