

GREENS~LEAVES

Dunedin Vegetable Growers Club Newsletter; issued monthly, Vol: 9: 2 February 2016

Next meeting; 7pm, Monday 8th February

Venue is the St Kilda Bowling Club, 33 Royal Crescent

President; Carol Henderson (454 4625) hendersonic@xtra.co.nz

Membership: Heather Wilson (4764607) heatherandmike@clear.net.nz

Website ; <http://www.dvgc.co.nz/>

Monday 8th February Welcome and notices (**This is a Monday-ised holiday**)

Planting now/Q&A - David Neill

Club Talk- Drying onions and garlic with plaiting demonstration

Competition – Salad bowl for **ONE**

Speaker – How the Maori gardened

Garden visit – Elizabeth Whitcombe's 2pm Sun. Feb 21st followed by Ray Wade's at 3pm

The garden has been getting a great watering over the last week but I have decided a gardener is never happy as I am over it. I am waiting for the warmth to arrive and everything to take off including the weeds.

January Meeting

Thanks to David on the planting tips, and an excellent talk on using the kitchen scraps from Margaret Dodds. The committee has discussed getting a dehydrator for people to borrow if anyone wants to give a committee member feedback.

Annika enjoyed describing her project on the Taieri and asked if anyone wanted to be involved. Margaret D won the people's choice with her cauliflower and Ruth won the people's choice and judge's choice for the cherries. Warren won the judge's choice for the cucumbers.

February 8th meeting.

Competition is salad bowl for **ONE**.

Some of the previous entries did not quite meet the description of the competition list. We do not want to withdraw anyone's entry but please read the description carefully. Thanks.

Garden visit for February is a double..... both small but beautiful and productive ☺

Horticultural Show Feb 27th and 28th

Speaker on Saturday at 3pm is Kate Wendelgest of Stonehurst Gourmet Mushrooms

Sunday speaker at 1pm Dennis Dorney on Community gardening

Competition entries in by Wed.24th Feb. to Sue Bagley ph 4884054 or brian.bagley@clear.net.nz

Visit to Kathy's at Chrystall's Beach by Mgt Dodds

After several stops to consider directions 4 cars with 13 club members found Kathy's home and garden close to the beach and sheltered by native bush from the southerlies. The productive vegetable garden is a challenge, as in winter the sloping section becomes a bog. Several varieties of potato grow well including a purple one nobody could name, broad beans were prolific in the windy situation where the summer temp is between 8 and 14 deg. We all tried a kohlrabi as we sat in the sun to eat our picnic lunch. Carrots, brassica, beans, leeks and tomatoes all grow here.

Kathy has trapped a large number of possums, battles periwinkle and now has the added problem of gooseberries, blackcurrant and parsley possibly being spread by birds. After lunch we walked towards the beach where in a very small area the rare Chrystall's Beach boulder copper butterfly live and we were lucky to see several males basking in the sunshine. All up a great day out thank you Kathy



What to plant in February

Seeds in trays or some in the ground Beetroot, bok choy, brassicas, carrots, peas, radishes, silver beet, and turnips

Plants in the ground

All brassicas, celery, leeks, lettuces, silver beet and spinach.

Moon Planting:

January 27th and 28th planting roots
February 4th and 5th planting roots
February 12^{th-20th} above ground planting
February 26th and 27th planting roots
March 5th and 6th planting roots.

The trading table

Thanks for everyone's contributions.

Library

Do remember to sign the books out when you borrow one Thanks

Website <http://www.dvgc.co.nz>

Have you looked at it recently?

Sarah Fenwick has taken over putting on the information and you may notice some changes so keep looking. Watch the calendar!! Thanks for all Robyn's work in establishing this.

This newsletter we will try and post on the web site earlier so if you have miss it in your email we will have it on the website.

SEATING and clearing the seats away. It would be wonderful if members would please fill up the seats available from the front as there are quite often gaps up the front which are hard to get to if you are arriving a bit later. Please stack the seats in the middle at front table so there is room for supper.....it is also easier to replace the seats and tables to their original positions this way ☺

Internet interest

You may have seen naturopath, musician and gardener Francisca Griffin in the Star recently as she has a show on Otago Access radio (3pm every second Thursday) called Being Healthy Naturally.

I had a listen to a couple of her podcasts, one on weeds in salads, another on berries and then got excited about having her as a speaker for the DVGC!

Sadly Francisca holds her clinics in the evening so we won't be having her speak at the Club *But* we can all hear the podcasts of her programmes at;

<http://www.accessradio.org/?sid=c0aeb0af-3667-4b6e-9937-ecfb81bcbdf0>

All you need to do once there is type *Being Healthy Naturally* into the box under the heading Programme. Actually it goes on the list after typing Bei !

The OAR website has been updated recently and is not so easy to negotiate ☺

Heather went and had a lovely hour picking blueberries last weekend and spoke to the owner who was happy for it to be mentioned in the newsletter. The blueberries are excellent, and we know many who have tried and failed in their own gardens to grow them.

Blue Willow Blueberries

This tucked away gem of a pick-your-own place is in Fairfield, 133B Martin Road. Parking plentiful on the roadside.

There is a sign out at the end of the drive.

They have a Facebook page, which will tell you the hours and if they are open each weekend for the public to visit and pick their own blueberries (it cost me \$16.00 for a 2litre icecream container) or phone 0272486166.

It is open for the next month or so over the fruiting season but closed over Waitangi weekend for a function. This week's hours are; Wednesday 10 till 8, Thursday 2.30 till 8 and Friday 10 till 5 ☺

Enjoy, Heather.

2016 competition list has been sent out but email if you have not got it. There will be copies on the entrance table at the meeting and Sarah will add it to the website.

Annual Subscriptions are due now for the year.

If paid by April there is a \$5 discount so now \$10 for email and \$15 for postal members.

Please bring the correct change if possible.

Bank Account details...For those who would like to pay their subs via internet banking the Club bank account number is; Westpac 030905 0515906 00 Please remember to add your name as reference when paying by internet banking :)

AGM in March and there is an opening for a president!!

Talk to a current committee member if you are interested in joining the committee. Forms need to be filled out to nominate people for the committee and these will be available at the meetings and open gardens. We do the nominations in advance of the AGM which makes the AGM quite painless as no one is shoulder tapped on the night. We will be trying to do that in February

Please let Heather know if you are not getting the newsletter as they are not bouncing back to her if undelivered. Please add Heather's email address to your contacts list. heatherandmike@clear.net.nz

Margaret Scott as temporary writer