

**MAKING A GARDEN ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN – Elwyn Paton**

How wintery my garden seems this year, more than any other winters I have known. Perhaps it is the dry spell followed by unusual winter rain and then some quite chilly days. The upside of this change in weather has been many luscious flower buds appearing on the Magnolias and a surge of flowering on the Camellias. Several Acers also coloured blood red yellow and orange this year. I don't think I will have much colour from annuals in spring, as I was recently looking at my pile of unsown seeds and thought how slack I have been to allow March and April to pass me by without at least scattering them about. I have *Nigella damascena* "Miss Jekyll Blue", Queen Anne's Lace, Nasturtium, Gomphrena (pale pink), and various others marked with the owners name and faithfully given to me with the expectation that I would look after them with my life and I have failed miserably. When the garden warms up I will do a willy-nilly scatter and hope for the best.

Some of these plants once would have self-seeded and appeared naturally but with the change of the seasons and the mulching that we have adopted, it needs a more concerted effort on our part to achieve the growth of these pretty cottage plants. However, my Babianas have multiplied and are shooting in lots of places and some Narcissus are flowering well already. The lovely little snowflakes are doing well this year. The snow-flakes are called *Leucojum* and are not to be confused with Snow-drops called *Galanthus* which grow in much cooler climates. I love our snow-flakes with the green dots on the white bell flowers. Surprise, surprise lots of violets are also making their appearance.

Perhaps the Wisterias will be exceptional this

spring. One in particular better be good because it is living on borrowed time having lifted several pavers close to the trunk, but also further away. I know that if I do remove it, I will be plagued by its suckers for years to come. At last the autumn leaf drop is at an end and even though I have gutter guard on most of the gutters, it doesn't stop the leaves from building up across the roof. This year will be a huge clean-up. Somebody said to me one day that the garden is probably mature enough now that it can virtually look after itself. I don't know what to say to that. To a small degree that is correct. However, don't mention that to me after I have just delivered a huge trailer load of garden waste to the tip as well as a rusted out seat and arch which was installed by me (under Neil's supervision) and was my pride and joy.

It is true, gardening is a constant love or task, depending on the job and state of mind and the weather and is never complete.

Cheers Ellie P



**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.**  
 PO Box 63, North Tamborine, 4272 ABN 281 058 436 76 www.tmbotanicgardens.org.au

**NEWSLETTER**

Editor: Bernadette Stacey - bernadette1859@gmail.com 0409 759 838

**July 2016**

**Club patrons**

Club Patrons are individuals who have provided long term support to our club. The role of a Club Patron is part promoter of the club and its members and part supporter of the clubs activities and ongoing success. The honour of being awarded the status of a Club patron is also in recognition of the respect that the Tamborine Mountain Garden Club has for the individuals. At our last meeting the club recognised the commitment of Margaret and Roger Bell over many years in a great variety of roles from managing the botanic gardens, being club president and organising the Springtime Open Gardens trail. The Bells now join Mary Wallace as patrons of our club.



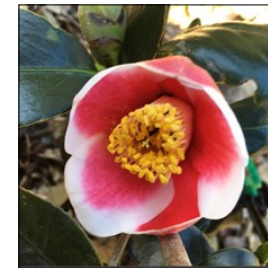
**Instagram your garden**

Social media is a great way of staying in touch with family and friends and can be an informative hobby. I use it everyday to share a photo so that my family, who are spread around Australia, can see what is happening in my garden. It also provides me with a idea of what flowers when in my garden. I have found it helps me keep a better record of the names of my plants and even helps identify varieties.

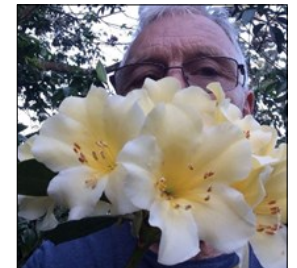
I love to be able to look at flowers, plants and gardens which interest other gardeners too. Through a shared love of vireyas I found Roy and Lorraine Bilbies' account. Now I keep track of what is going on in the Bilbies' garden too. You can find me as *gumera\_gardener* and Roy and Lorraine as *ellbee65*. We would love to see photos from other mountain gardeners on Instagram. If you are already on Instagram let me know and we can put together a list of #mounttamborinegardenclubmembers—Bernadette



Ellbee65 We've been watching the first flower bud of *Magnolia denudata* opening. It has the most lovely fragrance.



*gumera\_gardener* *Camellia* 'Tama-No-Ura'. This specimen was recently planted. The flowers are fabulous it will be a lovely addition to the garden as it grows.



Ellbee65 Garden selfie *Vireya* "Neesa" and me.

