

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

“One of the worst mistakes you can make as a gardener is to think that you’re in charge” --- Janet Gillespie How true is that?

I am just noticing my double purple opium poppies coming up everywhere but where I originally planted them. A certain turkey scratched everything all over the place. The plants are appearing in the gravel driveway, on the edges of gardens and in the lawn.

When you are reading this on the back page of our Garden Club Newsletter I will be in Philadelphia looking at some beautiful gardens. Hopefully, I will have some lovely photos to show you.

I thought initially that I would be away and missing out on spring in my garden but there are several styles of daffodil flowering well and the babianas



have multiplied very well over the years and have started flowering. They look lovely with the many self-seeded osteospermums, scattered through the garden.

A few old fashioned shrubs have started with a burst of flowers such as Senecio petasitis from Mexico. Mine is about 1.5m by 1.5m. It has large velvety scalloped leaves and small yellow daisy like flowers in large rounded clusters.

A great standby is Rondeletia amoena. also from Mexico. This year it is flowering so well with its large terminal clusters, pale pink and faintly perfumed. Another Rondeletia is the odorata spp which is a much smaller shrub in my garden with small deep green leaves and orange-red lantana-like flowers.



Many gardeners overlook the white/cream flowering loropetalum in favour of the showy pink one. I’ve had the

cream one in the garden for at least 12 years and have kept it cut back to a little over 1.5m, otherwise like its pink version, it can reach many metres tall. The fringe flowers are said to resemble the flowers of Hamamelis to which it is related.

Many of the winter Salvias have just about finished flowering. Karwinskii, wagneriana, involucrata and their many crosses, especially Timboon have flowered well and now it is time to cut them back, particularly if they have their new growth coming from the base of the plant. These salvias are tall and tend to lean to the light, so, putting them at the back of the garden bed is a good idea.

Another favourite of mine is Salvia dorisiana. I have left this plant to colonize some of my garden and verge under a Magnolia grandiflora and a pin Oak. This salvia comes from Honduras. It flowers winter to spring, has large lolly pink flowers, large leaves and has a fruity fragrance. It is growing so well that one day I will have to employ a team of cane cutters to keep it under control.



Salvia dolomitica from South Africa, has grown into quite a large clump in the sunny, well drained front garden. This is starting to flower with many medium sized soft lilac blooms, very pretty!

Enjoy “Springtime on the Mountain”, and I will see you in October. Ellie Paton



**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.**  
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**NEWSLETTER**

Editor: Bernadette Stacey - bernadette1859@gmail.com 0409 759 838 **September 2016**

**From the President**

What a great morning we had at our August meeting in the Botanic gardens. There were 77 members in attendance and I hope all had an enjoyable time. Eddie was in his element stoking up the new barbeque for the first time. He had lots of help from Bob, Rob and Geoff plus plenty of helpful advice from others. Of course no garden club event would be complete without the Potty Potters selling their great plants. Roger Lenehan and all the volunteers have done a marvellous ensuring the gardens are looking spectacular. It is just wonderful to see groups touring the gardens and seeing some of the recently completed infrastructure. It was also a chance for the club to say a sad farewell to Geoff and Kay Illet who have been such staunch members for 20 years. They will be missed.

My thanks to all those who helped out on the day. Without you it would not be possible to have these events as it involves a considerable amount of work.

On the subject of helpers we need as many as possible on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of September to assist in setting up at the Vonda Youngman Centre. There will be plenty to do setting up tables for plants and the café as well as helping in the kitchen. Please think about helping as ‘many hands make light work’. Either phone Margaret Pile or just turn up from 8am. From 3ish on Sunday we will need a hand again to clean up at the centre. We also need ‘manpower’ to put up all the road signage on the Wednesday prior. Finally, when we are all tired and just worn out on Monday all the signs will need to be taken down and stored away and the Vonda Youngman clean-up completed.

During Springtime Margaret Pile 0458 102 344 or Margaret Bell 0409 263 666 will be available to troubleshoot with any problems that might occur. I will also be contactable at any time on 0439 882 261. If you are unable to work your shift please contact Margaret Pile ASAP.

