DONCASTER GARDEN CLUB INC.

News

December 2021

To all members of the Doncaster Garden Club the committee members wish you all a very happy Christmas and a great year in 2022 and hope to see you at our last meeting for the year

Garden Club Christmas Break up

Wednesday 8th December

Dinner at Cherry Hill Tavern at 6pm.

(Make sure you are double vaccinated)

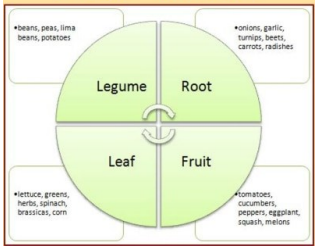
RSVP Avril Clark 0402 478 302 By Monday 6th December

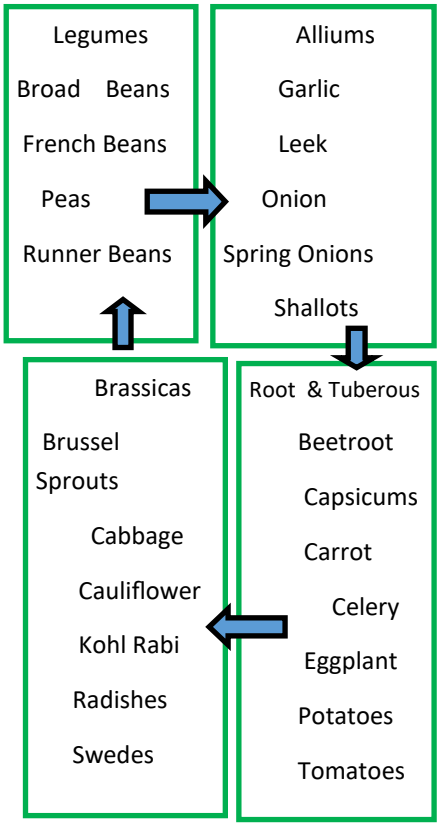
Guy Palmer

Best planting months

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus								●	●	●	●	●
Basil									●			
Beans	●	●							●	●	●	●
Beetroot	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●
Broad beans			●	●	●	●						
Broccoli		●	●									
Brussels sprouts		●										
Cabbage		●	●									
Capsicum								●	●			
Carrot	●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●
Cauliflower		●										
Celery									●	●		
Chickpea					●							
Chilli								●	●			
Chives	●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●
Coriander				●	●	●	●	●	●			
Cucumber									●	●	●	●
Eggplant								●	●			
Fennel		●	●	●	●							
Garlic				●	●	●						
Globe artichoke								●	●	●	●	
Gourd									●	●	●	●
Jerusalem artichoke									●	●	●	
Kale			●	●	●							
Leeks		●	●					●	●			
Lettuce	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mizuna	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mustard greens	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Okra										●	●	
Onion		●			●	●	●	●				
Pak choy			●	●	●							
Parsley	●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●
Parsnip								●	●	●		
Peanut										●	●	
Peas				●	●	●	●					
Potato	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●
Pumpkin									●	●	●	●
Radish	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rhubarb									●	●		
Rocket			●	●	●			●	●	●	●	
Rockmelon									●	●		
Shallot		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Silverbeet	●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●
Spinach			●	●	●							
Spring onions								●	●	●		
Sweet potato										●	●	
Sweetcorn	●	●							●	●	●	●
Tomato								●	●			
Watermelon									●	●		
Zucchini									●	●		

Crop Rotation
A Simple System That Works!





Crop rotation is beneficial for four main reasons:
(1) Plants that fix nitrogen, such as peas and other legumes, improve soil quality for future vegetables planted in the same bed.
(2) Alternating shallow-rooted and deep-rooted plants in a given area draws nutrients from the soil at varying depths.

