

**MAKING A GARDEN ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN**

I was tidying my Garden Club bag and discovered some packets of seeds that I had bought from the seed savers at the Perennial Poppies a few weeks ago. Now, I don't know about you but, I usually put these seeds in a dark place away from moisture to be kept there until it is sowing time. This, for me, is not a good idea. One day, I will dig them out from their hiding place and they will be out of date by about three years. Then I will scatter them about randomly and think that at least I didn't waste them. I have resolved to do much better this time.

I have Calendula (2017), Orlaya, Double Feverfew and Gomphrena pink. Now, I realize that Calendula and Orlaya should have been planted in about May, but if I sow their seeds when it gets a little warmer, they may flower late Spring and into Summer. I always associate Calendulas with Summer anyway and Orlaya is now starting to show some lacy green leaves in the Botanic perennial garden and they can go on right into Summer.

For the gardeners who haven't encountered Orlaya yet. It is a lovely low growing annual, flowering from Spring to Summer. It has white flowers that resemble Queen Anne's Lace only shorter.



I love Feverfew. It used to come up in the gravel at my other garden. It is only a small bush and in summer it is covered in clusters of white daisies. The flowers of the double variety are covered with tiny white petals. It grows very well, almost like a weed in South Australia. I have always called it Chrysanthemum parthenium but it is also known as Matricaria eximia. The common name, Feverfew, gives a clue to a medicinal past.



medicinal past.

Gomphrena is a member of the Amaranth family and never fails to attract attention to its pretty "globe" flowers. According to my sowing authority, I should sow the seeds when the temperature reaches a constant 21 degrees C. temperature. A little while to go, I think.



I am reminded, whilst talking about these tough annuals, that I used to have Poppies, Love-in-the Mist or Nigella and Queen Anne's Lace growing among the perennials in my garden but since I had been mulching, sometimes quite heavily, I was losing some of the lovely self-sowing plants that would appear.

I am waiting now to see if anything interesting comes up in my new garden.

Keep up the good work.

Ellie



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**NEWSLETTER**

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**JULY 2018**

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR OWN CAMELLIAS?**

This is a great season for camellias on the mountain.

If you have taken over an established garden or are not very good at keeping track of your plant labels, chances are there is a camellia in your garden that you would like to identify. Fortunately we have a wealth of resources in our own Club Library to help you.



Camellias by Jennifer Trehane.

Camellia Culture.

Classic Camellias for Australian Gardens by James Young.

The Camellia Growers Handbook for Australia – Margaret Tapley.

And of course the Camellia Growers Bible-

What Camellia is that? by Stirling Macoboy. We are fortunate to have this book in the library as it is now out of print and hard to get hold of. These books will introduce you to the different growth types of camellia.

The first to flower for us here are the Sasanquas. These are fast growing,

small leaf type good for hedging and fairly sun tolerant. The flowers tend to shatter easily but the carpet of fallen petals are a great feature.

Following on are the Japonicas with their beautiful glossy leaves and huge variety of flower types. These prefer some shade.

There are also some lovely miniatures and other hybrids as well.

And lastly the glamour girls of the camellia world – the

Reticulatas. These are generally a more open type of shrub with large flamboyant flowers. Not as easy to get hold of as many of them are grafted so take a lot longer to propagate.

Once you get your head around the different growth types it is worth learning about the different flower types and you can be well on the way to identifying your mystery camellia. A great show to visit is the Toowoomba Camellia Show and Garden Expo (details on page 3) Talk to the experts there.

Sasanquas on Central Ave.



Reticulata "Glorious Gift"

**Today's speaker—Dale Arvidsson Curator of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens.**

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**AUGUST MEETING**

Tuesday August 14th at 10.00 am  
 Botanic Gardens  
 Forsythia Avenue, EAGLE HEIGHTS  
 BYO Cups  
 Sausage Sizzle



**Guest Speaker**—Gary Brooks—  
 Physiotherapist with tips for healthy Gardening

**AUGUST COMPETITION TABLE:**  
 No Competition table for August

**AUGUST MORNING TEA ROSTER:**  
 Committee Members

**July Garden Visit:**  
**Tuesday 19th July– 10am**  
**Roy and Lorraine Bilbie**  
**1 Areca Court (Cnr Contour Road)**  
**EAGLE HEIGHTS.**  
**BYO Morning Tea.**  
**Lots of camellias flowering.**

**HEADS UP: BUS TRIP**

Tuesday September 4th.  
 Roma Street Parklands.  
 Lunch at Kenmore Tavern.  
 Brookfield Garden Centre.  
 Cost will be \$30.00 incl. lunch



**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

If you weren't here last month to hear Ian Wintle's presentation then you missed out on a very informative and interesting speaker. But take heart, we will be inviting him back next year to deliver another one of his valuable presentations.

Winter is that time of year when I get a few ticks on the "To Do" List. Pruning, weeding, mulching, preparing the soil for future planting and generally tidying up. This time of year generally the flu comes a knocking and we need to be mindful of ourselves and others. So, rug up, keep up your fluids and stay safe.


Recently, I listened intently to Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery on Ch2. She was interviewing Raelene Boyle. Raelene grew up in Sydney, however her home was not a happy one. Her mother suffered terribly from depression. A condition that Raelene also suffers from. Once she retired from the track she joined a volunteer group in the Sydney Botanic Gardens and this helped her keep the black dog at bay. She spent a wonderful 10 years with this group and she credits the outdoor work with keeping her sane. An interesting anecdote that she shared is that within the Botanic Gardens some enterprising members of the public enjoyed a physical relationship on a bench which quickly became know to the volunteers as the "bonking bench". The group had an endless amount of laughs when they turned on the sprinkler system and surprised couples headed for more private areas! So, why do you ask, have I entertained you with this story? Because our Botanic Gardens are looking for volunteers as well. A great way to get out in the sunshine and get your Vitamin D as well as exercising the body and the brain.

And perhaps, just maybe, our Botanic Gardens have a special bench too! But I will leave that up to you to check it out.



See you at the Christmas in July luncheon on **Thursday 26th July 11.15 for 11.30am** don't be late.  
 Leonie Rowe

**COMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

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| Nambour Garden Expo                     | Nambour Showgrounds   | Friday 13th July 8am to 5pm<br>Saturday 14th July 8am to 5pm<br>Sunday 15th July 8am to 4pm |
| Toowoomba Camellia Show and Garden Expo | Toowoomba TAFE via Campbell Street. Toowoomba   | Saturday 21st July 9am to 4 pm<br>Sunday 22nd July 9am to 4pm                               |
| <b>Garden Club Christmas in July</b>    |  <b>The Manor Long Road Tamborine Mountain</b> | <b>Thursday 26th July 11.15 for 11.30 am Lunch</b>  |

**JUNE GARDEN VISIT**

Our June garden visit was to Aloe Aloe –Wholesale Nursery and what an interesting and informative morning was had.

Michael Dent (originally from South Africa) was so knowledgeable and passionate about aloes, **NEVER** to be confused with bromeliads and cacti.

I for one now look at aloes as an asset to any garden, most of us went home with plants, some to be displayed in the Botanic Gardens. ... Lorraine Millar

Photos from Aloe Aloe Instagram page and Glenda Sullivan

