

KHS 2022 JUNE NEWSLETTER

Hello Fellow Gardenlovers,

Are we all getting truly tired with Covid lockdowns and shutdowns? Well yes we are ! We're really not having much luck with our monthly get-togethers.

The Committee apologises, again, for last minute changes and cancellations, but it can't be helped at this time. We were really looking forward to learning all about the local projects underway with Biolinks Alliance speaker

Dr Sophie Bickford. Anyway, the good news is that we have her booked to do just that next March.

Now for this month's speaker, and fingers crossed, all goes to plan.

Next Speaker Evening

Monday 20th June, 7.30 pm

Our speaker is **Clair Claydon** Attractive indigenous plants for your garden.

Creating habitat for local wildlife by seed collecting and growing local species is Clare Claydon's mission. Twenty eight years ago Clare started off on a 40 acre Glenhope property which has become protected by a Trust For Nature covenant. Her hobby has grown so much that she now shares seed from over 100 local species including eucalypts, understory tree, shrubs, grasses, climbers, lilies and daisies.

For this talk Clare will introduce us to about ten attractive and useful indigenous plants that could be used in our gardens. We'll learn about the size, shape, growing preferences, habitat values, their seeds, germinating conditions, etc of these plants. So it should be an informative evening with Clare who is a very lively and passionate speaker.

Depending on your response to this topic, Clare is willing to return to do a workshop and teach us how to collect seeds. She also has some great contacts for those wanting to revegetate large areas on their properties at little cost.

Monday 20th June 7.30pm Football club, Showgrounds, Mollison St Kyneton

MEMBER PROFILE Jean Hedington

Jean has been a member of Kyneton Horticultural Society for over 45 years, and a committee member for just about as many, holding many positions. You could not find a more dedicated and generous person, freely giving her time at every Flower Show, every meeting and doing all the background work over the many years, even cajoling her lovely hubby, Doug, into helping, year in year out. Jean has remarked that she has made many treasured friendships during this time and that it was all worth it.

Jean apparently inherited her gardening genes from her Scottish grandfather who was also a passionate gardener. Although born in Richmond, Victoria, Jean was still a baby when her family moved to Kyneton. Leaving school at fourteen, her first job was at the Town Hall Café. Many jobs followed as Bookkeeper and Secretary. She married Doug in 1961, with children Lynlee and Carol following. How's this for a record - Jean and Doug have been together for over 61 years!

What followed once the children arrived were years of voluntary service – far too many roles to mention here! But just as an indication, in her honour she has been made a life member of Vision Australia, Kyneton Agricultural Society, as well as Kyneton Horticultural Society. In 1982 she was declared the inaugural Citizen of the Year for the former Kyneton Shire. She has also received countless Certificates of Appreciation over the years!

In 2019, Jean was presented with the Senior Achievers Award from the Council of the Aged Victorian Seniors of the Year. In the same year, she was awarded the Gold John Pascoe Fawkner Medal for Distinguished Service to Horticulture, presented by the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

Every member of the KHS would have had the pleasure of receiving cuttings and bulbs from her own gardens as she so generously shares both 'what she knows and what she grows'. Her horticultural

knowledge is superb especially in our cold climate. And let's not forget her love of friendly competition at all the Horticultural shows when of course she has won many, many, many prizes.



Within a few weeks, Jean and Doug will be downsizing their Kyneton home and will be moving to Woodend, where we wish them many happy and healthy days ahead.

Thanks Julie Nash, one of our newer committee members.

The Best Gardening Radio Program Are you missing out?

For over 25 years I have been involved with the Community Radio Gardening show. I have learned so much from the presenters who, invariably are committed 'Plant Nuts', just as I have become.

It is presented by volunteers from all aspects of horticulture. For example, horticultural educators, plant breeders, propagators, nursery owners - both wholesale growers and retailers, horticultural media, authors, staff from the Botanic gardens, revegetators, pest and weed experts, the Nursery and Garden Industry body, to name a few.

Every Sunday morning at least three of the presenters get up really early to travel from afar into Collingwood to the Radio station to talk about horticulture, for our pleasure and education. There are no sponsors or pay, they are all volunteering their time and expertise. There are no advertisements, just 'plant talk'. Every week the show is different according to what these presenters have brought to the table, and what questions that you, the listeners, may pose. They even do homework on our behalf if necessary. I think it is a hidden treasure!

