



Red Hill Gardening Society Newsletter Summer 2017

Weeds!

"Where you tend a rose a thistle cannot grow..." (Frances Hodgson Burnett)

The damp and humid conclusion to 2017 has caused rampant weed growth in my garden, including numerous previously unseen species. Did you know that a weed is officially defined in Australia as 'any plant which requires some form of action to reduce its effect on the economy, environment, human health and amenity'? Also, I've learned that there are 32 weeds of National Significance across Australia. I have some examples in places and deep mulching to suppress green growth is underway. It's been a liberating experience and fingers are crossed for success and the future determination to maintain control!

Meanwhile the Society's 2017 year of activities concluded with two special member events:

- The bus trip to Broughton Hall in Jindivick. One of the prettiest gardens imaginable.
- The sumptuous morning tea at Carol and Graeme MacPherson's wonderful parkland garden property.

I didn't spot a weed in either garden!

Thank you to all members and the very supportive Committee for contributing to a full and interesting year of activities for the RHGS.

Have a happy and safe Festive Season.

What's on offer in 2018?

The business of the Society will resume on 19 January, 2018 at the Red Hill Community Hall at 10am. Note that our meetings / events will not proceed on Code Red fire risk days.

The Committee is working hard to plan a year of events in response to the member survey.

We're starting the summer season with a focus on hardy Australian natives.

January

19 January, 2018: Ordinary Meeting at 10am with Guest Speaker; Glenys Baker – *Australian natives in the home garden*.

25 January, 2018: Garden Rendezvous at 10am – Austplant Nursery and Gardens to view and learn about landscaping with natives – 249 Purves Rd, Arthurs Seat. BYO tea cup.

A date for the re-scheduled 'Blokes in the garden' rendezvous to be advised.

February

23 February, 2018: Ordinary meeting 10am – ‘Ask A Gardener’. All members are encouraged to come seeking answers to their gardening questions. Bring plant samples for identification, information to share etc. The session will be facilitated to assist interaction.

February Rendezvous – Heronswood Museum (date to be confirmed).

March

23 March 2018: Ordinary meeting 10am – Guest speaker to be confirmed.

March rendezvous at Mezzie Taylor’s garden (details will be provided closer to the event)

April

27 April 2018: Ordinary meeting 10am – Guest speaker to be confirmed. “Plants for Patients day’ – bring donations for the Rosebud Hospital garden (preferably hardy flowering plants and also indoor garden plants)

April Annual Garden Tour – planning is underway for a bus trip to the Ringwood / Warrandyte region. Details to follow.

May

25 May 2018: Ordinary meeting at 10am – Deb Collett – Floral Art demonstration.

June and July – Winter recess

Christine Lowe
President, RHGS

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