

Tubertalk

2017



Canberra Trial Ground

Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

"Dahlias extend the Hand of Friendship all over the World"



Tubertalk

2017

Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

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President's Page – John Menzel



As we have all experienced it was a season of many stories, especially in relation to the weather.

It was good to be able to attend Shows in Melbourne, Canberra, Portland, Mt. Pleasant & Mount Barker.

Canberra Show was excellent & the garden visit the following day is a great concept and forum for enthusiasts to converse and compare notes on all aspects of growing Dahlias. This concept should be encouraged by other Societies/Clubs to do similar. It gives those who travel an extra highlight for the trip.

The Portland Show are to be congratulated for the implementation of the "Handicap Challenge" (see page 14). This created a lot of interest especially with the intermediate & Novice Exhibitors. Congratulations to Karen Boyle who was successful against the Open Class Growers. Well Done Portland & Karen.

The South Australian Society have changed the date of their State Championships to a date that will see more exhibitors taking part. The 2018 State Show will see the staging of the Jubilee Championship celebrating their great milestone of 50 years. The Society have now established their own Web-site & Facebook pages which will see more interaction with the General Public.

As indicated I am encouraging more societies to take over their own web pages because I have run out of time trying to keep-up. Victoria, Portland and South Australia now have interesting sites. There are a couple more considering following suit. The Computer session at the Conference will give details of how.

The Conference in Berri has been put together on the Basis of What Members Want. I have heard many times why the Conference has to be in June when we are busy getting our tubers out of the ground. The October time will have many benefits especially with the quality of tubers offered for the DSA Auction and the better weather. The topics/speakers are what the members want & the range of professional speakers will certainly add to the interest of all that have an interest in Dahlias.

Compiling Tubertalk has been the most challenging ever has been disappointing especially with the lack of promised Articles, Information, Society/Club Pictures and Show Results. **Special Thanks to the 43 members who did contributed.**

It was far easier writing my book "Dahlias in Australia".

Malcolm & Betty Balch done a **SUPER** job collecting & collating the Show results.

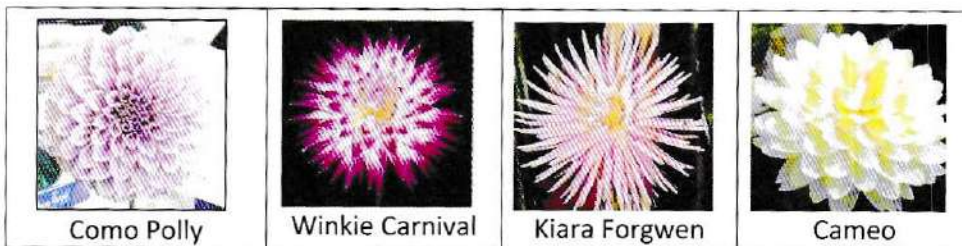


TRIAL GARDEN REPORT

Graeme Davis – Seedling Director

After some plants struggling last year, this year saw wonderful growth in the trial garden. Some of the tried and true varieties grown there were as good as they have been in many years.

At the time of writing the tubers have yet to be dug - the last part of the assessment process. However, we can comment on the performance of the varieties in growth.



Some existing varieties that stood out included **Como Polly, Winkie Carnival, Wakefield Conclusion, Kiara Forgwen, and Cameo.**

Lots of people are in line for stock from these plants.

There were 3 outstanding seedlings in the patch this year

1. A white medium cactus from Robert Curll - this produced a number of top quality exhibition bloom through the year. A definite medium as opposed to a failed large this variety may well grace the show benches for some time. This is the best exhibition variety in the trial.
2. A bicolor waterlily from the Winkie stable. This is a very attractive flower and lots of them on large plants. Hard to get the colour right for exhibition and, if anything, a bit heavy but a very nice flower that many people commented on. This would have to be the best garden and cut flower variety in the trial.
3. A white single from the Woden stable. This was wonderful late in the year - probably the best single I have seen. As with many singles in our climate it was not as good early in the year. However a good strong plant that will grace many dahlia gardens into the future both for exhibition or garden purposes.

If you get the chance, grow all three of these varieties. You will not be disappointed.

At the end of Season we will dig the tubers & then be able to give final scores. Tuber Quality is part of the overall assessment.



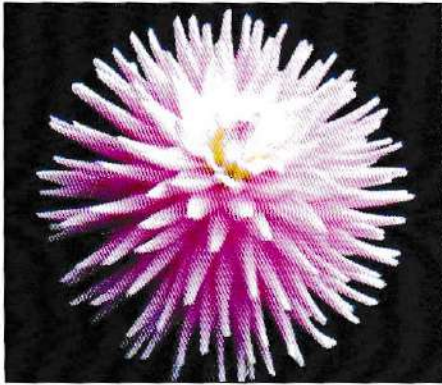
Plants were well Grown



November Planting



Inspecting for Critters in February



A couple of Eye Catchers

Preparing for a Show

Editor: - *On our travels to numerous shows around the world we have seen many different methods of transporting blooms to a Show.*

The aim of this segment is to see & hear from some of our respected Growers & Exhibitors of what they do to achieve their success.

Their answers show there are numerous ways & methods of achieving leaving us the reader to see if any of these practises would suit me.

It is a case of asking ourselves can my methods be improved?



Stems Tied to 20 Lt. Bucket



Each Stem Taped to Aluminium Wires



Poly Hose in Bucket



Wooden Wedges for Support



Blooms Well Spaced In Plastic Crates

Thanks to these members for sharing their methods & process

					
Steve Cox	Steven Wedd	John Woodfield	Bruce Millard	Bruce Raines	Gerard Oldfield

How many Plants do you Grow?

Cox	60
Wedd	Approx. 500 named + up to 2000 seedlings(depending on quantity of seed)
Woodfield	200 at home, 40 at Community garden 15 minutes away.
Millard	1400 – 1500
Raines	600
Oldfield	650

What in hours is your closest Show?

Cox	One
Wedd	One and three -quarters
Woodfield	15 Minutes
Millard	One
Raines	20 Min
Oldfield	One

What in hours is your farthest Show?

Cox	Only do the 1 show because of work
Wedd	Three and a quarter
Woodfield	Four Hours
Millard	Six hours
Raines	Three Hours
Oldfield	Three Hours

On Average how many Blooms do you Take?

Cox	20
Wedd	120
Woodfield	60
Millard	90
Raines	200
Oldfield	100

How many over 160mm?	
Cox	4
Wedd	40
Woodfield	15
Millard	20
Raines	10 - 12
Oldfield	0
How Many Under 160mm?	
Cox	16
Wedd	80
Woodfield	40
Millard	70
Raines	Depending on the Show Schedule
Oldfield	100
When do you start Pruning Plants for a Show?	
Cox	60 days prior if no laterals are starting to grow
Wedd	When there are shoots to prune.
Woodfield	End of December
Millard	Two to Three Weeks
Raines	Constantly
Oldfield	21 Days before.
When do you start your Dis-budding/Pruning Program?	
Cox	Disbudding starts 4 weeks prior to show if timing is right if not plants can be knocked back...pruning starts 50 to 60 days out
Wedd	When there are buds to remove.
Woodfield	End of January
Millard	From 6 th January
Raines	December onwards
Oldfield	As I grow for cut flower business dis-budding is not part of our growing format
Do you Grow under Shade Cloth?	
Cox	Yes
Wedd	No
Woodfield	No
Millard	Yes
Raines	Yes
Oldfield	50% Hail Mesh. I believe we get better growth with the hail mesh. Previously we grew under 50% shade cloth

If yes. What Height, Colour & Density?	
Cox	7ft to 8 ft...50%...sandstone
Wedd	N/A
Woodfield	N/A
Millard	10 Feet High – 80% White & Beige
Raines	3 Mt (10ft) – 50% White
Oldfield	2metres high. Hail Mesh is 15%
Do you use any extra form of Protection e.g. Umbrellas/Bonnets	
Cox	Umbrellas over the over 160mm and reds
Wedd	Umbrellas for large red ones.
Woodfield	Some beach and smaller umbrellas
Millard	None
Raines	Umbrellas for the larger ones
Oldfield	No
When do you pick blooms for the Show?	
Cox	Ideally Friday morning but usually on Thursday morning as we are busy getting the centre ready for the show
Wedd	The previous morning.
Woodfield	Morning before.
Millard	Thursday Night for Cactus – Friday morning for a Saturday Show
Raines	Morning before Show day
Oldfield	All picking is done early morning the day before the show.
Where are your Blooms Prepared for Packing?	
Cox	Under the pergola
Wedd	In a shed with 6 tables.
Woodfield	Back deck or garage if weather is cooler
Millard	In my garage
Raines	In the Workshop
Oldfield	Inside in our back room
Are they under an air-conditioner?	
Cox	No
Wedd	No
Woodfield	Yes in hot weather
Millard	No
Raines	No
Oldfield	No
How are your blooms Carried? Buckets, Glass Bottles or Plastic Containers)	
Cox	20 litre buckets that stand in crates
Wedd	Plugged in bottles placed in holes cut in mattress foam in boxes.

Woodfield	In plastic bottles in 20 division milk crates.
Millard	Glass bottles in boxes & crates
Raines	Plastic Containers
Oldfield	Glass bottles

Are they supported?	
----------------------------	--

Cox	Yes
Wedd	No
Woodfield	Yes
Millard	Some not all
Raines	Yes
Oldfield	Yes

If yes with What?	
--------------------------	--

Cox	Split canes fixed to stems and wire mesh in the bottom of the buckets and a cross of bamboo across the top....blooms are secured top and bottom by soft rubber coated wire and also there are holes around the top of the buckets to secure blooms.
Wedd	N/A
Woodfield	Wires made mostly from aluminium overhead cable.
Millard	Neck Stretchers the rest are set low in the bottles.
Raines	Neck Stretchers.
Oldfield	With wires, poms, waterlily's, orchids, singles and Collerette are laid flat on a layer of soft shredded paper.

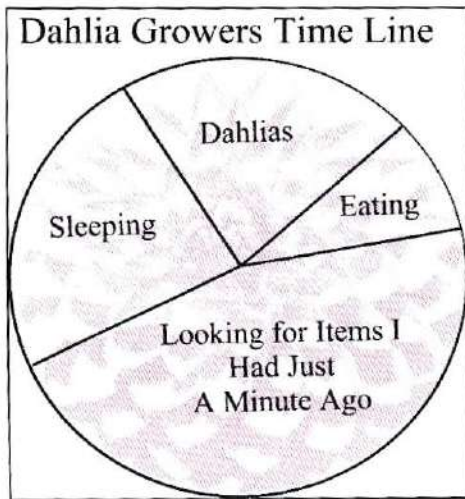
How much (in Length) are your stems in water	
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Cox	Try to have 6" water with a small hole in the stem just under the waterline to let the air out.
Wedd	Depends on stem length
Woodfield	50mm
Millard	Full depth of the bottle
Raines	8 – 10 Cm
Oldfield	100mm

Do you add any additives to the Water?	
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Cox	No
Wedd	No
Woodfield	Bleach and white vinegar. Tablespoon of each per bucket.
Millard	No
Raines	No
Oldfield	Yes (Chrysal Premium Flower care)

Do you use Chlorinated (Town Water) or Rain Water	
Cox	Town Water
Wedd	Rain Water
Woodfield	Town Water
Millard	Dam water
Raines	Rain water for Showing & Growing
Oldfield	Watered with a mix of grey water and bore water



Sports of Spartacus by Steve Meggos



Editor:- John
Menzel Chatting
with Steve in his
Garden
A memorable visit



Spartacus

Spartacus is a rich dark red dahlia, but Steve Meggos has bred yellow, lavender, orange, white and bicolored flowers with it.

Steve has been growing the big, exotic blooms for 30 years, has come up with nine distinct flowers based on **Spartacus**, which he prizes for its ball-like shape.

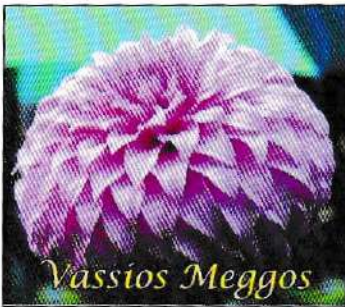
His secret: A chemical process he won't divulge that stresses dahlia tubers so they produce "sports" of different colours.

As is often true of great discoveries, Steve learned about the magic of dahlias by accident.

First, he got into the hobby of growing these lovely giants when someone gave him two tubers for his garden. Then about 15 years ago, a neighbour admired **Spartacus**, and Steve gave her a tuber.

But something happened that summer.

"She said, 'I wanted a red flower, and you gave me a lavender one.'"



That led Steve, who lives in Carpentersville USA, to begin breeding dahlias based on **Spartacus**.

Vassios Meggos, an award-winning lavender named for his mother and daughter, ranks as Steves' favourite.

"He likes dahlias for their size, colour and form," he said, noting some of his discoveries have grown flowers as wide as 13 and 14 inches.

A variegated orange and red is named



Harvey Koope for a good friend who passed away. His brother's hair is white, so the snowy one is **Louis Meggos**. A popular pink is named after his wife, Judy, and an orange will carry his own name. Grandson Austin gets the honour of a red with its petals tipped in white. Stepdaughter Joy expressed appreciation for a purple sport, and one tipped in yellow is the namesake of his sister-in-law Nancy.



When a new dahlia pops up — either as a natural or stressed sport or through selective pollination, it is not considered stable and is not even named until it blooms for four years. Thus most of the 100-plus flowers blooming in Steves' garden are known only by a number, and he chooses only five or six each year to see what they can do in future seasons.



One of the reasons dahlia sports occur is that genes as far back as seven generations can move to the forefront, says Steve.

The gardener uses seven different fertilizers on his dahlias, which also need sun and water. He puts a

NPK 30-11-11 mixture of nitrogen, phosphorus and calcium in the hole when he plants each dahlia, then after they bloom he adds NPK 10-54-10.

And oh, yes, these beauties are not hardy. That means the tubers must be dug up every year after the first frost, washed with a hose and stored over the winter at 38F to 45F degrees. Steve is lucky because a friend lets him use a greenhouse in Holland, Michigan.

Starting in mid-February he works in another friend's greenhouse in St. Charles, cutting and rooting tubers in planting soil. When a plant reaches 10 inches tall he puts it outside.

When the hot weather is so challenging Steve cuts his dahlia plants down to prevent premature blooming.

"With the heat they would bloom too early, and they would be one-tenth the size they should be," says Steve, who likes plants at least 5 feet tall with blooms 8 to 10 inches across or wider.



Steve Meggos

And creating new sports is "50% luck and 50% stress," Says Steve.

"It's just another day in paradise, says Steve, showing a visitor around his yard. Dahlias come in all colours except blue.

The person who comes up with a blue dahlia will be famous."

Some of Steve's Other Creations



Portland Dahlia Society Trial – Bruce Millard

The “Western District Dahlia Society Challenge Handicap”

Editor: - A great exercise in thinking outside the square encouraging exhibitors of all grades with every one having a chance to have a win. **Well Done Portland!**

The Exhibitors Handicap System was trialled by the Portland Dahlia Society at their last show with 25 entries.

This concept was adopted to give the Novice & Intermediate exhibitors an opportunity to compete against the Open Exhibitors.

How was it achieved?



Entries of all Types Staged Singly

Novice, Intermediate & Open Exhibitors were required to enter a single bloom,
Any Type, Any Size staged singly.

All Exhibits were point judged by Alf Hardingham & Willie Hawker with the assessment sheets left on the bench.

After the points were announced the handicaps were applied. Open Exhibitors 0 points, Intermediate Exhibitors were given 4 points & the Novice Exhibitors were given 8 points that were added to their original points score.

This resulted in a Novice Exhibitor winning the section by a couple of points over an Open Exhibitor.

The winner was novice grower Karen Boyle staging **Pam Howden** with a total of 87 points (Inc. 8 Handicap)

Second - Helen Martin with **Devon Tangerine** 85 points (Inc. 4 Handicap)

Third Bruce Millard with **Boundary Bell** a small Dec. for 83 points 0 handicap total 83 points.



**Pam Howden
Stage by Karen Boyle**



MR. NORM WILLIAMS

Pompones Dahlias and Coal Dust

By S. G. Hooper, Ermington, N.S.W., Australia

**Editor:- A direct copy from an American Publication in 1958
Recognising the achievements of Norman Williams – "Willo"**

I received and read with a lot of interest the American and Central States Dahlia Society 1957 Classification. It did not take long to discover this very handy little Journal contained some 26 pages of 50 listed named Dahlias to the page.

That's a lot of Dahlias, however, most of us know them all by colour, growth habit etc., but how many of us know anything of the men that are responsible for these grand blooms?

The blooms that year after year in so many countries bring Championship Ribbons, prizes, awards and trophies to so many keen exhibitors.

We in Australia, particularly New South Wales, are so very proud indeed of our little pompones Dahlias, however I am sure very few even think or even care who grew and produced these so near perfect little exhibition dahlias.

