



October 2023  
47 Years of Growth  
1976 - 2023



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The next DGC committee meeting will be held on

Wednesday, 4 October 2023

8pm at 11 Inglewood Close Doncaster East

The next meeting of the DGC will be held on

Wednesday, 11 October 2023

**7.45pm** at the RSL Hall, cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street, Doncaster East

The Speaker for October is Seila Heirk... speaking on Bees in the Garden

The Speakers for November AGM are Jack McDonald & Andrew Fennick...speaking on Recycled Water

#### Committee Members 2023

President:

**Pauline Webb**

0409 063 060

Secretary:

**Avril Clark**

0402 478 302

[doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com](mailto:doncastergardenclubinc@gmail.com)

Treasurer:

**Dr Margaret Salter**

Fund Raising Co-ordinator:

**Anita Luzzza**

Newsletter:

**Linda Speirs**

**Toni Myers**

**Esther Sim**

**Ray Brett**

**Gladys Lim**

Past President:

Doug Brewer



**31st October is our end of financial year.** This is when fees are due for our 2023-24 year.

We will be requiring these from each of you at the October and November meetings.

**Membership fees for 2024 may be paid directly by bank transfer**  
**BSB: 033-365 Account:179681**

Alternatively, Margaret our Treasurer will accept cash or credit for the payment of Annual Fees at this next meeting and at our November meeting.

Membership fees are due by 31st October each year. **Singles \$25; Families \$35**

**note: The Committee needs to increase fees due to rising costs, to \$30 Singles & \$40 Couples from the 1st January 2024. As our year ends on 31.10.23 those who pay on time avoid the increase.**

**Please note we have organised an earlier arrival time of 7:45pm or earlier at the Hall as we will have visitors to accommodate and need to start on time.**

#### **Local Food Connect Event: Setting Up a Worm Farm**

[https://localfoodconnect.org.au/event/setting-up-and-maintaining-a-worm-farm/?instance\\_id=184720](https://localfoodconnect.org.au/event/setting-up-and-maintaining-a-worm-farm/?instance_id=184720)

When: November 11, 2023 @ 14:00 – 15:30

Where: Edendale - 30 Gastons Road Eltham VIC 3095

Cost: Free

Contact: Edendale on Ph: 9433 3711

Learn how to set up a worm farm and the easiest methods to manage and care for these most hard-working of creatures.

This workshop will cover both the theory and practice of worm farming in a household setting. It will be useful for those wishing to recycle household food waste in order to produce worm products for use in the improvement of soil in gardens and pot plants.

Discounted worm farms will be available for sale on the day.



## DGC October Newsletter President's Report

Hello Gardeners All,

What a busy month! New leaf bursting everywhere with the warmer weather, significantly less rain so veggies need extra water, finished crops coming out (letuce, brassicas, silverbeet, peas, carrots and baby parsnip). Then there was the culmination of work done by Avril, Margaret and myself a couple of months ago when we researched criteria, wrote and put in applications for 2 members for Awards:

We entered Anita for the Doreen Stoves Award at Manningham Council and on Thursday 21st about a dozen of us joined Anita and her family for the Awards Night where every person entered received a framed certificate and had many photos taken . It was a very enjoyable evening with food and drinks beforehand. We congratulate her and thank her for 16 years of Fundraising and Committee work for our Club.

Garden Clubs of Australia also has an Awards programme and we entered Alana Camilleri for the Young Gardener of the Year Award. Alana has won this prestigious award! Congratulations Alana! Therefore, at our October meeting, Maureen Lucas who is on the Committee of GCA and one of our members, will present Alana with her Award. Do all come and help celebrate the evening. We are anticipating over a dozen extra guests including Nicole Werner, MP for Warrandyte, Alana's family and grandparents, Stella Yee the Editor of Manningham Life and others who have been invited but not yet responded. Extra supper and special raffle prizes have been organised.

NB THERE WILL BE NO TRADING TABLE FOR OCTOBER.

The presentation to Alana will be followed by Seila Hierk speaking on Bees and honey as planned. He hopes to bring honey from his hives for selling. It depends on the bees!

### **Paul Lucas who does immense work for GCA has been awarded Life Member.**

Congratulations Paul!