(3) Soilborne pests that feed on one family of plants are hindered because their food source is not in the same location every year
(4) Gardeners who practice crop rotation do not need to let beds lie fallow (crop Free) as often as they might otherwise

All correspondence should be forwarded to: **Avril Clark** **62 Pine Hill Drive Doncaster East 3109**

FRIENDS OF BURNLEY GARDENS INC

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE FOR THIS VERY POPULAR EVENT

Summer Fruit Tree Pruning

with

Chris England

Saturday 11 December 2021

An introductory lecture is followed by a hands-on workshop (under Chris' watchful eye). Using the demonstration fruit trees in the orchard of the Burnley Gardens you'll learn to summer prune fruit trees to get maximum fruit. Chris will also demonstrate how to get fruit on espalier fruit trees.

This is a small group workshop, where you will "have a go" under an expert's watchful eye. Suitable for beginners or as a refresher for experienced pruners.

When:	**Saturday 11th December 2021**
Time:	**9.30am – 12.30pm**
Cost:	**Members $50. Non-members $65. (includes morning tea)**
BYO:	**Cleaned secateurs. All plant material supplied**
Dress:	**Please wear closed shoes (health and safety requirement)**
Venue:	**PSL 6, Burnley Campus, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond**
Parking:	**Yarra Boulevard**
Bookings:	**via TryBooking at https://www.trybooking.com/BVQNK**

Numbers are limited so book early

CHRISTMAS EGG NOG

6 EGGS SEPARATED
225 GMS CASTER SUGAR
285 ML MILK
140 ML COGNAC
280 ML DARK Jamaican Rum
280 ml cream

Separate eggs, beat whites separately, Beat yokes and sugar separately then add milk, cognac, and rom. Gently flod in whites. Refrigerate for four hours. Fold in lightly whipped cream. Serve with a sprinkle of nutmeg

Pot up some colourful flowering plants to provide a bit of Christmas cheer. Choose dual purpose species such as zinnias, salvias, cosmos and achillea that offer beautiful colour but also help attract beneficial insects.

Tidy up citrus trees by pruning off dead wood. While you're at it, check the older branches and trunk for borer holes. If you find any, poke wire into the hole to squash the borer grub that may be residing inside. If you've decided to prune tomato plants, spend half an hour pinching out side shoots. To avoid spreading disease from one plant to the next, sterilise your hands between plants with hand sanitising gel.

Tackle summer weeds. Pull or hoe a few. Try to get them out before they set seed and create an ongoing problem. If they're seed free they can also be composted or in the case of edible weeds, eaten by your chooks or your good self.

Take a cat nap beneath a shady tree. There's never a bad time to have a siesta

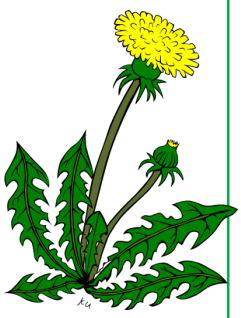
I bought my son a fridge for Christmas.
I can't wait to see his face light up when he opens it.
What did the third wise salesman say after his friends had already presented gold and frankincense?
But wait – there's myrrh!
Why did Mrs. Claus insist Santa take an umbrella?
"Because of the rain, dear."

I'm passing this on because it worked for me today. A Doctor on TV said that in order to have inner peace in our lives, we should always finish things that we start. Since we could all use more calm in out lives, I looked around my house to find things I'd started and hadn't finished. I finished a bottle of Merlot, a bottle of Chardonnay, a bodle of Bailey's, a butle of wum, tha mainder of Valiuminun scriptins, an a box a choclutz. Yu has no idr how fablus I feel rite now. Sned this to all ur frenz who need inner piss. An telum u luvum

(Thanks to the Greythorn Bowling Club newsletter)

The WeedScan Project

In support of a National Project conducted by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and The New South Wales Department of Primary Industries.