I had these thoughts in mind when I turned to page four of your 1957 Classifications Journal and there was my article. The paragraph in question read, "Pompones Dahlias – having some characteristics as ball dahlias – for show purposes not more than two inches in diameter. For example **Margaret Williams**"- for example, **Margaret Williams**, yes, indeed, it's a grand Pom, and grown in every country we can think of.

But what of the man that gave us this champion award-winning bloom, along with so many more Pompones dahlias of equal standards?

I take you back just 20 years ago this season in a small coal town north of New South Wales, Wallsend – Norm Williams called from his garden to his wife, Margaret, "come and have a look at the two best Pompons I have ever grown."

Margaret Williams, who shares her husband's keen interest, was indeed surprised to see, growing side by side in a bed full of hundreds of pom seedlings, two poms that were to become world-famous.

A lavender pink that was ideal in bush and formation of bloom, the very next plant to it was a deep violet, by far the best of its colour.

Yes indeed, **Margaret Williams** and **Willo Violet**, these two world famous pompones dahlias, grew side by side, flowered at the same time, in a coal miner's garden in New South Wales.

Norman Williams is now not a young man and his work among his dahlias today is restricted. Norm is a big man, raw boned, sun tanned and big hearted, a coal miner, one of the occupation in this young land of ours that calls for a ton of brawn and little brains and persons who may possess brains and still follow this

trade must indeed find an outlet for it in some other field, as does my friend Norman Williams, among his beloved Pompones dahlias.

Norman is now like so many more of the coal mine followers, no longer able to mine and a long way from enjoying good health. It would be very hard to judge just what age Norman would be – as this coal industry takes a heavy toll of even the strongest of our menfolk – very few of the older coal pit workers were able to carry on after the early fifty years of age, in fact, for many of these miners the mid forties see them on pensions.

Norman Williams lives in a small miner's cottage, neat and well-kept by his wife, Margaret – standing on the same land is the remains of a cottage Norman's parents built many, many years ago.

His dahlia garden contains only Pompones and would be about 250 ft. by about 150 ft., with no glass or hot house to help, his propagation is done in two large glass frames.

Norman is reported to have grown Pompones since before world war one and in those early days he grew them the hard way, water even had to be carried from a town supply.

His methods may not be as modern as they could have been – had they, I feel sure his results would have been far better than they are. What of his results? I can only speak of results that I have seen in this country. I fully realize that changes in countries and climatic conditions can affect plant life, these little fellows being no exception.

I always feel Norman's best work is found in **Willo Violet** – always a good show bloom and a plant that is all you need, plenty of blooms and you just cannot kill the tubers, finally a grand parent plant – what more can you expect or hope to have in any dahlia?

Little Willo, still the best late white ever produced in this country, is another good keeper, nice bush – stem or stalk, to my mind its only fault.

Mavis Williams and his latest, **Willo Quills**, plus a pink **Rhonda** and a dark red **Ted Thomas** seedling, are more of the very hardy Williams type.

Mrs. Todd was by far the most colourful Pom Norman ever raised, for years its autumn tones made it the most popular Pom ever and it was used in all the decorative arrangements – it was indeed a small show that you could not find **Mrs. Todd** displayed in a bowl or decorative arrangement of some kind.

However, perhaps the best Pom from a purely exhibition angle would be the Pom you in the U.S.A. know so well, **Margaret Williams**, the lavender pink, the pom I feel sure our present day standards are set on.

From good clean stock the plant is all that you need – an ideal show bloom on good cane, its one and only fault to my mind is it is not quite as resistant to disease as is the hallmark of all other Norman Williams products.

However, if kept disease free, in *Margaret* you have indeed a truly grand product of the coal miner pompone dahlia growers of the Australian Coalfields.

Norman can tell you more about the parentage of the Australian Pompone than perhaps anyone. He is always ready to help and pass on his findings – his help to me personally has been more than I will ever be able to repay.

It is indeed a great pity that a man with the grand store of hard gained knowledge Norman must have could not have been granted finance to enable him to tour the dahlia world and give to others who are so keen, the benefits of his full life time of experiences.

His life has been one of light and darkness. I feel Norman's life spent in the blackness of a coal mine, has been more than off-set by the colour he gave to the rest of the world during the hours he spent in the light.

It seems rather odd in this world of ours that most of us can with ease associate the man with his product or works – adults and school children alike can readily associate Stephen Foster with his songs, Edison with his inventions, and so on.

But what of the Norman Williams of our dahlia world, is it not time for us to honour the artist as well as admire the work of the Pompone Dahlia grower of the Australian Coal fields?

Editor :-Some of the known Cultivars Norm Williams Raised

Those in **Red** are still known to be in circulation

Blotch Willo	Little Willo	Walsend Willo
Blue Eyes	Margaret Williams	White Willo
Blush Willo	Margaret Willo	Willo Apricot
Bronze Willo	Mark Willo	Willo Boralis
Buttercup	Norm Willo	Willo Cooee
Canary Willo	Pink Willo	Willo Delight
Denise Willo	Pop Willo	Willo Echo
Gay Willo	Red Jubilee	Willo Flame
Gayle Lane	Red Willo	Willo Fleck
Ginger Willo	Rose Willo	Willo Gleam
Golden Willo	Royal Willo	Willo Glo
Grand Willo	Silver Glow	Willo Goodo
Janey Mulloland	Silver Light	Willo Ideal
Janey Williams	Silver Tips	Willo Jubilee
Jubilee Rose	Simone Willo	Willo Night
Kim Willo	Spot Willo	Willo Purple
Lemon Willo	Susan Willo	Willo Surprise
Little Conn	Walsend Jubilee	Willo Violet
Little Craven		Yellow Jubilee



NATURAL STIMULANTS & GROWTH FACTORS

Brett Bramble of Natural Growth Institute -

www.nginstitute.com.au

How To Enrich & Impress!

Why is it that some growers seem to achieve mastery with their produce, tend not to be decimated by severe weather conditions or outbreaks of pests and diseases, all whilst others nearby struggle in a multitude of facets?

The reason is generally choices! Less of the bad, more of the good.

Common Problems: Many challenges in plants are due to insufficient nutrients being bio-available when the plant needs them. This could be from a lack of nutrients (macro or micro) in the right form or a lack of the right soil microbes in the right balance needed to breakdown nutrients into bioavailability forms. Lacking in either area will thwart a plant's ability to reach its full potential and leave it more vulnerable to external environmental stresses, such as extreme weather and pests & diseases.

Unfortunately, all too often, growers focus on macronutrients including nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P), potassium (K), sulfur (S), calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) and are largely unaware that certain concentrations and chemical forms can be damaging their microflora and microfauna in their soils and lead to nutrient lock-up.

The Macronutrient of Potassium – Insights, Concerns & Tips

Potassium (K) is a key macronutrient - roles, benefits and considerations per Jon Corona in Tubertalk 2015 include: transport of carbohydrate and nitrate nitrogen, metabolism, stomata action, turgor pressure [for hypotonic cell rigidity], strengthening plant stem, improving shelf life and improving resistance to dry and cold conditions. Potassium deficiency will most certainly result in reduced growth and vigour with poorly coloured flowers. Potassium is most critical during reproductive stages of flower formation and new tuber development. Being a moderately mobile nutrient, a little often is ideal.

Here's the thing, some soils have a great ability to 'tie-up' potassium, especially higher clay soils and soils of lesser microbial activity. Here's the other thing, many fertilisers contain Potassium Chloride (KCl), otherwise known as Muriate of Potash. This is referred to by some as cheap and nasty stuff because it can be extremely toxic to soil organisms from bacteria to earthworms as well as reduce exchange capacity. The chlorine ion can increase salinity with further problems. Whilst KCl may be assist growth in the short term, the downsides are concerning. So, if you subscribe to natural is best and want to deliver potassium regularly, particularly during the reproductive stages, how do you do it? Well, a liquid solution is an obvious choice, but here's one thing you don't do, and that is, use a

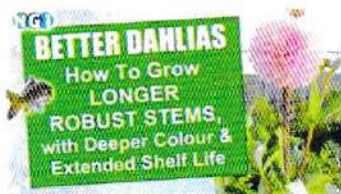
self-claimed natural fertiliser that artificially boosts potassium via KCl such as a particular mainstream liquid fish product. I won't mention names, but in testing, I've personally seen an initial boost in growth with such a product then plants go backwards at a rapid rate of knots. What about seaweed solutions? Well many contain very little potassium if any at all, take Seasol for example, a recent label states NPK of 1:1:0. A natural alternate is the Advanced Fish & Kelp emulsion by Natural Growth Institute with an NPK of 9:2:6 with natural forms of nutrients that tend to be in a form more valued by plants, roots and microbes. Guaranteed no added KCl! Interesting enough, being over 50% cool processed whole fish, the 70 or so nutrients (macro & micro) tend to remain close to the fish oils and long chain proteins and subsequently the root zone for longer as opposed to leaching underground.

Natural Stimulants and Growth Factors

Recently, a number of very experienced growers have been turning to what is possibly the most advanced fish & kelp emulsion on the market to protect and improve their soils, product & yields by up to 25-33%. It's called 'UNKNOWN GROWTH FACTOR' or UGF 6-in-1 for short. You'd hardly believe it yourself unless there was video evidence of real life growing situations and independent laboratory analysis to support such findings!

Split Test of UGF 6-in-1 by Gerard Oldfield reveals BETTER DAHLIAS / FLOWER STOCKS & SWEET PEAS! Long time dahlia personality Gerard Oldfield has been Grand Champion Exhibitor (Horticulture) at the Royal Easter Show 15 times.

Do yourself a favour and check out these videos...



<https://youtu.be/zHFr6uaolfl>



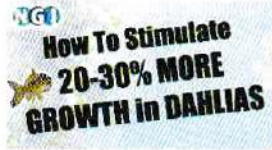
<https://youtu.be/KksQbxnObAM>

After noticing the difference in quality and longer shelf life, Gerard's florist customers are now buying UGF 6-in-1 for themselves.

Split Test of 'UGF 6-in-1' by John Menzel reveals 20-30% MORE GROWTH in DAHLIA PATCH! To his credit, in the recent growing season, John Menzel diligently carried out a well-structured trial in one of his larger dahlia patches of about 2,000 dahlia plants. Prior to planting tubers, John harrowed in plenty of blended cow manure 80% & chicken manure 20% across the whole patch as he generally does and depicted in his book "Dahlias in Australia – The Winkie Way". Prior to planting

John applied a considerable amount of chemical fertiliser in liquid form high in NPK (6:8:27) also across the whole patch.

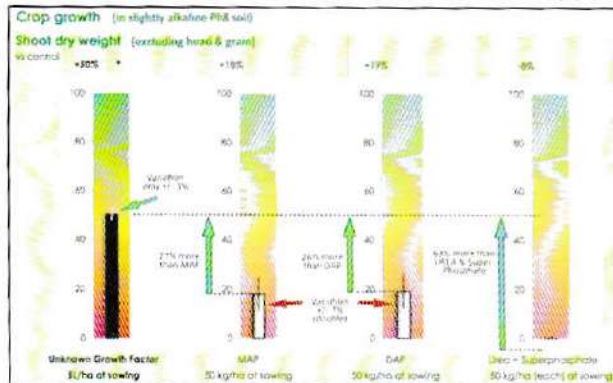
When the plants reached the third leaf stage John commenced applying UGF 6-in-1 to a number of trial rows, whilst leaving 2 separate control rows without. When the plants came into flowering, the UGF rows had 20-30% more growth in plant height and foliage, and flowering was about 10-14 days ahead of the control rows. John graciously allowed NGI & myself to capture video footage on his operations and split test to share with you. You really should check out this video too for insights into the difference UGF has made, including application rates and frequency.



What really surprised us is, just how much extra growth the UGF stimulants achieved even though John had heavily fertilised the whole patch prior. <https://youtu.be/FfEjH2RFtvg>

Independent Lab Study

Reports UGF 6-in-1 OUTGROWS MOST POPULAR CHEMICAL FERTILISERS by 26-63%! In a 14 week study just completed in April 2017, Microbiology Laboratories Australia evaluated UGF 6-in-1 Advanced Fish & Kelp Emulsion against the 3 most mainstream granule phosphates... those being MAP (Mono Ammonium Phosphate), DAP (Duo Ammonium Phosphate) and Urea/Superphosphate. Wheat was chosen for this study, which took place in a closed laboratory within a tight set of parameters of light, temperature and humidity to reflect real world growing conditions. The growing medium (soil) is standardised and designed to be ever so slightly deficient in base nutrients so that the effect of any new introduction of fertiliser can be better measured. The early shoots were thinned out to 12 of the healthier shoots, being 3 plants replicated in 4 pots, representative of real world sowing rates per surface area. Such replication provides a high degree of statistical confidence. The results were that UGF 6-in-1 achieved 26-63% more growth for a single application at standard rate of 5L/Ha



UGF vs 50kg/ha phosphates (similar cost). Refer chart below.

The extra growth at 14 weeks maturity was remarkable especially considering the amount of UGF 6-in-1 each wheat plant received was just 40 microlitres on average, that's 0.04 of 1

millilitre. We can be confident of the accuracy of the extra growth because the variation was only +/- 3%.

Details of the Winkie Fertilizer Program 2016/2017 & 2 New Trials

Prior to the 2016/17 summer, an entire patch was rotary hoed incorporating all prior green material. Rows were set out 2 Mt. apart. Each row then had 40kg of animal manure (70% cow / 30% chicken) introduced by rotary hoe plus 50mls of fulvic acid via watering can.

During November 80 dahlia tubers were planted 30cm apart in each row, and a dripper placed at each tuber for regular watering.

When the plants reached the 2nd leaf stage, a liquid chemical solution called **Complete K** (www.spraygro.com.au/comk6820.php) with NPK of 6:8:27 was applied across the entire patch.

Every two alternate rows were treated with either **Unknown Growth Factor** www.nginstitute.com.au (0.6mls/plant/week) or **Boost**

www.lawrieco.com.au/item_details.php?item_id=1&item_type=photo_gallery&content_list_id=12 (0.8mls/plant/week).

There were several 'control' rows left without UGF or Complete K, but they had received the manure, fulvic acid & high NPK chemical. The aim of this was to give a good comparison across the length & breadth of the patch.

Results, Observations & Conclusion



The rows of dahlias treated with either UGF 6-in-1 or Boost all appeared to have more advanced cell strength which produced great stems and blooms with better floret strength. This difference was noticed when transporting blooms from Winkie to Melbourne, Canberra, Portland & shows near Adelaide. The roads particularly to Canberra, Melbourne & Portland are extremely rough & bumpy. The extra floret strength certainly contributed to the condition of the designated blooms. The results achieved on the Show Bench were satisfying.

The Rows treated with Boost had far better growth than the control & by mid-March there was not much difference.

The rows treated with UGF had far better growth than the control plus showed slightly stronger growth than Boost in the first 6 – 8 weeks and appeared to come into bloom about one week earlier.

Temperatures in the patch over the growing season saw 45 days over 38C with several over 42C with one reaching 50.6C. Consequently, we experienced 5% of bud damage across the plantings. The “Pulse Watering” saved the plants and minimised burn. I strongly suspect the extra floret strength amongst the dahlias treated with UGF 6-in-1 and Boost further enhanced resilience to burn.

I looking forward to yielding the tubers in June/July and will be most interested in both the quantity and quality.

Interest in Baskets around Australia is Building



Canberra



Mt Waverley



Portland



Mt Coot-tha



New Varieties from the UK for 2017

By Dave Bates

If you are able to supply any seedlings, please contact Dave Bates on batesdave@aol.com.

Exhibition Trials

40 varieties were entered in the NDS Exhibition Trials in Leeds. They were planted at the start of June, and some were in flower in mid-August.

The overall winner received the Harry Howarth Memorial Medal plus a Gold Award. **Gavin's Choice** raised by Peter Boylan of Birmingham. This is an excellent small decorative in red that had strong compact plants growing to around 4 feet. The blooms had excellent form and it could be a worthwhile entry into this classification that has suffered from lack of good new varieties for a few years now.



A Silver Award was also given to **Josudi Hercules**, a free flowering miniature cactus growing to 4 and a half feet, and covered with a mass of well-formed brick red blooms of exhibition quality. It was one of many raised by Peter Greenway in Falmouth, who sadly passed away early in 2017. It will be a very good addition to this section that is ever increasing in popularity.

A Bronze Award was made to **Barbary Pixie**, raised by Barry Davies in Barnsley. This proved to be a good red small ball, about 4 feet tall and well inside the small range. It had good stems that held the blooms well above the foliage. Once again it should be a welcome introduction to the group that growers of this type had been crying out for.





Two varieties were awarded Certificate of Exhibition Merit. **Josudi Sunburst** from Peter Greenway is a miniature semi-cactus in cream with red tips that looked spectacular on the trial ground and was much admired by the general public. The plants were about 4 feet in height and all the blooms were well placed on strong stems. This one is all set to light up the shows in the future.

