

WARRAGUL & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Inc. A0044995

President: Joy Vikas 0407455299
Secretary: Judy Butler 0427 236180
Treasurer: Peter Willmott 0408316536
Meeting venue: Senior Citizens Centre, Warragul
www.warragulgardenclub.org



PO Box 731
Warragul 3820

August 2024

Winners of the July 2024 show Judge: Wendy Earwicker

Section	First	Second	Third
1 Flower of the month (Camellia) Three arranged separately	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley
2 One rose			
3 One stem of another flower (not a rose)	Carol Burns	Joy Vikas	Heather Coustley
4 Stem of foliage (no buds or flowers)	Heather Coustley	Carol Burns	Jill Oliver
5 Flowering shrub (in flower)	Heather Coustley	Carol Pitman	Carol Pitman
6 Any floral arrangement in water	Hilary Height	Gary Weymouth	Annette Willmott
7 Arrangement of the month (Christmas in July)	Annette Willmott	Jill Oliver	Hilary Height
8 Flowers of tubers, corms, bulbs, Rhizomes	Jan Newgreen	Carol Burns	Carol Burns
9 Container of flowers	Carol Burns	Heather Coustley	
10 Flowering shrub	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Jill Oliver
11 Potted plant (incl. cacti or succulent)	Annette Willmott	Carol Burns	Carol Burns
12 Above ground vegetable	Carol Burns	Jan Newgreen	Carol Burns
13 Below ground vegetable	Carol Burns	Carol Burns	Carol Burns
14 Herbs	Carol Burns		
15 Fruits & Nuts	Carol Burns	Carol Burns	Carol Burns
16 Novice	Glenda Sablyak	Glenda Sablyak	
17 BEST EXHIBIT	Heather Coustley	10 Flowering shrub	

August Meeting (Monday 26th): Doors open at 9 am for setting up. Entries for show bench to be placed for judging prior to 9.30 am

- **First Aid refresher and Q & A session.**
- **Monthly competition** – One Spring bulb flower
- **Arrangement of the month** – A modern arrangement with flowering bulbs
- **Morning tea hosts** Please bring milk and biscuits.

26/08/24 Anne Hogan, Higginbotham and Heather Palmer

30/09/24 Bronwyn East, Barbara Auldish and Glenda

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next meeting Monday 26th August

In addition to our usual program, we will be getting an update on First Aid and a special session to discuss and vote on our new Club Rules. Final payment due for Creswick trip (23rd and 24th September).

Lardner Park Garden and Home Expo

The Club has been invited to have a stall at the Lardner Park Garden and Home Expo on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October 2024. The theme is “sustainability”. We will need volunteers to work on our stall, where we will be recycling coffee cups into plant pots. You can check this out at [Lardner Park Garden & Home Expo - Lardner Park](#)

Plant sale 30th September (Note the new date)

This is the Club’s annual fundraiser and we would be grateful for any donations. Please clearly label anything you bring in for this event.

Future speakers and excursions

If you have any suggestions on these, please pass on to the committee.

22nd July Meeting Saffron Production in Mirboo North



Above
Joy Vikas
(left) and Phyll

Right
Samples of
sweet saffron
syrup



Phyll from Saffron Willis gave us a fascinating presentation on saffron (*Crocus sativus*). With her husband Ted she grows crocus plants from which the saffron spice is obtained. Their farm is near Mirboo North and the climate there seems to suit the cultivation of these perennials.

Crocus plants reproduce by means of corms. These are bulb-like stems that grow under the soil and serve as storage organs.

Saffron threads are harvested from the crocus flower – a heavily labour-intensive process.

Genuine saffron is very expensive but in addition to being a spice with subtle flavours, is rich in anti-oxidants. To extract the full flavour, it first has to be infused, rather than directly added to the ingredients of a dish.

A message from our President:

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

What is *important* to you? As the Olympic Games comes to an end, we can see the passion and dedication these athletes have to be selected to represent their country and to follow the Olympic creed and motto, "The *important* thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most *important* thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well."