Current club members are entitled to a \$10 Trail Pass but you must produce your 2016 membership card. Make sure you have it in your wallet as it must be sighted. Trail Passes are available at all open gardens, the botanic gardens and the Vonda Youngman centre. The passes are not transferable. All volunteers will receive a volunteer pass; if you haven’t received yours contact Margaret Pile.

It is going to be a wonderful weekend and hopefully very successful. - Di Howard



**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**

### How to grow amazing azaleas

An azalea in full flower is a sight to behold. Often you can't see the leaves for the flowers, which come in almost every shade from white through to bright pink and also yellow, salmon and two toned flowers. Most azaleas are happiest in a spot that receives morning sun and afternoon shade, in moist, organic rich well drained soil that is on the acidic side. Azaleas also grow very well in a pot.



Here are a few simple steps to keeping your azaleas looking fantastic:

- Apply Yates® Dynamic Lifter® Organic Plant Food around the root zone every 6 – 8 weeks, which adds valuable organic matter to the soil.
- Azalea petal blight is a disease that attacks azalea flowers, turning them into brown mush. To prevent azalea petal blight, just before the flower buds open start spraying with Yates Zaleton® Dual Action Systemic Fungicide and spray every 2 weeks until the end of flowering.
- Azalea lace bug is a sap sucking insect pest that causes a silvery mottled appearance on azalea leaves. You might also notice dark spots underneath the leaves, which are lace bug droppings. As with azalea petal blight, a proactive approach is required as once the leaves are damaged, it cannot be reversed. Start spraying both sides of foliage in early spring with Confidor® to protect leaves from lace bug damage. Spray late in the day when there are no bees foraging on flowers.
- To help promote healthy foliage growth and lots of beautiful flowers, feed azaleas each week with potassium rich Yates Thrive® Roses & Flowers Liquid Plant Food. Dilute 2 capfuls in a 9 L watering can and apply over both the foliage and surrounding soil. The nutrients in Thrive are fast acting and can be absorbed by both the leaves and roots.

Read more at <http://www.yates.com.au>

**October meeting**  
**Tuesday October 11th at 9:30 AM**  
 Vonda Youngman Community Centre Main Street, North Tamborine  
**Guest Speaker:** Richard Bull: - Managing Fruit Fly and other Pests  
**October Competition table**  
 A flowering native , An exotic tree or shrub  
 A blossom, A vegetable / fruit  
 A hippeastrum – one cut  
 An African violet in a pot , A rose  
**October Morning Tea**  
 Rob Carseldine Margaret Pile

### Advice from John Evelyn, 1686

The Gardiner should walke aboute the whole Gardens every Monday-morning duely, not omitting the least corner, and so observe what Flowers or Trees & plants want staking, binding and redressing, watering, or are in danger; especially after greate stormes, & high winds and then immediately to reforme, establish, shade, water &c what he finds amisse, before he goes about any other work.

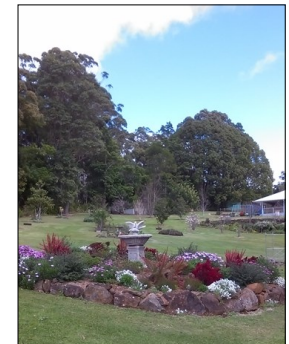


### Upcoming events—please see the noticeboard for more details

Tani Tei En Garden Opening	519 Currumbin Creek Rd Currumbin Valley, Gold Coast	18 Sept
Twin Towns Flower and Garden Expo	Tweed Heads Civic Centre	17 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
Wondai Garden Expo	Wondai Sportsground	24 & 25 Sept
1th Annual Rose Show Gold Coast Rose Society	Robina Community Centre	24 & 25 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

### August Garden Visit

Our garden visit last month was a revisiting of a Springtime Garden. Meredith & Kevin Arnold had their garden open in 2013. It is set on 5 acres with views to the mountains and the coast. Meredith has been very clever collecting old spring beds to use as supports for a new garden bed where she has planted sweet peas to climb up. These garden visits can give you some great ideas! Thanks Meredith & Kevin. **As we have Springtime in September, there will be no garden visit.** — Glenda Sullivan



A garden requires patient labour and attention. Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions or to fulfil good intentions. They thrive because someone expended effort on them. Liberty Hyde Bailey