



NEWSLETTER

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October
2017

OPEN GARDENS SA SPRING OPEN GARDENS

All open 10am - 4pm - \$8.

Oct 27th - 1st Nov

Aberfoyle

213 School Road
Kongorong

28th - 29th October

Ashgrove Iris Garden

53 - 55 Albert St
Gumeracha

4th - 5th November

Anna's Garden

46 Gladys St
Clarence Gardens

Wairoa

142 Mt Barker Rd
Aldgate

11th - 12th November

Clear View

102 Strathalbyn Rd
Stirling

Wahroonga

31 William Road
Worrolong

Highcroft

231 Mail Road
Harrogate

18th - 19th November

Etre - Spring

10 Delaney Avenue
Willunga

18th - 20th November

☺Sophie's Patch ☺

394 Springs Road
Mt Barker

25th - 26th November

Nantara

32 Heysen Road
Verdun

Semmens Interesting Garden

33 Torrens St
Torrensville

Taronga

2 Waverley Ridge Road
Stirling

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you all for indulging my whim to hold the Market Day during our September meeting. Your patience and tolerance as we rearranged the program and the hall layout to accommodate the market was appreciated and the day proved to be quite successful. However it will probably not be included in the program for 2018.

Members are reminded that there is a "Seller's" table at each meeting available to anyone with garden items to sell. Bookings can be made with Jackie Chapman 8536 8798.

Our Knitted Garden was used at the Strath Show as a back drop to the Spring Garden Competition display and again received many compliments.

The Cavalcade of Gardens was once again a lovely day and many members and their friends and families took the opportunity to enjoy the four lovely gardens. The diversity in garden styles was a highlight this year, each one being unique and in sympathy with its surroundings. We extend a sincere thankyou to the gardeners for sharing their skills.

I have had some heart warming feedback from the delivery of postcards. some recipients made the effort to track down the Garden Club contact details and phone me to express their delight. Although we garden for our own pleasure it is nice to know that others enjoy our efforts so spreading the joy by writing an appreciative note on a postcard and leaving it in the letterbox was a successful venture.

The recent warm weather has started the spring flush of flowers so I am hoping for an outstanding number of entries for the Bloom Competition. Most gardens should be able to offer entries for at least three of the four categories - Rose, Pot Plant, Native and any other bloom. The club supplies bottles to display the flowers and judging will take place during morning tea. Prizes are awarded and you have to be in it to win it!

Norma Keily

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB END OF YEAR

CELEBRATION LUNCH

Friday 24th November

12noon for 12.30pm

**"The Oval" function centre at
the oval Ashbourne Road.**

- \$35 per person.
- Drinks from the Bar.
- Friends and partners welcome.
- Payment in full to the Treasurer either in an envelope with your details or electronically (details page 3)
- Final numbers needed by 3rd November.

MENU

A BUFFET CARVERY OF (HOT)

Roast Lamb (served with Minted Jelly)
Roasted Turkey Breast (served with Cranberry Sauce)

All Meals served with

Bread Rolls
Steamed Seasonal Vegetables
Roasted Potatoes
Rich Gravy & Condiments

(COLD)

Steamed Prawns served with Lemon Wedges
& Thousand Island Dressing
Seasonal Tossed Salad

SOMETHING SWEET

Buffet of

Traditional Plum Pudding served with Branded Custard & Cream
Eton Mess with Seasonal Christmas Berries steeped in Couli
Fresh Fruit Salad

AFTERS

Assortment of Mini Christmas Treats
(Shortbread Christmas Trees, Fruit Mince Tarts)
Tea & Coffee



STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

| MEETING DATE | SPEAKER/ACTIVITY | TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| October 27th | Margaret Jenkins | Irises |
| October 27th | Annual Bloom Competition | 4 categories to enter |
| November 24th | End of year lunch | The Oval Function Centre Ashbourne Road. |
| January 19th 2018 | Andrew Barker | Grow Free |
| February 23rd 2018 | Elizabeth Caldicott | Oriental gardens |
| March 23rd 2018 | Barbara Colquhoun | Althorpe Island conservation park. |

NEUTROG: MANUFACTURERS OF BIOLOGICAL FERTILISERS - PAUL DEPUGLIA

Angus Irwin began the company in 1988, almost forty years ago and has guided its growth into becoming a leading fertiliser manufacturer.