When I was a student studying to be a teacher, (a long time ago!) we learnt of Maslow's theory of needs and what are the important things for a beneficial life. Our basic needs: fresh air, food, drink, shelter, warmth, sleep etc followed by our safety needs of law, order, limits, protection and stability and then our family, affection, relationships and many more. You might be asking why is Maslow's hierarchy of needs *important*? The basis of Maslow's theory is that we are motivated by our needs as human beings. Additionally, if some of our most important needs are unmet, we may be unable to progress and meet our other needs. This can help explain why we might feel "stuck" or unmotivated. At our next meeting, Monday 26th August we will be meeting many of these very *important* needs. We have paid for a registered First Aid officer to present to us a refresher course on how to administer aid if someone has a heart attack or a medical episode. A very *important* meeting and I hope that many of you will take this opportunity to refresh, revise or learn these important skills.

In addition, we will be having a special meeting, after morning tea, which should not take too long, to ratify the new rules and regulations of our club. These *important* rules are attached to this email, and it would be wonderful if you could please take the time to read them. At the meeting we will be asking for any discussion and then your vote for them to be accepted. According to the rules authorised by the chief Parliamentary Counsel we need approval from 75% of attendees. We have needed to update these rules in accordance with Consumer affairs and the Taxation Office.

Of course, the other *important* part of our meeting, as is always, is the time to have with our friends and share stories and often to help each other with solving problems in our garden so we are hoping that there will be time for a Q & A session as well.

Now, what's *important* to you now? Well for me it is to get into the veggie garden and follow Ralph's good advice. I will be sowing snow peas and peas and beetroot as well as planting more lettuce and silver beet and I must fertilise the camellias to ensure I continue to win a place with them next year!! But, as I am reminded, the *important* thing in the show bench is to participate, not to win, as the Olympic code states. So, if you have never entered, why not give it a go? You never know, you might win gold!

Happy Gardening

Joy

Things to do in the garden in September:

In the vegetable garden - Sow seeds of radish, snow peas & peas, beans, carrots, parsnips, turnips and beetroot. Plant seedlings of lettuce, cabbage, kale, onions, and silver beet plus more shallots. Plant potatoes. Sow beans, carrots and parsnips toward the end of the month as the soil warms. Include a dressing of general fertiliser (Neutrog's *Gyganic* is ideal) at planting time and lime if it was not applied in winter. Apply slug & snail bait. Hoe weeds regularly. Provide support for broad beans. Apply mulch & fertiliser to strawberry beds and rhubarb.

In the flower garden - Plant seedlings of pansies, violas, lobelia, alyssum, dianthus, lupins, Madeira daisies, marigolds, candytuft and cleome. Provide support for sweet peas. Plant seedlings of dianthus, petunias and the whole range of summer flowers as seedlings and potted colour as they become available later this month. They are great in pots. Apply fertiliser to camellias (*Kahoona*) and roses (*Sudden Impact*). Use specific fertilisers with low phosphorus for Natives. *Bush Tucker* from Neutrog is giving great results. Watch for aphids and blackspot on roses and treat as necessary.

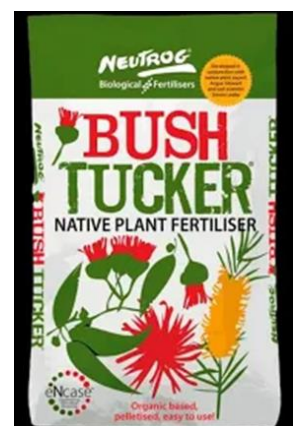
Lawns - Apply fertiliser. Control weeds with a broad leaf lawn weeder. Mow regularly. Check sprinkler systems. Ants often colonise them during the winter months.