Corson Gold is a yellow large semi-cactus raised by Derek Cave of Barlestone. It was the best performing variety in the tunnel and had excellent blooms on long strong stems with good bloom placement. Plants in the tunnel were around 5 feet tall, and this variety suffered less from mildew than the others in the tunnel area.



Barbarry Primrose Hall



Josudi Telstar



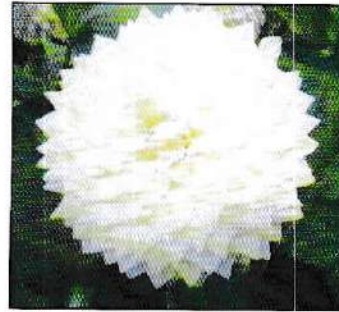
Amgard Beacon

Several other varieties just missed out on awards. The best miniature decorative was **Barbarry Primrose Hall** from Barry Davies. Form was excellent and the pale yellow colour was good, but like most of its colour, it was susceptible to marking when rain and mists were about. **Josudi Telstar** was the third of Peter Greenway's miniatures. In pale pink and yellow blends, it has a bright future. Best large Pom was **Amgard Beacon** from Dave Bates. This yellow variety would reach full size naturally.

Best medium decorative was the white **D J Clarkson** by Kenny Shaw from Bishop Auckland.



The best collerette was **Sunshine Girl** in yellow and white from Jack Gott of Milnthorpe.



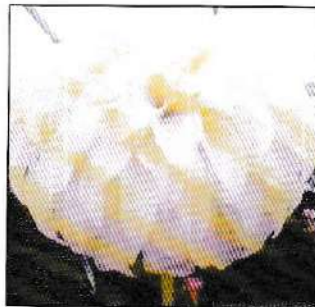
The trials are always looking for varieties to test and would be pleased to receive any from Australia

At the shows

During the year, some interesting seedlings were seen at the two national Shows, however there seems to be a shortage of new cactus and semi-cactus varieties, perhaps due to the quality of existing favourites. An orange sport of Bryn Terfel came from the Republic of Ireland. It is named as **Aggie White**, but is not yet on

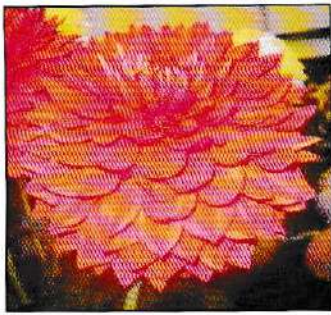


release in the UK. Many thought this was an improvement on its parent. National giant decorative champion, Tony Kingdon from Devon has started to produce some good new giants. Best this year was **Shirwell Peach** that will be in demand once it is made available.



Among the large were two more Spartacus sports from the USA. **Steve Meggos** in orange and **Louis Meggos** in white looked good on the show bench.





In the mediums there were two decoratives from Phil Godsmark of Rycroft dahlias. The red **Rycroft Huntsman** won the National seedling class. It is not a full size medium, but it had good form and a different colour.

Runner-up to this was the white **Rycroft Gladiator** that was nearer the maximum size for a medium. A yellow

medium semi cactus



Rycroft Helen

made a winning appearance in the major classes where its excellent form saw it score highly.



The only small worthy of mention is a small ball from Phil Godsmark called **Rycroft Bella**, a fine yellow with excellent form that should supercede all the existing small balls in the UK when it is finally released.

Phil Godsmark called **Rycroft Bella**, a fine yellow with excellent form that should supercede all the existing small balls in the UK when it is finally released.



Miniatures are becoming increasingly popular and **Barbary Delegate** in purple performed very well in the seedling classes.



Amongst the pompons, the large pom **Rycroft Blackberry**

had good form and an unusual colour such that its name was appropriate.

Amongst the other groups there were a few new arrivals, but none that would overtake the current favourites.



Vale'

George Ernest HARDING 1921 – 2017

Devonport Tasmania

From Charles Smith

How can you put down in a couple of hundred words the life of a man like George Ernest Harding, one person described him as a jack of all trades and he was a master of them all.

George was the 7th child of 10, born in the year of 1921, the first hint of his talent was at

the age of 4 he learnt to play the piano accordion, when he was 13 he won the Duke of Gloucester Cup [A foot race over 100 yards] later he became one of the best mile runners in Australia. As a little fellow working on the family farm he was mystified as to why he had to clean out the thistles in the bull paddock, while his brothers looked on. [This may have helped his running career]

George enlisted in the army when he was 19, and went on to serve his country in the Middle East, being involved in chasing Rommel's forces and in the conflict at El Alamein.

He married Val, a partnership that lasted 65 years, and had 3 boys, one every 4 years [just like the Olympic Games] followed by his daughter **Karon** in 1961. Like most people at that time money was short, so he bought a block of land for 64 pounds, and built his home without any experience, he made cement bricks after work through the week, and lay them on weekends he lived there for 70 years. He was a keen veggie grower, and became interested in bantams, he became one of the most prolific breeders and exhibitors in Tasmania, the mainland and international judges said his birds were some of the best in the world. His first foray into the flower world was with chrysanthemums, and in short order he won 2 grand champions at the Royal Melbourne show, plus the Australian Championship.

In the early 1960's I got to know George & offered him some dahlia tubers to get him started (*worst thing I ever did*) it was the beginning of a strong rivalry, and an even stronger friendship, that has lasted over 50 years. George has raised over 100 high quality new varieties, all with the prefix of Formby. Formby Perfection has been inducted into the American Hall Of Fame

His expertise in poultry and flowers was widely and constantly recognised, he was in high demand as a judge was still judging up to last year. Some other arias that he exceled in were wine making, fly-fishing and



tying , 10 pin bowling, marquetry, self-taught artist of landscape and animals, bonsai, and could play many musical instruments.

Those who knew him know that he would be waist deep in flowers/plants somewhere, wearing that cheeky grin and that cap.

Colin Donehue – Portland Victoria

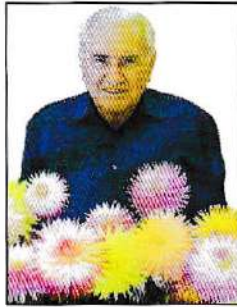


Colin Donehue life member of the Portland Dahlia Society passed away 27.03.17 after a short illness. Col was a long time serving member and Dahlia grower being Assistant Secretary, Secretary & Treasurer on many occasions.

He was also involved with teaching primary school children the art of fishing and gardening.

Colin was the go to man for all these little jobs at show time.

Col will be missed by all.



Neville Naumann - Bracken Ridge Queensland

29th March 1926 – 12th October 2016

He is better known as the icon of Dahlias in QLD.

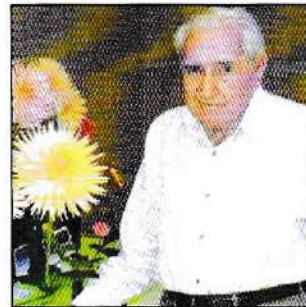
Breeder, Leader, Inspirationist, Mentor & Judge are

What come to mind when his name is mentioned.

The Stable name of "Bracken" is well known

Internationally and across Australia.

He has inspired many to raise their sights when it comes to Breeding a new cultivar.



Lottie Iris Podmore - Hobart

10 July 1925 to 17 July 2016

Lottie was a life member of the Hobart Horticultural Society and a doyenne of the Floral Art and Dahlia Sections. Her bright personality, sense of humour, knowledge and generosity will be sorely missed.

Lottie will always be remembered with her raised Miniature Cactus "Lottie Iris"



Christine Hillard

A long time QDS member Christine Hillard of Armidale, N.S.W also passed away during the year.

Christine and her late husband Tom were regulars at Conferences and Shows.

They were great contributors.

From a "Letter to the Editor" in an Albury Newspaper

Drought Trigger Clear as Day

When I was a Kid we never had Drought after Drought.

Then we started Daylight Saving. We started with a little bit, BUT now we have six months of year Daylight Saving.

It has become too much for the Environment to cope with.

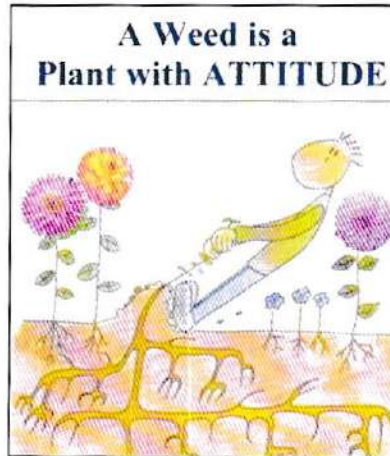
It is so logical, for six months of the year we have an extra hour each day of that HOT afternoon sun.

I read somewhere that scientific studies had shown there is a lot less moisture in the atmosphere which means we get less rain.

I believe this one hour extra sun is slowly evaporating all the moisture out of everything.

Why can't the Government get the CSIRO to do studies on this, or better still, get rid of Daylight Savings.

They have to do something before it is TOO Late.



Observations at American Dahlia Society National Shows

John Menzel - Winkie

At the American Dahlia Society Nationals I attended at Grand Rapids (2013) & Asheville (2015) attended I was given the task of selecting the Best Australian Raised Cultivar in the Show.

There was no special section for the Australian Raised & that is where the Seek & Find Mission started. Firstly one had to recognise what was Australian Raised, the majority of the American exhibitors did not know what originated in Australia.

At the Asheville Show we found the following Australian Raised Cultivars were:-

Embrace 7, Pam Howden 4, Cameo 3, Figurine 3, Formby Kaitlin 3, Willo Borealis 3, Belle of Barmera 2, Glenbank Twinkle 2, Peach Delight 2, Bracken Sarah 2, Bracken Nikolaus 1, Scarborough Brilliant 1, Aitara Majesty 1, Aitara Caress 1, Ken's Flame 1, & Emory Paul 1.



Selecting the Best Australian Raised was done before the official judging was completed. The exercise was beneficial because when the Australian Standards were applied there was not much difference in the result because the "Cream Came to the TOP" The winning cultivars were **Embrace, Glenbank Twinkle** followed by **Pam Howden & Aitara Majesty**.

This showed that regardless of the differences in Standards, Assessment, Interpretation of the Standards and methods of assessment the good blooms still prevailed.



I was privileged to be given a roving observers capacity, I was able to select what I thought were the better blooms by putting my mark on the back of the exhibitors tags prior to the official judging.



At the three shows we attended on our last trip I managed an average of Nine Blooms that went to the head table. At each show I managed to select two of the top three blooms at each of the Shows.

Cultivars seen at the last two ADS Shows that would be a good addition to our Australian collection are: **Hillcrest Duncan Edwards, Clearview Edie** - Medium Semi Cactus, **Dr. Hart's McMurray** - Giant Informal Decorative, **Sorbet** - Small Cactus, **Clearview Royal** - Ball, **AC Casper** Large Informal Decorative.



Hillcrest Duncan Edwards
Medium

Hillcrest Duncan Edwards
Medium Semi- Cactus



Hart's Dr. McMurray

Hart's Dr. McMurray
Giant Informal Decorative



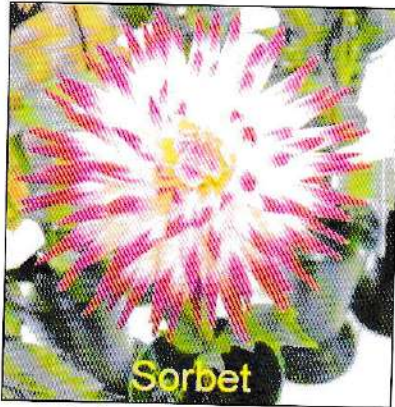
Clearview Royal

Clearview Royal
Ball



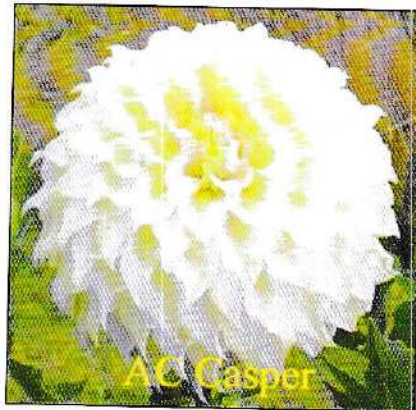
Clearview Edie

Clearview Edie
Medium Semi Cactus



Sorbet

Sorbet - Small Cactus



AC Casper

AC Casper - Large Decorative



TO PREY OR SPRAY?

Malcolm Balch

Stanthorpe

Queensland



When we moved to our present home in 2010, I decided that my new dahlia patch, which was to be established on virgin ground, would be “spray free”.

I can't really call it “organic” as that term implies no chemical application of any sort, either for pest control or for fertiliser. I have used some chemical fertiliser applied through drip irrigation, but I have not used any toxic chemicals of any sort for pest control in the seven growing seasons since we started here. It has always been my belief that in nature there has to be a balance between the good insects and the bad ones, otherwise plants would not be able to survive. By spraying the “baddies” we are almost certainly destroying many of the “goodies” thus creating an environment that demands spraying whenever the “baddies” appear. If the natural balance can be preserved, then in theory spraying should not be necessary. Of course my theory is all well and good in a hobby dahlia growing situation, but for commercial growers of fruit or vegetables invariably they are forced to resort to spraying to protect their crops.

Everything was going along fine, with major battles between the insect “goodies” and the “baddies” at times, but ultimately the “goodies” would win not only the battle but eventually the war! I would puff my chest out and expound my “no



spray” philosophy to anyone who would listen, as it was definitely working. Sure, we always had to live with the ever present black hibiscus beetle, and the occasional grazing green grass hopper, but their predations were tolerable. That was until this year.....when all my chickens came home to roost, or should I say insects came back to bite me and the dahlias. Early on there were a few thrips, which is not uncommon, and the damage caused by them is normally grown out of by the plants, but this year they gradually made way for a

hundred trillion green fly, or so it seemed. The damage caused by these little green mongrels **ALMOST** changed my mind about trotting out the “agent orange” to eradicate them, but I resisted the temptation, thinking that it was only temporary, and they would soon move on. How wrong can you be! Instead of moving on they must have invited all their mates from far and wide to come and join the picnic. For a picnic of monumental proportions is what they are having. The damage to the leaves and buds is considerable, and it is hard to go into the patch and witness the damage they have caused to the plants. Every day I agonise over the spray option, but when I see the two doe eyes of at least one tiny green frog in every plant, valiantly trying to devour these green invaders, but failing miserably through sheer weight of numbers, I weaken hopelessly, consoling myself with the notion that the frogs are far more important than a few flowers.

When I talk to fellow growers about my green fly infestation, most say they have not heard of them, certainly not in plague proportions, but a friend of ours who is an ex orchardist, told me that there was a serious outbreak of the green monsters in the apple orchards some 20 years ago, and a lot of damage was caused. So it seems they are a cyclical pest, and the early spring rain and warm temperatures we experienced were the conditions they thrive on. I am sure that is the case not only with green fly but also with grasshoppers, which are so big this year that one of them can eat half a bloom in a night.

In spite of all these trials and tribulations we have managed to pick some blooms of average to good quality and achieved some success at the shows we have attended, so I certainly don't intend to relax my no spray policy unless and until the green grasshoppers grow so big I will have to go into the patch carrying a shotgun!! There is an upside to the story though, since the green fly arrived we have seen very few black hibiscus beetles.



As you can see the Green Fly were Devastating



**Organic Soil:
A Dahlia Culture
Perspective
by Tony Evangelista
Painesville Ohio**



Dahlia culture begins with the soil. It is the most important factor to master when pursuing our dahlia passion. Our perception and subsequent understanding of soil can add immeasurably to our success as growers, exhibitors and protectors of the environment. Good soil is alive—extremely alive! It is an eco-system with interdependencies and a sophisticated communication and distribution network. A community with its own Internet. Good soil is as far away as you can get from dirt--in fact, it is the antithesis of dirt.

Biologists say a single tablespoon of healthy soil may contain a billion assorted microbes, a mile or more of fungal filaments plus scores of various microfauna creatures such as nematodes and arthropods. (1) It has been estimated that there are as many as one billion soil invertebrates per acre. These soil insects and earthworms contribute to soil structure and genesis, improve water filtration, and are a critical component of soil nutrient cycles. (2) They work hand in hand with the microbes, fungal filaments and plants. Most plants in healthy soil convert 40% of their energy produced by photosynthesis into root exudates that then feed and stimulate the soil microbes. These microbes in turn give the plants what they need to thrive. The microbes process all the essential elements (N, P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Fe and trace elements), and then they are transferred directly to the roots of the plants or delivered via the mycorrhizal network. This is your garden soil's Internet. It allows plants to communicate in their environment. This fungal hyphal network can deliver messages, food, elements, and water to the plants. It is an incredible symbiotic ecosystem that has evolved since the earth was formed eons before the advent of tools, tractors and chemical factories.

