



# NEWSLETTER

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### From The President,

The garden focus in October began with the presentation of awards to the various competition winners at the Strathalbyn Show with club members well represented. Congratulations. The following weekend what a delight it was to visit the gardens of our members who volunteered to participate in the Cavalcade of gardens. The effort involved in preparing the gardens and the hospitality extended to all the visitors is greatly appreciated. I am sure many of our members are nurturing pot plants to be donated to the stall at the Glenbarr Highland Gathering on Saturday 26th and there may even be some folk who will be taking time to enjoy the 'Body in the Garden' Festival at the Botanic Gardens. On Wednesday we had the pleasure of hosting a visit to three of our gardens by the Volunteers from the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. The visitors enjoyed lunch at 'Serenity' catered for by our club members and they also visited Maggie Minchin's and the Fairweathers' gardens. In between all these activities I am preparing our garden for the three open days with Open Gardens Australia plus there are all the usual spring tasks to be done in the paddocks. Slashing and weed spraying to reduce the fuel load, clearing branches blown down in the recent storms and tending the animals. Fortunately there is still time at the end of the day to sit and enjoy the sunsets.

Norma Keily

### Judy Cross Angas Plains Winery

Phillip's great great grand parents Philip & Lydia Cross sailed out to Australia from Plymouth, England on the "Amazon" Australia arriving at Port Adelaide on the 8th April 1856.

In February 1858 Phillip & Lydia Cross packed their belongings and children, travelled south and settled at Belvidere near Strathalbyn. They started the Belvidere brickworks and eventually became farmers of the land. Phillip is the fifth generation to still live in the district and work the land.

Phillip bought into a Private pipeline to deliver River Murray Water to the property providing the opportunity to re-develop the mixed farm into a vineyard.

In 1993 Phillip carefully selected vine material which he used to develop his own vineyard nursery and this was the start of Angas Plains Estate. Care was taken to layout the vineyard so that there was easy access for machinery. Working only on weekends the infrastructure for the vineyard was established and 6000 cuttings suited to the local soil and conditions were grown. Soil care was a priority with gypsum and turkey manure added along with soil microbes to improve the structure and water holding capacity. The vines were mulched with straw.

In 1994 the first Cabernet Sauvignon was planted.

Together Phillip and Judy continued to develop a new block of vines each year, finishing with Chardonnay in 2002. Vintage is a busy time in the vineyard with all grapes being machine harvest-

ed. Harvest also heralds the grape stomping fun lunch.

In 2002 Angas Plains Estate produced it's first vintage of wine. A very small crush to produce PJ's Cabernet Sauvignon.

In 2003 production increased to produce PJ's Shiraz and PJ's Cabernet Sauvignon, with production increasing year. Quality oak barrels are used to help produce the right flavour. Their motto is Real people, Real food, Real fun and Real wine. And to share this philosophy the cellar door was built in 2005. It is now open 7 days a week with tastings and food available every day. The alfresco area can seat 80 people and is available for weddings and functions and with its picturesque



outlook it makes an ideal location for special events.

Judy came from a citrus and apricot growing background and enjoys experimenting with the fruit to develop tasty condiments and preserves. Some lines for example the PJ's Cabernet Crush and the PJ'S Apricot Crush (delicious on scones) are being exported to Hong Kong.

In their own garden they have Manchurian pears lining the drive and the vegetable garden produces the herbs for the menu.

All the wines produced are vegan and there is minimal pesticide use in the vineyard. There are gluten free dishes on the menu and Judy takes great delight in matching meals to the wines produced.

### Annual Subs Now Over Due

If your name appears in mauve in the attendance register then your subs are now overdue. Our Treasurer Mary Golden will accept your \$10 renewal today.

# STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
October 25th	Troy McKenzie	The potted garden
October 25th	BLOOM COMPETITION	
November 22nd	Christmas Lunch	Strathalbyn Bowling Club
December 27th	No Meeting	
2014 January 24th	John Zwar	The Waite Institute and Arboretum & Urrbrae.
February 28th	Esther Landells	Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority - Recycling
March 28th	Chris Perry	Perrys' Fruit and Nut Nursery
April 25th	NO MEETING due to ANZAC Day	

## Diary Dates

### Saturday 26th October

Glenbarr Highland Gathering. Glenbarr celebrates their Scottish heritage with an open day at the historic homestead. Features pipes, drums, haggis, highland dancers, vintage cars and stalls including a plant stall convened by Strathalbyn Garden Club.

