



April 2025
49th Year of
Growth
1976 - 2025



Contact Email: doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com

Web Address: www.doncastergardenclubaus.com

The next DGC committee meeting will be held on 2 April 2025 at 7.30 pm

The next DGC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 9 April 2025**
8 pm at the RSL Hall , cnr Doncaster Road and Leed Street. Doors open at 7.30pm

The Speaker at this meeting will be Wendy Clark and she will talk about beneficial insects in the garden.

Committee Members 2025

President:

Pauline Webb

0409 063 060

pauline.pw25@gmail.com

Secretary:

Avril Clark

0402 478 302

doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Dr Margaret Salter

Vice-President & Speaker

Bookings:

Vacant

Fund Raising Co-Ordinator:

Anita Luzzza

Newsletter:

Rohini Padey

Toni Myers

Ray Brett

Esther Sim

Past President:

Doug Brewer

Kitchen Manager:

Reinhard

Our March 2025 speaker was Katherine Tants who introduced us to the Seasol range of products.

She is an entertaining speaker and we are lucky that she has a voice that carries across the room as the PA system did not work that night.

She gave us some information about the company that makes Seasol, and how it was started 40 years ago in Tasmania. Only the best Tasmanian kelp is used to make Seasol and the company harvests the kelp from the kelp that washes ashore.

She introduced the different types of PowerFeed like the Powerfeed for Flowers, fruits & Citrus and Powerfeed for Pots and Planters.

She recommended using Seasonal and Powerfeed every couple of weeks except in Fall and early winter.

Seasol is also launching a new product which is Worm compost in pellets form .

She said it will be available for sale in Bunnings soon.

She had a sample to show what it looked like, which she was going to trial in her garden.

PLANTS THAT DISLIKE SEAWEED FERTILISERS

It's best to steer clear of Peace Lilies, Snake Plants, Spider Plants, Jade Plants, and African Violets.

Pauline found this information on a UK gardening website

Open Garden - Margaret's house on Saturday 15th March 2025

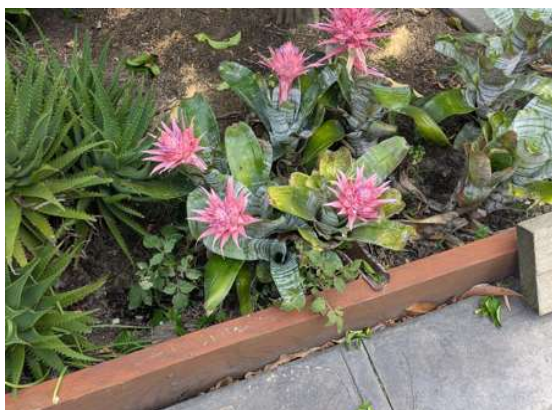
Thank you Margaret for showing us around your productive garden.

There were around 12 of us who attended the Open garden at Margaret's house. She has a lovely productive garden which has some fruit trees that are native to Fiji.

She has 2 mango trees which had a few mangoes waiting to ripen (pic below). She has a feijoa tree. Capsicums, chillies, eggplants, curry leaves, kaffir lime, lemon and cherry guavas.

I am impressed with how productive her garden is. It shows how with clever planting, we can grow a variety of plants/trees in a suburban block.

After touring the garden we had tea and sandwiches and a chat. Here are some pictures of the day.



Plastic bottles refund

If you have plastic bottles with lids on, marked for 10c return and wish the Garden Club to benefit rather than the council bin, please bring them to the meeting.

Gladys has offered to take them to the refund place near her and Bank them directly to the Clubs Bank Account.