Now the hard questions about soil. First, how do chemical fertilizers impact this system? Some of the life is destroyed directly. The plants can use the chemical fertilizer; therefore, they do not need the microbes and mycorrhizal network for as much help. So now both decline in numbers. The roots produce less exudates for the microbes because they are not needed. The wonderful system goes into sleep mode. Trace elements and micronutrients are less available, and plants become more susceptible to diseases,

deficiencies and environmental stresses such as temperature and water fluctuations. Second, what impact do pesticides have on soil? It impacts all those invertebrates we talked about causing collateral damage. It throws the balance off. Third, what does tilling do to this system? It chops up the earthworms and fungal hyphae, which means the communication system needs a major rebuild. Fourth, what does uncovered, idle soil during the winter months do to the soil ecosystem? Of course, it stresses it because it is more vulnerable to environmental extremes, but it also gears down the ecosystem because there is little need. There are no plants to service or no organic matter above the soil to process. We can explore these questions in more depth in later articles.

So what should we strive to do soil-wise? We can start by being conscious of all the life beneath our feet when we are in our dahlias. We can try to work harmoniously with that life and help allow your dahlias to utilize those resources and energy. We can encourage, develop, and support the ecosystem with our cultural practices.

In that vein, why not experiment with a portion of your garden in the coming season.



Tony's Garden - Painsville Ohio

Try not tilling this portion of your garden. When you plant, put a shovelful of compost in each hole. This will "seed" living organisms back into your soil. Use a good organic mulch that will decompose and provide raw materials for the soil below. Use the best mulch you can find. Obviously, this will eventually become integrated with the soil and be part of your garden. I use leaves. They are free and readily available in most areas. I live in the woods but still ask neighbours for their bagged leaves in the fall. I return the bags. You may need to use some organic fertilizer the first few years until you rebuild the micro-factories and allow time for the mycorrhizal networks to re-establish. Do not use any chemical fertilizers in this experimental portion of your garden. Use the organic slow-release types that will not hurt the

micro-climate of your soil. Farmers are told to gradually reduce their fertilizer use to allow the system to normalize. It will. When you dig your clumps in the fall, again don't till. Just put another shovelful of compost in each hole. I don't even move my stakes. I use the compost made with my healthy dahlias from the previous year. There is no better balanced fertilizer for dahlias than composted dahlias in my opinion. All the needed elements are simply recycled in the compost. Hanu Pappu says we can safely compost dahlias. Be sure to put your garden to bed in the off season by planting a cover crop or mulching again. Keep the soil covered. It likes that. Consider using only organic insect control when necessary. You should see less and less need for spraying since the dahlias will be healthier. Their immune systems and friends in the soil will help them resist insect pressure. I use refined mineral oils and Spinosad when needed. As you may have figured out, this whole process of rebuilding an organic garden relies heavily on the quality of the compost and organic mulch used. More on this topic later.

It will take time to rebuild a healthy soil ecosystem so be patient. Once you see the progress in your test patch, perhaps you will be motivated to use these practices in your entire garden. Don't argue with millions of years' experience! Embrace the knowledge that you are having a positive effect on the environment and will have better, more alive-looking dahlias every year. Let me know how this experimental portion of your garden progresses and compares with the rest. Results should improve yearly.

In summary, let's review step by step how I personally implement the



The Moat

organic principles described above. After digging my clumps, I put a shovelful of dahlia compost in each depression that contained the clump. I do not remove the stake. I do not till. The dahlia compost used was made 12 months earlier by taking all the dahlia tops and excess tubers and layering with leaves and previously made compost until a pile about two by two meters results. The

entire garden is then covered with about 30 centimeters of leaves. When planting, I pull back the leaves and plant dahlias with a handful of vermicompost (worm castings that I process myself).

I place a moat containing water around the plant to kill slugs.

A few drops of dishwashing detergent in the water does the trick. I monitor my garden for pests with yellow and blue sticky traps and then spray with JMS Stylet Oil plus or minus Spinosad as needed. I use aerated compost tea two to three times during the growing season applied with a watering can as a drench over the plants and soil.



I apply blood meal or feather meal as needed using the leaf color to decide if necessary.

I use cloth barriers (covers) to prevent pests on blooms.

By the end of the season the leaves from the previous season are almost gone and have provided nutrients and cover for my plants and soil organisms. This approach works for me. You can contact me at tony.evangelista@icloud.com.

References:

1. Mike Amaranthus Ph.D., Larry Simpson, and Jeff Lowenfels. *Acres U.S.A. Magazine*, October 2012, p. 26.
2. Jonathan Lundgren, Ph.D., *Acres U.S.A. Magazine*, December 2015, p. 12.

Editor

JMS Stylet Oil *Premiere White Mineral Oil** For Control of Fungal Diseases, Aphid-Transmitted Plant Viruses and Phytophagous Insects and Mites.

Spinosad is a natural substance made by a soil bacterium that can be toxic to insects. It is a mixture of two chemicals called spinosyn A and spinosyn D. It is used to control a wide variety of pests. These include thrips, leafminers, spider mites, mosquitoes, ants, fruit flies and others.



"Who needs pesticides? Most of the insects around here die of obesity."

American Dahlia Society Genome Project Update

As of January 25, 2017

by Tony Evangelista

The American Dahlia Society is raising funds to sequence the dahlia genome. The term "genome" refers to an organism's entire DNA. The genes are comprised of DNA; genes are then packed together to form chromosomes. These chromosomes are contained in the cells and form the blueprint for the organism (plant, animal, or bacteria).

Therefore, the genome contains all the genetic material, which dictates the characteristics of an organism or in our case why the dahlia is a dahlia including how it grows (short of tall), foliage colour (green or red), centre structure (open or fully double), and form (cactus, decorative, anemone, and other types), Genes also determine virus and insect resistance, drought resistance, colour, tuber formation and tuber storing qualities among other attributes. This is why understanding genes is so important. It will help us breed better dahlias with characteristics we value.

The genome project is the first step, but it's a giant step. It is exciting that ADS donors have met our first goal of raising \$30,000 to fund the Dahlia Genome Project. To be exact, we have raised \$34,569 from 50 donors who live in 17 states and Canada. With these funds the ADS will support the sequencing the species dahlia, *Dahlia coccinea*. We also have the opportunity to sequence the dahlia Edna C at the same time, but to do that we will need to raise \$3,500 more additional funds.

After extracting the DNA from these two dahlias and sending it to a sequencing lab, the next step is writing a grant to assemble the sequenced DNA. Unassembled DNA is like having a box of puzzle pieces. An assembly puts all those pieces together to make a complete picture. Dr. Virginia Walbot of Stanford University and Dr. Hanu Pappu of Washington State University are writing a National Science Foundation Grant for the assembly of the sequenced DNA and hope to have the grant submitted by March 1. As you know, Dr. Pappu is in charge of the virus research the ADS has been funding for some time. The Dahlia Genome Project should greatly help accelerate our understanding of virus in dahlias.

Retirement

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Australia's Top Cultivars

The Best Performed Cultivar addition to Tubertalk has been the brainchild of many members who want to know what the best Cultivar to grow are.

Hypothetically if a person new to Dahlias was to grow the cultivars listed below it would be one great competitive patch.

The statistics also show what are the most popular types & sizes performing around the country, remember that not all cultivars perform in all areas.

Our Most Popular 71 Cultivars as seen by 34 Exhibitors

Types - Cactus 31 - Decorative 29 - Waterlily 6

Fimbriated 3 – Pompon 1 - Collerette 1 – Anemone 1

Sizes – Giant 1 – Large 6 – Medium 19 – Small 15 – Miniature 16

Cultivar	Type	Size
Winkie Colonel	Decorative	Giant
Aitara Majesty	Cactus	Large
Kenora Jubilee	Cactus	Large
Kenora Wildfire	Cactus	Large
Kiara Julia	Cactus	Large
Reg Kappler	Cactus	Large
Kotare Buttermilk	Decorative	Large
Bob Yeomans	Cactus	Medium
Clearview Tammy	Cactus	Medium
Coorabell Jules	Cactus	Medium
Hillcrest Walter Duncan	Cactus	Medium
Jan Lennon	Cactus	Medium
Kenora Challenger	Cactus	Medium
Narrows Tricia	Cactus	Medium
Ruskin Andrea	Cactus	Medium
Wakefield Anniversary	Cactus	Medium
Wakefield Impersonator	Cactus	Medium
Winkie Carnival	Cactus	Medium
Bracken Sarah	Decorative	Medium
Christie Huston	Decorative	Medium
Devon Radiance	Decorative	Medium

Kim's Christie	Decorative	Medium
Maggi Hannaford	Decorative	Medium
Scarborough Ace	Decorative	Medium
Sylvia Craig Hunter	Decorative	Medium
Trengrove Millenium	Decorative	Medium
Devon Elegance	Cactus	Small
Devon Eureka	Cactus	Small
Devon Seduction	Cactus	Small
Devon Toledo	Cactus	Small
Embrace	Cactus	Small
Gay Twinkle	Cactus	Small
Grace C	Cactus	Small
Karras 150	Cactus	Small
Kiara Forgwen	Cactus	Small
Winkfield Wonder	Cactus	Small
Winkie Crystabelle	Cactus	Small
Winkie Moorpark	Cactus	Small
Bracken Palomino	Decorative	Small
Coorabell Moonglow	Decorative	Small
Devon Amberlight	Decorative	Small
Formby Delight	Decorative	Small
Le Batts Prime	Decorative	Small
Winkie Director	Decorative	Small
Devon Bronte	Cactus	Miniature
Kismet	Cactus	Miniature
Moray Bronte	Cactus	Miniature
Bracken Glenda	Decorative	Miniature
Bracken Nikolaus	Decorative	Miniature
Brookes Josh	Decorative	Miniature
Coorabell Sally	Decorative	Miniature
Devon Mystique	Decorative	Miniature
Formby Alpine	Decorative	Miniature

Formby Crest	Decorative	Miniature
Glenmarc Anne	Decorative	Miniature
Hillier Tanunda	Decorative	Miniature
Hy Fashion	Decorative	Miniature
Mellum Nina	Decorative	Miniature
Pink Suffusion	Decorative	Miniature
Winkie Raven	Decorative	Miniature
Granite Queen Bee	Anemone	
April Star	Collerette	
Alessia	Fimbriated	
Coorabell Laverne	Fimbriated	
Winkie Volcano	Fimbriated	
Pam	Pompon	
Cameo	Waterlily	
Figurine	Waterlily	
Granite Charlotte	Waterlily	
Granite Peachy	Waterlily	
Kens Gold	Waterlily	

Ron Cook – Tenterfield - Northern NSW



Scarborough Ace



Karras 150



Bracken Sarah

John Menzel - Winkie - South Australia



Kotare Buttermilk



Winkie Colonel



Bracken Nikolaus

Christine Dwyer – Hobart - Tasmania



Kiara Julia



Figurine



Trengrove Millennium

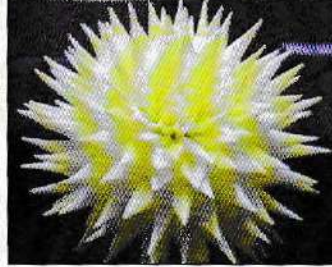
Alf Hardingham – Portland - Victoria



Pink Suffusion



Winkie Colonel



Narrows Tricia

Bruce Millard – Hamilton – Victoria



Hillier Tanunda

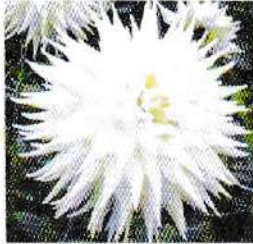


Pam Howden



Gay Twinkle

John Woodfield – Canberra - ACT



Kenora Jubilee



Figurine



Devon Toledo

Bruce Raines – Catherinefield – NSW



Devon Elegance



Pam



Alessia

Dwight King – Brighton – Victoria



Formby Crest



Kenora Jubilee



Embrace

Deb Collett – Red Hill - Victoria



April Star

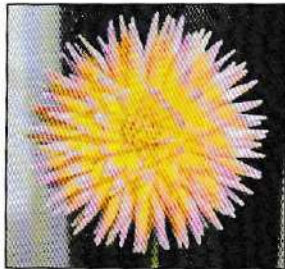


Devon Mystique



Coorabell Jules

Malcolm Balch – Stanthorpe – Queensland



Granite Charlotte



Granite Peachy



Granite Queen Bee

Geoff Errington – Barmera – South Australia



Winkie Moorpark



Cameo

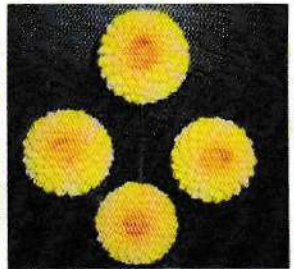


Winkie Director

Neville Jaeschke – Tanunda – South Australia



Kenora Jubilee



Formby Crest



Devon Radiance

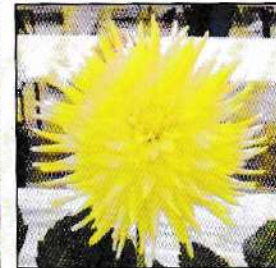
Nick Scudds – Smithfield – South Australia



Devon Bronte



Winkie Raven



Winkfield Wonder

Garard Oldfield – Mittagong – NSW



Bracken Glenda



Ken's Gold

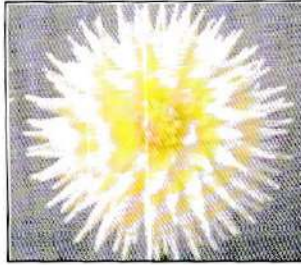


Christie Huston

Helen Martin – Weatherboard – Victoria



Hillier Tanunda



Kiara Julia



Pink Suffusion

Charles Smith – St Helens – Tasmania



Bracken Sarah



Devon Toledo

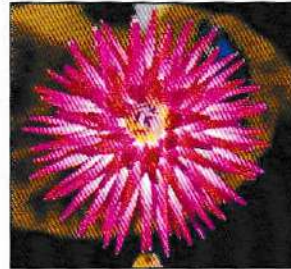


Formby Delight

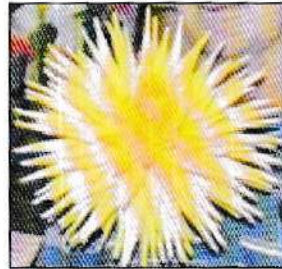
Greg Fooks - Hobart – Tasmania



Embrace



Devon Seduction



Kiara Julia

Robert Smith – Orange – NSW



Reg Kappler



Bracken Palomino



Trenvgrove Millenium

Rodney Clarke – Invergordon – Victoria



Brookes Josh

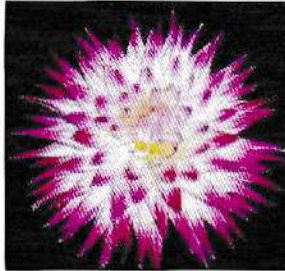


Kens Gold

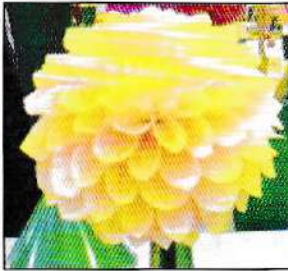


Glenmarc Anne

Graham Heinrich – Mt. Barker – SA



Winkie Carnival



Devon Amberlight



Alessia

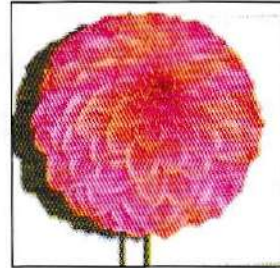
Yvonne Tracey – Orange – NSW



Devon Radiance



Devon Elegance



Sylvia Craig Hunter

John Rowe – Warragul – Victoria



Jan Lennon



Winkie Volcano



Formby Alpine

Jim McClaren – Perth – WA



Kenora Jubilee



Kenora Wildfire



Trengrove Millenium

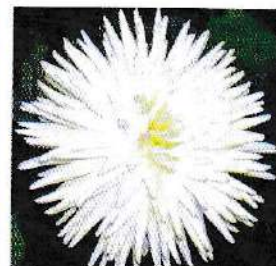
Stanton Hulik – Victoria



Kismet

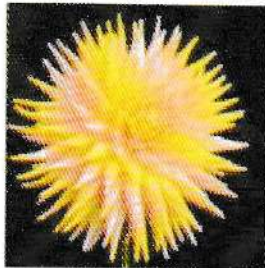


Embrace

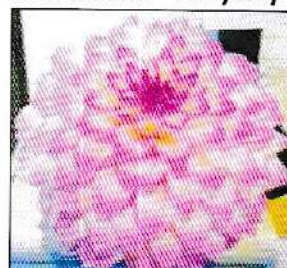


Bob Yeomans

Peter Stonestreet – Blayney – NSW



Kiara Julia



Maggi Hannaford



Devon Eureka

Steven Wedd – Coorabell – NSW



Kenora Challenger



Coorabell Moonglow



Coorabell Laverne

Stephan Cox – Carrun Downs – Victoria



Ruskin Andrea



Narrow Tricia



Hy Fashion

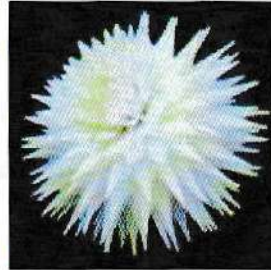
Gavin Woods – Kadina – South Australia



Kim's Christie



Hillcrest Duncan Edwards



Clearview Tammy

Joe Daniel – Rokewood – Victoria



Reg Kappler



Winkie Colonel



Embrace

Graeme Davis – Wakefield – ACT



Kiara Forgwen



Wakefield Impersonator



Wakefield Anniversary

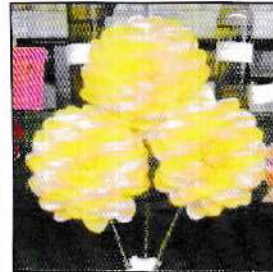
Leone Venables – Cooma - NSW



Aitara Majesty



Bracken Sarah



Ken's Gold

Warren Vigor – Anakie – Victoria



Winkie Crystabelle



Bracken Sarah



Winkie Colonel

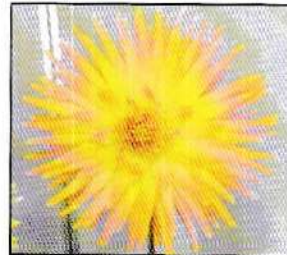
Wayne McCosker – Stanthorpe – Queensland



Coorabell Sally



Mellum Nina



Moray Bronte

Robert Curl – Jamberoo – NSW



Grace C



Bracken Sarah



Le Batts Prime



Portland Dahlia Society

Bruce Millard

A good start to the growing season was anticipated by our growers after a very wet and cold winter and early spring. By Christmas most growers were experiencing a good start to the season although some experienced growers saw tuber rot due perhaps to wetter than usual soil.

