



SNIPPETS

Winter 2014

President Marnie Trass 5435 8406 Mailing Address: The Secretary, P.O. Box 563, Maleny Qld 4552	Hon. Secretary Glenys Hiley 5494 3924	Hon. Treasurer Jim Laundry 5499 9317	Editor Margaret Owens 5429 6789 Website
www.malenygardenclub.org			

The Maleny Garden Club extends a warm invitation to all members and visitors to attend the monthly general meetings held on the last Tuesday of each month, as per program for the year.

At last a fine weekend for Gardening on the Edge.

This was the first fine weekend for quite a few years and the people came out to celebrate, in excess of 1,200 people visited each open garden making the most of all that Maleny has to offer. One of the gardens recorded tickets numbering upwards of 1,700, just proves what good advertising can do (not to mention the fine looking folks who featured in each spread in the Hinterland Times and The Range News), hearty congratulations to all of the Garden Owners and to Glenys and Lee who organised the publicity.

Six magnificent gardens were open to the public with positive comments recorded at every garden due in no small way to our Club Gardening on the Edge convenor Dot Jupp.

There is a massive amount of organisation required for GOE to be as successful as it was. Dot has well and truly risen to the task with Marnie giving great support passing on her knowledge and experience making this a very smooth transition. It also made for a successful fund raising which will stand the Club in good stead.

Every member volunteer should be congratulated on how they carried out their "jobs" whether it be taking monies at the gates/hall, driving the golf buggies, assisting with the car parking, putting up and taking down of the signs, baking, making jams, condiments for the food stall, nurturing and potting plants for the plant stall, bringing in camellias for the display, setting up displays, assisting with the set-up and subsequent clear-up at the Showgrounds, serving at the stalls, and counting the monies, you should all pat yourselves on the back.

Everyone who came to the Gardening on the Edge could not have failed to have been impressed with the level of professional attention and service that was offered by all of

the stall holders, the much appreciated ladies from the Hospital Auxiliary and the CWA, the presentation of the Open Gardens and the pleasure that each garden owner had in showing off their gardens.

Well done to everyone

Brian Robertson on behalf of Marnie Trass

Travel Tales and True

Wisdom has it that in life's journey, room should be left for 'chance'. So it is on the traveller's journey: not chance that disrupts one's plans, by poor planning, events beyond one's control, but incidents that take one by surprise and which, unexpectedly enhance one's travel with a sense of wonder - undeserved and unplanned: serendipity!

And so it was around Christmas last year when I was hanging about with my student granddaughter in Dublin as she took in some foreign culture and learning. Her Christmas plan, unbeknown to me as I made my travel plans, was to spend time with her Australian friends and relations in Wales. Now, what should I do over Christmas? Certainly not dump on my unsuspecting Irish family or friends! A local paper provided the saving grace: the very last vacancy on the very last "Boutique Cruise" on the river Seine before closing down for the Winter months! Five days cruising the Seine, topped off with two days - Christmas day and Boxing day in gay Paris!!

Day 1, saw us tour the Palace of Versailles with a visit to the private apartments. In the afternoon, a visit to Le Petit Trianon - home of Marie Antoinette. Nowadays, the Chateau shows its two faces: the remnants

of the former Royal residence, approximately 120 rooms, and on the other, the Musee d'Histoire, comprising 120 halls.

Day 2. Rouen: historical capital of Normandy, once the largest and most prosperous city of medieval Europe, was heavily damaged during WW11, its famed cathedral, Le Cathedrale de Notre-Dame which famously houses the tomb of Richard the Lionheart (which contains his heart), was almost destroyed by Allied bombs on D Day, 1944.

Day 3. Walking tour of Vernon, significant in the long rivalry between the Capetians and Plantagenets, its ancient history in its Celtic, Gallo-Roman and Merovingian remains.

Day 4. Walking tour of Auvers sur Oise to reflect on the last 70 days of Vincent van Gogh, to visit his grave and to observe the quiet village where his memory is kept alive with copies of his famous master pieces gracing well-visited locations.

