

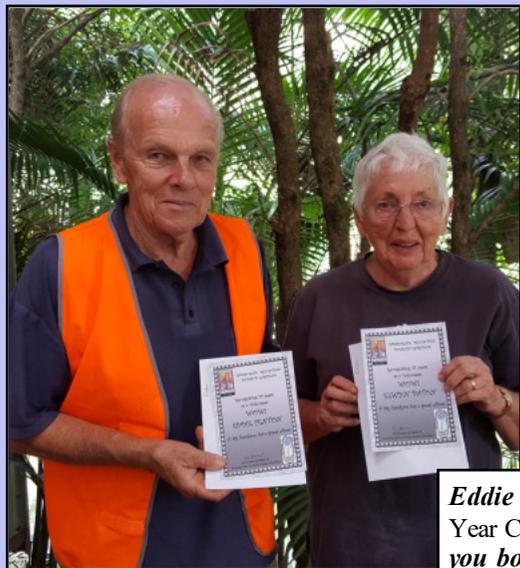


*Congratulations* to Potty Potter **Lorraine Bilbie** who received the annual **Ron Miller Award** at Garden Club recently. The award is given to a recipient who, over the years, supports the Garden Club in the spirit of the late Ron Miller. *Well deserved Lorraine!*

**VOLUNTEER  
SNAPSHOTS**



**Bob Stewart** is pictured at right cleaning up the Rotunda Walk. The plantings of Lagerstroemias are doing well.



**Eddie Fenton** and **Elwyn Paton** received their 10 Year Certificates last month. *Congratulations to you both working 10 years as volunteers!*



**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN  
BOTANIC GARDENS  
NEWSLETTER**



**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.**

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**THE ROTUNDA REFURBISHMENT**

Over the past month or so, our Rotunda has been going through a “spruce-up”, thanks to our multi-skilled volunteer **Mal Longton** (pictured at right). Rotting timbers on struts, seats and lattice have been replaced and the floor pressure-hosed ready for Mal to lay new tiles.

The Rotunda was built in 1997. It began from a suggestion by a few local people, and businesswoman Deborah Law held a musical evening to start the fundraising. More local money was donated and the fund grew. The Garden club thought it would take 5 years to raise enough money but a grant of \$4,000 was received from the Australian Open Garden Scheme which then enabled the Club to purchase the Rotunda. Volunteers cleared an area for it to be built and under the guidance of Garden Club President **Mike Bell** and the Gardens Curator **Bill Haseler**, the work was done.



Over the years, the Rotunda has been a popular venue for weddings and other events and is an important feature of the Gardens. Positioned at the back of our Gardens, the setting is tranquil with a glorious elevated aspect. It provides a delightful undercover resting spot for visitors, with the adjacent paved Rotunda Walk connecting it to the rest of the Gardens. Additional plantings of Lagerstroemias are planned, and dwarf Agapanthus are to be continued around the edges of the pathways in front of the Rotunda.



*Construction and the Opening of the Rotunda 1997*

### AROUND THE GARDENS:

\*Potty Potters braved the very wet weather to go ahead with the advertised plant sale recently. Takings were lower but spirits not dampened! **Well done Potters! Still a substantial amount of money!**

\*Works Manager **Eddie Fenton** organised a massive maintenance cleanup of excess palm fronds in Sooty Owl Walk. The rainforest boardwalk is next. Lighter work when all available volunteers are called in to work together!

### Interesting!

Way back in 1990, Garden Club VP **Ron Miller**, was holding "Ron's Backyard" workshops at his property to "provide practical opportunities to further our horticultural knowledge". The crafty counterpart of "Ron's Backyard" quickly became known as **Busy Lizzies**, later calling themselves **the Potty Potters**.

... Information from 1990 President's report -Ann Morris.

**Thank you** to the Garden Club outgoing President **Di Howard** (left) for all the hard work that she did over the past two years. We welcome **Leonie Rowe** (right) as the new President.

**Our Botanic Gardens have a working Committee made up of experienced volunteers and is administered by the Tamborine Mountain Garden Club Inc.**



### VOLUNTEER PROFILE—Sandy Silabon

Sandy has been a gardens volunteer for 21 years working in all areas of the Botanic Gardens.

As a founding Committee member, Sandy has become a "core" volunteer with great grounded ideas, creative landscaping skills and knowledge in all areas of botanics. With the history of the Botanic Gardens behind her, Sandy plays an important role in the running and decision making at the Gardens.

Sandy is always ready to step in when the occasion needs, including a year as Manager in 2013. This was the year of arson at the Gardens — the salah and the main tractor shed, which caused a huge amount of work for the Manager and volunteers. Sandy excelled in her management role, was positive and showed great leadership in the handling of the crisis.

Sandy has served terms as Garden Club Secretary and President, and is a hardworking "Springtime Festival" volunteer, opening her own garden twice, not to mention being a committed Potty Potter and friend to all! **Wow! Exhausting just writing this!!....Ed**

**Congratulations to Sandy on receiving Garden Club Life Membership. Well deserved!**



### BGANZ— Botanic Gardens Day Sunday 27th May 2018 10-2pm

This is an annual event showcasing the Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand. Our Gardens will be having a sausage sizzle, Potty Potter plant sale, activities for children along the Sooty Owl Walk, Botanical Artists, chain saw carving demonstration by Matt Bird and a Bunnings workshop. **Thanks Sandy Silabon for co-ordinating this event. It should be a great day.....Ed**

### Challenges!

The **Azaleas** had mealy bug again after being severely pruned and treated successfully last year.

Their response and growth had been wonderful, so this latest attack was so disappointing. I squashed as many as I possibly could, then treated the soil with ant bait as they apparently can be carriers and sprayed with white oil. Early days for results and all this rain is not good but fingers crossed. I'll repeat again in three weeks.

**Margaret Bell**



**FUNGI AT THE GARDENS** **Aseroe rubra**, commonly known as the anemone stinkhorn, was spotted in our Succulent Garden. Common and widespread, this fungus is recognizable for its foul odour of carrion and its sea anemone shape when mature. It attracts flies, which spread its spores.

It begins as a partly buried whitish egg-shaped structure 3 cm in diameter, which bursts open as a hollow white stalk with reddish arms and grows to a height of 10 cm. It matures into a reddish star-shaped structure with six to ten arms. The top of the fungus is covered with dark olive-brown slime which smells of rotting meat.

