

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 April meeting (28/04/25) show bench

Judge: J Hopkins

Points for placings: First = 3 points, Second= 2 points, Third = 1 point. Best exhibit = 1 point

Section	First	Second	Third
1 Flower of the month (Chrysanthemum)	Ralph Slaughter	Glenda Pridmore	Ralph Slaughter
2 One Rose	Heather Coustley	Glenda Sablyak	Heather Coustley
3 One stem of any other flower (not a Rose)	Heather Edwards	Jan Newgreen	Heather Edwards
4 Stem of foliage (no buds or flowers)	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Anette Willmott
5 Flowering Shrub (in flower) One stem	Heather Coustley	Joy Vikas	
6 Floral Art (in water)	Annette Willmott	Annette Willmott	Heather Coustley
7 Arrangement of the month	Annette Willmott	Hilary Height	June Dineen
8 Flowers of tubers, corms, bulbs, rhizomes	Heather Coustley	Heather Coustley	Jan Newgreen
9 Container of flowers	Ralph Slaughter	Ralph Slaughter	Heather Coustley
10 Flowering shrub	Heather Coustley		
11 Potted plant (incl. Cacti or succulent)	Heather Coustley	Ralph Slaughter	
12 Above-ground vegetable	Joy Vikas	Ralph Slaughter	
13 Below-ground vegetable			
14 Herbs (flowering, non-flowering, mixed)	Heather Coustley		
15 Fruits, Nuts	Ralph Slaughter	Heather Coustley	Ralph Slaughter
16 Novice	Annette Kennedy		
17 BEST EXHIBIT	Annette Willmott	Anzac Eternal Flame	

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

- **Monthly competition** – Autumn stem
- **Arrangement of the month** – Mothers Day
- **Presentation** -Paul & Merrin Strickland “Friends of Mt Worth”
- **Morning tea hosts.** Glenda, Heather and Gaylene. Please bring milk and biscuits.

April Show Bench



Clockwise from top left:

1 Best Exhibit - Annette Willmott

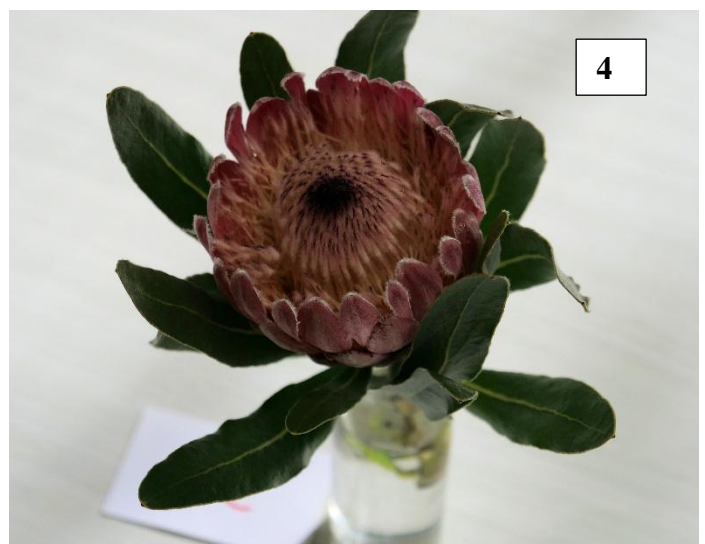
2 Section 1, 1st - Ralph Slaughter

3 Section 2, 1st - Heather Coustley

4 Section 5, 2nd - Joy Vikas

5 Section 3, 2nd - Jan Newgreen

6 Section 7, 3rd - June Dineen



More Show Bench photos



Photos: Ralph Slaughter



April meeting

In this meeting our guest speaker was Ebony Price of Gippsland Mushrooms. She gave us a detailed insight into the commercial growing of mushrooms. This has quite a few stages and takes about six weeks, involving a balancing act in keeping optimum temperature and humidity levels. Her company grows standard white button mushrooms and also the Swiss Brown variety. The samples Ebony brought were sold out in a very short time.

Don't forget our Regional Conference which is on June 28th at our usual venue, the Senior Citizens Club. There are two great guest speakers: David Glenn (Lambley Nursery) and David Musker (Broughton Hall).

We need helpers, raffle donations and items for the Plant and Produce stall.



THINGS TO DO IN THE GARDEN IN JUNE

June is the official start of Winter and frosts can be expected. When they occur protect frost sensitive plants by putting a few sheets of newspaper over them. Better still, purchase a roll of frost protectant fabric and cover with that. It is claimed that the material increases the temperature on the plant by as much as 3 degrees. June/July is the best time to empty compost bins and dig the rotted compost into the garden and add some Seamungus. Then apply a good dressing of lime (but not around Camellias, Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Daphne).

ROSES Begin Rose pruning around the middle of the month but if necessary, in frost prone areas, delay for a few weeks, as severe frosts can be experienced in July and August. Pruning promotes new growth, and this can be burned by frosts. Do not put rose pruning's or old mulch in your compost. After removing all dead leaves and old mulch, gently fork in some Seamungus and then a dressing of Dolomite Lime. Spray with Lime Sulphur or Copper Oxychloride on the bushes and all around them. Install and repair any watering systems as this is the best time to get easy access.