Day 5. **Christmas day, Paris.** In the morning a bus tour of Notre Dame Latin Quarter: At 10am Gregorian Mass at Notre Dame Cathedrale- bells ringing, ringing, ringing - full to overflowing. In the afternoon, a scenic cruise through the heart of Paris. Tour of Paris and Eiffel Tower Christmas lights - Champs Elise covered in le bleu, surrounding streets and their trees festooned in fabulous glittering finery, the Eiffel Tower making its magic, not only bedecked with Christmas lights but at regular intervals bursting out with dazzling fireworks to heighten the Christmas spectacle.....

Day 6. **Musee d'Orsay.** Guided tour - early group entry ahead of milling crowd! All the masterpieces, some copies of which you've seen, those you haven't and those you'd like the time and opportunity to see in your lifetime!!!

Day 7. The party's over! Pleasant travelling companions! Five-star accommodation, wining and dining River Seine! Christmas in Paris! Serendipity writ large!!!!

Kath Marshall

The Rafflesia Flower

When we lived in Hong Kong Jennifer and I travelled to many parts of Asia including Sabah in Borneo, Malaysia. We were taken to view a blooming Rafflesia between Kota Kinabalu and Tambunan. Apparently it is one of the largest flowers in the world with a diameter up to one metre and weight up to ten kilograms. It was discovered in 1818 by the founder of Singapore, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, and duly named after him. As we neared the site a distinctive aroma (more aptly a stench) wafted towards us from a most beautifully exotic bloom with huge brown fleshy petals mottled with cream nodules. The centre of the flower had a bowl like growth with short stamens in the bottom. As it nears the end of its 3 to 5 day life, the flower emits a rotting meat odour from the bowl to attract flies which carry the pollen to other rafflesias.

The flower is a parasite and has no stem, leaves or roots. It will only grow on the Tetrastigma vine which is a member of the grape family. Sadly its habitat, like that of the Orangutan, is under threat from forest logging, but on a happy note the Sabah Government is actively addressing the issue for both.

We both felt it was worth the trek to see such a special wonder of nature. *Kevin Radbourne*

Gardening God's Way

Plant three rows of peas:
Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be obedient
Lettuce really love one another

No garden without turnips

Turn up for meetings
Turn up service
Turn up to help one another

Water freely with patience
Cultivate with love.
There is much fruit in your garden
Because you reap what you sow.
Bette Weston

Classic One-Liners;

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill:
"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night
of my new play. Bring a friendif you
have one".

Churchill in response:

"Cannot possibly attend first night. Will
attend the second...if there is one".

**Be nice to people on the way up because you
meet them on your way down.**

Jimmy Durante, US comedian.

Some cause happiness wherever they go;
others whenever they go.

Oscar Wilde, Irish writer.

To err is human, but it feels divine.

Mae West, US actress.

Herb File.

We visualise the leaf green of a herb as the
useful part for culinary or medicinal use
while the root deep in the ground is
forgotten. These deep roots of some plants
bring essential nutrients often leached from
the top soil.

A striking example is wild rocket with the
long tap root which seeks out moisture as
well as nutrients. Rocket is a salad favourite
and by including it in your diet you obtain
medical benefits.

Comfrey is able to delve very deep into the
subsoil carrying to the dark green leaves,
moisture and minerals not readily available
in the top soil. Always grow comfrey around
a garden bed, not in it as removing this deep
rooted plant is very difficult. The addition
of leaves to the compost heap aids
decomposition plus their nutrients improve
the heap. Leaves placed on bone injuries are
said to aid repair, hence the name 'knitbone'.

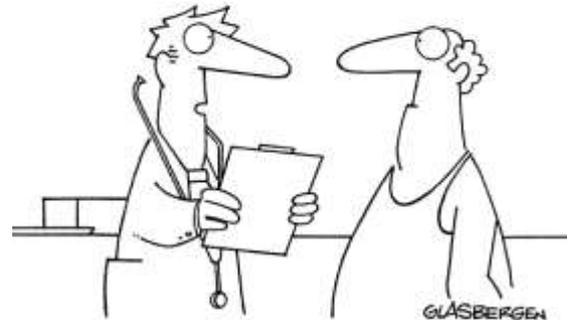
A rub made from the roots will aid some
joints and muscles.

