

## MAKING A GARDEN ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN – Elwyn Paton

We had a wonderful Springtime on the Mountain followed by some very welcome rain. As I am writing this, I can hear thunder in the distance and am hoping for a lovely top-up. It is amazing how you can stand for hours watering your plants, just to keep them alive when the arrival of good rain performs a miracle of growth.

I think that our bus trip to Samford Valley was a big hit. Many of us had a bonanza of buying at Leonie Kearney's garden and what an amazing garden it is. We came away with some great ideas, cuttings and seeds given very generously by Leonie.

I grow quite a number of Leonie's roses and for the most part they are very healthy, they don't need spraying for black spot and repeat flower several times a year. Some of the Tea roses tend to nod; which is due to the breeding not to lack of care. If you wish to cut them for indoors, gather them into a posy for a vase.

There are many other old fashioned roses suitable for our climate. Many of the modern Tea and China roses need much more time and effort to keep them healthy. The culprit in all of this is our humidity, not much air flow and lots of spores for black spot.

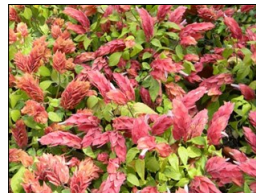
The other factor in the health of Leonie's roses is that she grows them on their own roots. I find them to be stronger that way. The rose bush doesn't have to rely on a stock plant that may or may not be suitable for our climate or soil.

On our return from Samford we followed the scenic route to visit a nursery at Willawong. This is a lovely nursery catering for people with tropical Bali type gardens. A number of plants caught our eyes.

I found an interesting variegated Shrimp plant or Beloperone. This plant has bright green and white markings and flowers a little pinker than the usual maroon. This plant is now known as *Justicia brandegeana*, but I guess it will always be known as Beloperone.

Justicias come from the subtropical and tropical parts of South America, India and Africa and there are hundreds of them. We grow a few in the Botanic Gardens with frothy plumes of white pink and yellow and I grow two different plants with white flowers. These plants are almost fool proof so maybe we should look out for other plants in this family. (Note. I am not suggesting that we are a bunch of fools, although sometimes as a gardener I question my sanity).

Keep up the good gardening work, Ellie P



# TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.

PO Box 63, North Tamborine, 4272 ABN 281 058 436 76 [www.tmbotanicgardens.org.au](http://www.tmbotanicgardens.org.au)

## NEWSLETTER

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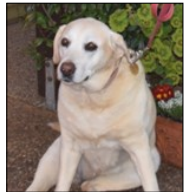
October 2017

### Springtime on the Mountain 2017

Despite a very prolonged dry spell the seven gardens open to the public were spectacular. It was evident that the garden owners put in many long hours preparing their gardens to ensure the success of this event. The many visitors raved about the diversity and beauty of the gardens. The commitment and generosity of the great group of garden owners is much appreciated by the garden club and garden enthusiasts who visited the gardens over the three days.

This festival couldn't possibly have been the success it was without the sterling effort of the co-ordinator, Di Howard and her band of assistants. Di, regardless of dodgy knees and heels, worked tirelessly over many months to ensure the success of the event. Di had a roster of over 100 garden club members who volunteered in many capacities over the lead up to the weekend, over the event and assisting in the clean-up. One of the strengths of this club is the willingness for members to put their hand up and become involved.

A massive thanks is due to everyone who volunteered through the long weekend. Special thanks to Lorraine Bilbie and her team at the cafe who worked incredibly long hours every day. She drafted in helpers from friends of the garden club and her own family. The Sausage Sizzle went down a treat and kept Eddie, Rob and their assistants very busy. The gate captains, attendants, car parkers and Potty Potters were outstanding as always. The success of this event is due to the commitment of the entire garden club and we should all be very proud of the accomplishment.



**CONTACTS: President / Springtime Convener – Di Howard 5545 2628**

**| Vice President / Secretary - Bernadette Stacey - 5545 0605 | Treasurer – Helen Walsh 5582 7902 |**

**Patrons - Mary Wallace, Margaret and Roger Bell**

## November meeting

**Tuesday November 14th at 9:30 AM**

Vonda Youngman Community Centre Main Street, North Tamborine

**Guest Speaker:** Ross McKinnon -

Botanica World Tours

### Competition Table

A flowering native

An exotic tree or shrub

A flowering bulb or corm

A vegetable / fruit

A daylily flower

Three different roses

A succulent or cactus in a pot

### Specimen table

Bring along a specimen; unusual, interesting, beautiful, unknown. Include a question if you like.

