



LEURA GARDEN CLUB INC
 friendship through gardens since 1955
APRIL 2023
leuragardenclub.org.au

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Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at St Alban's Hall, Megalong St, Leura from 9.45am

PRESIDENT'S REPORT As Autumn catches us by surprise with its beauty, the reality appears quickly covering the ground with life-giving leaves, reminding us new shoots will emerge with different colours that will equally bring joy next Spring.

Congratulations were extended as we welcome two new Honorary Life Members, **Caroline Stanton** and **Noel Roscoe**. We thank them both for their outstanding contributions to Leura Garden Club over many years (see Web page).

Brenda Lyon gave us a very informative talk about daffodils. It's time to buy and plant your spring flowering bulbs. The garden ramble was cancelled due to rain and rebooked for January 2024.

Over winter we get busy with a never-ending list of jobs: raking, weeding, mulching, pruning, feeding, planting, redesigning. To give you some inspiration I have invited **Robert Trinajstic**, owner of a new garden design and landscape business to the Blue Mountains, *Hedge and Arbour*, to speak at our April meeting. With a very exciting web page to entice us (<https://hedgeandarbour.com.au/>), Robert is living the dream creating, renewing and maintaining timeless gardens and outdoor spaces.

Following the April meeting, to inspire our senses, we will do a car trip circuit around Wentworth Falls and the lake to see the street maples in all their glory, culminating with lunch at the Mountain High Pie Shop.

Don't forget to hide Easter Eggs from your grandchildren in your garden. **HAPPY EASTER** from your committee... **yours in gardening, Lorraine**



REMEMBER the \$20 2023 member subscription is due by the April meeting. You can pay in cash at the meeting or EFT to the Club's Bendigo Bank Account - BSB 633 000 A/c 198 427 734 – narration NAME + 2023 SUBS

APRIL GUEST SPEAKER	APRIL GARDEN RAMBLE
Robert Trinajstic – landscaping and garden design – don't settle for the ordinary.	Self-drive view of Wentworth Falls autumn maple colour followed by lunch at Mountain High Pies.
RAFFLE WINNERS	WELFARE
Brenda Lyon – hyacinth bulb grower Barbara Thomas – correa plant	If you know of someone who needs a card please contact Kerrie Lee 4757 3176



With **Chris Morsby's** valuable assistance on projector, **Brenda Lyon** gave members a very informative talk about daffodils.

There are over 13,000 distinct varieties of daffodils, which can then be further divided depending on type (size and shape of petal and corona).

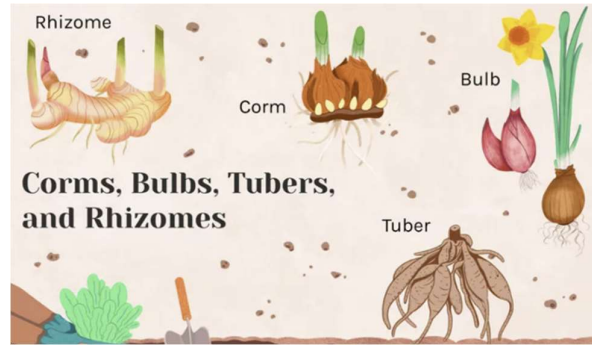
Amongst other things, Brenda talked about an interesting method of propagation which yields more bulbs than by the natural division method. The process involves making two cuts at right angles through the bulb's basal plate to a depth of about 5mm. Allow the scored bulb to stand in a warm environment for 24 hours to allow the cuts to open. Treat the cuts with a dusting of fungicide to prevent rot. Set the bulb upside down on a raised wire mesh or tray of dry sand in a warm place

to encourage callusing. Keep the bulb as dry as possible without actually drying out the bulb. Within three months new bulbs will develop on the cut surfaces. Plant the parent bulb upside down into a pot with the new bulbs just below the surface. In Spring take the pot outside for hardening off. The new bulbs will then start to grow, producing roots and leaves while the parent bulb slowly disintegrates as carbohydrates and nutrients are transferred to the new bulbs. After two years bulbs produced in this way will be mature enough to start flowering. The method takes as long as natural division but produces three to four times the number of bulbs.

BULB, CORM, TUBER, RHIZOME?

Lorraine McMiles gave a short talk about, and demonstrated the differences between bulbs, rhizomes, corms and tubers (umbrella term is *geophyte*.) Interestingly, a species can have different geophytes.

Corm - vertical, fleshy, underground stem that acts as a food-storage structure in certain seed plants. It bears membranous or scaly leaves and buds which do not appear as visible rings when the corm is cut in half. Example, crocus.



Bulb - divided into layers (think of an onion), including a papery outer layer. A bulb is comprised of a plant's stems and leaves. The bottom of the bulb is a compacted stem, with roots growing from it. Layers of nutrient-filled leaves sit at the bottom of the bulb and surround a bud that eventually becomes a flower. Example, daffodil.



Tubers - formed from a stem or root. They store nutrients that allow the plant to grow the following season. Buds sprout from tubers (think of the "eyes" on a potato). Shoots grow upwards from many different places on the tuber. You can cut off individual hunks that have buds and plant them to get new plants. Example, dahlia.

Rhizomes - modified, swollen stem-like structure that grows horizontally, forming roots from the bottom and sending shoots upwards. Often appears as nothing more than roots. Buds form at different parts along the rhizome, not just the tip. Example, canna.

The crocus at **Avalon, Black Springs** were one of the highlights of the first post-Covid bus trip. Fifteen members reported having a terrific day wandering around Avalon followed by a delicious lunch at the Royal Oak Hotel in Oberon.