

# GREENS~LEAVES

Dunedin Vegetable Growers Club Newsletter; issued monthly, Vol: 9: 3 March 2016

**Next meeting; 7pm, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March Venue  
is the St Kilda Bowling Club, 33 Royal Crescent**

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

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March** Welcome and notices followed by **AGM**

**Planting now/Q&A** - David Neill

**Club Talk-** Sarah on the DVGC web site.

**Competition** – 3 Tomatoes each, Heritage or Hybrid. OK to enter both ☺

**Speaker** – Using a dehydrator to preserve produce by Ruth and Warren.

**Garden visit** – Somerville Street, Andersons Bay, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am

The “Wow” as you water the plants and they grow!  
There is so much to eat it is just wonderful.

What I have decided is not so wonderful is all the  
preserving at the moment. I know I will enjoy it in  
the winter though.

I am told that zucchini produce up to 20 per plant  
and I am counting them... the first plant is up to 18!

## **February Meeting**

The committee has discussed getting a  
dehydrator for people to borrow if anyone wants  
to give a committee member feedback. This was  
in last month's newsletter but no feedback so we  
are assuming it was a silly idea. Competition  
salad bowl for one was won by Ruth Bayne. Great  
demonstration on garlic plaiting from Carol and  
Joy and an interesting talk on early Maori  
Gardening

## **March Meeting is our AGM**

**Competition is** 3 Tomatoes of either heritage or  
other or both. 3 of the one variety. See above

## **April Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April**

### **Proposed: Focusing on Fruit growing**

Competition is personal best autumn fruit and or  
vegetable.

## **Pumpkin competition in May**

## **How are they**

## **growing??????????**

## **February garden visits**

We were very fortunate to have two garden visits in February.

Elizabeth has a beautiful garden on a flat section with raised  
vegetable beds, a number of rather exotic citrus, espaliered pear  
tree with huge fruit and some spectacular flowers in her cottage-  
garden-type beds including some very fragrant sweet peas. She  
showed us some photos of the garden before she took it over  
and the change she has made is amazing.

Ray has a terraced garden lying perfectly to the sun as it faces  
almost directly north. If every degree of slope corresponds to a  
degree of latitude Ray is effectively gardening in Auckland!  
He had an amazing crop of tomatoes in his glasshouse with some  
rather special heritage varieties, ripe blackberries and plans for  
more espaliered plums and peaches. Ray has been growing  
vegetables since he was twelve years old and his experience was  
very evident. *David Neill*

*David and a pensive Alan*



*contemplate Ray's garden ☺*

David has been busy this month and this web site solved his  
problem of powdery mildew. The milk option was what he  
used.

<http://www.rnzih.org.nz/pages/powdery-mildew.htm>

## **What to plant in March**

### **Seeds in trays or some in the ground**

Saint Patrick's day is good for planting peas and brown onions to winter over, You could also put in autumn carrots, Coriander, spring onions and maybe white turnips if they are not already in.

### **Plants in the ground**

All brassicas, celery, lettuces, (winter varieties) silver beet, bok choy and spinach. Spring onions and beetroot .

### **Moon Planting**

March 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> – above ground planting  
March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> plus April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
are good times to sow root crops

**The trading table** Thanks again for everyone's contributions.

### **Library**

*Do remember to sign the books out when you borrow one Thanks David said actual people are now signing the books out and not themselves!! SMILE*

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

Have you looked at it recently? Sarah has taken over putting on the information and you may notice some changes so keep looking. The newsletter we will try and post on the web site earlier so if you have missed it 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

**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.

**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 :)**

2016 competition list is out e mail if you have not got it. Also on the website. There are copies on the entrance table.

*From Debbie .....*

I got free woodchips delivered and I asked if I could pass out their number. They said yes. Nice guys and just say Deb gave you the number. Jono 021726361. I found their answerphone didn't really work but he rang me back anyway. It is handy for them to have places to get rid of the woodchips.

### **Other events coming up.**

Riverton Food festival 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of April. Talk to Carol or Jim if you want to know more.

North East Valley community Garden 5 year celebration morning tea on 12th March 10 am and BBQ at 1pm  
At the North East Valley Normal School upper field

We warmly invite you to our annual nursery open day, this year it is combined with Taste Nature Gardens. Bring a blanket and soak up the goodness of this diverse and beautiful productive permaculture property. Don't miss the fruit tastings of heritage fruits and our 2016 catalogue release.

Best wishes, Jason

Habitat Jason Ross

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<http://www.tastenature.co.nz/the-garden/>



**AGM** in March All nominations are done in advance of the meeting so although there have been no nominations for a president the current committee already has a plan. We are going to operate as a collective for a year and evaluate how it works. We can co-opt members at a later date if needed. We would like feedback from members as the year progresses as to how smoothly the club is operating.

Please let Heather know if you are not getting the newsletter as they are not bouncing back to her if undelivered. Please add Heathers email address in your contacts list. [heatherandmike@clear.net.nz](mailto:heatherandmike@clear.net.nz)

Margaret Scott as temporary writer