**HELP to run the stall would be greatly appreciated anytime during the day, speak to Norma if you are available.**

### Saturday 26th October

SA Begonia Society Spring Show at Klemzig Community Hall 242 Nth East Rd, Klemzig, SA. 10am-4pm. Entry \$2.

### Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October

Rose Society of SA Spring Show at Burnside City, Uniting Church, 384 Portrush Rd, Tusmore Sat. 12 - 5pm. Sun 1 - 4.30

### Friday 25th to Sunday 27th October

'The Body in the Garden' South Australian Crime and Garden Writers Festival. Free. Program for Saturday and Sunday commences at 9.30 am in the Botanic Gardens.

### Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October

Renmark Rose Festival last two days. Everything roses plus music and food.

## Garden hints

### Chives

Chives are just about disease free and the only pests of any problem are thrips. These can start off as one or two, but overnight they explode into a mass of chive feasting monsters. They look like small black aphids, and like aphids, these thrips will suck the sap from your chive leaves and ultimately kill the plant.

Rub the first few thrips off with your fingers and you'll usually fix the problem, but if not give them an organic spray. Try this recipe: 2 drops of dish washing detergent, 1 teaspoon each of baking soda, cooking oil of any kind and salt Put the items in a 1 litre. spray bottle and fill it with water, and spray as needed.

Otherwise Eco Oil or Natrasoap should work..

Sometimes with growing chives, you may find the plant drying up and looking a bit weak. All you need to do is cut the leaves a little and trim off all dead stalks. This will rejuvenate the plant which will soon start putting out new leaves. Regularly thin the clumps and leave plenty of space between the bulbs when replanting. Diligently trim off flowers to encourage leaf growth. Add fertiliser regularly.

## Meadow Hay for Garden Mulch

Large quantities of meadow hay suitable for garden mulch is available free from Sue and Trevor at Adaminca Alpacas. Cambrai pick up. Phone 0417 841 009.

## Strathalbyn Garden Club End of Year Christmas Lunch

Friday 22nd November 12 noon.

Strathalbyn Bowling Club \$25 per person.

Traditional roast lunch.

Payment and numbers due by October 25th meeting.

Special dietary requirements catered for but please inform the committee when paying.

## Open Gardens Australia 2013 –14

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)

November 2 - 3

**Ashgrove Iris Garden** - 53 Albert St Gumeracha. A stunning mass of bearded iris plus roses, lilacs and bulbs in a stunning garden.

**Prestige Park** - 246 Stamps Rd Flaxley. Award winning garden with a spectacular explosion of spring colour.

**Denella Downs** - 39 Summit Rd Meadows. Drought tolerant garden with roses, lovely trees and a spectacular view.

**Serenity** - 775 Old Bull Creek Rd Strathalbyn. Country garden with large biodynamic vegetable garden and ornamental garden.

November 9 - 10

**Heathcote** - 104A Longwood Rd, Heathfield. Secluded garden with lots to see.

**Beechwood** - 36 Snows Rd Stirling. Historic garden.

**Glen Lea** - 289 Long Valley Rd Wistow. Well designed stylish garden with hardy drought tolerant plants.

November 23 - 24

**Whiterod Garden** - 292 Mt Barker Rd Aldgate. Well designed cool garden designed around a dry creek bed.

November 30 - December 1

**Beverina Garden** - 2 Silver Rd Bridgewater. Gardens under restoration around a 19th Century stone house. Two lakes, a stream and a landscaped dam.

### **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.

## 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](mailto:strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com) or phone 85366276.

## Bonsai Plants

Brian Scott ph 8536 4038 has four Bonsai Plants that need anew home. If you have the space and would like them please contact Brian for details.

## 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.

## Donations Table

If you have excess produce, too many seedlings, an excess of cuttings that have grown, bulbs, pot plants or any garden related items to share why not offer them to our Donations Table. Plant items should be labelled for ease of identification. Funds raised support the Club.

## New from Neutrog

Neutrog are pleased to announce the arrival of **Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus** - the NEW addition to Neutrog's unique 'Signature Range' of products.

A premium organic based, chemically boosted fertiliser, Gyganic is specifically developed to enhance size, quality and taste. Gyganic is manufactured into a pellet form for uniform nutrient uptake and ease of application.

Following successful trials, Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus has been endorsed by the Rare Fruit Society SA Inc. This endorsement provides you with the confidence to use and recommend this product.

Gyganic for Fruit and Citrus is now available at leading garden centres.

## Neutrog Left Overs

There are still a few items from our August Neutrog delivery that have been paid for but not claimed. See Mary Golden for details.