Neutrog products are widely used commercially on high profile sites such as the Flemington Race Course, Adelaide Botanic Gardens, Carrick Hill and Urrbrae House and the products are endorsed by many of the major plant societies such as the National Rose Society of Australia.

Research and Development of products is an on going and important part of the company as new products are brought on line and existing ones improved. "Bush Tucker" was developed with the assistance of Angus Stewart (Australian horticulturist and gardening author with an interest in Native Plants) and Simon Leake (awarded Australian Horticulturalist of the year 2016) to provide a fertiliser very low in phosphorus and suited to the requirements of native plants.

Are all animal manures the same?

The larger the gut of the animal the less nutrient there is in the manure. Therefore chicken manure has more value than horse manure and it is readily available in large quantities. The windrows of manure are composted for eight weeks while being aerated from the bottom to encourage the composting process. The material is then screened to remove any rocks, wire and other foreign matter before it is put through the pelleting machine.

When to fertilise?

Applying a chemical fertiliser in spring equates to force feeding and results in fast weak growth.

Organic fertiliser applied in winter feeds the soil and healthy soil results in healthy

plants.

Spring and summer apply a gentle organic fertiliser which will not burn the plants and will become activated when wet.

Although the Neutrog products are designed for the specific needs of particular plants most can be used on any similar plants. Pelletised products are slow release over an eight week period and the general rate of application is 100 grams per plant or square metre. where possible apply around the drip zone and pull back any mulch although the benefits will filter through mulch.

Strike Back for Orchids has added trace elements as orchid potting mix lacks most nutrients. This product is also good for tomatoes when applied weekly.

Sudden Impact for lawns may also be used on herbs to promote growth.

Rocket Fuel, certified organic, is a gentle fertiliser.

Seamungus is a good all rounder and can be used pre-planting and as an organic health tonic applied monthly across the garden. The crumble form makes it faster acting.

Gogo juice is a plant probiotic containing live bacteria and can be added to the compost as an accelerator.

Earthquake natural gypsum should be regularly added to clay soil as a conditioner.

In the future?

There may be products to match the names - Sea Doo, Nincompoop, Who Flung Dung and!

Key Message

More is not better. Little and often is good.



SHEEP MANURE FOR SALE

\$5/ bag

\$20 collected in a trailer (6X4)

Tania & John Richardson

Woodchester

85375011

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

COMPOSTED PIG MANURE

\$9.00 per 27 litre bag

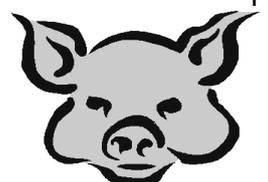
Free delivery in Strathalbyn

Phone 8536 2628

Ros 0428 362 628

Brian 0438 362 628

Practically odourless!



'SO BRAVE' FUNDRAISER - TANIA RICHARDSON

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** and Tania Richardson is fundraising.

For \$30 you get:

- (1) a beautiful calendar of body painted women, all diagnosed under age 40 with breast cancer,
- (2) more awareness raised that young women can get breast cancer, too,
- (3) an investment in cancer research and (4) support our precious McGrath Foundation nurses.

Priceless, really!

So please support the cause! See Tania, or buy online from <http://sobrave.com.au/>

These young women are the ones who really are So Brave.

Phone mobile 0428 170983 Home 8537 5011

PAYMENTS TO THE TREASURER

CASH

- Provide correct money in an envelope with your name and contact details on the front.
- Receipts will be available at the following meeting.
- Keep all receipts as proof of payment.

EFT (Internet Banking On-line)

- Strathalbyn Garden Club Inc
- BSB 105019 Ac/N^o 037 873 640
- Always put your Name and the purpose for the payment e.g. J.Adams subs in the remitter line
- Send an email to cchuxter@aussiebb.com.au advising of the funds transfer.
- Receipts will be available at the following meeting
- Keep all receipts as proof of payment.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN IRIS SOCIETY ANNUAL IRIS SHOW

Saturday 28th October 2017 - 11 am to 5 pm

Sunday 29th October 2017 - 10 am to 4 pm

FOR SALE Iris Rhizomes, Tall Bearded, Pacific Coast Iris, Japanese Iris, Louisiana, Spuria.

