



NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER

Website: www.strathgardenclub.com.au

Email: strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com

Phone contact: 0416 173 573

Issue No: 141

September
2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The monthly raffle table is always a treasure trove of gardening delights and at the August meeting I was pleased to win a bundle of Bourke's Backyard magazines. They might be more than 10 years old but the contents are just as relevant today and I have enjoyed browsing through them on the few rainy days that we have had.

Interesting articles included one on comfrey and its benefit to the garden and its medicinal uses with a recipe for comfrey ointment. Another was a timely reminder about hay fever and which plants should be avoided by sufferers. The wattle trees although often blamed are not a major cause but members of the daisy family along with introduced grasses do cause allergic reactions.

So many of our garden plants come attached with warnings about their danger to our health it is a wonder that gardening has not become a restricted occupation! Fortunately most gardeners are sensible people who do not take unnecessary risks.

On a different note it is with great pleasure that we welcome Heather McMurtrie to the Garden Club committee and thank her for volunteering.

Norma Keily

MARK THOMAS GONDWANA LANDSCAPES AND CONSULTANCY

Mark's interests in horticulture started after working abroad. Upon his return, Mark began working on a new Adelaide Hills vineyard, Mount Compass Vineyard. Having developed an interest in Permaculture, Mark decided this was a good place to start developing his knowledge base. Investigating native species and their preferred habitats for utility, led to an interest in conservation of local biodiversity. Mark pursued work in revegetation, carrying out direct seeding, seed collection, seedling planting and alternative methods of regenerating landscapes with Flora's Revegetation. During this time Mark increased his specific plant identification skills and applied horticultural knowledge.

Mark completed a Natural Resource Management Degree whilst employed part time with State Flora Nursery and Flora Search, a research component of the State Government whose aim was the preservation of biodiversity in arid lands. This enabled Mark to work in his chosen field whilst studying. Mark was selected for the role of Garden & Landscape Consultant because of his knowledge, enthusiasm and ability to communicate with a wide variety of people. Mark developed this part of the State Flora Business to be flexible and to meet the growing demands of a need for sustainable landscapes and water wise gardens.

The creation of Gondwana Landscapes and Consultancy was a natural progression.

Gardening advice offered by Mark includes

- Avoid weed species eg Cootamundra wattle which although native is not endemic to our area
- Avoid overcrowding and mismatched plantings
- Consider soil type, aspect, light and rainfall.
- Soil pH can vary at different depths and in different parts of the garden
- Cheap tube stock is best value as it will quickly develop a good root system and suffer less transplant shock
- Mulch to keep soil cool
- Tree guards create a micro climate around new plants
- Add clay to non-wetting sandy soil
- Seasol is a good root tonic
- Avoid the long term use of soil wetters
- Plant native plants - there is a great range available from State Flora and their catalogue is online
- Monitor soils moisture - irrigation systems and programmable timers give measurable amounts of water with maximum efficiency
- Tip prune new plants
- Prune regularly especially after flowering but avoid doing it when the weather is too hot or too cold.



Goodenia
A tough attractive Australian plant.

Information in this article was sourced from <http://www.gondwanalc.com.au>

EMAIL PROBLEMS?

Have you changed your email address due to the NBN rollout?
Send an email to strathalbyngardenclub@gmail.com to confirm your new email address.

IF YOUR NAME IS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW YOUR SUBS ARE OVER DUE

STRATHALBYN GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

MEETING DATE	SPEAKER/ACTIVITY	TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION
September 25th	Jeffrey Reid	Mangroves - Where the land meets the sea
October 10th	Cavalcade of Gardens	Visit local gardens
October 16th	Carrick Hill visit	Pay by September 25th (\$15)
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	

OPEN GARDENS SA

GARDENS OPEN 10AM - 4.30PM
ENTRY \$8, CHILDREN UNDER 18 FREE

Additional information, photos and garden notes written by the owners can be found on the Gardens SA website: <http://opengardensa.org.au>

OCTOBER

3 - 4

MANDALAY 271 Back Callington Road **Mt Barker Springs**
4th - 5th (Sunday & Monday)

