

"Through the Garden Gate"

*Newsletter
of the
Medowie Garden
Club*

August 2022

Established March 2009

Member Count: 38



*Proud Member of
Garden Clubs of Australia*

President: Warwick (Rick) Porter

Secretary: Chris Voigt

Treasurer: Fran Easter

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Monthly Meetings

Our August meeting was held at the Boronia Room at the Medowie Community Centre. It was attended by 20 members with 6 apologies and 1 visitor. Our visitor was Elaine Rose who promptly joined the club. Welcome Elaine, great to have you and we hope you enjoy your time with us! The club bank balance for the end of June was \$5,191.83. Our next meeting will be held on Saturday the 3rd September at Margaret Bailey's.

Garden Clubs of Australia Friendship Day

A number of our members attended this day organised by George Hoad and Marilyn Swan at the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens. Members from ten local clubs attended, it was a very interesting and informative day. The main speakers were Carol and Doug Twentyman. Doug has owned a production nursery, been a landscaper and taught horticulture at TAFE for over 25 years with the last 5 being Head Teacher of Horticulture. Doug is a regular presenter on Newcastle ABC Radio Gardening Talk Back.

Carol's background is in retail nursery, she taught horticulture at TAFE for 16 years. Carol has partnered with Lake Macquarie City Council's Ageing and Disability Support to deliver programs for their over 55's and disability programs and participated in a research project involving therapeutic horticulture for people living with dementia and their carers.

They gave a riveting talk about the beneficial effects of being involved in horticulture for folk with disabilities and in aged care homes and also for the carers looking after them. Therapeutic Horticulture techniques are diverse, and include any which use gardens and garden-based activities to promote physical, mental and social health, as well as the health of the planet. For more information on this subject go to: <https://tha.org.au> and:

<https://www.cultivatensw.org.au>

Forget-me-Not.....Upcoming Events



Medowie Club Events

Event / Date & Time	Location/Travel	Equip/Catering	Contact
September Meeting: Saturday 3 rd Sept 12:00pm for a 1pm meeting start.	Margaret Bailey's at 35 Tallowood Drive, Medowie	Chair, Cup & Food Plate	Margaret 49829025
Bus Trip to Kariong Saturday 17 th Sept See Flyer attached for more details	Bus organised by Christmas Bush Nursery leaves Salamander Opp Salvation Army at 8:30am with pickup at Paul's Corner bus stop at 8:45am. \$45 includes entry. Please advise Rick if going.		Rick 0411117867 Margaret (Xmas Bush) 49812881
October Meeting: Saturday 1 st Oct 12:00pm for a 1pm meeting start.	Frances & Mark's at 24 Lakeside Terrace, Medowie.	Chair, Cup & Food Plate	Frances 0416831680
Bus Trip to Galston Open Gardens Friday 14 th October	To be confirmed This trip will be subsidised by the Club.		Chris 49829025
Spring Plant Sale Saturday 22 nd October (to be confirmed)	Most likely near the Bull & Bush as per the Autumn Sale. Only 9 weeks away....let's get growing!		Chris 49829025
November Meeting: Saturday 5 th Nov 12:00pm for a 1pm meeting start.	Jan Popplewell's at 7 Quarter Deck, Corlette 2315	Chair, Cup & Food Plate	Margaret 49829025



Some amazing shapes and colours in the Bromeliad family

I have recently been busy taking cuttings for the next plant sale and thought I would share a system I have developed and showed an example of it at the last meeting. It has been quite successful so far and has provided lots of plants for the past few sales. Some advantages of it are that it allows me to do small numbers of cuttings at a time, containers can be easily moved around when necessary, each plant variety has its own container so separating for potting doesn't disturb others. The attached sketch only shows one cutting but I will include 6-12 depending on the stem diameter and retained leaf size. Sing out if you need any 2litre milk bottles to try this.

CUTTING PROPAGATION SYSTEM (RICK)

Preferably after flowering, take cutting 8" to 12" long. Place in water immediately until ready to treat.

Remove (preferably cut with sharp blade) leaves/stems from bottom nodes. Remove excess leaf area at top.

Dip cut node section in liquid hormone and/or dust with hormone powder. Alternatively dip in honey. ☀

Dibble hole and insert cutting into seed raising or potting mix with clean river sand added (10-20%)