Club members attended Tyrendarra's 100il' show with Stephen Brown winning the champion bloom with the small cactus '**Glenmarc Envy**'

Club members also went to Winchelsea entering many blooms with Judge Andrew McKay awarding Alf Hardingham 1st in both championships and Bruce Millard runner up.

Stephen Brown winning vase of the show with '**Kens Gold**'.



The Portland Dahlia and Rose show saw 22 exhibitors put up 445 vases of top flowers for the judges Willie Hawker, John Menzel and Alf Hardingham to judge.

The Open championship with five exhibitors saw Bruce Millard 1st & Col Donehue 2nd

Champion bloom of show '**Glenmarc Dutchess**' displayed by Bruce Millard and a vase of '**Aitara April**' by Stephen Brown was awarded champion vase of show.

There were also 234 Vases of roses and cut flowers displayed for Judge Anne Ashby to judge with Isobel Millard winning both open rose championship and champion cut flower.

Saturday night the club put on its usual **FREE** two course meal at the hall for all the Judges and exhibitors.

This is a popular way for all to get together, have a few drinks, discuss how the show went and have a few laughs with a good meal organized by the Brown's. The after meal entertainment by Helen Martin, Shirley Clarke and John Menzel rolling Easter eggs along the table up to a cup was all laughs as their aim was not too good. A good night enjoyed by everyone.

In February Bunnings of Mount Gambier invited the club to display Dahlia's at their store. This was attended by a large number of local gardeners who were amazed at the huge variety of blooms available with many people interested in coming to our show. A big thankyou to Nick and Emily Scudds for helping on the day.

On a sad finish to the season the club lost a long time clubman and life member in Col Donehue after a short illness.

Hobart Dahlia Section

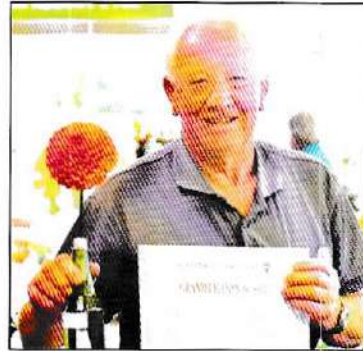
Greg Fooks



Members of the Dahlia Section had a hectic show schedule this year, with four shows in four weeks. The first show was held at Kingston Mitre 10 over the weekend of 18th & 19th of February. The store is a great venue to set up a display and there were many

admiring comments from the numerous visitors who walked past the blooms. As is usual at the shows, when we are packing up we give away any of the blooms that we don't want to take home, and this is always very much appreciated.

David Budd won Champion Bloom with a very nice **Seedling**. It will be interesting to see how this, and a couple of his other seedlings, perform in the future.



David Budd



Brian Smith

The Hobart Show was scheduled two weeks earlier than usual. This seemed to reflect in the number of blooms that we were able to display, with entries down on previous years. We were grateful to **Brian Smith** for travelling from Devonport to participate. He won the Grand Champion Bloom with a lovely "**Formby Kaitlin**" and also did well in other classes. Barry Anderton produced some good entries in the

Novice Section.

Members enjoyed a dinner at the Shoreline Hotel on the Friday night. Our judge for the Open Section, Charlie Smith, gave a very interesting talk to growers on the Saturday morning.

The following weekend saw members travelling to Dunalley for their Autumn Flower Show. Winner of the Champion Bloom was David Budd with "**Trengrove Millenium**".



Dunalley Bench

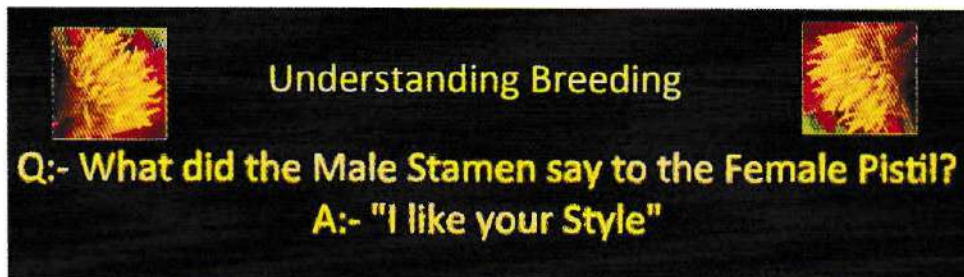
Our last outing was to the Lindisfarne Garden Club show. Greg Fooks produced a very nice "Kiara Julia" to take out the Open Champion Bloom. Barry Anderton again took out the Novice Champion with "Susan French". We very much welcomed a new exhibitor in Jane Green, who brought her whole family in to exhibit blooms and garden produce.

Thanks to all the members for their assistance at the shows and their participation this season.

The Section started off the new season by getting together for a Field Day in January. We visited a number of gardens and also enjoyed a barbecue lunch and the chance to relax and socialise with friends and family.



Barry Anderton & Graham Verrier in Greg Fooks' Garden.



Understanding Breeding

Q:- What did the Male Stamen say to the Female Pistil?
A:- "I like your Style"



Dahlia Society of South Australia – Neville Jaeschke

Growing a Dahlia Society in the current social environment requires patience, and persistence. Our membership of 41 is similar to that of the previous year. A wet winter and spring made planting conditions

ideal in South Australia. This was followed by good rains in January taged 200 blooms. Grand Champion bloom was Aitara Majesty & Reserve Grand Champion was Jolon Cherry. All other shows were well supported and a good display of dahlias were presented to the judges and to the public.

Members met four times during the year to discuss the affairs of the Society, to plan events and to consider the Society's future. One of the highlights of the year was the Tuber Sale, in November, when approximately 400 tubers were offered for sale. A good number of people from far and wide purchased tubers.

Society members assisted with planting of dahlia tubers at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens in November. They also helped maintain the patch by dead heading & tying. This patch of dahlias has grown exceptionally well this season, and produced a prolific amount of blooms, making a fantastic display – the best in years. A new sign has been made to inform the public about dahlias. The dahlia patch is a great attraction for photographers.

Another highlight was the field trip to Winkie, where Anne and John Menzel hosted visitors to their garden.

A regular Newsletter has been sent to members to keep them informed of events and matters pertaining to the Society including an "In the Garden" section.

A new Website has been created and designed by Nick Scudds. We hope that this will increase interest in Dahlia growing and Membership to the Society.

The growing of dahlias was promoted with a talk to the Elizabeth Garden Club, and a visit to Tanunda Dahlias by the Salisbury Garden Club.

2018 will mark several milestones in the life of the Dahlia Society. It will be 130 years since the Society began in partnership with the Carnation & Sweet Pea Society. On the 8th of February 1968, The Dahlia Society of SA was established, making 50 years of Dahlia Society activities.

We look forward to the support of DSA members in celebrating this milestone.



Jolon Cherry



Neville & Elizabeth



Aitara Majesty



Adelaide Botanic Gardens



Preparing Tubers for Planting



Botanic Gardens Patch



Tuber Sales Tables



Joan Matulick Championship



Central West Dahlia Society – Rob Slarke

After a very hot summer, the dahlias started flowering properly when the weather cooled, some decent falls of rain recorded, and lovely sunny autumn days that were appreciated by the plants.

This year for the first time since 1953, there was no Lithgow Workmen's Club (Workies) autumn show. The Workies Horticultural sub-body began all those years ago when the Lithgow Horticultural Society wound up and its members reinvented their group by becoming the first sub-body of the Workies. From the beginning, the Workies management was very supportive of the sub-body, continuing that support each year as the club grew in size and membership over the decades. At one time the Horticultural sub-body even assisted the Workies pay their staff when cash flow was a problem, so the support between club and sub-body was reciprocal. Exhibitor support for the flower show had always been excellent but sadly the time came to close down. Despite the



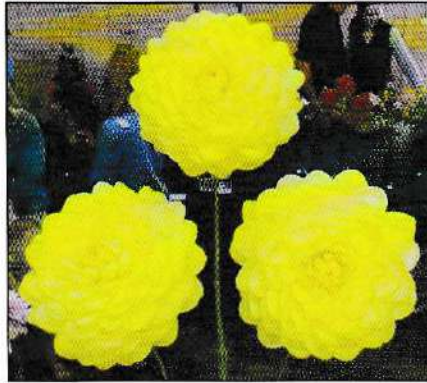
best efforts of the committee, visitor numbers decreased to the point where the effort required by the committee couldn't be sustained by the number of visitors to the show. At the Orange & District Horticultural Society show this year, John Woodfield was successful in winning the champion dahlia and the Orange Dahlia Championship. Despite a difficult season for John, he persevered and travelled to Orange to contribute to the show and was rewarded for his efforts. Champion dahlia was **Kenora Jubilee** which formed part of his 3 vase championship, also including **Figurine** and **Tioga Autumn**.

The Central West Dahlia Championship this year was hosted by the Blayney A & P Association. Anne Hayman was successful in the 3 vase Central West Dahlia Championship with **Ken's Gold** (gold waterlily), **Jan Lennon** (pink & white cactus) and **Le Batt's Prime** (mauve & white semi-decorative). Champion Dahlia was Anne's lovely vase of **Ken's Gold**.

Peter and Joan Stonestreet prevailed in the 3 vase Blayney Dahlia Championship which included vases of **Tioga Autumn**, **Elma Elizabeth** and **Ivanetti**. There were a good number of entries at Blayney and Joan Stonestreet's dahlia basket attracted a lot of attention. As has been the case for many years now, some of our members attended the Horticultural Society of Canberra autumn show. Despite some growing season difficulties, the benches were full of flowers as usual. John and Anne Menzel from South Australia won the 9 vase Australian Dahlia Championship which included the Grand Champion Dahlia in their entry, **Kotare Buttermilk**, a new lemon-coloured medium decorative dahlia bred in New Zealand.



Joan's Basket



Ken's Gold



Formby Alpine - Moray Linda



Central West Championships - Orange

Queensland Dahlia Society – Mike Colby



The year 2016-2017 has been a difficult time for members in many ways, especially dealing with the climate. The growing season was very challenging dealing with the heat and dry conditions. The need to replant tubers that had failed to grow was common. However, through their tenacity the members were able to bench a good number and variety of blooms.

We held our general meetings in Brisbane with the exception of the October meeting which was held at the home of Pam Armstrong in Toowoomba. It was well attended with over twenty members who travelled from Tenterfield, Stanthorpe, Coorabell, Brisbane and Toowoomba. New members joined from Toowoomba and were present. The annual tuber sharing took place and the donations were gratefully received. It was good to catch up with members as many of them we had not seen at a meeting for some years.

The attendance at meetings and the governance of the Society is conducted mainly by the Brisbane based and Coorabell members. Their continued attendance and support is crucial to the continuance of our Society.

The Christmas function was held at the Brothers Leagues Club, Ipswich. The numbers were down a bit, however it is always good to catch up and share a meal and time together.

The annual field day was held at my farm "Mary Park", Cunningham's Gap. It was on 12th February, 2017 which was in the middle of a heat wave and as predicted the Sunday turned on the 42 degree heat in the shade. The dahlia patch was showing the worst for the conditions with a bit of colour, not what one would have expected in a normal season. But what is normal? Nine members attended and we enjoyed the day keeping out of the sun under the camphor laurel tree.

The Society conducted shows at Morayfield Shopping Centre, Mt Coot-Tha Botanical Gardens and Lutwyche Shopping Centre. The State Show at Mount Coot-Tha is always a highlight on the Society's calendar, and especially so as we missed out on holding the event in 2016. Having the Stanthorpe members exhibiting their blooms adds so much and their contributions are appreciated.

Attendance at the show was up this year thanks to Facebook and free publicity on the ABC. It enabled us to break even financially. That is a great result. Contributions by members in many different ways made the show a success.

Members also exhibited at other shows - Northern Districts Horticultural Society's Show at Wavell Heights in Brisbane and at Stanthorpe, Tenterfield, Warwick, Ipswich and Toowoomba.

During the year we had sad news of the passing of our Patron and Life Member Neville Neumann.

Neville made an outstanding contribution to our Society in the capacity of Patron, and was President for many years. He was a breeder of distinguished dahlias of international note, judge and mentor to many. Nev will be sadly missed by many dahlia growers throughout the country.



Christine Staging

Our long time member Christine Hillard of Armidale, N.S.W also passed away during the year. Christine and her late husband Tom were regulars at conferences and known to many.

As we advance in years some of our members have experienced health problems and are not able to be growers but they continue to support the Society as they once did, and their continued interest and support is appreciated. One of our members, Colin McLaughlin has had a rough run over the past six months, but I am pleased to advise that he is making steady progress to recovery.



Field Day at Mike Colby's – Cunningham Gap



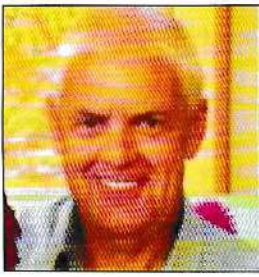
President Mike Handing Out Tubers McCoskers with Quinella – Mt Coot-tha



Champions Table at State Show Mt-Coot-tha



Display at Lutwyche Shopping Centre



Northern Tasmania – Brian Smith

I cannot do this report without mentioning the loss of one of the Best Dahlia Grower, Breeder, Judge and exhibitor of new varieties in Australia.

George Harding passed away this last January leaving a huge void at the dahlia shows in Northern Tasmania., although he only judged in the latter years we will certainly miss his wit and expertise, even though he was in his 90's he had the ability to pick the best at a passing glance.

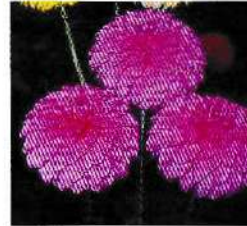


We had one of the driest season's in memory yet we saw some of the best blooms for many years. **Purbeck Lydia, Bracken Sarah, Devon Toledo** and **Formby Delight** certainly come to mind.



There were plenty of flowers at the three major shows but dare I say it the organizers are getting older and it is becoming harder to attract the younger ones.

The Launceston Show was judged by Greg Fooks from Hobart **Purbeck Lydia** was the successful Cultivar and the Reserve was **Devon Showtime** (Sm Cactus) At the Westbury Show **Formby Delight** was Grand and **Devon Eureka** was the Reserve and the best vase was **Devon Toledo**.



The Latrobe Show followed with **Devon Toledo** Grand with **Formby Crown** a close runner-up.

It was an interesting observation that the Tasmanian Raised Cultivars were very prominent on the Winners Table.

The Westbury & Latrobe Shows were judged by a panel of three exhibitors. It was first thought there could be some differences of opinion and there were no disagreements. If any of the three judges had a bloom that was being assessed they would step back leaving the decision to the other two. In the case of two having a bloom in question they both stepped back leaving the decision to the remaining Judge resulting in a very successful & enjoyable experience.

The Judges found that they tended to be harder on their own blooms.

All in all a very good season and we are looking forward to 2018.



NSW/ACT Summary – Graeme Davis

It has been an interesting dahlia season to say the least. What with hot weather, wet weather, and grasshoppers most growers struggled to get consistently good flowers.

Given all that we still managed to have enough flowers to impress those who got to our shows.

It was good to see people making the effort to put on a good display.

We are all now waiting for the plants to die down so we can dig those tubers that will produce great plants and flowers for next year. There is always next year.

