



July 2025
49th Year of
Growth
1976 - 2025



Contact Email: doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com

Web Address: www.doncastergardenclubaus.com

The DGC committee meeting was held on 25 June 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The next DGC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 9 July 2025**
7.30 pm at the RSL Hall , cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street. Doors open at 7.15pm

Charlotte Harrison from Sustainable Gardens Australia will speak to us on Queensland Fruit Fly.

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

June Q & A Session

Ron Lewis and Avril Clark were our panel for the Q&A session. We had an interactive and informative session, they shared tips on pruning, fertilising and pest control.

They handed a booklet that had many handy tips. Please request for a copy of booklet if you need one for reference. They shared information on common pests in the garden, household remedies as well as store bought insect sprays that can safely be used in the garden.

Ron gave tips on pruning hydrangeas and how to make sure that you leave enough old wood on the plant so that you have lots of flowers in spring.

Avril mentioned that it is time to prune roses and the plant should be pruned in a "V" so it looks like a vase.

We learnt about how to identify the deficiency of nutrients in plants and what you do to fix them.

We discussed easy fertilisers to make from kitchen scraps, like tea from banana peel (soak it in water for 3 weeks) and use this tea to water plants. It is full of nutrients.

Thank you to Avril and Ron for sharing their knowledge



Hello Gardeners All,

Our June weather has been very atypical: initially many degrees warmer than usual then interspersed with COLD fronts with another 2 due to arrive as I write. A cousin in Park Orchids saw a magpie collecting a stick ie nest building, as are the magpies in Eltham.

The birds rarely make poor choices re breeding times so my thought is a) a short winter and b) there may not be much 'sharp' left. Trevor's cousin just bought bags of pellets for his cattle and needs to destock his herd. Our son is doing similar re destocking. If you need hay or pea straw for your summer garden and see a source, buy it soon.

I am presuming the warm winter is continuing and have planted some potatoes. They will need covering after the leaves shoot if there is frost. My first broccoli have small heads already. The Imperial Mandarins and Washington Naval Orange (on dwarf stock) are just starting to have some ready to eat.

Rake up leaves (nature strip's can be useful) for making compost. Use weeds, blood and bone or manure or coffee grounds if you don't have grass clippings. Build a cubic metre with lots of water to keep the pile damp and encourage a hot compost. Cover with hay to keep the warmth in.

Happy Gardening when not hibernating during icy snaps .

Pauline

WHAT DO YOU CALL A
MELON THAT'S NOT
ALLOWED TO GET
MARRIED?

CANTELOPE.

I'M READING A BOOK
ABOUT ANTI-GRAVITY.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
TO PUT DOWN!

What do you call a
magician who has
lost his magic?

Ian.

**A big thank you to all members who brought in recyclable cans and bottles.
Please note that only bottles/cans with the 10c refund stamp can be recycled.**



Upcoming calendar events:

| | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| Following Committee Meeting: | 30 July | hosted by Avril Clark, 7.30pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East |
| Following Meeting: | 13 August | at the RSL Hall, 7.30pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East |
| Craig Castree on Soil health affecting the Health of edible gardens | | |
| Following Committee Meeting: | 27 August | hosted by Avril Clark, 7.30pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East |
| Following Meeting: | 10 Sept. | at the RSL Hall, 7.30pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East |

Doncaster Garden Club website

Our gardening club website is updated with Newsletter and Calendar of events. Please bookmark the page and explore the website for updates.

<https://doncastergardenclubaus.com/>

Coffee / Brunch meetup - Saturday 30th August 11 am at Petty' s Orchard

It will be great to catch up for a coffee or brunch. Petty's Orchard in Templestowe, Victoria, Australia, is among Melbourne's oldest and last-remaining commercial orchards . Please let us know at the meeting if you will be joining us.