### Question and answer segment

Get the answers you need to all your gardening questions. Use your experience to help with someone else's problems.

### November Morning Tea

Robyn Morphet, SueTomkins, Leonie Rowe

## October garden visit

Tuesday October 17 – 10am BYO Morning Tea, Di & Rob Howard, 28 Ben Nevis Street, Tamborine Mt.



## Christmas Luncheon 12th December

### Heritage Wines Cnr Shelf & Bartle Rds

Arrival 11.30 Luncheon 12.30, \$40 pp

Payments can be made at the Nov meeting or on Paypal



## From the President

What a wonderful weekend we had for Springtime on the Mountain. A huge thanks must go to everyone who was involved. This club had approximately 120 volunteers assisting over the weekend. It is a remarkable effort and makes me delighted with our club.

I visited every garden, a number of times, over the weekend and I commonly heard, 'Oh we come every year, we wouldn't miss it'. The visitors really appreciate the effort the garden owners go to and thank them profusely when they encounter them. Our festival has a wonderful profile and we should be very proud of our achievements.

To everyone who helped in all areas and I won't attempt to name you in case I miss someone, please accept the club's thanks and appreciation. We can all have a rest now and pat ourselves on the back for a job well done. It is time to look forward to the Christmas Party on the 12th December.

Sadly, one of our club patrons, Mary Wallace passed away 27th September. Mary was a very much loved and admired member of the garden club. Mary was on the committee from 1990 - 1993 and was made patron in 2013. Mary and Ian opened their garden many times and hosted a field day earlier this year. Mary loved her garden and was always happy to share it with others. Her friendship reached far and wide and she will be missed by all who knew her. Vale Mary, you will be missed by us all.

Our condolences go to Ian and family. I have written to Mary's family on behalf of the club.—Di Howard

## Organic caterpillar & weed control

Lush spring foliage on vegies, herbs and flowers is like a buffet for a multitude of caterpillars. Organic gardeners can help protect their plants from caterpillar damage with Yates® Nature's Way® Caterpillar Killer.



It's based on a naturally occurring soil bacterium and is a very effective way to control a wide range of leaf eating caterpillars. Spray over the entire plant, including the undersides of leaves where caterpillars often hide, every 5 – 7 days when caterpillars (or their damage or droppings) first appear.

The spray does not kill caterpillars immediately. After a caterpillar eats the treated foliage it stops eating, but may take up to 3 – 4 days to die and drop from the leaf. Yates® Nature's Way® Caterpillar Killer will not affect bees, ladybirds or other beneficial insects.

And as the weather warms up during October, stay on top of weeds before they become too large and have the chance to flower and set seed. Organic gardeners can control weeds with Yates Nature's Way Organic Weed Spray.

It's based on 2 natural ingredients – clove oil and acetic acid – which work together to quickly dehydrate and kill weeds. Visible results may be seen on some weeds after just 1 hour. Certified for use in organic gardening it's ideal for people wanting to use organic methods of weed control.

## Events

Orchid Species Show Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Auditorium, Toowong, on Sat 11 & Sun 12 Nov  
The Bromeliad Society of Queensland's Spring Show Sat 11 & Sun 12 Nov Brisbane Table Tennis Centre, at 86 Green Terrace, Windsor.

Tamborine Mountain Library Habitat refugia project speaker Rochelle Steven. Rochelle will talk about refuges, especially for birds, in people's gardens October 12th – 2 pm in the library.

## October Bus Trip

Thanks must go to Rhonda Laarhoven for organising a great trip to Rosevale Homestead last week. Leonie conducted us on a garden tour and most of us made purchases at her delightful nursery.

Thanks also to the wonderful bakers who supplied a delicious morning tea. We enjoyed a great pub lunch and another nursery visit before heading home.



## Diary of a Springtime gardener

Opening our garden a Springtime was great fun. We really enjoyed chatting with the garden lovers who visited. It was a real pleasure to watch visitors pull up a seat and just enjoy our garden. For a gardener, who spends most of her time alone in her garden, it was a very rewarding experience. I would recommend it to others.  
Bernadette