**CONTACTS: President – Di Howard 5545 2628 | Vice President - Terri Taylor 5545 4564**  
**Secretary - Bernadette Stacey - 5545 0605 | Treasurer– Di Fenton 5545 0236 | Springtime Convener - Margaret Pile - 5545 0869 | Patrons - Mary Wallace, Margaret and Roger Bell**

**August 2016 Meeting**

**From the President**

**Tuesday August 9th at 10:30 AM  
Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens,  
Forsythia Drive**

This year we will again have our August meeting in the Botanic Gardens, enjoy a sausage sizzle and a walk through the gardens with the Volunteers. We'll commence at 10.30am with a quick meeting before we enjoy the tour and opportunity to buy plants from the Bobby White Pavilion followed by lunch. There's lots to enjoy and appreciate. Do come along and support our Volunteers. If it's a wet day we'll be under cover and walk in our rain gear.

*Please bring your own mugs for tea/coffee (and your own sausages if you have any food allergies) and we'll do the rest.*

**No competition table in August  
August morning tea**

Glenda Clark, Sheridan Washington



**September Competition table**

- A flowering native
  - An exotic tree or shrub
  - A collection of 6 flowers- bulb, corm, tuber
  - A vegetable / fruit
  - A bunch of sweet peas
  - A Tussie-Mussie
  - A raceme of wisteria
- September Moring Tea**  
Sue Tomkins, Meredith Arnold

I don't know about everyone else but I was so looking forward to winter after our too hot autumn and it has finally arrived with a vengeance. The cold nights and sunny cool days are why we live here. As evening chill approaches there is the smell of wood fires. The deciduous trees are bare just waiting to burst into life come spring. How welcome was the rain, the gardens certainly welcomed it.

The Botanic Gardens are looking wonderful and it is at this time of year that a lot of work is undertaken to ensure that everything will look spectacular for Springtime. The volunteers do such a wonderful job. Don't forget that our August meeting is in the gardens and once again we will be having a sausage sizzle. Hopefully the very gusty wind will not make an appearance.

It is not long now until Springtime and Margaret Pile is very busy preparing for the three day event. The roster is almost finalised but if you haven't volunteered and would like to help please call 0458102344. Volunteering to help is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and have a lovely time. We can always use more help, so please do think about it. - Di Howard



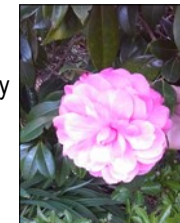
**What's on today** Guest speaker: Wendy Skelton—Geraniums, Plants sales, Raffles, Library

**Upcoming events—please see the noticeboard for more details**

Toowoomba Camellia Show & Garden Expo	Toowoomba TAFE Horticultural Pavillion	16 & 17 July
Qld Camellia Society—Camellias in Focus	Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha Auditorium	31 July
Ipswich Home Gardeners Expo	Glebe Rd & Green St, Booval	27 August
QCGC Fashion Parade	Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha Auditorium	31 August
Laidley Spring Festival - Flowers and Orchid	Laidley Cultural Centre	8 - 10 Sept
Coucals Open Garden and High Tea	8 Belah St, Mt Crosby	10 & 11 Sept
Toowoomba Geranium Society Show & Sale	Masonic Hall, 58 Neil St	17 & 18 Sept
Toowoomba Bromeliad Society Show & Sale	Sacred Hear Primary School, Cnr North and Tor Sts	17—19 Sept
Logan City Garden Club Friendship Day	Logan Central Community Centre 9 Jacaranda Av	20 Sept
Boonah District Club Friendship Day	Kooroomba Vineyards and Lavender Farm, FM Bells Rd, Mt Alford via Boonah	28 Sept
Clivia Show	Toowoomba TAFE Horticultural Pavillion	16 - 21 Sept
Brisbane International Garden Show	Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine	6 - 9 October
Stanthorpe Gardenfest	Stanthorpe Christian Fellowship 207 Amosfield Rd	7 & 8 October
Montview open garden (485 roses)	Cnr Oak & Rose Sts, Killarney	Open Wed to Sun in October

**June garden visit**

Elwyn Paton very kindly allowed us to visit her garden on a lovely sunny day. Elwyn, together with her late husband, Neil have been working on this half acre garden for the past 27 years. They have planted over 100 different camellias amongst other trees and shrubs. We were shown a very detailed map, done by Neil, of every camellia planted. Neil made a list to accompany the map which identifies each camellia. Thank you Elwyn. Glenda Sullivan



**July garden visit**

Tuesday July 19th – 10am  
BYO morning tea  
Roger and Margaret Bell  
1 Katoomba Crt, Tamborine Mountain

**Winter in the garden**

And don't think the garden loses its ecstasy in winter. It's quiet, but the roots down there riotous. (Rumi)