Upcoming calendar events:

Following Committee Meeting:	30 April	hosted by Avril Clark, 8pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East
Following Meeting:	14 May	at the RSL Hall, 8pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East
Following Committee Meeting:	28 May	hosted by Avril Clark, 8pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East
Following Meeting:	11 June	at the RSL Hall, 8pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East
14 May Speaker Avril Clark - Monet's Garden		11 June Speaker Panel Discussion - Q&A Members to email questions to avril@spirirtofprogress.com.au

Ivanhoe Garden Club bus trip on 13 April 2025 - cost \$37:50. Contact Maria Mitchell mtmitchell@optusnet.com.au

The next outing is a Dine Out at the Box Hill RSL on 28th May @ 6pm. Names of members attending will be obtained at 9th April 2025 Club Meeting

Supper Roster

Connie Lee
Dianne Robertson
Hilda Frazzetto
Rohini Padey

Competition Table

As requested by members we will have these tables and Elsie will provide us details at the meeting

DGC Updates

Pauline is recuperating well , her treatment continues. She welcomes calls or visits from garden club members

Avril had her hip replacement surgery on 1st April 2025 and will take time off from Club duties for 3-4 weeks. We have sent flowers and a card to her on behalf of the Club.

Margaret will be acting President while Avril is away and she hosted the Committee meeting on Wednesday.

Please can you let any Committee members know of your availabiilty to assist as required. It is much appreciated.

Planting in April

Your beds should by now be prepared for autumn planting. Check the weather forecast as far ahead as possible and wait until after any very warm/hot weather to plant to avoid seeds bolting

Autumn/winter vegetables thrive in cool air and cool soil. Water well if the temperature heats up to keep roots cool.

Install dripline if possible to keep vegies well watered, especially cabbages and cauliflowers where the large leaves may prevent adequate water entering the soil.

Plant seeds in punnets - Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, Florence fennel, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, onion family, excluding garlic, silverbeet, spinach

Plant seedlings into soil - Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, Florence fennel, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, rocket, other salad greens, silverbeet, spinach

Plant seeds direct into the soil - Asian greens, beetroot, broad beans, carrot, daikon, mustard greens, parsnip, radish, rocket, turnip and herbs including coriander, chervil and dill

Plant garlic direct into the soil

Watering - Water soil (not leaves) deeply at least twice per week and deeply for several days before any heat wave (Rain less than 10mm per day does not count). Water cools the soil and therefore the roots of plants and will prevent bolting. Install dripline if possible.

Article courtesy - What to plant in April in Melbourne - Sustainable Macleod



MELBOURNE FRIENDS
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS VICTORIA

THE GROWING FRIENDS

**2025 AUTUMN
PLANT SALE**

**Saturday 3 May 10am to 4pm
Sunday 4 May 10am to 3pm**

Inside Southern Gate
Birdwood Avenue
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Free Entry

**A Jerusalem Artichoke in Pauline's garden.
It is 3 metres high. The root crop will be
harvested when the top dies back in late May**



Doncaster Garden Club Inc. Membership 2025

Please complete the membership form on the Clubs website:
<https://doncastergardenclubaus.com/becomeamember>

Membership fees: \$30 singles and \$40 for families

Bank Details:

Account Name: Doncaster Garden Club

BSB: 033-365

Account No: 179681

Use your name as identifier.

Newsletters are emailed every month. For those wishing a hard-copy, please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Club Secretary Avril Clark.

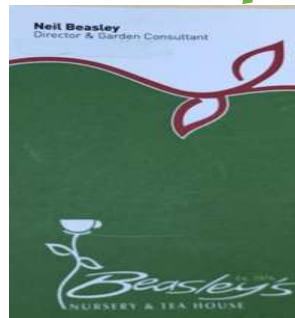
**All correspondence should be forwarded to Avril Clark - avril@spiritofprogress.com.au
62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East 3109**

DGC Life Members

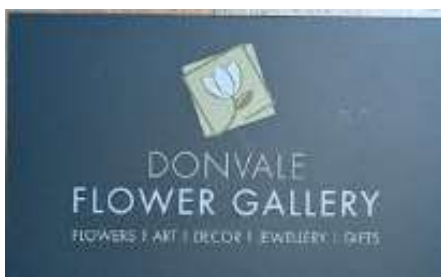
Gerda van der Peet
Doug Brewer
Ken Beer
Toni Myers
Gayle McCann

Ted Page
Joanne Driver
Elsie Carter
Bev Turner
Franziska Kung

Supporters and Sponsors



The Catalogue can be found online :
<https://ryset.com>
 The Club receives wholesale prices which means discounts of upto 50-70%



Please support our sponsors

Let them know you are a member of DGC and appreciate how they help us.