



May 2025
49th Year of
Growth
1976 - 2025



Contact Email: doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com

Web Address: www.doncastergardenclubaus.com

The DGC committee meeting was held on 30 April 2025 at 7.30 pm

The next DGC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 14 May 2025**
7.30 pm at the RSL Hall , cnr Doncaster Road and Leed Street. Doors open at 7.00pm

The Speaker at this meeting is Avril Clark and she will share information about a visit to Monet's garden in Giverny France.

Committee Members 2025

President:

Pauline Webb

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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 Luzzi

Newsletter:

Rohini Padey

Toni Myers

Ray Brett

Esther Sim

Past President:

Doug Brewer

Kitchen Manager:

Reinhard

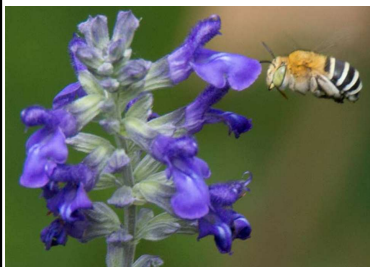
Our April 2025 speaker was Wendy Clark who spoke about insects big and small.

Wendy is a naturalist and photographer. She has had a long association with the Field Naturalists Club. She had a presentation on insects with beautiful pictures.

She talked about the Good, the bad and the Ugly from the insect world. She said no insects are bad, they all play a role in the circle of life and so we should protect them all. Even the black ants that we all seem to dislike play an important role in the environment.

She also had a exquisite photobook on display and we had the opportunity to purchase that to help us

to identify insects. Her website is <https://www.masteryourcamera.com.au>.



Margaret presenting Wendy with a gift from the garden club to thank her for the wonderful presentation.



Hello Gardeners All,

At this point of writing (27/4) I have had 14mm rain this week. It is so timely as we all have had extra dry gardens. However, the nearly dead bean plants have still been producing through the warm weather. It has been a bumper crop with lots in the freezer.

The one large clump of Jerusalem Artichokes were dug today and have had their first wash of many to clean the soil out of grooves. When clean, they will be fermented then refrigerated. We have found this eliminates the issue of excess abdominal gas.

Bought seedlings of peas, cabbage, thyme are in as are my saved garlic, and shallots and seedlings of broccoli and cauliflower. Radish and carrot seeds are up and Coles Dwarf Broadbeans are planted. I will report on the result in late spring as they need 18deg for flowers to set then grow broadbeans.

Ten days ago the contents of a full bokashi bucket were buried in a trench, covered with soil and today the broadbeans were planted in that area with only a sprinkle of rockdust as I'm hoping the decomposed fermented vegetable waste does the fertilising.

Enclosed are some photos from the garden: yacon/Peruvian Apple, related to dahlias, just flowering; last of the dark pink dwarf snapdragon; pineapple sage in flower; seed pods of rat-tailed radish- when just set, use in stir fry.

Happy Gardening,

Pauline



**A big thank you to Gladys Lim for banking \$84 last year and another \$89.20 so far this year.
Thank you to all members who brought in recyclable cans and bottles.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE -

There will be no recyclable collections at the May 2025 meting, Please save your items and bring them to the June meeting

Upcoming calendar events:

Following Committee Meeting:	28 May	hosted by Avril Clark, 7.30pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East
Following Meeting:	11 June	at the RSL Hall, 7.30pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East
Following Committee Meeting:	25 June	hosted by Avril Clark, 7.30pm at 62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East
Following Meeting:	09 July	at the RSL Hall, 7.30pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East

11 June Meeting

Panel Discussion Q & A

We will have a panel of knowledgeable members who will answer any gardening questions that members have raised.

The topics that have been nominated are :

- . Common Garden Pests - they will discuss how we can control pests like snails, slugs, aphids, nemotodes, fruit fly**
- . Common problems in the garden like scale, brown spots, petal blights and how we can deal with these**
- . Tips and tricks on Winter Pruing for Roses, Fruit trees**

If you would like information on any other topics please send an email with questions to avril@spirirtofprogress.com.au by Friday 31st May

Supper Roster for the May meeting

Virgina Roberts
Maureen Lynch
Hilda Frazzetto
Claudia Raiola

Competition Table

For the May meeting we would like to see your best seasonal flowers on this table
We will have 2 judges who will select a winner.

Planting in May

May is an ideal month for planting winter vegies in well prepared beds. Continue to water well through any dry spells and install dripline for brassica family vegies and garlic.

Plant seeds in punnets

broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, Florence fennel, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, onion family excluding garlic, silverbeet, spinach

Plant seedlings into soil

American upland cress between plants of broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower (this is a dead end trap plant that protects these plants from white cabbage butterfly, the eggs of which develop into green caterpillars); broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower, Florence fennel, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, rocket, other salad greens, silverbeet, spinach

Plant seeds direct into the soil

Asian greens, broad beans, carrot, daikon, mustard greens, parsnip, peas, radish, rocket, turnip and herbs including coriander, chervil and dill

Plant garlic direct into the soil

Plant seedlings every few weeks so that they will not all be ready for harvest at the same time.

Watering

Water soil (not leaves) deeply at least twice per week. (Rainfall less than 10mm per day does not count). Install dripline if possible.

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

Comedy Corner

If the tomato is technically a fruit

Does it mean ketchup is a smoothie

How do you know Carrots are good for your eyes?

Have you ever seen a Rabbit wearing glasses !

Raspberry Cake

This is a recipe from Anita's collection.

She has made this cake for Club meetings , members have requested her for the recipe

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups (170g) almond meal

1 1/4 cups (275 g) castor sugar

3/4 cup (70 g) desiccated coconut

4 eggs

2 tsp vanilla extract

200g butter, melted and cooled (or Nuttlex for dairy free)

3/4 cup (70g) raspberries

Preheat oven to 180dec C, lightly grease a 24cm springfoam pan
and line base with baking paper.

In a large bowl, stir together almond meal, sugar and coconut

In a medium bowl whisk the eggs and vanilla extract until combined

Add the melted butter and mix well.

Add the butter mixture into the dry ingredients and mix until smooth

Pour batter into the prepared pan, and dot the top with the raspberries

Bake 50-55 minutes until cake is golden and top springs back.

Cool in pan for 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely

These are some beautiful plants that Ron Lewis bought in to show us.

Zygocactus or Schlumbergera are
jungle cactus that thrive in filtered light .

They are also known as Christmas
Cactus or Crab cactus



Huernia zebrina, the little owl or
lifesaver cactus, is a species of
flowering plant in the family
Apocynaceae, native to Namibia,
Botswana



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

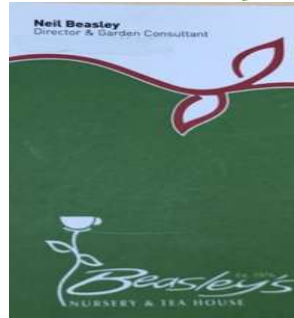
BSB: 033-365

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.

Supporters and Sponsors



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



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