The big show on Canberra in early march was again a success although the challenges exhibitors had faced in getting blooms to the show was clear to all who looked closely. Some did not even manage to get an exhibit on the bench.

The state championship in Yass was well supported. June and John Woodfield managed to win the championship and just about all the champions - a great effort.

At the Royal Easter show in April people were struggling for flowers. We managed 4 exhibitors over the show. A few flowers really stood out. In particular, the champion on the second day was a very dark red large semi cactus – Winkie Bombardier – probably the best flower I saw over the season. It is amazing how some really good flowers can be produced in April from particular varieties. The fact it came out of a garden that had been attacked by many grasshoppers earlier in the year makes it even more surprising.



I would like to congratulate MR BRUCE & MRS LONNY RAINES for their winning of the most successful exhibitor in horticulture and the Banksian Medallion at the Royal Easter show.



Judging Australian Championship at Canberra



Australian Championship Canberra



**"Kotare Buttermilk"
Grand Champion Canberra**



Judge Yvonne Tracey Looking Close

Dahlia Society of Victoria – Dwight King

This has been a very good year for the DSV. The Monthly meetings have been well received with the focus on “hands on activities” and discussion. We thank Les Lawson for his years of editing our magazine. We are very fortunate that Tricia Newby, with her background in journalism, has agreed to take over as Editor of our Dahlia magazine thus securing the future of this excellent and informative publication. Stanton Halik is now handling the monthly e-mail newsletter which is becoming a useful tool for keeping members informed and to remind them of special events.



The Show schedule was enhanced to create more opportunities for all growers and the Committee increased the total prize money by \$1,000 which will continue in 2018. We were honored to have Rebecca Patterson the Mayor of the City of Monash open our Show. She was very complimentary of our event and members after touring the show and admiring the dahlia blooms.

A big thank you to Andrew and Janet McKay who opened their home, gardens and dahlia growing setup for our full bus Field Trip. Over many years, they have developed a wealth of knowledge about dahlia cultivation and exhibiting which they generously shared with us. The food was great and their hospitality was excellent. A memorable day for all.

We have welcomed a significant number of enthusiastic new members bringing our total membership to 239. The show was great with 296 entries which was the highest in many years. There were 3 entries in the Victorian Open Championship, 3 entries in the Intermediate Championship and 3 entries in the Novice Championship. It was very encouraging to see the quality and quantity of our Novice and Intermediate exhibits.

Another milestone was the awarding of the Gold Service Award to Fran Grylls who has served the DSV for over twenty years with most of those years as Secretary of the DSV. She is always willing to help and has been instrumental in the growth of the Society.

In conclusion, we celebrate a good year for the Society. We look forward to many interesting years to come as we encourage and support each other in our love for growing the delightful dahlia.



Bob Trotter Memorial Championship



Deb & Janet Busy Staging



Field Day at Mckay's in Colac



Shepparton Dahlia Club – Rodney Clarke

Our AGM was held in May with all positions being elected as of last year. After 2 months lay off our year started with our Tuber Auction, as it's our major fundraiser. Approximately 10 members and 3 members from the public provided the club with \$666. A very good effort. We thank all who donated. Our monthly meetings of a meal at member's houses before the

meeting, then afternoon tea, chat and a look around the garden are still well received. The Christmas breakup was this year held at the Royal Mail Hotel, Mooroopna, where 20 members enjoyed a great meal and our raffle of a Christmas hamper. Our Dahlia show was this year held at the Riverside Plaza after being told just a few hours before setting up by Woolworths that they needed the space we were to have. Riverside Plaza gave us more room which is great, but the downside is it has nothing like the foot traffic as the market place; however the show was a great success. 10 exhibitors from Adelaide (Nick and Emily Scudds), Portland (Stephen Brown), Ballarat (Helen Martin), Bendigo (Kevin Judd and Bob Hester) plus local growers, Norm Mitchelmore, Vince Brennon and Shirley and Rodney Clarke displayed 150 entries and 300 blooms before our judge, Alf Hardingham, who commented despite a hot summer & heavy rain some excellent blooms were staged.

It was very encouraging to see some first time exhibitors (Nick and Emily) doing so well and others travelling great distances to support this show. The morning after our show we took a bus to Murchison's Avonlea Flower Farm of 400 hot houses of flowers. All who went thoroughly enjoyed the walk and talk David Wiedenbach gave us that day.

It was sad to hear from Andrew and Janet McKay that they won't be growing Dahlias anymore, but will still be around to support where ever possible. Thank you very much Andrew and Janet for all your support and help at shows, tuber auctions and friendship over many years.

The very low light of the year was the passing of long time member Harold Reid from Ararat. And the club passes on their condolences to his wife, Heather and Family. Approximately 5 members have had spells in the hospital or have not been well and we wish them much better health from now on.

Membership has fallen a little this year as seems common in all clubs. But we do welcome 2 new members George and Judy Manson.



Devon Bronte Grand Champion



Collerettes Public Favourites



Emily - Novice Championship



Rodney - Pompon Championship



Shepparton Riverside Plaza



Australian Show Results



ACT/NSW



Guyra Show 21st January

Exhibitors 2

Blooms 115

Judge G. Oldfield

Grand Champion

Tioga Autumn

R Cook

6 Vase Championship

1st R Cook

Winning Blooms

Tioga Autumn , Winkie Paddlewheel, Winkie Director,
Mary's Jomanda, Moray Thelma, Mi Wong

Champions

Large Decorative	Regina	R Cook
Medium Decorative	Como Polly	R & C Hurtz
Small Decorative	Bracken Sequel	R Cook
Miniature Decorative	Brooks Josh	R Cook
Large/Giant Cactus	Louie Berger	R Cook
Medium Cactus	Kenora Sunset	R Cook
Small Cactus	Moray Thelma	R Cook
Miniature Cactus	Rokewood Opal	R & C Hurtz
Incurved Cactus	Winkie Paddlewheel	R Cook
Fimbriated	Tioga Autumn	R Cook
Pompon	Mi Wong	R Cook
Waterlily	Pam Howden	R Cook
Ball	Jomanda	R & C Hurtz
Collerette	Karras Lee	R Cook
Container of Dahlias		R & C Hurtz

KIAMA A P & H SHOW**27th January**

Exhibitors 1

Blooms 40

Judge R. Curll

Grand Champion**Figurine****B. Raines****Championship**1st B. Raines**Winning Blooms**

Pam - Zorro - Hillcrest Duncan Edwards

Champions

Large/Giant Decorative	Figurine	B. Raines
Medium Decorative	Kims Christie	B. Raines
Miniature Cactus	Araluen Fire	B. Raines
Pompon	Pam	B. Raines

Tenterfield Horticultural Society**February 25th**

6 Open exhibitors 4 Novice

260 Blooms

Judge R. Chapman

Grand Champion**Devon Mystique****R Cook****Res Grand Champion****Higgo Lacey****W & J McCosker****Champions**

Large/Giant Decorative	Regina	Wedd Family
Medium Decorative	Bracken Sarah	R Cook
Small Decorative	Bracken Sequel	R Cook
Miniature Decorative	Devon Mystique	R Cook
Large/Giant Cactus	Devon Carnival	R Cook
Medium Cactus	Wildwood Glory	R Cook
Small Cactus	Moray Bronte	W & J McCosker
Miniature Cactus	Moray Bronte	Wedd Family
Incurved Cactus	Mayerin	Wedd Family
Fimbriated	Higgo Lacey	W & J McCosker
Pompon	Pensford Marion	R Cook
Waterlily	Pam Howden	W & J McCosker
Ball	Mary's Jomanda	R Cook
Collerette	Limit	W & J McCosker
Orchid	Golden Sunset	R Cook
Single	Moray Crimson	Wedd Family
Container of Dahlias		M & B Balch
State of Origin Challenge 5 Distinct Types		NSW (Wedd Family)

Winning Blooms

Coorabell Sally, Coorabell Fimb. Seedling, Kenora Challenger,
Single Seedling, Pam

YASS

25th March

Exhibitors 5	Vases 108	Judge R. Curll
Grand Champion	Pam	J & J. Woodfield

CHAMPIONSHIP

1st J. & J. Woodfield 2ND Highland Dahlias 3rd Ryan & Sheldrick

Winning Blooms

Tioga Autumn , Pam, Hamari Accord, Formby Elite,
Formby Supreme , Cameo

Champions

Medium Decorative	Bracken Sarah	B & S. Hodgson
Miniature Decorative	Bills Maddy	Highland Dahlias
Medium Cactus	Formby Elite	J & J. Woodfield
Small Cactus	Araluen Fire	J & P. Hill
Any other type	Pam	J. & J. Woodfield

SMALL VASE CHAMPIONSHIP

1st J & J. Woodfield - 2nd Highland Dahlias - 3rd D. Brown

NINE VASE CHAMPIONSHIP

J & J Woodfield - 2nd Highland Dahlias - 3rd J & P Hill

Tenterfield Agricultural Show

10th February

Exhibitors 3	Blooms 190	Judge Mrs D Cox
Grand Champion	Brian R	R Cook

Champions

Medium Decorative	Brian R	R Cook
Small Decorative	Bracken Sarah	M & B Balch
Miniature Decorative	Mellum Nina	R Cook
Large/Giant Cactus	Aitara Majesty	R Cook
Medium Cactus	Kenora Jubilee	R Cook
Small Cactus	Bracken Elva	R Cook
Miniature Cactus	Granite Charlotte	M & B Balch
Incurved Cactus	Winkie Paddlewheel	M & B Balch
Fimbriated	Granite Seedling	M & B Balch
Pompon	Red Devil	R Cook
Waterlily	Gr. Summer Sunrise	M & B Balch

Ball	Devon Guyra	M & B Balch
Collerette	Granite Seedling	M & B Balch
Container of Dahlias		M & B Balch
Novice	Alessia	K Gray

Horticultural Society of Canberra

Date 4&5th March

Exhibitors 12

Blooms 392

Judges

G. Davis, G. Sheldrick, Y. Tracey, J. Woodfield, J. Menzel, B. Raines

Grand Champion	Kotare Buttermilk	A. Menzel
Reserve Champion	Devon Citation	L. Veneables
Best Single Bloom U/160	Kelgai Ann	Highland Dahlias
9 Vase Australian Championship		
1 st A. Menzel	2 nd J & P Hill	3 rd L. Venables

Winning Blooms

Over 160mm - Kotare Buttermilk, Winkie Colonel, Winkie Admiral,
Glenmarc Endeavour, Snow White, Winkie Wanderer,
Como Polly, Winkie W253

Vase Under 60mm – Winkie Northbound

Champions

Giant Decorative	Winkie Colonel	B & S Hodgson
Large Decorative	Winkie Admiral	A, Menzel
Medium Decorative	Kotare Buttermilk	A. Menzel
Small Decorative	Bracken Sarah	Leone Venables
Miniature Decorative	Brooks Sharna	J & P Hill
Large/Giant Cactus	Aitara Majesty	Leone Venables
Medium Cactus	Devon Citation	Leone Venables
Small Cactus	Bracken Elva	Leone Venables
Miniature Cactus	Grace Candy	Leone Venables
Incurved Cactus	Darbro Gift	J & P Hill
Fimbriated	Aitara Picardy	Leone Venables
Pompon	Pam	B Raines
Waterlily	Figurine	Leone Venables
Ball	Ivanetti	B & S Hodgson
Collerette	Darbro Maria.	Leone Venables

COBARGO A. P.& H. Society

Exhibitors 2	Vases 50	Judge B. Sheldrick
Grand Champion	Wakefield DJ	L. Venables

Championship1ST L. Venables**Winning Blooms**

Vera's Elma, Oreti Stacey Yowie Beryl , Alloway Candy

Champions

	Cultivar	Exhibitor
Medium Decorative	Vera 'Elma	L.Venables
Medium Cactus	Wakefield DJ	L. Venables
Any other Type	Oreti Stacey	L.Venables

BERRY A P & H. Society**11th March**

Exhibitors 3	Vases 79	Judge G. Sheldrick
Grand Champion	Cornel	G. Oldfield

Championship1st G. Oldfield 2nd G. Oldfield 3rd B. Raines**Winning Blooms**

Formby Alpine, Alloway Candy , Cornel

Champions

Small Decorative	Seedling	B. Raines
Medium Cactus	Kenora Sunset	B. Raines
Pompon	Pink Pam	B. Raines
Waterlily	Cameo	G. Oldfield
Ball	Cornel	G. Oldfield

ORANGE HORT SOCIETY**11th March**

Exhibitors 6	Vases 104	Judge G. Davis
Grand Champion	Kenora Jubilee	J. & J. Woodfield
Res Champion	Formby Karon	P. & J. Stonestreet

Championship - 1st J&J Woodfield – 2nd A. Hayman – 3rd P&J Stonestreet**Winning Blooms**

Kenora Jubilee, Figurine, Tioga Autumn

Champions

Large Decorative	Elma Elizabeth	A. Hayman
Medium Decorative	Maggi Hannaford	P. & J. Stonestreet
Small Decorative	Bracken Sarah	A. Hayman
Miniature Decorative	Le Batts Prime	A. Hayman
Large/Giant Cactus	Kenora Jubilee	J & J. Woodfield
Medium Cactus	Formby Karon	P. & J. Stonestreet
Small Cactus	Devon Toledo	P. & J. Stonestreet
Miniature Cactus	Araluen Fire	A. Hayman
Fimbriated	Tioga Autumn	J & J. Woodfield
Pompon	Stoneleigh Joyce	A. Hayman
Waterlily	Ken's Gold	J. & J. Woodfield
Ball	Cornel	J & J. Woodfield
Collerette	Aitara Conference	A. Hayman

BLAYNEY

18th March

Exhibitors 4	Vases 119	Judge B. Raines
Grand Champion/Over 160	Ken's Gold	A. Hayman
Res Champion/Under 160	Maggi Hannaford	P. Stonestreet

Championship

1st A. Hayman, 2nd P. Stonestreet, 3rd J. Johnstone

Winning Blooms

Jan Lennon, Le Batts Prime, Kens Gold

Champions

Medium Decorative	Maggi Hannaford	P. Stonestreet
Medium Cactus	Jan Lennon	A. Hayman
Incurved Cactus	Darbo Gift	J. Johnstone
Fimbriated	Tioga Autumn	P. Stonestreet
Pompon	Ray's Gold	A. Hayman
Waterlily	Ken's Gold	A. Hayman
Ball	Ivanetti	A. Hayman
Collerette	Pinkie 'O'	A. Hayman
Any other type	Tioga Autumn	P. Stonestreet

ROYAL EASTER SHOW -- DAY 2 10/4/2017

Exhibitors 5

Judge Y. Tracey

Grand Champion**Winkie Bombardier****Davis/ Woodfield****Championship****First****Second****Third**

Davis / Woodfield

B & L. Raines

P. & J. Hill

(506 pts)

(502 pts)

(495 pts)

Winning Blooms:**Wakefield Impersonator, Cameo, Bracken Josh, Elma Elizabeth,
Kiara Forgwen, Kiara Julia****2nd Como Polly, Scarborough 2000, Kenora Challenger, Bloomquest
Barbara, Pam, Coorabell Sally****3rd Glenmarc Endeavour, Harmari Accor, Kenora Jubilee,
Embrace, Moray Linda****Champions**

Decorative over 210mm	Elma Elizabeth	Davis/ Woodfield
Medium Decorative	Granite Rebecca	B & L. Raines
Small Decorative	Coorabell Sally	B & L. Raines
Miniature Decorative	Bracken Joan	Davis / Woodfield
Cactus over 210mm	Winkie Bombardier	Davis/ Woodfield
Small Cactus	Devon Toledo	Davis / Woodfield
Miniature Cactus	Kiara Forgwen	Davis / Woodfield
Exhibition Cactus	Cricket	B & L. Raines
Fimbriated Cactus	Alessea	Davis / Woodfield
Waterlily	Cameo	B & L. Raines
Collerette	Pinke 'O'	Davis / Woodfield
Ball	Downham Royal	B & L. Raines
Pompon	Pam	B & L. Raines
Anemone	Granite Queen Bee	B & L. Raines



Queensland



Stanthorpe Agricultural Show 3rd Feb

Exhibitors 5	Blooms 221	Judge Mrs M Brown
Grand Champion	Granite Virginia	M & B Balch
Res Champion/Under 160	Granite Seedling	M & B Balch

Champions

Medium Decorative	Scarborough Ace	R Cook
Small Decorative	Coorabell Moonglow	Wedd Family
Miniature Decorative	Granite Virginia	M & B Balch
Large/Giant Cactus	Aitara Majesty	R Cook
Medium Cactus	Louie Berger	R Cook
Small Cactus	Granite Seedling	M & B Balch
Miniature Cactus	Granite Charlotte	M & B Balch
Incurved Cactus	Winkie Paddlewheel	M & B Balch
Fimbriated	Coorabell Seedling	Wedd Family
Pompon	Red Devil	R Cook
Waterlily	Gr. Summer Sunrise	M & B Balch
Ball	Ryecroft Laura	R Cook
Collerette	Coorabell Seedling	Wedd Family
Single	Moray Crimson	Wedd Family
Container of Dahlias		B & M Burnell
Basket of Dahlias		B & M Burnell

