

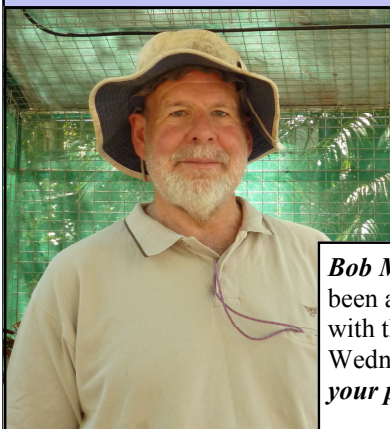
## VOLUNTEER SNAPSHOTS



*Joan Cross*, as always, makes a lovely picture in the perennial garden.



Local High School student *Daniel* (pictured above with *Bobby White*), is on work experience at our Gardens and has been helping with a variety of tasks. **Welcome Daniel!**



*Bob McCathie* (left) has been a great help working with the Potty Potters on a Wednesday. **They sing your praises Bob!!.....Ed**



**Welcome** to our energetic, enthusiastic visiting volunteers who have helped us in various ways around the Gardens. *Ray Fulton* is pictured at right with *Geoff Ilett*, and at left is *Shane Gaiko*.

*Our volunteer average age is 72, so the extra help has been valuable and appreciated. Thank you guys...Ed*



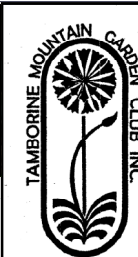
## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BOTANIC GARDENS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2014

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### BOTANIC GARDENS FEATURE: *The Rose Garden*

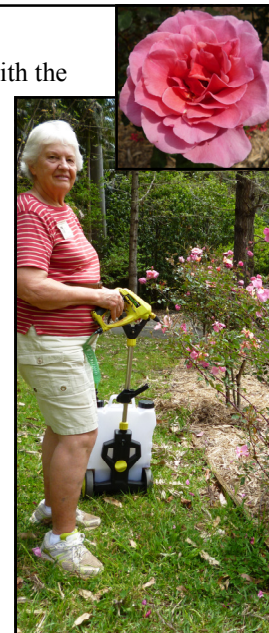
Thanks to *Dawn Hooper*, the Rose Garden is taking on a new look with the addition of the highly perfumed hybrid tea roses. The first thing that visitors do, according to Dawn, is to "smell the roses" so Dawn thought it time to accommodate our visitors!

One bed has been planted up and includes 6 Brindabellas of different colours (bred in Toowoomba and don't get black spot), two Mr Lincolns and 2 Just Joeys.

Dawn has trialled growing roses in our climate over many years and knows what works well. Duets have been added to the centre bed and while they can't always be disease free, are another good perfumed performer.

Working bed by bed, Dawn is steadily adding variety to what was already there when first planted up seven years ago.

*It is interesting to note comments from visitors to our Gardens on the Trip Adviser website. The rose garden is highly praised. You have given visitors to our Gardens a lot of pleasure Dawn. Well done!*





*From the Editor.....*

*Below is a really lovely story of Christmas at our Botanic Gardens and forms part of our history archives. The letter was written by Jack Carter and printed in our Christmas 2008 edition of this newsletter. Jack Carter lived adjacent to our Gardens and was a Council nominated Honorary Warden from 1988-94. Jack still keeps in contact with us and looks forward to receiving his copy of the newsletter each month. I thought it fitting to revisit this Christmas story again this year.....Chris Davison*

Dear Chris,

As Christmas is coming, I have a small story to tell you.



When Joyce and I arrived on the mountain at 29 Forsythia Drive in 1988 there were no gardens and only a few homes were in the area. As Christmas approached we expected to see decorations in shops and homes, especially Gallery Walk. When this did not happen I knew my son Paul, who lived at Southport, had Christmas decorations he was not using, and he gave them to me.

