

GREENS~LEAVES

Dunedin Vegetable Growers Club Newsletter; issued monthly, Vol: 10: Dec 2016

Next meeting; 7pm, Monday 12th Dec

Venue is the St Kilda Bowling Club, 33 Royal Crescent

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

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

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

Monday 12th Dec: Welcome and notices

Vegetable of the Month – Jim - Take 2 on beneficial insects in our gardens

Planting now/Q&A - David

Competition – Potato in the bucket “The great unveiling”

Garden visit and Christmas Picnic

Sunday 11th Dec from 1pm at Jim and Robyns 10 Wavy Knowes Drive, Waldronville

Car Pooling at 12.30 on the south side of the Bunnings Carpark in Strathallan street.

Supper - Please everyone bring a small plate to share our festive supper. Thanks.

I am sitting writing this thinking it is Summer tomorrow so I will not need to go and get another layer of clothing on ...but I do. Still a lot of rain and as usual for us gardeners the temperature is going up and then down. Things are growing though and most of us will have most of our summer garden in and be planning the winter garden. My first leeks are in and the brussel sprout seedlings are up.

Nov Meeting

Thank you to those who helped by bringing plants in for the trading table at the meeting yet again. The tables were groaning!!

The competition of three radishes was won by Val Reeves people's choice and guest speaker's choice.

Thanks to Mike for the great talk on watering. I was inspired and have put two more lines in.... thanks ☺

Thank you to Leisa from the Red Cross for the information on the FORMER Refugees. If you have some in your area/ community I have found they love talking gardening.

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 :)**

Bruce Spittle's garden visit *by Carol H*



The wind died down during our guided tour of Bruce's extensive fruit tree collection allowing around 15 of us to enjoy our very sociable afternoon tea on the sunny deck.

We were all impressed with the watering system Bruce uses to give each tree a dripper although he is disappointed that the water he collects from the roof is not enough to do this job.

The sandy soil and homemade compost, with plenty of readily available seaweed produces bumper crops of beans, peas, potatoes and caged/netted berries.... a bonus to add to the fruit produced by the huge number of apple, pear, peach and plum trees on the section..... not to mention the greenhouse full of young tomato plants. A very enjoyable visit ☺

December Meeting

Jim is back and will chair the meeting.
Planting now and Q and A will be organised by David
Trading table: Dennis
Club talk; Beneficial Insects part 2 will be shared by Jim Baszika
Competition; Potato in the bucket
There are two categories - Heaviest potato and heaviest total weight (of all your potatoes).
Guest speaker is replaced by the potato in the bucket weigh-in.
Supper- Everybody please bring a small plate for a Christmas supper
Garden visit see above

Upcoming events

Christmas Celebration

We are combining a garden visit and picnic for the DVGC Christmas end of year celebration.
This sounds great so thank you Jim and Robyn for offering your place.
On Sunday 11th December
From 1pm for lunch
Bring your own food and drink and seats!
At 10 Wavy Knowes Drive, Waldronville.
There is a little parking at the house but enough on the side of the road.

Worm castings/compost for sale !

We still have some 10kg bags of this for sale and they will be available at the next meeting. Only 8 bags leftnow \$10

Chinese saying. (Thanks Heather)

*If you want to be happy for a short time,
get drunk:
Happy for a long time, fall in love:
Happy forever, take up gardening!!*

Suggestion box

Do remember you can put a note in this for ideas for the meeting and speakers.
OR You could always talk to a committee member about ideas.

Sales / TradingTable

Thanks everyone. The selection of different plants is great. We must, as a group, grow an amazing selection of plants.

GARDEN TASKS FOR December 2016

Sow seeds of: Beetroot, Brussels sprouts, Carrots, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Celery, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, NZ Spinach, Peas, Pumpkin, Salsify, and Silver beet, Sprouting Broccoli, Beans, Tomatoes, Radishes, Basil, Lettuces, Swedes, White turnips and purple topped turnips, Spring Onions.

Plant seedlings of: Broad Beans, Brussel sprouts, Cauliflower, Celery, Corn, Courgettes, Cucumbers, Kale, Leeks, NZ Spinach, Onions, Peas, Pumpkin, Silver beet, Sprouting Broccoli and Tomatoes, Basil, Beans, Lettuces and Spring onions.

Moon Planting November 2016

December 4th to 11th –sow and plant above the ground

17th and 18th– root planting

25th and 26th - root planting

January about the 4th to 12th – sow above ground crops about these dates.

Library Books

Have a look now as there maybe something you want out over Dec/Jan. The garden will be in the watering system working and all mulched so no weeds. (oh how I wish!! or do I??)

Carol has found some great tips here:

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qp2f

January meeting is on the 9th of January where we will be talking about Asparagus, and “A Plan for the Year in a Garden”.

So to finish with a Very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

Have a great year of gardening and do remember to organise watering if away.

Margaret Scott