Morayfield Shopping Centre 4th March

Exhibitors 3	Blooms 118	Judge R. Barry
Grand Champion	Coorabell Zoe	Wedd Family
Res Champion	Moray Thelma	Wedd Family
Intermediate	Bracken Catherine	R Colburn
5 Qld Raised	1 st Wedd Family	

Winning Blooms

Downs Hazel - Moray Bronte - Mellum Nina

Moray Crimson Bracken Astra

Champions

Giant Decorative	Winkie Colonel	M Colby
Medium Decorative	Coorabell Glenyce	Wedd Family

Small Decorative	Devon Ultimate	M Colby
Miniature Decorative	Coorabell Zoe	Wedd Family
Large/Giant Cactus	Aitara Majesty	Wedd Family
Medium Cactus	Kenora Challenger	Wedd Family
Small Cactus	Wakefield Anniversary	Wedd Family
Miniature Cactus	Moray Thelma	Wedd Family
Fimbriated	Winkie Volcano	Wedd Family
Pompon	Pam	Wedd Family
Waterlily	Pam Howden	Wedd Family
ANY OTHER TYPE	Moray Apache	Wedd Family

Northern Districts Horticultural Society

No. Exhibitors 5

Grand Champion

Res Champion

Intermediate

No. Blooms 177

Coorabell Alpine

Stannum Hala

White Pam (pompon)

Champions

Large/Giant Decorative	Regina	Wedd Family
Medium Decorative	Stannum Hala	W & J McCosker
Small Decorative	Coorabell Sally	Wedd Family
Miniature Decorative	Coorabell Alpine	Wedd Family
Large/Giant Cactus	Kiara Julia	Wedd Family
Medium Cactus	Kenora Challenger	Wedd Family
Small Cactus	Granite Charlotte	W & J McCosker
Miniature Cactus	Moray Bronte	W & J McCosker
Fimbriated	Tioga Lovesong	B & M Burnell
Pompon	Pam	W & J McCosker
Waterlily	Moray Ashleigh	Wedd Family
Single	Brook's Entice	Wedd Family
Intermediate	White Pam (pompon)	B Bissett & P Armstrong
Basket of Dahlias		B & M Burnell

11th-12th March

Judge V & J Charlton

Wedd Family

W & J McCosker

B Bissett & P

Armstrong

QDS State Show Mt Coot-tha 18th 19th March

Exhibitors 8	Blooms 334	Judges M Brown - N Prior
Grand Champion	Mellum Nina	W & J McCosker
Res Champion	Inland Dynasty	W & J McCosker
Intermediate	Moray Bronte	L Hancock
1st Time Exhibitor	Pam Howden	R Hancock
9 Bloom Challenge		W & J McCosker
Vase Championship	Pollyanna	B & M Burnell
5 Qld Raised		W & J McCosker
2015 Challenge Bloom	Bracken Glenda	B & M Burnell
Aggregate Points Open		Wedd Family
Aggregate Points Inter.		L & A Hancock
Jock Brown Memorial	Inland Dynasty	W & J McCosker
Peter Andrews Memorial		Wedd Family

Champions

Giant Decorative	Regina	Wedd Family
Large Decorative	Winkie Colonel	M Colby
Medium Decorative	Coorabell Sally	W & J McCosker
Small Decorative	Coorabell Sally	W & J McCosker
Miniature Decorative	Mellum Nina	W & J McCosker
Giant Cactus	Inland Dynasty	W & J McCosker
Large Cactus	Aitara Majesty	Wedd Family
Medium Cactus	Reg Kappler	M Colby
Small Cactus	Moray Thelma	W & J McCosker
Miniature Cactus	Moray Bronte	B & M Burnell
Fimbriated	Coorabell seedling	Wedd Family
Pompon	Pam	Wedd Family
Waterlily	Bracken Aquarius	M Colby
ANY OTHER TYPE	Moray Apache	B & M Burnell
Basket of Dahlias		B & M Burnell

Warwick Horticultural Show 9th – 10th March

Exhibitors 3	Blooms 78	Judge N. Prior
Grand Champion	Mellum Nina	Ron Cook
Res Champion	Seedling	B & M Burnell

Champions

Medium Decorative	Brian R	Ron Cook
Small Decorative	Mellum Nina	Ron Cook
Miniature Decorative	Mellum Nina	Ron Cook
Large/Giant Cactus	Kiara Julia	Ron Cook
Medium Cactus	Formby Elite	Ron Cook
Small Cactus	Devon Elegance	Ron Cook
Miniature Cactus	Granite Erica	Ron Cook
Fimbriated	Aitara Bronwyn	B & M Burnell
Pompon	Red Devil	B & M Burnell
Waterlily	Pam Howden	Ron Cook
Ball	Mary's Jomanda	Ron Cook
Collerette	Moray Apache	B & M Burnell
Orchid	Golden Sunset	Ron Cook
Single	Brook's Entice	B & M Burnell
Seedling		B & M Burnell

Lutwyche Shopping Centre Date 25th March

Exhibitors 3	Blooms 158	Judge
Grand Champion	Coorabell sm. cactus seedling	Wedd Family
Res Champion	Parklea Rochelle (orchid)	Wedd Family
Intermediate	Wakefield Anniversary	R Colburn
5 Qld Raised	1 st Wedd Family	

Winning Blooms

Coorabell Sally -Coorabell Karen - Coorabell Sylvia
 Coorabell Sm. Cactus Seedling -Coorabell Collerette seedling

Champions

Giant Decorative	Winkie Colonel	Wedd Family
Medium Decorative	Pollyanna	Wedd Family
Small Decorative	Bracken Palomino	M Colby
Miniature Decorative	Coorabell Sylvia	Wedd Family
Large/Giant Cactus	Inland Dynasty	Wedd Family
Medium Cactus	Reg Kappler	Wedd Family

Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated
 Pompon
 Waterlily
 ANY OTHER TYPE

Coorabell seedling
 Moray Thelma
 Coorabell seedling
 Glenbank Honeycomb
 Wildwood Marie
 Parklea Rochelle

Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 M Colby
 M Colby
 Wedd Family



South Australia



ANGASTON

Date 11/2/17

No. Exhibitors 4

148 Blooms

Judge J. Argent

Grand Champion

Formby Crest

N&E Jaeschke

9 Blooms Staged singly

4 Formby Crest, 3 Cornel,
 Winkie Ingot, Formby Quest

N&E Jaeschke

Champions

Large Decorative

Devon Radiance

N&E Jaeschke

Medium Decorative

Devon Amberlite

G. Heinrich

Small Decorative

Devon Amberlite

G. Heinrich

Miniature Decorative

Formby Crest

N&E Jaeschke

Large Cactus

Winkie Carnival

G. Heinrich

Medium Cactus

Kenora Jubilee

N&E Jaeschke

Small Cactus

Glenmarc Charmaine

N&E Jaeschke

Miniature Cactus

Embrace

N&E Jaeschke

Incurved Cactus

Winkie Paddlewheel

N&E Jaeschke

Fimbriated

Alessia

G. Heinrich

Pompon

Woden Surprise

A. Menzel

Waterlily

Bracken Lorelei

N&E Jaeschke

Ball

Cornel

N&E Jaeschke

Collerette

Granite Zoe

A. Menzel

Single

Jolon Cherry

N&E Jaeschke

Anemone

Granite Queen Bee

N&E Jaeschke

Exhibitors 3 Blooms 201 Judges G. Woods - A. Ray

Grand Champion/Over 160	Aitara Majesty	N & E Jaeschke
Res Champion/Under 160	Jolan Cherry	N & E Jaeschke
Champions Novice	Formby Pride	E. Mansfield
Vase of Show	Winkie Raven	N. Scudds

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP JOAN MATULICK MEMORIAL

1st N & E Jaeschke - 2nd N. Scudds

Winning Blooms

Over 160 - Hamari Accord, Aitara Majesty ,Devon Radiance

Vases - Formby Crest, Cornel, Ivanetti

GAYNER PARKER MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP – 4 Vases

1st N & E Jaeschke

Winning Blooms

Parklea Rochelle - BJ Rival - Moray Apache - Brooks Entice – Seedlings

RAY SELICK MEMORIAL TROPHY Australian Raised

1st N Scudds – 2nd N & E Jaeschke

Winning Blooms

Over 160 - Maxman, 2 Devon Carnival

Vases - Winkie Raven, Formby Pride, Winkie Nugget

REG KAPPLER MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP 9 Blooms staged singly

1st N & E Jaeschke

Winning Blooms

Granite Queen Bee, Jolan Cherry, Aitara Ace Off White,

Devon Caress, Coorabell Sally, Devon Safari,

Devon Radiance, Pam Howden, Winkie Paddlewheel

BILL TAPLEY MEMORIAL WATERLILY CHAMPIONSHIP

1st N & E Jaeschke 2nd N Scudds

Winning Blooms

3 single waterlily - Bracken Lorelei, Figurine, Pam Howden

1 Vase of 3 - Figurine

NOEL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL ENCOURAGEMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

1ST E. Mansfield

Winning Blooms

3 blooms staged singly – Formby Pride

Vase- Coorabell Moonglow

Champions

Medium Decorative	Devon Radiance	N & E Jaeschke
Medium Cactus	Devon Citation	N & E Jaeschke
Miniature Cactus	Yellow Seedling	N Scudds

Mt Pleasant AH&F Society

18th March

Exhibitors 4 Blooms 176 Judge J. Argeant

Grand Champion Glenbank Honeycomb A. Menzel

Four Distinct Type Championship A. Menzel

Winning blooms

Glenbank Honeycomb – Winkie Paddlewheel – Winkie Graham – Devon Felix

Champions

Best Decorative	Formby Crest	A. Menzel
Best Cactus	Winkie Crystabelle	A. Menzel
Incurved Cactus	Winkie Paddlewheel	A. Menzel
Pompon	Glenbank Honeycomb	A. Menzel
Waterlily	Figurine	Nick Scudds
Ball	Devon Safari	N & E Jaeschke
Collerette	Devon Felix	A. Menzel

Gordon Brooks Memorial (Vase) - 3xDevon Elegance - N&E Jaeschke

Mt Barker District Show

Date 18th March

No. Exhibitors 4 No. Blooms 150 Judge G. Woods

Grand Champion Winkie Meldon A. Menzel

Intermediate Champion Bracken Palomino A. Patterson

Champions

Best Decorative	Winkie Wanderer (Sm)	A. Menzel
Best Cactus	Winkie Meldon (Sm)	A. Menzel
Pompon	Miwong	A. Menzel

Waterlily	Winkie Alliance	A. Menzel
Ball	Winkie Vanilla	A. Menzel
Collerette	Kewe	A. Menzel
Single	Jolon Cherry	N & E Jaeschke

Enfield Horticultural Society 8th & 9th April

Exhibitors 5	Blooms 181	Judge J. Argent
Grand Champion	Figurine	N. Scudds
	Champions	
Large/Giant/Medium	Glenmarc Sahara	N&E Jaeschke
Miniature/Small Dec	Winkie Raven	A. Menzel
Champion Decorative	Winkie Raven	A. Menzel
Medium Cactus	Devon Carnival	N. Scudds
Small Cactus	Winkie Moorpark	A. Menzel
Miniature Cactus	Tyalla Christie	N&E Jaeschke
Champion Cactus	Winkie Moorpark	A. Menzel
Incurved Cactus	Winkie Paddlewheel	A. Menzel
Fimbriated	Winkie Volcano	A. Menzel
Pompon	Miwong	A. Menzel
Ball	Winkie Testeagle	G. Errington
Champion /Ball/Pompon	Miwong	A. Menzel
Collerette	Devon Felix	A. Menzel
Orchid	Christie Shayla	G. Errington
Single	Jolon Cherry	N&E Jaeschke
Anemone	Granite Queen Bee	N&E Jaeschke
Waterlily	Figurine	N. Scudds
3 Garden Blooms	Glenbank Honeycomb	A. Menzel
Stellar	Christie Galah	N&E Jaeschke
Champion AOT	Figurine	N. Scudds



Tasmania



Launceston Show

Exhibitors 10
Grand Champion
Res Champion
Vase of Show

Blooms 570
Purbeck Lydia
Devon Showtime
Devon Toledo

4th-5th February 2017

Mr G. Fooks
C & L Smith
C & L Smith
C & L Smith

8 Vase Championship 5 Entries**1st B & K Smith****Winning Blooms**

Formby Monarch, Formby Halo, C K Faye, Cornel, Formby Elite, Nancy's
Choice, Formby Tiara, Pride of Place, Pam Howden

Champions

Large Decorative	Elma Elizabeth	C & L Smith
Medium Decorative	Devon Radiance	C & L Smith
Small Decorative	Formby Delight	B & K Smith
Miniature Decorative	Devon Profile	C & L Smith
Large/Giant Cactus	Kiara Julia	B & K Smith
Medium Cactus	Purbeck Lydia	C & L Smith
Small Cactus	Devon Showtime	C & L Smith
Miniature Cactus	Devon Candy	B & K Smith
Incurved Cactus	Mauve Cricket	C & L Smith
Fimbriated	Tioga Lovesong	C & L Smith
Pompon	Ray's Gold	C & L Smith
Waterlily	Pam Howden	B & K Smith
Ball	Ivanetti	B & K Smith
Seedling	Devon Eureka (SC)	C & L Smith

Westbury Garden club**11th February**

Exhibitors 8	No. Blooms 420	Panel of 3 Judges
Grand Champion	Formby Delight	C & L Smith
Res Champion	Devon Profile	C & L Smith
Intermediate	Vera's Elma	L Hunter

6 Vase Championship 4 Entries**1st C & L Smith****Winning Blooms**

Veras Elma, Kiara Julia, Devon Showtime, Kiara Forgwen,
Devon Profile, Bracken Sarah.

Champions

Large/Giant Decorative	Formby Monarch	C & L Smith
Medium Decorative	Devon Amberlite	J Stevenson
Small Decorative	Formby Delight	B & K Smith
Miniature Decorative	Glenmarc Sophie	D Pyke
Large/Giant Cactus	Kiara Julia	J Young

Medium Cactus	Formby Twilight	B & K Smith
Small Cactus	Kiara Forgwen	C & L Smith
Miniature Cactus	Devon Candy	B & K Smith
Incurved Cactus	Mauve Cricket	C & L Smith
Fimbriated	Jeannie	D Pyke
Pompon	Ray's Gold	C & L Smith
Waterlily	Pam Howden	B & K Smith
Ball	Devon Cherub	B & K Smith
Collerette	Moray Apache	D Pyke
Seedling	Devon Eureka (SC)	C & L Smith

HHS Hobart Show

Date 24th & 25th February

Exhibitors 9	Blooms 194	Judge C. Smith
Grand Champion	Formby Kaitlin	Brian Smith
Res Champion	Formby Embers	Brian Smith
Champion Intermediate	Sylvia Craig Hunter	Graham Verrier
Champion Novice	Mary's Jomanda	Barry Anderton

Champions

Small Decorative	Trengrove Millenium	Christine Dwyer
Miniature Decorative	Formby Embers	Brian Smith
Large/Giant Cactus	Wildwood Glory	Christine Dwyer
Medium Cactus	Formby Elite	Greg Fooks
Small Cactus	Nancy's Choice	Brian Smith
Miniature Cactus	Devon Toledo	Brian Smith
Fimbriated	Down's Red	Greg Fooks
Seedling		David Budd
Waterlily	Pam Howden	Brian Smith
Ball	Jomanda	David Budd

Parr Air Conditioning

Winning Blooms

G. Fooks 1st - Le Batts Prime, Glenbank Twinkle, Devon Toledo
C. Dwyer 2nd - Trengrove Millenium, Devon Radiance, Devon Citation

Harry Cheeseman Memorial

1st - Brian Smith **2nd** - Christine Dwyer

Winning Blooms

Vera's Elma, Formby Monarch, Kiara Julia
Vases Formby Alpine, Formby Embers, Formby Twilight

Marj & Bill Simmons Memorial

1st Greg Fooks

Winning Blooms

Vases - Devon Toledo, Karras 150, Devon Bronte

Single Bloom Challenge "Formby Crest"

1st Greg Fooks

2nd Christine Dwyer

3rd Ken Anderson

LATROBE SHOW

Exhibitors 6

Grand Champion

Res Champion

Best Vase

Blooms 445

Devon Toledo

Formby Crown

Devon Toledo

18th-19th February

Panel 3 Judges

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

Champions

Medium Decorative

Small Decorative

Miniature Decorative

Large/Giant Cactus

Medium Cactus

Small Cactus

Miniature Cactus

Incurved Cactus

Fimbriated

Pompon

Waterlily

Ball

Vera's Elma

Formby Crown

Formby Embers

Kiara Julia

Formby Elite

Devon Toledo

Yellow Seedling

Mauve Cricket

Tioga Lovesong

Pride of Place

Pam Howden

Devon Cherub

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

L Hunter

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

L Hunter

C & L Smith

C & L Smith

B & K Smith

C & L Smith

8 Bloom Championship

1st C & L Smith

Winning Blooms

Veras Elma, Formby Elite, Bracken Sarah, Devon Pandora, Formby Art,
Devon Cupid, yellow min C seedling, Pride of Place

