

# GREENS~LEAVES

**Dunedin Vegetable Growers Club Newsletter; issued monthly, Vol:7.2 February 2014**

**Next Club meeting ; 7pm, Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**Venue is the St Clair Women's Club, 47 Albert St, St Clair.**

**Invited Speaker ; Nick Holmes on keeping and breeding chickens**

*President:* Margaret Scott (489 2030) [msscott@xtra.co.nz](mailto:msscott@xtra.co.nz)

*Membership:* Heather Wilson (4764607) [heatherandmike@clear.net.nz](mailto:heatherandmike@clear.net.nz)

*Secretary* Carol Henderson (454 4625) [hendersonic@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hendersonic@xtra.co.nz) Website ; <http://www.dvvc.co.nz/>

## **Looking Up!!**

We have had a mixed bag of weather to begin the year but the plants seem to be going well since I have put the sprinkler on a few times. Leaving the hose in a very dry area just dripping seems to work wonders too, mainly for my beans :)

A quick reminder that there will be Silverbeet seedlings to give out at this meeting for the Silverbeet in a bucket competition which is judged at the May meeting :)

## **January meeting**

It was lovely to see a good turnout at our first meeting of the year and heartening to see more competition entries :)

Lynne McCrone did a great job of demystifying the numbered cauliflower seedlings which available commercially and can be planted at the same time but mature successively. Margaret has obtained the phone number of the nursery which plants these so we may be able to make a direct order of these in the future.

Margaret Dodds stood in for David and did an excellent job of letting us know what we can plant now and fielding the questions. Gillian Vine was very entertaining and informative on the different kinds of Artichokes available and yes, I have potted up some Chinese ones for the trading table. Having seen around Gillian's previous garden I was very interested to hear how things were going with the downsizing move to NEV. This is something which awaits us all as we get older and I wonder if she will agree to come back and tell us more about it in a year or so?

The Judges choice for Personal best vegetable was Joy Tapp – cauliflower and the People's choice winner was Daviana Brown with her runner beans...well done both of you and I hope you picked up a prize from the basket :) A big thanks to our supper helpers for providing another lovely supper.

Over 20 people visited Dave Jaquierey at his garden in Highcliff Rd. on the 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. in sunny but windy conditions.

We were delighted with Dave's demonstration of his rotary hoe modification to loosen up the earth between his many rows of vegetables and a really quick way of planting a row of seedlings. Dave makes a shallow trench where the plants are to grow and waters it well before placing the seedlings ( pre-soaked to avoid transplanting stress ) at the desired spacing. The soil is then quickly flicked back into the trench with each plant being firmed in along the way ....speedy!



## **Horticultural Show Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Hopefully many of you will be nurturing some extra good vegetables for our display at the imminent Horticultural Show and we would like to make it easy for you to bring them along to show off :) The Show is held at the Forbury Park raceway and setting up starts on the Friday with exhibitors being able to gain entry from 6pm to 9pm to set up their displays as well as Saturday morning until 10am. Either Margaret Scott, Lynne or myself will be there during these times to gratefully receive and help place your produce which you will have washed and tidied up for the occasion :) If you would like to retrieve your produce on the Sunday afternoon, about 3pm, please attach some form of identification to avoid disappointment. Leftovers unclaimed could be taken to the foodbank.

If you have any questions or concerns about this please don't hesitate to phone/email either me, Margaret or Lynne. There will also be an opportunity to talk about this at the Feb. 10th meeting.

## Subscriptions for 2014

If you pay your annual subscription before April and receive your newsletter by e-mail, your subscription will still be \$10. The additional charge of \$5 for receiving a postal newsletter is to cover some of the costs involved. Please remember to **add your name** when paying via internet banking as otherwise we cannot send out your newsletter : )

**Bank Account details...**For those who would like to pay their subs promptly in 2014 via internet banking the Club bank account number is;

**Westpac 030905 0515906 00**

## March AGM

I apologise for missing out important information in last month's newsletter regarding the nominations required for the March AGM.

There are three positions needing nominations and they are;

President

Vice-president ( never been appointed)

Committee member ( to replace Colleen Hancock )

Margaret will remain on the committee as Immediate Past President for at least one year.

Please talk to any of the committee if you are interested in nominating someone or being nominated :)

## Gardening by the moon Feb./March 2014

3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> – sow and plant all above ground crops. Don't prune. Don't sow root crops.

13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> – weed, cultivate, prune and harvest

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> – sow root crops

20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> - weed, cultivate, prune and harvest

26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> – sow root crops

28<sup>th</sup> – don't sow or plant

## March

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> – general maintenance and cultivation.

5<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> - sow and plant all above ground crops. Don't prune. Don't sow root crops.

14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> – cultivate

20<sup>st</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> – sow root crops.

22<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> – weed, cultivate, prune and harvest

27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – sow root crops

29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> – dig and cultivate

Courtesy of NZ Garden and Robert Guyton

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## February 10th meeting ;

**Club Talk** –Kathy Graham will tell us about the origins and meanings of some plant names.

**Sales/Trading table** – Dennis will let us know what is available on the sales table.

**Planting now/Q&A** – David Neill

**Invited Speaker** - Nick Holmes on keeping and breeding chickens locally.

**Open Garden** – 2pm Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> Car pooling at East end (Strathallan St) of Bunnings' carpark leaving at 1.30pm.

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## Taieri A&P Show

Our President and Treasurer took away First and Third for the tray of vegetables at the Show with Margaret also getting the Premier Award. Lynne also won First for her Herb entry despite claiming not to know the names of them !

## Club recipe book

Are any of you interested in our club producing a recipe book/collection? This could go on our website and/or be printed out for distribution and maybe fundraising. We could start by bringing a recipe for whatever we have brought along for supper and the midwinter dinner ...Margaret Scott would be interested in collating it :)

On the subject of recipes I was at a raw food workshop recently which was held at Taste Nature. I especially enjoyed getting to taste everything demonstrated and was surprised at how much I enjoyed the marinated mushrooms so here is the recipe ;

## Marinated Mushrooms

1 cup mushrooms , washed and chopped or sliced

1 tbspn olive oil

1 tbspn soy sauce or tamari

1 clove crushed garlic

½ tsp each fresh rosemary and thyme , chopped finely ( or substitute dried herbs)

Place all ingredients in bowl and stir to combine. Cover and marinate in fridge for at least 2 hours or overnight. Stir occasionally. Will keep in fridge 2 to 3 days.

## Internet Interest

The woman who runs the raw food workshops has a website here; [www.nibl.co.nz](http://www.nibl.co.nz)

I am interested in harvesting some elderberries before the birds get them all and I came across this link ;  
<http://wvmjack.com/Elderberries/ElderberriesHarvest.html>

....these potatoes look interesting too  
<https://buzzbnk.org/SarpoPotatoes>

**Happy gardening :)**

**Carol Henderson**

Newsletter Editor