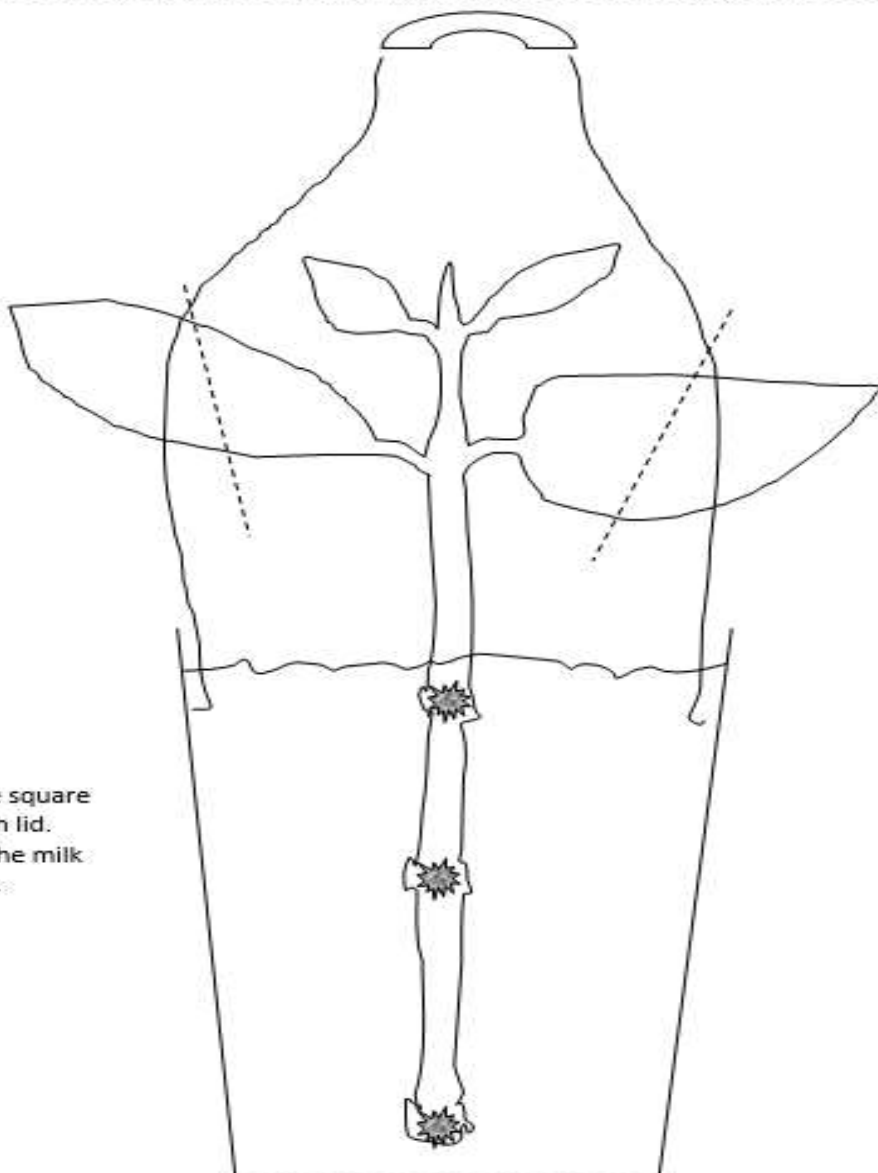
Add up to 12 thin cuttings to a 6" pot. Less if cuttings are thick-stemmed.

Water well. Spray with Fongarid or similar fungicide. Cover with top section of 2L milk bottle with lid on.

Situate in shady but brightly lit position. Water over the top if no rain for 2 weeks.

Open lid to check progress. New growth may indicate rooting success. Check pot drain holes for roots.

When sure of rooting, remove bottle but do not expose to direct sun immediately. Allow to harden up by gradually moving from shade to sun. When ready, carefully remove & separate cuttings and pot up.



5-6" Square pot and 2 Litre square milk bottle top section with lid. Wire can be used to hold the milk bottle down to resist wind.



Ophrys ariadnae



Oncidium cariniferum



Orchis italica



Caleana major



Magnolia liliflora



IT'S BACK – KARIONG PLANT LOVERS FAIR

HEAPS OF EXHIBITORS AND SPECIALITY PLANTS FOR SALE

FEATURING “LIVING EDGE”

COACH TRIP ORGANISED BY

CHRISTMAS BUSH GARDEN CLUB INC

SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Departing Salamander (opposite Salvation Army) at 8.30 am; return by 5 pm

Pick up point at Pauls Corner bus stop (for Medowie Garden Club)

BYO LUNCH OR PURCHASE FROM FOOD STANDS

(Mask wearing preferred inside coach)

COST: \$45 (includes coach and entry)

No refunds given for no shows

Payment only via bank transfer/direct deposit to CBA at Salamander

Christmas Bush Garden Club

BSB 062826 Account 00901736

including important ‘Reference’:

For Nelson Bay members & guests(Your)SurnameKariong

For Medowie members & guests (Your)SurnameMedKariong

Further details: Secretary Margaret on 49812881 or email keithandmargw@ozemail.com.au

PLEASE PAY AND ADVISE RICK on 0411 117 867 BY 12TH SEPTEMBER

“My neighbour asked if he could use my lawnmower and I told him of course he could, so long as he didn’t take it out of my garden.” – Eric Morecambe

Cheers, Rick.