Fruit trees – Prune apple trees. Keep the base of all fruit trees free of weeds. Spray nectarines and peaches for "Curly Leaf" just before flowering. Apply citrus & fruit tree fertiliser (*Gyganic*) to all fruit trees and strawberries (Rapid Raiser). Protect strawberries with suitable netting and apply slug bait to protect fruit as it ripens. Watch for Black Aphid on plums, nectarines and peaches. If spraying is necessary for aphid control, only spray in the early morning or late evening when bees are not around.

Regards

Ralph

Here's the products that were mentioned by Ralph.

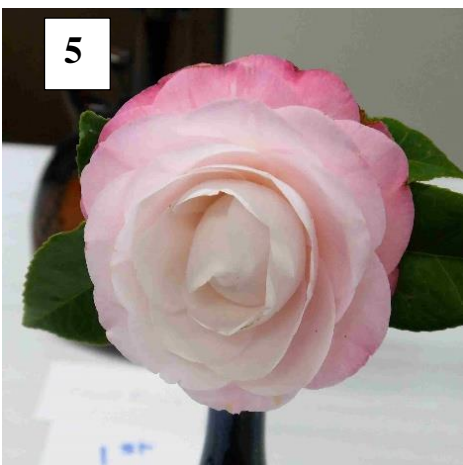
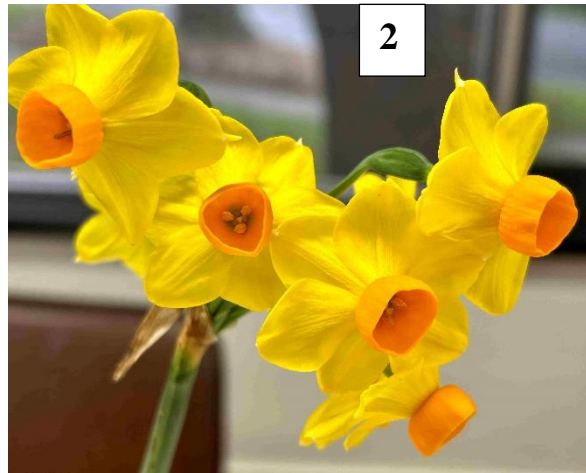


Here's a short clip on getting rid of aphids on YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAhfA0vIPik>

The Show Bench - July

Photos:

- 1 H Coustley: 1st Category 5/17
- 2 C Burns: 1st Category 3
- 3 C Burns: 1st Category 12
- 4 C Pitman: 2nd Category 5
- 5 J Vikas: 2nd Category 3
- 6 A Willmott: 1st Category 7





“From our garden”: Echiums

Kath introduced a few of these plants and they have taken off in a big way. They seem to my untrained eye to have “growth spurts” at certain times of the year. There seem to be two species growing, with both flowering well. They are very attractive to bees as the nectar is high in sugar. If you are looking for something different – these could be for you.

Peter Gribben

- 1 Summer
- 2 Winter
- 3 Spring



Please support our Club sponsors: *Don't forget to check their updates on our Club website.*

- **Rowes nursery**, Landsborough Road, Warragul. They have a large range of plants for sale (many grown in-house to save you money) and offer free garden advice. Ask about receiving their regular email newsletters. Phone 5622 2232.
- **Drouin Mitre 10**, Princes Way, Drouin. (On the Melbourne side of Drouin) Check their hardware, gardening products and plants. They give a Club discount on certain products.
- **Drouin Nursery**. Princes Way, Drouin. Extensive variety of plants including advanced trees. Open 6 days a week (closed Tuesdays) Phone 0417 041507
- **Down to Earth Garden Centre**, Cnr. Longwarry & Weerong Rd, Drouin. Landscaping supplies, mulch, soil, rock, pond supplies, garden hardware. Phone 5625 5166
- **Here We Grow**, Warragul. Everything for hydroponics. Open 6 days (closed Sundays) Phone 5604 7847 **Check new address**
- **Mattz Mowing and Garden Services**. Lawn mowing, garden edges, hedge trimming, weed control, pruning, gutters cleaned etc. Free quotes. Phone Matthew 0439 312 465

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