The address is Corner of Homestead and Monckton Roads, Templestowe 3106

You can read more about them at <https://www.heritagefruitsociety.org/page-1701901>

Supper Roster

Fay Jones

Elsie Carter

Hilda Frazzetto



A big thank you to Christine and Terry Maher for the superb effort to provide supper at the last meeting. I would like the recipe of the banana bread for the newsletter

Hilda has been trying to get volunteers who are willing to bring in plate for supper, she says not many have put their hands up. If you are able to contribute please can you let Hilda know so she can organise the Supper roster

Things to do in the garden this Month:
Here is a list of seeds to Sow and Seedlings to Plant with their harvest time

| | (Temperate Climate Australia) | Sow/Plant | Harvest (weeks) |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| | Beetroot | s | 7 to 10 |
| | Broad Beans | dst | 12 to 22 |
| | Fennel (Florence) | s | 14-20 |
| | Kohlrabi | s | 7 to 10 |
| | Leeks | s | 15 to 18 |
| | Lettuce | dst | 8 to 12 |
| | Onion | dst | 25 to 34 |
| | Parsley | dst | 9 to 19 |
| | Peas | dst | 9 to 11 |
| | Potato | | 15 to 20 |
| | Radish | d | 5 to 7 |
| | Silverbeet (Swiss Chard) | s | 7 to 12 |
| | Snow Peas | dst | 12 to 14 |
| | Spinach | dst | 5 to 11 |
| | Spring Onions | st | 6 to 10 |
| | Squash | s | 7 to 8 |
| | Strawberry (seed) | s | 12 months |
| | Strawberry (plants) | t | 11 months |

Article courtesy <https://deepgreenpermaculture.com/2023/07/03/july-vegetable-and-herb-gardening-calendar-for-temperate-climate-australia/>

One-Pot Spiced Apple Cake

| | |
|---|---|
| 250 gms butter | Preheat oven to 150°C / 300°F. |
| 3-4 apples, peeled,cored, and thinly sliced | Grease the sides of a 26cm / 10 inch diameter cake tin and line the base with baking paper. |
| 2 cups sugar | Melt butter in a large pot. |
| 2 eggs, beaten | Remove from heat and mix in apples and sugar then eggs. |
| 2 1/2 cups plain flour | Stir in flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, sultanas or raisins, and walnuts. |
| 1 tsp baking powder | Spread into prepared tin and bake until it is risen and golden and the top bounces back when pressed (about 1 hour 20 minutes). |
| | Allow to cool for 15 minutes before turning out of the tin. |
| | If desired, top with extra walnut pieces and dust with icing / confectioner's sugar before serving. |

<https://www.langbein.com/recipes/one-pot-spiced-apple-cake>

**One of our founding member Ken Beer will welcome visits from garden club members .
For those who will like to visit the address is Croydon Place Care Community, 9 Jackson
Street Croydon 3136. Ph (03) 97262500**

| 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 |

Doncaster Garden Club Inc. Membership 2025

Annual fees are due every October

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

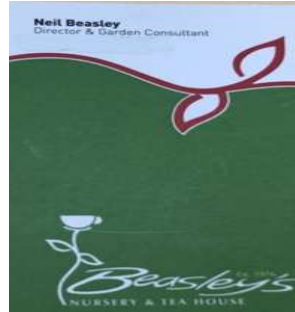
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Account No: 179681

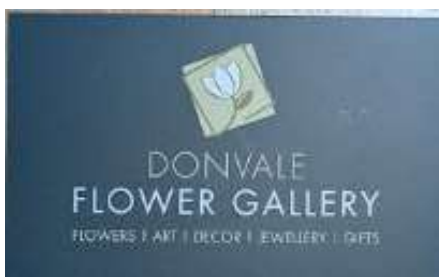
Use your name as identifier.

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

Supporters and Sponsors



The Catalogue can be found online : <https://ryset.com>
The Club receives wholesale prices which means discounts of upto 60-70%



Please support our sponsors

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