

MAKING A GARDEN ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN– Elwyn Paton

On walking through my garden one still cool day recently, a lovely fragrance took me by surprise. After pausing to sniff the air, I realized that it was a combination aroma from several plants, namely Gordonia, Camellia sasanqua and Osmanthus fragrans.



The Gordonia in full flower has a sweet musky fragrance and some C sasanquas (scentuous, fragrans and cinnamon cindy) have a gentle

sweetness, but the Osmanthus fragrans is a knockout. This plant is not a very imposing shrub. Mine is about 2.5 m tall and 1metre wide and evergreen. Several times a year it bears small clusters of highly scented white flowers reminiscent of ripe apricots.

I grow two other varieties of Osmanthus .One flowering well with white flowers but doesn't have the rich perfume of fragrans and the other looks all the world like a holly but has yet to flower for me.



Elaeagnus fungens aurea is another shrub that I grow. It wasn't until I visited a garden in the cotton growing area of Northern N.S.W. that I noticed a hedge of Elaeagnes. The scent from this hedge perfumed the whole garden and it took us quite a while to locate the source and find the myriad of small flowers tucked into the foliage. When I came home, I discovered that my plant had a perfume as well.



Another shrub noted for aroma, (I can't say perfume). Is the Cestrum. Although Night Cestrum is perfumed.



I grow pink, yellow and purple versions of Cestrum and I know people are wary of it because of its pungent aroma when brushed or cut. It reminds me of a medicine given in my childhood. Nevertheless, it is tough and pretty when it flowers.

I can't forget to mention roses for perfume. As I grow mainly tea roses, of course I can expect on summer days a fine tea aroma wafting on the breeze.



Some climbing roses such as Souvenir de la Malmaison and Lamarque do well on

the mountain and have lovely luscious perfumes. Sadly, I have lost an old perfumed climbing rose called Milk Maid. In Spring it covered an arch in masses of creamy blooms and now has left the arch sad and empty. There are two small rose seedlings in the gravel near its gnarled stump. So if I do the right thing, maybe we will see it bloom again.

Until next time Ellie P



TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.
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NEWSLETTER

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

June 2016

The Biggest Morning Tea

Last month's wonderful morning tea raised \$512.90 for the Cancer Council of Queensland. We received a lovely thank you letter from the CEO Professor Jeff Dunn AO. He wrote ' Your kind and generous contribution to Australia's Biggest Moring Tea has filled us with gratitude, and it's brought a misty glaze to our eyes and sparked a swelling of our hearts. So before we get all choked up, we'd like to say that we truly appreciate your help, and for that we would like to express our heartfelt thanks.'

Thanks to all who contributed a plate, a donation and those who helped set up and cleaned up. Our 2016 effort was increase of over \$200 on our 2015 results.



Soil Leaching

No doubt our gardens will all have been a bit battered following the recent torrential rain and strong winds. One of the ongoing gardening problems we have here on the mountain is that heavy rains can remove essential nutrients from the soil through leaching.

Replacing these nutrients with fertiliser will help our gardens to recover. Gradual replacement of fertilisers is critical for recovery of a healthy root system. Heavy applications may cause further root damage. Foliar applications of soluble major and trace elements may help kick-start plants until their root systems re-establish.

As the cold weather arrives many of our plants and trees will be dormant at this time and any fertiliser applied to them will be wasted. Therefore apply fertiliser judiciously only to those plants in active growth until the weather warms and the spring growth begins.

In the long term, adding compost to our soils also helps combat the affects of soil leaching. Organic material in soils helps them to retain nutrients for longer. Adding compost at planting and applying a good layer of mulch helps maintain the organic material and health in our soils.



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 | Patron - Mary Wallace

July 2016 Meeting

From the President

Tuesday July 12h at 9:30 AM

Vonda Youngman Community Centre Main Street, North Tamborine

Guest Speaker: Wendy Skelton: Geraniums

Competition table

- A flowering native
- An exotic tree or shrub
- A flowering bulb or corm
- A magnolia flower
- A winter bouquet
- A vegetable
- A citrus fruit

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.

July Morning Tea

Amanda Hay, Brenda Noble

What's on today Guest speaker: Damian Draper, Red Belly Bush Care, Dealing with weeds, Plants sales, Raffles, Library,



June garden visit

Tuesday June 21 – 10am BYO morning tea
Elwyn Paton
55 Freemont Drive, North Tamborine

Remembering Barbara Beale.

Barbara was a much loved and admired member of the garden club. She was treasurer of this club from 2000 to 2003; what an achievement. She was also a dedicated volunteer worker at the Botanic Gardens. Barbara was curator of the gardens many years ago. She, along with Kay Ilet, would arrive at 0600 hours and together they established the marvellous hydrangea beds.

Her garden 'Puck Lane' was open on several occasions for Springtime on the Mountain and she volunteered her garden for field days. Barbara loved the deciduous trees and had over 30 Japanese maples in her garden.

Barbara's dedication to the garden club and her love of gardening is an inspiration to us all. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. I have written to the family on behalf of the club to express our sympathy. Vale Barbara Beale.

Di Howard

May garden visit

A visit to 'Harmony Gardens' is always a delight. The Hughes' 40 years of love for gardening shows in every corner of this magnificent garden on just over 2 acres.

Gardening is what keeps Joan and Leon healthy, active and enthusiastic. Showing their lovely garden to other gardeners brings them joy. Thank you so very much Joan & Leon. Glenda Sullivan



Upcoming events—please see the noticeboard for more details

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| Esk Garden and Lifestyle Fair | Old St Andrews Church Ipswich St, Esk | 18 June |
| Floral Art Society Friendship Day | Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha Auditorium | 27 June |
| Qld Garden Expo | Nambour Showgrounds | 8-10 July |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| Logan City Garden Club Friendship Day | Logan Central Community Centre 9 Jacaranda Av | 20 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 |

Top carrots

Growing carrots can sometimes be challenging, as the seeds are small and as they are not sown very deeply, are prone to drying out.

Cooler weather during winter can help as the soil stays moist for longer, allowing the tiny seeds to germinate and establish. Yates® Topweight Carrot can be sown in June throughout Australia and this vigorous variety has delicious tasting, long fleshy deep orange roots.

Before sowing in a sunny spot in the vegie garden, cultivate the soil well to break up any hard pieces (which can cause distorted carrot growth). Keep the soil moist after sowing and thin out excess carrots after 4 weeks, so carrots are spaced around 5cm apart.

Carrots should be fed regularly with Yates® Thrive® All Purpose Soluble Fertiliser, which contains phosphorus which is an important nutrient for root (and thus carrot) development.

Read more at www.yates.com.au

