



Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm
Venue: St Kilda Bowling Club,
 33 Royal Crescent, St Kilda
Membership: Helen Flockton (455 1816)
helen.flockton6@gmail.com
Club Email: dvgcnz@gmail.com
Website: <http://dvgc.co.nz/>
Bank Account # 030905051590600
 (Please include your name as a reference)

Next Club Meeting: Monday 13. May 2019

Q & A: David

Club Talk: What to grow in your glasshouse over winter

Guest Speaker: Tops and Flops

Garden Visit: Margaret Scott



Vegetable competition winner

Congratulations to Jenny Neill (best personal vegetable – Carrot Egmont Gold) and Elizabeth Whitcombe (best personal fruit – pear Doyenne du Comice)

Competition for May

Winter squash seed – Baby Bear
 Plus any winter squash of choice

Things to look forward to in June:

Midwinter dinner

Hello Everyone

We are going into winter – time for future proofing watering systems, spraying fruit trees, swapping seeds, sharing your bounty and making chutneys.

Waterharvesting workshop with Rory Harding – tips gleaned by Sue Novell

Plants love rainwater. Rainwater is clean and free and not chlorinated, so does not kill off useful bacteria in the soil. We can set up some systems now that make it easy for our plants to get the moisture they need year round, even in those dry times and places.

- enrich your soil with compost and mulch - it can hold huge amounts of water
- plant densely, so the shade of the plants stops water from evaporating
- keep some open barrels or cisterns filled with sunwarmed rainwater for tomatoes
- direct rainwater flows off hard surfaces and gutters in the direction of your plantings
- dig channels, trenches or swales to collect and direct water
- fit pipes to existing plumbing off roof surfaces

- draw a plan and make a mockup with suitable plumbing gear before fixing it permanently
- to store water, set up a tank, preferably a big one - irrigate with the overflow
- spread it with a watering can or dribble out of a hose where needed
- install a pump if you want some pressure
- carry or pipe greywater to the garden - it needs to be filtered through mulch/compost

Homemade fruit tree sprays – some useful recipes and websites

2 Tbs canola oil, 1 Tbs baking soda mixed with 1 gallon water (3.8 lt)

(<https://homeguides.sfgate.com/homemade-dormant-oil-spray-fruit-trees-53094.html>)

1-2 cups herbal compost tea, 1 Tbs liquid seaweed, 1 Tbs blackstrap molasses, 1 Tbs apple cider vinegar, 1 Tbs Murphy soap (weak liquid soap), 1 gallon water

(<http://pestcontroloptions.com/insect-control/homemade-fruit-tree-spray>)

Seedswapping

We will be holding a seed swap at our August DVGC meeting. This is a great opportunity to bring along seeds to share and take home different ones to try. Please save and safely store any spare seeds you have now in a labelled paper envelope/box/bag for that event.

Sharing the bounty

If you have excess vegetables, fruit, plants, prunings, cuttings etc. we would love you to bring them along for the produce table at our monthly meetings.

Midwinter Dinner

15. June, 6 pm, Caversham Baptist Church, 10 Surrey St, Caversham, Dunedin

All DVGC members and friends are invited to our fun midwinter potluck dinner. Along with a main dish and a dessert please bring your favourite homemade chutney/relish/pickle as an appetizer to share. We will supply crackers/bread. Take your own non-alcoholic drinks.