The area that is now a parking area has those high trees at the entrance to the Gardens, I used to keep mowed just like a lawn. I decided I would set up my Christmas decorations here so people visiting the Gardens would feel a little bit of Christmas and I continued to do this every Christmas until we left the mountain.

It was Christmas Eve 1988. Joyce and I had relaxed and decided to watch TV for a couple of hours before retiring to bed. It was about 8 pm when Joyce said to me with a concerned look on her face, "can you hear people singing?" I listened then said "it must be on TV". Joyce replied "I don't think so", then she stood up and walked outside onto the veranda. Next I heard her call, "Jack come here, look at this". When I walked out on the veranda and glanced down into the Gardens where the decorations were, it brought tears to my eyes. There were around twenty children and some adults with lighted candles and they were singing Christmas carols. It is a Christmas I will never forget.

When the singing was finished and as we returned inside, a knock came on our door. It was two young children who offered us two little bags of lollies and a very big thank you.

We had not only brought Christmas to the Botanic Gardens but also to the children of the Mountain as well.

To you and all our friends on the Mountain have a *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Yours truly,  
Jack Carter



## *The Year That Was.....2014*

As we draw to the end of the year, I have thought about the year past and the completion of my first year as Manager of the Botanic Gardens. We have achieved a considerable amount in that time, some things are obvious but many are not so noticeable.

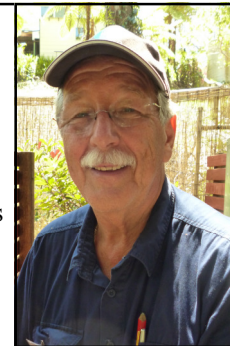
The Bobby White Potting Pavilion, the new morning tea area for volunteers and the re-asphalting in front of the toilets, along with the commencement of work on the Sooty Owl Walk (previously known as the Children's Walk), are all visible achievements. Our successful Grant application for the new Gator has also made life easier for those working in the Gardens.

Other jobs that have been carried out are now bearing fruit. Many people would be unaware of the hours spent in completing them, such as the renewal of the irrigation system throughout the Gardens, which is now nearly completed.

Having had a Horticultural Consultant look at the Gardens earlier in the year, a program of improving the soils was commenced and this is now paying dividends. This program is ongoing with regular spraying of Seasol and Powerfeed, as well as mulching and aerating the soil.

Another program started during the year, has also been successful. As part of our "Community Obligation", we now have people from the community (work experience, CES and local organisations) forming part of our regular volunteer group. All of these Volunteers are doing a great job, which is good for the gardens, and they are all learning new skills which we are sure will be a great help for them in later life.

*I would like to thank all the Volunteers, and those who have helped in so many other ways throughout the year. It has been a great year and we are looking forward to new and exciting projects starting next year. I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Festive season. May it be safe and filled with joy and happiness. I look forward to seeing you all next year.*  
**Roger Lenehan (Manager)**



A **BIG** thank you to **Roger Lenehan** for the great job he has done this year as Manager of our Botanic Gardens.  
**Well done, Roger! We appreciate all you have done!**

### AROUND THE GARDENS:

- \*Children's Creekside Trail now renamed **The Sooty Owl Walk**. —work is progressing steadily.
- \*Tanks, pipes, bore and filters were cleaned and treated from build up of sludge caused by "iron bacteria" produced where there is a high level of iron in the water. Task arranged to be done every six months.—**CW Pumps**.
- \*Irrigation in hydrangea garden completed and working well—**Brian Davison**.
- \***Geoff Hurling** to take on role of First Aid Officer as well as his role as OH & S.
- \*The idea of a stage at the Gardens to be revisited.
- \*Thanks to **Di Fenton** who helped out with Garden's finance when Margaret Pile was away.
- \*Two **Dusky Moor hens** are nesting on the side of the lake.....BUT a very large eel was seen nearby, so not looking good for the hens—**Dawn Hooper** (our B.G. bird enthusiast)