

# 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**

**Winners of the March show bench**

**Judge: J Hopkins**

Section	First	Second	Third
<b>1</b> Flower of the month (One stem of a Rose)			
<b>2</b> One Rose	Dennis Hall	Hilary Height	Heather Coustley
<b>3</b> One stem of any other flower (not a Rose)	Ralph Slaughter	Ralph Slaughter	Heather Coustley
<b>4</b> Stem of foliage (no buds or flowers)	Heather Coustley	Ralph Slaughter	Ralph Slaughter
<b>5</b> Flowering Shrub (in flower) One stem	Aileen White		
<b>6</b> Floral Art (in water)	Annette Willmott	Heather Coustley	Annette Willmott
<b>7</b> Arrangement of the month	Hilary Height	June Dineen	Heather Coustley
<b>8</b> Flowers of tubers, corms, bulbs, rhizomes	Carol Burns	Ralph Slaughter	Heather Coustley
<b>9</b> Container of flowers	Carol Burns	Ralph Slaughter	Carol Burns
<b>10</b> Flowering shrub	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Aileen White
<b>11</b> Potted plant (incl. Cacti or succulent)	Ralph Slaughter	Heather Coustley	Ralph Slaughter
<b>12</b> Above-ground vegetable	Glenda Sablyak	Jan Newgreen	Jan Newgreen
<b>13</b> Below-ground vegetable	Carol Burns	Jan Newgreen	Ralph Slaughter
<b>14</b> Herbs (flowering, non- flowering, mixed)	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Carol Burns
<b>15</b> Fruits, Nuts	Carol Burns	Carol Burns	Carol Burns
<b>16</b> Novice	Craig Handasyde	Craig Handasyde	Craig Handasyde
<b>17 BEST EXHIBIT</b>	<b>Hilary Height</b>	<b>Arrangement of fruit and vegetables</b>	

**April meeting (28/04/25)**

Doors open at 9 am for setting up. Entries for show bench to be placed for judging prior to 9.30 am

- **Monthly competition** – Chrysanthemum
- **Arrangement of the month** – Anzac Day
- **Morning tea hosts.** Please bring milk and biscuits.

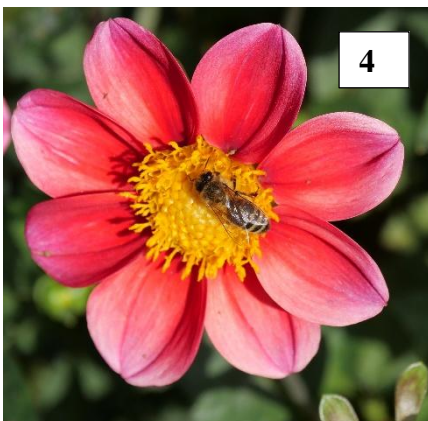
**Don't forget:** Jan has club merchandise for sale – caps \$16 and embroidered club motif \$5

# March meeting

Our March meeting featured our AGM and the election of new Committee members for the next financial year. Joy, our current President, thanked all those who had helped during the year and reminded us of the many events that had occurred over the last 12 months. A very interesting Q & A session displayed the breadth and depth of knowledge of our members and their willingness to share their expertise. The new microphone system certainly improved the audibility of the speakers. This was followed by a sausage sizzle at the Burke Street Park. Many thanks to all who helped in the organisation and cooking – especially Rob who stored the sausages from the Bunnings BBQ.

## March 14<sup>th</sup> Excursion

Thanks to some excellent organisation by Anne, we managed to get to two venues on this excursion. The first stop was the Warragul Community Garden at Normanby St (Pics 1 & 3). There, John Swann (Pic 2) gave us an excellent talk on the importance of bees in the environment. This was followed by a trip to Hansford Dahlias in Ellinbank (Pics 4, 5 & 6)

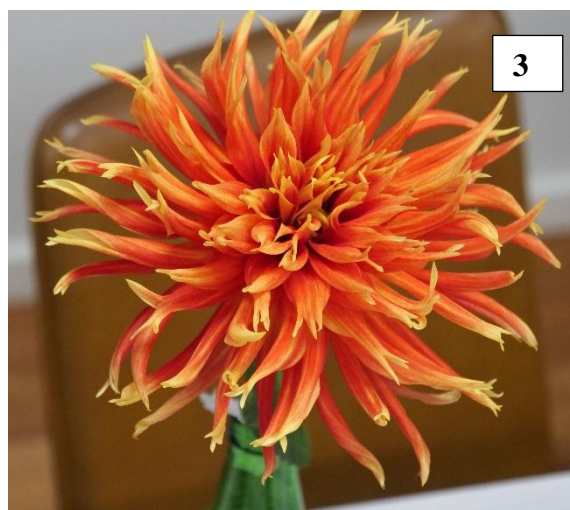




# March Show Bench

Clockwise from top left:

- 1 Best Exhibit: Hilary Height
- 2 Section 2 1<sup>st</sup>: Dennis Hall
- 3 Section 3 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ralph Slaughter
- 4 Section 9 3<sup>rd</sup>: Carol Burns
- 5 Section 6 1<sup>st</sup>: Annette Willmott
- 6 Overview of roses



## Things to do in the garden in May:

**In the vegetable garden** - Sow seeds of Broad Beans, Cabbage, Turnip, Onions, Spring Onions, Snow Peas and Peas. Plant Shallots and Garlic. Plant seedlings of Lettuce, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Kale, Brown & Red Onions (this is the best month) Spring Onions. Sow Green Manure mix in areas not required for winter vegetables. Remove all dead beans, old sweetcorn plants, tomato plants etc., and anything that can carry over fungal infections. Allow winter frosts to have direct access to soil. Take action to deal with any Cabbage White caterpillars on winter vegetables. Mavrik is probably the most effective and safe.