We also have Ken Beer who is our last founding member (he missed the very first meeting, he says) and Maureen Lucas who both have the Top Horticultural Award in Australia: The John Pascoe Fawkner Medal. We are a remarkable Club with remarkable members!

For those who heard Julie Cos on Smoked Eggs last month, I hope you have enjoyed your 6 pack of smoked eggs she gave all attendees.

Next month, November is our Annual General Meeting where all the current Committee stand down and may or may not be re elected. Please come and have your vote. It is important. Also do nominate people for whom you wish to vote. For this last year's new members, please feel free to say if you would like a year's experience on the Committee to see how a Club is organised to run smoothly, to assist decision making and budgeting/spending, and to gain insight and skills to help you and us grow. The Committee members enjoy much camaraderie.

November is also DGC's 47th Birthday. Come and enjoy birthday 🍰 cake with us.

Happy Gardening, Pauline

### **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

### **New Members:**

Megan Parnham  
Glen Speirs

### **October Supper Roster**

Ray Brett  
Faye Jones  
Claudia Raiola  
Virginia Roberts  
Soo Mei Leong

The aggregate winner for A Potted Plant, was Ron Lewis with his outstanding Tradescantia Blushing Bride. An unusual, but none the less beautiful plant.



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**Anita Luzzza for being**  
**awarded a Manningham**  
**Civic Award for her 16**  
**years of fund raising for the**  
**Club!**



### **Forthcoming AGM**

Our Annual General meeting is held every November. Annual subscriptions will also be due in that month. For the next couple of months, we will be discussing the Office holders' functions as well as the functions of the other Committee members.

In 1982 the Club Committee positions included the following: President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, two Committee members, Librarian and Newsletter Editor. 9 Committee members in total.

In 2023 we have 10 Committee members which are: President, Vice President (vacant), Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Fundraising Coordinator, Speakers Officer and 3 general positions.

Here are the details of what the top 3 positions entail:

#### **President**

- Face of Club – spokesperson and representative of Club at Local Council meetings, other groups and events as necessary
- Networking – attract new members
- Plan annual agenda – hospitality and friendship
- New initiatives
- Chair monthly meetings
- Ensure rules and policies are followed
- Answer numerous phone calls and emails from members
- Drafting policy in response to members' wishes
- Ensure that issues are followed through
- Coordinate passing information to other members
- Approve delegation of activities
- Delegate to Vice President and /or Secretary
- Rosters – kitchen and Judging
- Organise updates to website

#### **Secretary**

- Prepares agendas for each Committee meeting and Annual General Meeting
- Records Minutes of Committee Meetings
- Receives and records apologies from members non attendance at meetings
- Receives and disseminates correspondence
- Issues notice to all members for the election of Committee members in previous newsletter (AGM)
- Associated legal obligations to Government bodies – Consumer Affairs
- Maintains archives
- Membership – maintains a register of member's names and addresses (and other details)
- keeps an up to date register of Club Members
- sends a formal letter of acceptance to all new member

#### **Treasurer**

- Controls the Club's finances by promptly depositing all funds within 2 business working days and by paying all approved expenses using electronic banking, as appropriate
- Submits financial report to the monthly meeting summarising movement in bank account – expenses and total income
- Prepares the annual budget in conjunction with the Committee and recommends the quantum of annual subscriptions and joining fees
- Finalises the annual accounts and arranges for audit
- Works in conjunction with the Secretary on membership applications and payment of fees
- Monitors collection of fees for Club activities to ensure all are received and any valid overpayments are returned
- Protects organisation against fraud, theft
- Ensure safe custody of money including petty cash (no more than \$50 at a time)



Two trees were passing the time and chatting. They could see a small group of people walking in the distance and one tree turned to the other and said "Do you think they communicate with each other?" The other tree shook his head and said "Nah, they haven't got roots."

-submitted by Bev Middleton

**Q: What is the gardener's favourite novel?**

**A: War and Peas!**



Next Committee Meeting: 04 October hosted by Pauline Webb, 8pm at 11 Inglewood Close Doncaster East

Next Meeting: 11 October at the RSL Hall, 8pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East

Following Committee Meeting: 01 November hosted by Pauline Webb, 8pm at 11 Inglewood Close Doncaster East

Following Meeting: 08 November at the RSL Hall, 8pm at cnr Doncaster Road and Leeds Street Doncaster East

**Open Gardens Victoria** would love to extend an invitation to all Doncaster Garden Club members to visit two beautiful private spring gardens in the Nillumbik Shire, opening on the weekend 14 - 15 October 2023.