BRIBRE WIRRA 3 Leaker Avenue **Aldinga Beach**

ALRU FARM PLANT FAIR Black Top Road **One Tree Hill**
10 - 11

LITTLETON GARDEN 20 Douglas Street **Magill**

TICKLETANK 24 Hill St **Mt Barker**

NICHOLLS LANE 25 Nicholls Road **Inglewood**

BLOOMIN ACRES 20 Harrop Road **Wistow**
11 (Sunday only)

RICHWYN 3 Linwood Avenue **Aldgate**
17 - 18

THE GARDEN AT WILPENA ST 41 Wilpena St **Eden Hills**

BEARD GARDEN 134 Beulah Road **Norwood**

BOAT'S END 191 Adelaide Place **Currency Creek**
18 (Sunday only)

TARINGA PARK 671 Airport Road **Middleton**

BLUE SEAS COTTAGE 17 Zephyr Terrace **Port Willunga**
24 - 25

POSSUM PARK Native Avenue **Mt Barker**

BUCCLEUCH 28 Burbank Way **Mt Barker**



OPEN
GARDENS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

GARDEN CLUB END OF YEAR LUNCH

Friday 27th November
11.45am for a 12.30 start.

At Strathalbyn Bowling Club

\$25 per person, partners welcome (Drinks extra)
Numbers, names and payment due to the Treasurer by October 23rd meeting.



CARRICK HILL

46 Carrick Hill Drive, Springfield.

Join us on a visit to this Iconic historic house and garden.

Friday 16th October

Cost \$15 (\$12 concession) for entry to the house.

Car pooling from Coleman Tce carpark meeting at 9am.

A tour of the House and the "Symphony of Flowers" has been booked for 10.00am.

Maria Maxwell is ready to take names and money with Friday 25th September the last day to pay..

Refreshments : coffee & cake or set lunch or al la carte are available or BYO picnic lunch. Following the House tour we are free to explore the gardens and visit the Australian Museum of Gardening exhibition "Endless Pleasure - the art of Gardens and Gardening".

GROWING BORONIA

Boronia plants are starting to appear in the nurseries and they are easy to find—just follow your nose.

Brown boronia (*Boronia megastima*) is the least spectacular in appearance but the most fragrant and the most difficult to keep alive. It is native to the south west of Western Australia where it grows naturally in cool, moist, sheltered gullies. Try planting your boronia among other plants in dappled light and moist but well drained soil. If the plant dries out it will die as it has a shallow, fibrous root system. Lightly prune after flowering.

2

RENMARK ROSE FESTIVAL 16TH - 25TH OCTOBER 2015

33 Open Gardens in Renmark, Loxton, Berri, Winkie, Lyrup and Waikerie.

Displays, demonstration, sales, food, wine, entertainment, art and sculpture.

Rufus Coaches are doing a tour 21st - 23rd October cost \$740 pp twin share. phone 8536 2663 for details.

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.

Prizes will be awarded!

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.

Thank you to Rob Fox, Lorraine Stoke, Heather McMurtrie and Pat Simpson for volunteering to help on the day.



VICTOR HARBOR GARDEN CLUB VISITS US

On Monday 14th September twenty three members of the Victor Harbor Garden Club visited the Strathalbyn gardens of Ren Tremayne, Louie and Jack Williams and Norma Keily.

Morning Tea was provided at Serenity and Pat Simpson, Maria Maxwell and Rex Keily were on hand to help.

The visitors were very complimentary and grateful to be able to visit the private gardens and to share their enthusiasm for gardening with the owners.

Opening your garden to visiting groups provides an incentive and purpose for catching up on gardening chores. The compliments and expressions of delight make the effort worthwhile with the added bonus of having everything looking lovely even for just a short time because we know that a garden is a work in progress and maintenance is on-going.

ABC 891 GARDENERS' MARKET

Saturday 10th October.

Rufus Coaches are planning a day tour to the 891 Gardeners' Market at Collinswood.

Cost \$60 includes lunch.

For details contact Gavin 8536 2663



COMPOSTED PIG MANURE

\$7.00 per 27 litre bag

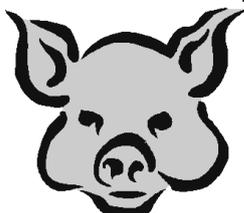
Free delivery in Strathalbyn

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 SPEAKERS	PAT SIMPSON
COMMITTEE MEMBER	HEATHER MCMURTRIE

SUPPORT

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

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.