



This dedicated group of Volunteers were in a festive spirit on the eve of 'Springtime', preparing the Botanic Gardens for the influx of visitors. The Gardens looked amazing. *Well done Volunteers!*

VOLUNTEER SNAPSHOTS



Once again the garden owners did an amazing job of presenting their Gardens for the annual *Springtime on the Mountain Festival*. Volunteers **Frank & Sandy** (left) and **Bob & Sue** (right) opened their gardens...not easy when you are looking after the Botanic Gardens as well!!

Well done to our Potty Potters for their successful sale of plants during 'Springtime'.



Di Howard...lady extraordinaire...

Springtime Festival Coordinator 2017, current Garden Club President and Botanic Gardens Volunteer.

Many, many thanks Di for all you have done. It is very much appreciated.



TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BOTANIC GARDENS NEWSLETTER

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INTRODUCING THE COMMITTEE

Our Botanic Gardens are being successfully managed by a Working Committee chaired by **Margaret Bell**. The Committee meet regularly and are represented by Volunteers with a wealth of experience behind them, including three previous Gardens Managers. Our Works Manager, **Eddie Fenton** continues to oversee projects and maintenance. Added to this, we have the continued support of the Scenic Rim Regional Council and a healthy number of regular Volunteers all contributing their expertise, enthusiasm and energy.



Pictured above are Roger Bell, Margaret Bell (Chair), Eddie Fenton (Works Manager), Sandy Silabon, Di Howard (Garden Club President), Rob Howard, Brian Davison and inset Geoff Hurling.

We thank the past Gardens Manager, Roger Lenehan for his contribution over his two years of "Managing". It is a big commitment and he did a great job. Thank you Roger! Congratulations on your recent Wright Community Contribution Award. Well done.

AROUND THE GARDENS:

*Thank you to **Landcare** for the donation of a trailer. It is much appreciated and used extensively around the gardens.

*Relocation and extension work in the *Hydrangea garden* underway. This will allow for the enlarging and enhancing of the entrance to the Sooty Owl Trail and enable more shade-loving plantings.

Magnolia garden* -Black Tulip sourced and planted and doing well...Margaret Bell**

Native bees* being sourced and various types of nests considered...Brian and Sandy**

Irrigation*...Bore water is proving unsatisfactory for irrigation because of discolouration. Professional advice has been sought to resolve this ongoing issue...Brian**

Plant labelling*... visit to Gold Coast Botanic Gardens by Committee for labelling ideas...thanks to Kate Heffernan**

**Japanese Garden* to be upgraded. A professional report with suggestions has been received.

*New signage for the Gardens has arrived and is being framed and fitted by **Rob Howard** (right).



THANK YOU

A big thank you to our past Treasurer **Di Fenton** for the great job that she has done over the past 2 1/2 years with '*all things finance*' both for the Garden Club and our Botanic Gardens.

It has been a big job and very much appreciated Di!.... Ed.



We welcome our new Treasurer **Helen Walsh** and thank her for taking on this very important position.

We look forward to working with you Helen and hope you enjoy working with us ...Ed

NEW VOLUNTEERS



Trev and Trish Wilson, the friendly couple pictured above, have joined the Wednesday volunteers. ***Welcome!***

THAT CREEKSIDE TRAIL

Fifteen years ago I used to look with excited anticipation at the area that surrounded Charlies Creek. It was heavily overgrown, probably hadn't been walked on since the days of the timber cutters seeking Red Cedars and almost impenetrable.

About 4 years ago I entered the area and let my thoughts go back to childhood and those books which had stories about '*a deep dark forest*'. I imagined a child walking along the creek and then it hit me. That is, an annoyed sooty owl nearly did. Hence the name of the walk.

With respect for the micro-environment and a good deal of imagination I started planning a walk which wound its way along the sides of the creek, crossing same in about 5 places. That gave licence for 5 different bridge designs. And so the planning was started. Months of drawings, working on the philosophy of the walk, interpretive signs etc. etc. And then we were ready to go.

It took about 2 years of work to actually get the Sooty Owl Creekside Trail to its present stage—that is, almost completed. There still is some fine tuning and a couple of features to be built in but they are small compared to what has been done.

What we see is a magnificent effort from many people but I must mention Sandy Silabon and Eddie Fenton in particular. The work that Sandy has done with replanting and landscaping is magnificent and has enhanced the walk incredibly. Eddie's help with heavy work, building and the endless trips down to the coast for materials has been superb. Many others have given their time and support in many ways and for that I am really grateful. Thank you all. You can all feel justly proud.

And the Deep Dark Forest? Yes, it's there. Take 15 minutes of your time to wander through—perhaps with your '*childhood mind*' to enhance the experience.

Brian Davison

Visitors to the Gardens

The Shadow Minister for the Environment **Dr Christian Rowan** (right) and local MP **Jon Krause** (left) praised the work of Volunteers after their guided walk-through of the Gardens recently. Pictured with **Di Howard** and **Brian Davison**. ***And yes, they loved the 'deep, dark forest!!'***