Parsley roots boiled down and made into a
tea, when given to kidney or bladder
sufferers has for centuries relieved the
problem.

Coriander pesto has extra flavour with the
addition of pulverised root to the leaves.
Let's not forget tumeric and ginger root.

Pat Powell

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"The handle on your recliner does
not qualify as an exercise machine."

Riverina Chutney

1kg Granny Smith apples	1tsp whole cloves
1/2 kg pears	1/2tsp ground black pepper
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg	1tbsp salt
250g sultanas	1tsp ground ginger
1kg sugar	2tsp minced garlic
1/4tsp cayenne pepper	1ltr white vinegar
1kg tomatoes	

Peel apples and pears, core and cut into small pieces.
Skin tomatoes by dropping into boiling water for
20seconds, remove, cool and skin.

Combine the chopped tomatoes, apples and pears,
then the remaining ingredients in a preserving pan.

Allow to simmer for approximately 2hrs or until thick.

Bottle while hot and seal when cold. Store in a cool
place, dry place. **Contributed by Emily Jeffery**

Nudity

I was driving with my three young children
one warm summer evening when a woman
in the convertible ahead of us stood up and
waved. She was stark naked!

As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my
5-year-old shout from the back seat,
'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

Reader's Digest

Hints and Tips (to save you money)

When taking eggs from the fridge, cover them with cold water to prevent them from cracking as you bring them to the boil. Plunging cold eggs into boiling water is a sure way to crack them.

Test eggs for freshness in a bucket of cold water. If they rise to the top they are unusable: if they tip at one end, use them up pretty quickly but if they lie on their sides they are fresh. Air gets into stale eggs, making them lighter.

When preparing English mustard from powder, remember that it's strong when mixed with water but milk gives it a mild flavour and beer a spicy tang.

1001 Supersavers 1990 (P. Donald)

Lemonade Scones

After spending another lovely day in the sun at our monthly Sip n Snip and much looking forward to our yearly Gardening on the Edge event which brings us all together as a Garden club, I put pen to paper to give you, although some of you might already have these, the best and easiest scone recipes I have made.

1 cup cream
1 cup lemonade
3 cups SR flour
pinch salt.

Method:

Pre heat oven to 200C or 180C fan forced. Lightly flour a tray (always use a cake tray with sides as the scones have nowhere to go but up and they rise really well). Flour board and knead the mixture lightly, which will be fairly soft but only a little flour needs to be as added as you knead. Cut with a scone cutter and place in tray and cook for 15-20mins.

Flo's Pumpkin Scones.

1 tbsp butter
1/2 cup any white sugar
1/4 tsp salt
1 egg
1 cup cold mashed pumpkin
2-2.1/4 cups S.R. flour

Method:

Beat together butter, sugar and salt. Add the egg and mashed pumpkin. Then stir the flour in by hand and lightly knead on a floured board. Cut into scones and cook in hot oven 225C' 15 -20mins.

I hope you have success with these,

Happy cooking and of course gardening.
Marnie Trass

General Rules for Showing Flowers

Container of Flowers-unless otherwise specified must contain a minimum of 3 stems of different flowers to be counted at the top of the container.

Vase of Flowers-the height must be greater than the width and must contain 3-6 stems of different flowers unless otherwise specified. Vase to face the judges.

Fruit-edible fruit grown to be eaten. No nuts as they are not classed as edible fruit.

Vegetables-for the purpose of eating, Rhubarb and tomatoes are classed as vegetables.

All vases or bottles to be clean, plain and filled with water. Make sure your flowers are in water.

Marie Hegerty

Editor's Note;

A special thanks to those who gave of their time to contribute to this Winter's edition of Snippets; Kath Marshall, Bette Weston, Kevin Radbourne, Marnie Trass, Pat Powell, Emily Jeffery, Marie Hegerty and Brian Robertson.

I would love to hear from you if you would like to contribute an article of interest for MGC members.

The Club's Objectives are:

- To further knowledge and enjoyment of horticulture.
- To raise awareness in the club and community of local environment and to encourage planting of local indigenous species.
- To enjoy social interaction between members of this and similar clubs.

All contributions to: Margaret Owens
email: margaret.owens@bigpond.com

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