Details: 3CR is Live on Sunday mornings 7.30 am to 9.15 am, 855 on the AM band (which is one station up from ABC 774 AM). However due to our distance from the station, the reception can be a bit hit and miss, so its' better if you can go online and listen. Two options: If you want to listen live you can download a free radio app - eg. www.radio.net

If you want to listen at any time (so you could sleep in), 3CR have each show podcasted for 4 weeks. This enables you to listen to the program again in case you missed something. www.3cr.org.au Happy listening Margot

OTHER STUFF

Don't forget that we are planning to hold the Spring show, and that's only about 13 weeks away! So please, if you can, pot up a few pots of something for the plant sale at the show. If you are lifting any of your perennials or grasses to refresh and divide, put a few divisions into pots - easy, done! Don't forget, black pots please and label what it is. We have a box of black pots at each meeting for you to use if you don't have any, and you can also get cheap, but good potting mix at Gumbo, 27 Piper St for this purpose. (\$9 a bag)

WHAT TO DO IN THE FRUIT AND VEGIE GARDEN

Do have a read of Duncan's June Edible Gardening newsletter. It's so inspiring even in this cold weather, and information packed! Subscribe

www.leafrootandfruit.com.au

Duncan will be our supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Speaker in July.

Even though it will be cold weather - please come!

LOCAL GARDEN HISTORY

Snippets kindly researched and provided by our in-house historian Mal Closter.

KYNETON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

1893

The first show of the newly formed Kyneton Horticultural Society was opened yesterday, and though the weather was somewhat unfavourable, the initial public effort of the society may be said to be in every way a decided success. The Mechanics' presented a very picturesque appearance, with the flowers placed along the centre, and the platform was like a little fairy grotto, with the ferns and tree ferns and flowers peeping through. At about 3 p.m. the show was formally opened by Mr D. Smith, the President of the Kyneton Shire Council, who congratulated the society on the excellent first appearance they made before the public of Kyneton. He considered that a great deal of credit was due to the gentlemen who took such pains to establish the society, and whose efforts so far had been crowned with success. He also said that the display made that afternoon would compare favourably with many older societies, and he felt confident that in a very short time the Kyneton society would not only hold its own, but would take the lead amongst the horticultural societies of the colony. He then declared the show open. The following were the judges: - Pot Plants and Cut Flowers, Mr Smith (Eaglehawk); Fruit, Mr D. Evans, junr (Tylden); Vegetables and Roots, Mr Wood Mason (Malvern); Grain, Messrs Baldwin and N. Blencowe. Great credit is due to Mrs and the Misses Hyndman, who supervised the decorations for the stage, and to whose taste the admirable effect was due. Mr Orames also assisted in fixing the stage. The tables along the centre of the hall were arranged by Mr G. F. Laver, whose assistance was valuable to the society. The effect on entering the hall was undoubtedly fine, the centre tables tapering off on the sides, and covered with floral exhibits appearing like a huge bank of flowers. As the visitors entered the hall, the first object to attract the attention was a splendid collection of dahlias surrounded by a large quantity of ornamental foliage. Passing along the south side of the hall a collection of pot plants, fuchsias, etc., were visible, and further on was the centre table occupied by a large variety of fruits, including several bunches of grapes from the Bendigo district, the Black Prince, and other varieties. There was also an excellent collection of apples, pears, etc., from the orchard of Mr Perry, of Barfold. Passing on a large collection of cut flowers were next exposed, and when the time of the year is considered there was a large variety on view. Passing round to the north side of stand, a large quantity of beautiful maiden hair ferns were to be seen arching gracefully over the cut flowers, which occupied the greater part of this side of the stand.

A great deal of interest was taken in the button hole bouquets. The prize for the best six button hole bouquets was awarded to Miss Middleditch, the judge remarking that they were too large. Miss Hyndman's bouquets, arrayed on two palm leaves to resemble a heart came next, and though perhaps they were as large as those that took the prize they were flatter in shape, and certainly appeared more suitable for wear. The prize for six ladies sprays' was divided between Miss A. Hyndman and Miss A. Darlington. The sprays which were composed of small roses, and other flowers beautifully arranged rested on mirrors, and these at night lit by fairy lamps presented a beautiful appearance, no wonder the judge divided the prize. The larger bouquets were also very attractive. The bridal bouquet by Miss A. Hyndman was beautifully composed of white flowers intermixed with green. The table bouquet by Miss E. Hyndman was most artistically arranged, red being the prevailing colour, and the various shades being most harmoniously blended. Sergeant Young, whose name appears frequently on the prize-list, contributed a capital collection of flowers especially Chrysanthemums. The small south room served as a refreshment room, and the larger south room was devoted to a display of vegetables. Here a capital show of potatoes were seen in one corner, and a gigantic pumpkin over 80lbs in weight, served to illustrate the growing capacity of the district. Mr Darlington gave a practical demonstration of what might be done by a system of intense culture, as from a comparatively small piece of land he produced a splendid collection of vegetables, among these were a long row of large turnips, and three gigantic cabbages.

During the afternoon Miss Dobinson, Miss Elliott, Misses Spencer and Carlisle gave pianoforte selections. In the evening the Phoenix Band played selections in the rotunda, and the orchestra performed in the gallery. The Misses

Carlisle, McDonald, and Maud Hall, played pianoforte selections. There will be concert of well-known amateurs this evening at 7.30.

Kyneton Observer 13th April 1893.