Demonstrations both days @ 2 pm

All about Iris – Saturday - Ikebana – Sunday

Goodwood Community Centre

32 Rosa Street, Goodwood

Trading Table, Refreshments available

Admission \$5 adults, children free

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!

TOO MANY ZUCCHINIS?

Some years the harvest is bountiful and gardeners are faced with the dilemma of dealing with excess produce. There is probably a limit to how many zucchini the family will eat or the neighbours want but the plants continue to set fruit.

Solutions for preventing an over abundance of any produce may include:

- ♦ Limit the number of plants grown
- ♦ Thin the flowers before they set
- ♦ Thin the fruit on trees before it grows too big. This has the advantage of producing fruit of a better size and quality.
- ♦ Organise crop sharing with family, friends and neighbours before planting seedlings.

If these steps fail consider donating excess to the **Grow Free Carts** located outside the Strath Neighbourhood Centre at 1 High Street and outside Argus House on Commercial Road.

Donations can be left anytime.

Often there are supplies of jars donated for the taking suitable for jam and preserves.



CHRISTMAS LIST SUGGESTIONS

THE WEBSITE <https://www.thepottingshedtools.com.au>

This online Garden Tool supplier based in Mt Gambier is a veritable treasure trove of quality garden tools and other garden necessities. One item that caught my attention is the **STAINLESS STEEL WEEDING FINGER \$28.00.**

The solution to weed removal from between cracks and in tight spaces. A veritable lethal weapon against weeds – pick them out wherever they are without getting your finger nails broken or dirty.

Hardened and tempered stainless steel head for optimum strength and rust resistance. FSC hardwood handle for long lasting comfort. Width 1cm Length 26cm. Endorsed by the Royal Horticultural Society. Lifetime Guarantee.

THE PRONG - for gardeners with rocky or compacted soil or stubborn roots to remove. Details for this Australian designed and engineered wonder tool <http://www.prong.com.au/> The website includes videos on how to use the tool. Better than a crowbar!



One for the book shelf available from any good bookseller.

"THE WONDROUS WORLD OF WEEDS" BY PAT COLLINS.

This comprehensive and practical guide features more than 300 stunning, close up-images to help with the identification of weeds as well as a full description, list of common names, environmental impact, uses and medicinal value for each plant.

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB
MINUTES
General Meeting held at St Andrews Hall
Friday, 22nd September 2017

Market Day: 10 am. We commenced our Garden Club this month with a market, members brought their plants and other goods for sale, it was fun searching for a bargain or something new for the garden.

Meeting commenced: 10.50 am President Norma Keily opened the regular part of the meeting with a difference and issued a reminder to switch off mobiles, sign in and record apologies please. She advised that the knitted garden pieces were in the back room for the owners to pick-up. She had been a judge for the Show Garden Competition but there were only 10 entries, so next year do think of entering.

Welcome Visitors: Allie Cornelius, Cynthia Schulze, Karen McTainsh, Alan Ferguson

New Members: Nil

Attendance: 72 **Apologies:** 14

Announcements & Correspondence

Cavalcade of Gardens reminder to participate Saturday October 7th travel safely. It's a good idea to car pool if possible.

Mandalay visit 25th October final day to pay, meeting at Coleman Tce. at 1.30pm to arrange carpooling. You can pay on line or take to Maria in Haigh Court if you have missed paying today.

Invitation to attend the RSL Remembrance Day Service at Macclesfield Sat. 11th Nov. 10.45am. Rsvp by 29th Oct. More info will be in the next newsletter.

Postcards – to celebrate Home Gardeners week, explanation and hand out with a request to distribute as you see fit.

Bloom competition next meeting. 4 categories, judging by button count.

Market Day – Your feedback is welcome.

Garden Clubs of Australia pictorial calendar for 2018 is now available for order, cost \$7.50.

Iris Society open day Sat & Sunday 28/29th October.

Cox's Scrub is looking very beautiful at this time of year and well worth a visit, entry via gate 2.

Minutes of the last meeting: Friday 25th August page 7 in the newsletter

Moved: J. Bourne, **Seconded:** M. Jenkins

Business Arising: nil

Treasurer: All good, the envelope system for payment is working well.

Guest Speaker Paul Depuglia from Neutrog gave us the run down on their products. When and where to use and what's new.

Next Meeting Friday 27th October