

NEWSHEET

DECEMBER 2022



Our final meeting for the year is on:

Wednesday 14th December, 2022 RSL Hall, cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds St,

NOTE SPECIAL START TIME IS 7.30PM

Our entertainment for the evening will be provided by Committee member Esther Sim's Traditional Malay Dance Group.

There will be a Dutch auction of 2 beautiful art works, one is framed, and the other is an unframed painting of a desert scene on rice paper – 4ft long Our Christmas raffle will include 4 x \$50 Bunnings vouchers and 3x 2kg Smoked hams kindly donated by Brendan's butchers in Jackson Court. There are also several vouchers from Mensland in West Heidelberg. We will also have many Christmas bags full of Christmas goodies to raffle. Please could you all bring a small plate of food to share on the night.

Subscriptions for 2023 are NOW due. In February if you have not paid you will no longer receive the newsletter or have access to Club discounts

Single \$ 25.00 Couple \$35.00 Pensioners \$20.00 BANK DETAILS DONCASTER GARDEN CLUB BSB 033-365 Account 179681

Please remember if you receive a paper newsletter to give Anita 10 stamped self addressed envelopes to cover the Year's mailout. Pauline and Gladys have been hard at work booking interesting speakers for next year. So far we have:

February – Silkies Roses from Clonbinane

March – Penny Woodward will speak on Knowing, Growing and Curing Garlic

April – Seila Hierk will return to speak on Asian Winter Vegetables

May - Terry and Shirley Nisbet on Flag Irises

From the President

Hello Gardeners All,

This news sheet is our 1st report of Club info in place of a Newsletter proper. The Club has the Publisher Software to load on our future newsletter editor's computer; Avril and I will send all necessary news, notices and gardening info to the Editor; others can contribute the occasional tasteful (for public reading) joke or recipe etc.

From 11th Nov the Webbs' were in sunny hot Q'land visiting a son for a weekend and assisting a daughter post surgery till 21st. I gather we have missed more days of low maximums and more rain. This is after I measured 222.3mm for October!

On my return I have a potato crop to unearth which has not done well with late frosts and excess rain so I am expecting a smaller than average production for the area. I'm eager to see if the pumpkin seedlings planted a few days before flying out are taking. Tomatoes will need tying up, more potatoes to plant for a summer crop, cucumber seedlings to buy as I've lost the time to have them ready. On my kitchen bench I have 3 orange sweet potato lying horizontally in a plastic box of wet sand. They were already shooting. I am hoping some will be long enough to take off and plant horizontally to root and crop. If I can find space I would like to plant some sweet corn seeds for a summer crop. 4 years ago I planted the sweet corn and sweet potatoes in the same area and both cropped well enough for the space. Two for one is always better when space is limited.

My hydrangea bush already had flowers starting to colour when we departed and the first roses were already out. The calendula have been a picture across the last few months and 2 sorts of aquilegia (grannies' bonnets) are adding colour.

Happy gardening, Pauline