FLOWER GARDEN The soil is usually too cold now for germination of plant seeds to take place, so plant seedlings or potted colour of Calendula, Cornflower, Stocks, Snapdragons, Pansies, Primulas and Violas. Select and plant replacement shrubs. Divide Perennials. Any essential cutting-back of natives is best left until after frosts, and applying a dressing of "Bush Tucker". Of course the best time for pruning natives is immediately after flowering. Apply Kahuna around Camellias when rain is expected to improve the intensity of colour of the blooms.

VEGETABLE GARDEN. Plant Cauliflower, Broccoli, Kale and Cabbage seedlings. The White Butterfly season should be over by now but keep an eye out for snails and slugs. Plant Peas, Broad Beans, Lettuce, Shallots, Garlic, Onions and Spring Onions. Divide and plant Rhubarb Crowns.

HOME ORCHARD. Select and plant new bare-root trees including Plums, Apricots, Apples, Nectarines, Peaches, and Pears, all of which do well in this area. Commence pruning all the above. Clear away all dead leaves and the remains of fruit and spray with Lime Sulphur. Plant new raspberry canes. Tidy Passion fruit and thornless Blackberries tying the new stems to strong supports while removing dead wood. Remove all weeds and grass from the base of trees. Be ready to provide support for citrus fruit if the branches are overloaded.

LAWNS. The autumn rain (when it arrives) will encourage weeds to grow. Spray with a recommended weedicide, but not within 4 days either side of mowing. De-thatch thick lawns, followed by mowing, aerating, and applying a good fertiliser. Neutrog's "Sudden Impact" for Lawns is an excellent choice. After spraying with herbicide **do not put lawn clippings in the compost bin!**

QUOTE It doesn't matter what happens, there is always someone who knew it would—Johnathan Mardle

Ralph

Did you know?

Lime sulfur has been used for over 100 years to manage various pests and diseases in agriculture and gardening. As well as being a fungicide and insecticide, it is an *acaricide*. These are chemicals that kill ticks and mites.

From the President

Dear Fellow Gardener,

It is dark and it is cold, but I am certain that you feel as I do, happy to hear the gentle sound of rain. I have not experienced, in our eight years of living here, such a dry time. The water tank for my veggie garden has run dry and my sasanqua camellia has failed to flower, and Ralph informs me that it is due to lack of water. However, I must admit that I have been enjoying the beautiful autumnal days in my little sanctuary, my garden. My veggie patch is full of strong healthy young peas, spinach, broccoli, cabbages, cauliflowers and not to forget the broad beans and garlic which I have just planted. Crazy weather? I have just picked another zucchini from my bush which is still flowering and last week I picked my last tomatoes!

My sanctuary, my happy place, my garden. We as gardeners all know how much happiness we get from being outside in the garden and enjoying nature. I am looking forward to our guest speaker, Paul Strickland and his wife Merryl, who return to our club next **Monday, 26th May** for and their film clip presentation on "Friends of Mt Worth", their sanctuary and happy place outside of their own garden. As described on their web site "Mt Worth features giant Mountain Ash Forest and flourishing fern gullies, now rare in the western Strzelecki Ranges, which were cleared early last century. The Moonlight Creek Picnic Area is a lush green clearing with fireplaces, picnic tables, an information shelter and toilets. It is a favourite spot for enjoying a peaceful break and a pleasant walk." It will be a very informative presentation, one that we will all enjoy.

Have you been busy in your sanctuary on these beautiful days? As always Ralph offers us tips and hints for this time of year, and he is hoping that you have been busy potting things for our produce stall ready for the conference on 28th June. Ann and Jan have received a few donations for the raffles and are looking forward to more. Tickets for the raffle will be on sale at our next meeting and the ladies tell me they are still happy to take more donations at next week's meeting. The conference is now only one month away, and preparations are going well but we still need your help. Please talk to me at our next meeting or phone me if you can't attend the next meeting and you would like to offer your assistance. We will need people to help set up the room and cleaning up at the end of the day and more assistance with the afternoon tea would be much appreciated.

Time to light the fire and sit back and plan for tomorrow's day in the garden which will probably be raking up leaves for the compost bin. Who needs to pay money for "Fitness Clubs" when we have a garden?

Happy gardening!

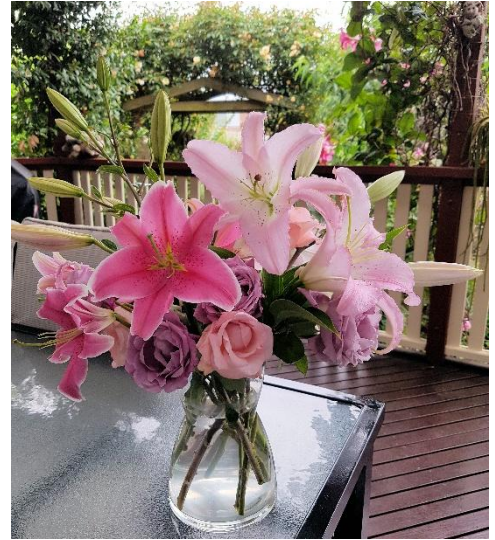
Joy

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
- **Mattz Mowing and Garden Services**. Lawn mowing, garden edges, hedge trimming, weed control, pruning, gutters cleaned etc. Free quotes. Phone Matthew 0439 312 465

A Member's Garden

Irene Rolfe has kindly submitted some pictures of her lovely garden, only a few of which are featured here. If you have any photos you would like to share, please email them to ozgribbo@gmail.com.



Printing courtesy of Wayne Farnham MP & staff.

Wayne
FARNHAM_{MP}
MEMBER FOR NARRACAN

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