**In the flower garden** - Complete the planting of spring flowering bulbs. The ground temperature is probably too low for the germination of most flower seeds, so it is best to plant seedlings of Pansies, Violas, Lobelia, Alyssum, decorative Kale, Primulas, Polyanthus, Cinerarias, Dianthus, Lupins, Madeira Daisies and Cyclamen. Spruce up the pots on your deck with Primulas, Violas, Pansies, Cinerarias or some Spring bulbs. Most of the above are also available as potted colour. Start tidying herbaceous borders, dividing clumps that have grown too large. Prune to shape some of the deciduous shrubs. Don't prune the dead heads off Hydrangeas until after frost as they protect the new developing buds.

Decide which roses need replacing. Dig them out, together with a barrow full of soil. Replace with new soil and well-rotted manure or Mushroom compost. Put Seamungus in the bottom of the hole when planting new bare-rooted varieties. Leave pruning of roses until mid-June and planting new roses until June/July.

An application of Kahuna now around Camellias will improve both the colour of leaves and size and colour of blooms.

**Lawns** - Continue repairing worn patches, apply fertiliser and control weeds. New weeds will germinate in worn patches and these (especially Capeweed) are best controlled by spraying when small. Do not spray within 4 days before or after mowing. Follow chosen product directions carefully to prevent lawn damage.

**Fruit trees** - Begin pruning peaches, plums and nectarines. Provide support for heavily laden branches of citrus fruit to prevent breakage of branches, thinning out if necessary. Look for Scale infestation and Sooty mould. Spray with white oil alone or a mixture with insecticide. Remove all grass and weeds around fruit trees.

Cheers

*Ralph*

### Did you know?

Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*) is a native of South America and endemic across the southern areas of Australia. It can spread and cover ground quickly. Although it resembles a daisy, it belongs to a different taxonomical group. Physical removal is best when plants are mature, but this can be difficult and the use of a herbicide may be needed to control them.



## From the President

Dear Fellow Gardner,

Do you make plans? At this time of year with Easter and ANZAC Day there are many plans for dinners and holidays, and I hope you have had an enjoyable time.

I am often "*planning things*", whether it is in the garden, holidays or the weekly diary there is always a *plan* of some kind happening in our home. Our club's yearly *plans* have been excellent, as this year's is proving to be. What a great success the sausage sizzle was after our meeting in March and after the committee evaluated the day we are *planning* for more occasions like this to follow.

Your committee has a *plan* for our Annual Conference this year, 28<sup>th</sup> June to be held at the Senior Citizens Hall here in Warragul and it is "*all going to plan*" so far, however, we need a lot of help to ensure that it "*goes to plan on the day*."

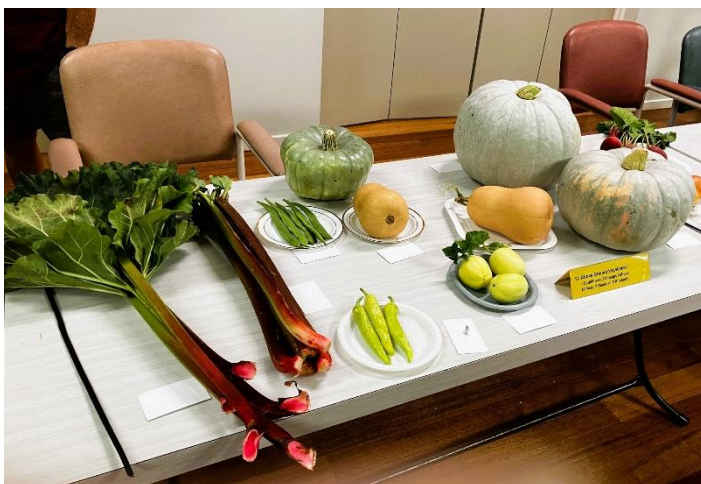
At our meeting this month Kerry Elliot will be asking for some help in the kitchen, Marg Stammers will be asking for some muscle power for the morning and floral decorations for the hall, Jan & Ann will be seeking donations for the raffle and not to forget Ralph and Judy who will be requesting plants and produce for the stall on the day. Our plan needs your help, and we don't have a Plan B to go to, so I hope you will be able to help us to achieve our goal for the day and that is to showcase our club to the other clubs that form the South Gippsland Garden Group. Our plan is to present a day that will be very interesting with our guest speaker David Glenn from Lambley Nursery whom many met on our overnight trip in 2024 and David Musker from the beautiful Broughton Hall Garden at Jindivick. I look forward to your support for this very important event. This month's *planned* meeting will be very interesting with guest speakers Ebonie and Matt Price presentation on growing mushrooms. Don't forget to bring along your favourite mushroom recipe and I *will plan* to collate them into a cookbook to share with our members. My favourite recipe is marinated mushrooms, "simply to die for"! Oops! That's not the *plan* and perhaps that isn't the right term to use when referring to mushrooms!!!!

Now my plan is to get dinner on the table and organise for tomorrow's family outing, but I must water the garden first. I really do hope the BOM's forecast for rain "goes to plan"!

Hope to see you on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April and "Happy Gardening".

Joy

## More Show Bench photos



Photos: Ralph Slaughter