### Big Hill

<https://opengardensvictoria.org.au/Big-Hill-2>

### Treetops Garden

<https://opengardensvictoria.org.au/Treetops-Garden>



### Supper Kitchen Duties for Newcomers

The routine is simple and many hands make light work.

Starting at 7:15pm:

The mugs, teapots coffee, etc are in the cupboard in the ladies wash room. Ray or Pauline unlock it and our things are taken to the kitchen, mugs on the bench, Tea in pots, Urn filled and turned ON low.

Some foods put in fridge ie if it has cream or perishables ie sandwich fillings, We have our own tea towels.

Food to be warmed goes in the pie warmer perhaps 45min before end of raffle, Help serve hot drinks

Afterwards collect mugs, etc

Wipe out pie warmer, Wash, dry, clean benches & floor

Urn to be OFF and Pack everything back into cupboard.

Someone takes tea towels home to wash and returns them the next month. Pauline is always happy to do this too.

As Ray is in charge, he is there to help you learn the routine and answer questions.

### Planting in December

[TASMANIA, ACT, MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, BENDIGO, GEELONG & MOUNT GAMBIER]			
COOL ZONE	FRUIT & VEGETABLES	HERBS	FLOWERS
	Beetroot	Basil	Alyssum
	Broccoli	Coriander	Begonia
	Cabbage	Chives	Carnation
	Carrot	Dill	Cockscomb
	Cauliflower	Mint	Coleus
	Celery	Oregano	Cosmos
	Cucumber	Parsley	Dahlia
	Eggplant	Sage	Dianthus
	Leek	Thyme	Impatiens
	Onion		Lobelia
	Shallot		Marigold
	Squash		Petunia
	Spinach		Salvia
	Strawberry		Snapdragon
	Sweet corn		Verbena
	Zucchini		Zinnia
	Tomato		



### **September Speaker Review:**

In September we had Julie Kos, owner of the Smoked Egg company, come to our meeting to tell us of her journey creating and establishing a raw smoked egg. Her passion for her product was evident and I think we all enjoyed the story she had to tell, with all its ups and downs. The road to success is not always smooth and it often requires a great deal of tenacity and belief in what can be achieved.

Earlier in the day Julie and I prepared a few smoked egg dishes for you to sample for supper, for us it was like a trip down memory lane, having spent many hours in the kitchen together. For you, we hope you enjoyed the opportunity to taste a smoked egg. For all those who attended, Julie also generously gifted a large bag of charcoal chips (for our raffle table) and a carton of smoked eggs to take home and try. We wondered how many people were having smoked eggs for breakfast the next morning.

### **The Spice To Put In Your Soil While Rooting New Plants**

Tumeric: "When you prepare your soil for planting in a pot, sprinkle 1 tablespoon of powdered turmeric into the soil and mix it thoroughly before you add the new cuttings. Then, simply plant the cutting as you normally would, and water it evenly to ensure the soil is moist in all areas. The plant will soon reap the benefits of the turmeric-rich soil as the spice promotes root growth."

<https://www.housedigest.com/1389438/gardening-hack-turmeric-rooting-plants/>



### **Useful Websites:**

These sites have seasonal updates of 'how to' so may be helpful in learning new plant and gardening skills:

organicgardener.com.au  
www.rosesalesonline.com.au  
theseedcollection.com.au  
www.neutrog.com.au



## Supporters and Sponsors



### SEEDS @ PLNTY

15% discount when you key the Discount Code DGCseeds.

The discount will be applied to the invoice at the end.



*Dolce Mio*  
*Pasticceria & Gelateria*



DONVALE  
FLOWER GALLERY

**Mensland**  
- 39 The Mall,  
Heidelberg West



### RYSET

The Committee each have a Ryset catalogue and an online pricelist to share with members. (Thousands of products) The Club receives wholesale prices which are usually the retail price discounted by 60-70%. Do ask to borrow the catalogue.

Please support our supporters, let them know you are a member of DGC and appreciate how they help us.