4 Vase Championship

1st C & L Smith

Winning Blooms

Bracken Sarah, Devon Mystique, Devon Toledo, Devon Dancer

Dunalley

No. Exhibitors 6

Grand Champion

Res Champion

Aggregate

4th March

No. Blooms 133

Seedling

Winkie Pat

Judge - Panel

D. Budd

C. Dwyer

C. Dwyer

Lindisfarne

Exhibitors 9

Grand Champion Open

Grand Champion Novice

Aggregate Open

Aggregate Novice

11th March

Blooms 186

Kiara Julia

Susan French

Judge - Panel

Greg Fooks

Barry Anderton

Christine Dwyer

Barry Anderton



Victoria



Tyrendarra Pastoral & Agricultural Society Inc. 11th February

Exhibitors 10

Bloom of Show

S. Brown

Judge A. Hardingham

Glenmarc Envy

Winchelsea Garden Club 30th Autumn Show 18th February

13 exhibitors

Best Over 160mm

Vase of Show

Open Championship

1st A. Hardingham – 2nd B. Millard

Willowfield Mick

Ken's Gold

Judge A. McKay

R. Burns

S. Brown

Winning Blooms

Over 160 Hamari Accord x2 - Narrows Tricia

Under 160 - Vases Pink Suffusion x2 & Seedling

Peg's Challenge

1st A. Hardingham

2nd B. Millard

Winning Blooms

Over 160mm Hamari Accord x2 Pink Suffusion, & Seedling

Vases Pam Howden, Pam

Intermediate Championship1st H. Martin**Winning Blooms**

Susan Marie, Formby Crown, Jan Lennon

Vases Pink Suffusion, Mary's Jamanda

Novice Championship1st K. Boyle**Winning Blooms**

Fire and Ice, Cricket

Welshpool and District Horticultural Society**10th March**

Exhibitors 10

Blooms 150

Judge L. Lawson

Championship1st J&D Zietsman,2nd G. Kipps,3rd J&D Zietsman**Winning Blooms**

Inland Dynasty x 2, Trooper Dan

Vases of Western Spanish Dancer - Jomanda x 2.

Best over 160mm**Winkie Colonel****G. Kipps****Best Vase under 160mm****Jomanda****J&D Zietsman****Award of Merit**

Small Decorative

Winkie Director

G. Kipps

Medium Cactus

Purbeck Lydia

J&D Zietsman

Small Cactus

Devon Elegance

J&D Zietsman

Waterlily

Moray Ashley

G. Kipps

Dahlia Society of Victoria25th-26th February

27 Exhibitors

299 Entries

Judges - C. Michalopoulos, A. Hardingham, K. Judd D. Richards

Best Over 160mm**Jan Lennon****D. Zietsman****Best Under 160mm****Ivanetti****D. Zietsman****Vase of Show****Gladys Johns****A & J Mckay****Champions**

Giant Decorative

Glenmarc Kadina

R. Burns

Large Decorative

Devon Excel

H. Martin

Medium Decorative

Hillcrest Kismet

A & J Mckay

Miniature Decorative

Bracken Nikolaus

D. King

Large Cactus

Kiara Julia

A & J Mckay

Medium Cactus

Jan Lennon

D. Zietsman

Miniature Cactus

Winkie Nickel

A. Menzel

Incurved Cactus	Cricket	D. Zietsman
Fimbriated	Aitara Picardy	D. King
Ball	Ivanetti	D. Zietsman
Collerette	Aegean Sky	R. Burns
Single	Seedling	R. Burns
Stellar	Alloway Candy	A. Menzel
Pompon	Rhonda	A & J Mckay
Orchid	Golden Sunset	R. Burns

The Victorian Dahlia Championship

1st D. Zietsman 2nd A & J Mckay 3rd A. Menzel

Over 160mm - Inland Dynasty, Trooper Dan, Jan Lennon, Hamari Accord

Vases – Jomanda X2, Brians Dream, Winkie Cupid, Inland Dynasty

Victorian Intermediate Championship

1st H. Martin 2nd R. Clarke

Ivanetti, Bracken Ballerina, Pink Suffusion

Ken's Gala, Fire & Ice, Pam Howden

Victorian Novice Championship

1st J. Rowe N, Gregory 2nd K. Boyle

Maxmann X2, Rycroft Laura, Formby Art

Victorian Reserve Championship

1st A & J Mckay 2nd D. Zietsman

Over 160m – Kenora Sunset, Narrow Tricia, Kenora Jubilee

Vases – Pam Howden, Gay Twinkle, Amira

The Small Growers Championship

1st H. Martin 2nd Lawson

Trooper Dan, Inland Dynasty, Louie Berger

Bracken Glenda, Longwarry Jean, Gay Twinkle

Nine bloom Championship

1st R. Burns 2nd A & J Mckay

Gm Seedling, Winkie Volcano, Jan Lennon, Pam Howden, Val's Candy,

Aegean Sky, Formby Alpine, Coorabell Trevor, Rycroft Laura

Under 160mm Championship

1st D. Zietsman

Longwarry Jean, Gay Twinkle, Ivanetti, Taratahi Lilac

Westen Spanish Dancer, Jomanda

Medium Championship

1st A & J Mckay 2nd D. Zietsman

Como Polly, Narrows Tricia X2, Jan Lennon

Susan French, Christie Angora

Ball Championship

1st A. Menzel

Vases – Winkie Ingot, Ryecroft Laura

Single Blooms – Ryecroft Laura, Winkie Avalanche, Devon Safari

Portland Dahlia Society

11th March

22 Exhibitors

445 vases

Judges: W. Hawker J. Menzel A. Hardingham

Grand Champion

Glenmarc Duchess

B. Millard

Vase of Show

Aitaria April

S. Brown

Intermediate Champion

Hillier Tanunda

H. Martin

Novice Champion

Hamari Accord

L. Voss

Portland Open Championship

4 exhibitors

1st B. Millard 2nd C. Donehue

Winning Blooms

Over 160mm- Trooper Dan, Hamari Accord, Glenmarc Duchess

Vases - Gay Twinkle, Rokewood A., Hillier Tanunda.

Noel Edge Championship 9 type

1st A. Hardingham

Winning Blooms

Vera Elma, Seedling, Glenmarc Duchess, Seedling, Pinkie O,

Pam Howden, Jennie, Pam, Glenmarc Delia

2nd S. Brown

Glenmarc Sophie, Jennie, Hamari Accord, Kens Gold, L'Ancrese,

Aitara April, Golden Sunset, Pensford Marion, Karras Lee.

Glenelg Shire Championship. 1 vase Waterlily, 1 Vase Collarette, 1 vase Ball

1st Bruce Millard

Pam Howden, Ivanetti, Pinkie O.

2nd A. Hardingham

Pam Howden, Ivanetti, Pinkie O.

Wannon Water Championship. 3 over 160, 3 x160-120, 3 under 120

1st Bruce Millard

Over 160 - Trooper Dan, Kenora Jubilee, Formby Elite.

120 – 160 Gladys Johns, Glenmarc Envy x2

Under 120 Glenmarc Margaret, Rokewood A., Hillier Tanunda.

Pompon Championship 2 vases

1st Bruce Millard

2 vases Mi Wong.

Intermediate Championship. 2 Over 160 SS 2 Under 160 SS 2 Under 120 SS

1st H. Martin

Over 160 - Jan Lennon, Kiara Julia

120 – 160 - Bracken Ballerina, Ruskin Andrea
Under 120 – Glenmarc Margaret, Hillier Tanunda

Dan Tehan Collection 4 Dahlia's SS

1st H. Martin

Jan Lennon, Formby Supreme, Susan Maree, Devon Mystique.

2nd. D. Robertson

Pam Howden x2, Jan Lennon, Narrows Tricia.

Novice Championship. 2 over 120SS. 2 Under 120SS.

1st G. Errington,

Bracken Nikoluas, Como Polly, Braken Palomino, Winkie Nugget.

Garden Life Collection. 3 Dahlias SS.

1st G. Errington Como Polly, Cameo, Winkie Wonderland.

2nd G. Errington Winkie Moorpark, Winkie A., Winkie Wanderer.

Western District Dahlia Society Challenge Bloom Handicap.

1st Karen Boyle Pam Howden. 87points

2nd Helen Martin Hillier Tannunda 85 points.

Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival 18th March

Exhibitors 12 No of Blooms 180 Judge L. Lawson

Championship

1st A & J McKay. 2nd A & J McKay 3rd K. Judd

Winning Blooms

Glenmarc Kadina, Alessia, Lakeland Sunset, Reg. Kappler

Geoffery Ken, Hillier Harlequin

The Victorian Rural Championship:

1st A & J McKay 2nd A & J McKay, 3rd Helen Martin

Winning Blooms

Glenmarc Kadina, Reg Kappler, Glenmarc Dutchess.

Devon Tiffany and vase of Wilholme Diane

Best over 160mm Glenmarc Kadina A & J McKay

Best Single under 160mm Devon Medallion D. Richards

Best Single under 160mm Wilholme Diane A & J McKay

Best Exhibit Container of Dahlias Helen Martin

Award of Merit

Small Decorative Bracken Glenda Helen Martin

Collerette April Star Deb Collett

Waterlily Moray Ashley G. Kipps

Sunshine Golden Age Garden Club 18th March

Exhibitors 4 No. blooms 50 Judge L. Lawson

The Victorian Metropolitan Championship:

1st A & J McKay.

Winning Blooms Staged Singly

LeVonne Splinter, Reg. Kappler x 2, Glenmarc Dutchess x 2, Silver Gay,
Wilholme Diane, Ryecroft Jan and Devon Tiffany

Encouragement Award

Stanton Halik

Award of Merit

Cactus

Silver Gay

A & J McKay

Preston Garden Club 25th March

Exhibitors 2 No. Blooms 30 Judge N. Donahue

Championship

1st L. Lawson

Winning Blooms

Kenora Jubilee x 3, Ruskin Andrea x 2, vase of Hot Shot

Six Blooms Stage Singly

1st L. Lawson

Winning Blooms

Ruskin Andrea, Bob Yeomans x 2,
Glenmarc Charmain, Winkie Pat, Devon Mystique

Award of Merit

Best over 160mm

Kenora Jubilee

L. Lawson

Best Vase

Gay Twinkle

L. Lawson

Shepparton and District Dahlia Club 25th March

10 Exhibitors 300 blooms Judge: A. Hardingham

Bloom of Show

Devon Bronte

Nick Scudds

Shepparton & District Dahlia Club Championship

1st K. Judd 2nd S. Brown

Winning Blooms

Desert Lodge, Gay Twinkle, Winfield Mike, Hamari Accord,
Devon Glory, Winkie Whopper

Goulburn Valley Championship

1st K. Judd – 2nd R. Clarke

Winning Blooms

Moray Bronte, Formby Elite, Pam Howden, Hamari Accord,
Kiara Pompador, Winkie Volcano

Intermediate Championship

1st H. Martin – 2nd N. Scudds

Winning Blooms

Kiera Julia, Hillier Tanundra, Narrows Tricia,
Devon Carnival x2 ,Hamari Accord

Novice Championship

1st E. Mansfield – 2nd S. Clarke

Winning Blooms

Brian R, Tanunda Mauve x2

Pam Minifie Perpetual Trophy - Vase of 5 Pompons

1st R. Clarke – 2nd H. Martin

Glenbank Honeycomb x5

EATING IN THE FIFTIES and SIXTIES

Pasta was not eaten in Australia or N.Z.

Curry was a surname.

A takeaway was a mathematical problem.

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

All potato crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.

Rice was only eaten as a milk pudding.

Calamari was called squid and we used it as fish bait.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold. Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

Acknowledgements

Without the input of the following Tubertalk would not be – Thankyou

Tony Evangelista (USA), Steve Meggos (USA) Dave Bates England, Christine Dwyer, Brett Bramble, Brian Smith, Rodney Clarke, Ron Cook, Alf Hardingham, Les Lawson, Bruce Millard, John Woodfield, Rob Slarke, Bruce & Lonny Raines, Charles Smith, Graham Heinrich, Nick Scudds, Mike Colby Dwight King, Deb Collett, Malcolm & Betty Balch, Anne Menzel, Geoff Errington, Neville & Elizabeth Jaeschke, Gerard Oldfield, Helen Martin, Greg Fooks, Robert Smith, Peter Stonestreet, Yvonne Tracey, John Rowe, Jim McClaren, Stanton Hulick, Steven Wedd, Stephen Cox, Gavin Woods, Joe Daniel, Graeme Davis, Leone Venables, Warren Vigor, Wayne McCosker, Robert Curll.

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Conference Speakers & Topics

Jon Corona - Essential Knowledge of the Elements, The Dynamics within the Plant, Properties of Your Soil and Dynamics of Elements in Your Soil.
Jon advises on Almonds, Citrus, Vines, Vegetable & Pasture Crops Culture.

James Altmann – Director and manager of Biological Services, commercially producing beneficial organisms for biological pest control programs in horticultural systems, particularly citrus and greenhouse crops.

Brett Bramble - Natural Stimulants & Growth Factors affecting your Dahlias & Bloom Quality.

Paul Bottril – From Karbec Computing can advise of all things Computing including web design, virus protection, internet & email problems.

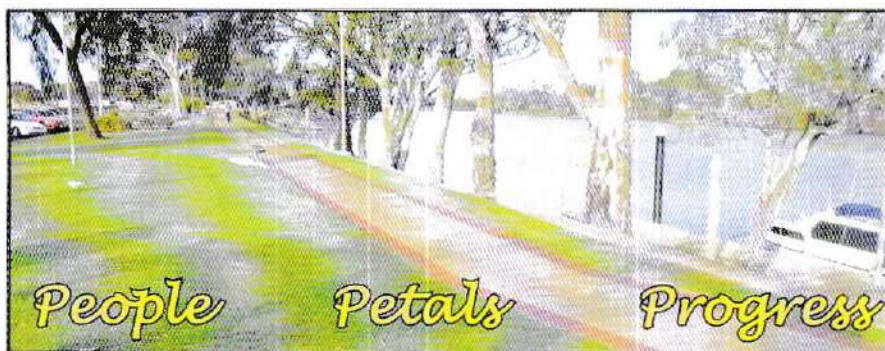
Kevin Brown – From Tomah Botanic Gardens discussing Visitor Survey Results Regarding the Dahlia Blooms on Display at Mt Tomah Botanic Garden.

Member Panels – There will be two panels.

One of our renowned breeders who will be revealing all their secrets on developing top new Cultivars.

The second will be made up of our newer enthusiasts seeking information about improving their own operations.

**Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.
Annual Conference**



29th Sept -2nd October 2017

Hosted by Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

Conference & Accommodation Location:

Book accommodation direct with:-

Berri Hotel - Riverview Drive Berri, South Australia

08 8582 1411, or email info@berrihotel.com.au

<http://www.berrihotel.com.au/>

Complete Registration Form by 1st Sept and return to:-

Conference Secretary

Geoff Errington

22 Appleton Tce

Barmera 5345

Geoff Errington - gwerrington@bigpond.com

Phone 61 - 08 85881265

Conference Deposit \$50.00 per Person

Make cheques payable to Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

Direct Deposit

Account Name - Dahlia Society of Australia

BSB 084927 – Account 175823199

State your name as a Reference

Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

Annual Conference – Berri S.A.

Riverview Drive Berri

Hosted by - Dahlia Society of Australia Inc.

Dates: 29th Sept -2nd October 2017

Conference & Accommodation Location:

Everything is at the same location, all with Scenic River Views
The Hotel are now sorting out a special all Inclusive Room/Meal Deal
All accommodation bookings to be direct with the

Berri Hotel –

Riverview Drive Berri, South Australia –

61-0885821411

<http://www.berrihotel.com.au/our-hotel/>

Berri Riverside Caravan Park 08 8582 3723

For those who bring their van, a 5 Min Walk to the Berri Hotel

<http://www.berricaravanpark.com.au/>

Conference Registration to Registration Secretary

Geoff Errington –

gwerrington@bigpond.com

22 Appleton Tce Barmera 5345

Phone 61 - 08 85881265

The Program

The Topics were collected on the Bus Trip at the Orange Conference are
the basis for the 2017 Program.

Conference Topics include:-

All aspects of Breeding, Growing from Seeds, Propagation, Greens, Potting
Mediums, Pruning, Disbudding, Debranching, Covers, Soils, Fertilizers,
Soil Testing & Mulch

Registration Forms and General Enquiries

to

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