This project aims to identify all weeds in Australia by compiling a photographic data base. It will then allow all Australians to identify any weed from its photograph and to be provided with advice on how to control or eradicate it. At least 1000 pictures of each weed species need to be collected from locations across Australia. The database will use the photographs to identify any weed. Current weed identification relies on expert knowledge, interpreting taxonomic or morphological identification keys, trying to match a weed with an image in a weed guide or app, or sending a weed image or specimen to herbariums for identification. This often leads to delayed or incorrect identification that impedes timely action, particularly on emerging weeds, and requires State herbaria to allocate scarce resources to respond to community identification requests for well-known for well-known established weed

THE GCA IS ASKING as many as possible of the 55,000 gardeners who are associated with Affiliates of The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc to participate in this project - all you need is a MOBILE PHONE or a digital camera. Spend a little time between September 2021 and May - June 2022 photographing weeds in your garden, on street verges in your neighbourhood, in parks, gardens and sports-grounds, on the sides of roads, on the banks of creeks and waterholes or at the beach and send them into WEEDSCAN

Submitting photos to WeedScan is a relatively easy process. Firstly, for each weed, photograph the whole plant then take photos of leaves, flowers (if present) growth habit or distinctive features. Take lots of photographs. Submit photos separately by weed species and location at **http:// weeds.org.au/ identify/weeds photo-submissions/**

More tips on identifying weeds are available on-line at the submission form link . There is lots of information covering topics including Leaves Flowers Buds and Spent Flowers Fruit and Pods

Green Ricotta Gnocchi

Ingredients

600 g of mixed greens such as silver beet (leaves only) and spinach
250g ricotta
50g parmesan (plus extra to serve)
1 egg
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
100g plain flour
a good pinch of salt

Method

Blanch the greens, squeeze out all the water and chop finally.
Add all ingredients in a large bowl and mix well until it forms a dough (add a little extra flour if needed).
Roll out strips of dough on a floured surface (like rolling sausages) and cut into 3 cm pieces
Flatten each piece slightly with a floured fork. Place on a tray lined with baking paper and refrigerate for about half an hour
Cook in salted water in small amounts until the gnocchi rise to the surface.
Serve with a sauce of your choice. Alternatively, place into a greased baking dish, dotted with about 40g butter, sprinkle with extra parmesan cheese and place under a hot grill for about 4 minutes.

Plants feel the need for a feed at this time of year. A seaweed tea or low environmental impact liquid fertiliser is perfect, especially for the seedlings put in during November. They are probably in need of a bit of a feed by now. Apply to the soil early in the morning.

Bulleen Arts And Garden

BA&G centre will always give you a discount if you show your Garden Club membership card.

There wil be decisions to be made regarding where the club venue will be in the coming year. Be assured the committee will do it's best to find the best meeting place to ensure that the club continues to grow. If you have a suggestion please let the secretary know.

Committee Members 2021

President: Doug Brewer 0412 017 133

Vice President Pauline Webb

Secretary: Avril Clark 0402 478 302

Speaker: Pauline Webb:

Treasurer: Toni Myers

Newsletter Albert Schafter

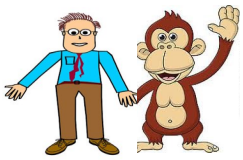
Anita Luzza

Kenneth Beer

Esther Sim

Margaret Schafter

Dave and Mabel were on their way to the Gold Coast when they were flagged down by a man whose truck had broken down. "Are you going to the Gold Coast ?" the driver asked Dave. "It's just I've got two chimpanzees in the back that have to be taken to the Gold Coast Zoo. Could you possibly take them for me? I'll give you $100 for your trouble." "No worries mate " said Dave . So the two chimpanzees were loaded into Dave's ute and off they went.



Five hours later, the truck driver was back on the road driving though the Gold Coast when he was suddenly struck with a horrific sight. There were Dave and Mabel walking down the street holding hands with the two chimps, much to the amusement of a big crowd.

The truck driver pulled off the road and ran over to them. "What the heck do you think you are doing here? I gave you $100 to take these chimpanzees to the Zoo". "Yes, I know and we did" said Dave, "but we had some money left over, so now we're taking them to Sea World".

Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion

A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tyred

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.