

# SNIPPETS

From here and there



## Winter 2019

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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.



### GARDENING ON THE EDGE 2019

#### RECIPE for Gardening on The Edge

Beautiful Gardens

Wonderful Volunteers

Fantastic Stalls & Stall Holders in the Gardens & at the Maleny Showgrounds

Excellent Plants, Produce, Tools, Food and much more.



Mix all the above ingredients together and it made for a very successful weekend.

Overcast weather on Saturday may have kept a few visitors away, but magic weather on Sunday was the icing on the cake. We discovered that many friends and family who had visited on Saturday shared their photos via Facebook with others, thus encouraging more visitors to come up on Sunday and explore all that Gardening on The Edge had to offer.

We have had wonderful feedback from the Garden Clubs who visited and from individual people, friends and families, many of whom are return visitors, some having come year after year.

**Special thanks go to all the Garden Owners** and the tireless hours they spent preparing their gardens for the

event. **Special thanks also go to you, the Club Members**, who managed the Plant & Produce Stalls and to those members for the plants and produce you gifted for sale on the Maleny Garden Club Plant & Produce Stalls. Thanks also to the Members who welcomed visitors at the Garden Entrances and to the Members who worked on the Plant & Produce Stalls. The role Parking Attendants play in keeping people happy cannot be under-estimated, thank you. **Special thanks also to all the partners of members who very kindly and ably assisted in many ways.**

**Extra Special Thanks to the GOE Team, Dot, Marnie, Anne, Ian and Dave, who with their combined skills made it a pleasure for me to work with.**

#### THANK YOU ONE & ALL

**Jan Maguire**

**Convenor**

#### Gardening on The Edge 2019

##### Quick Quiz

1. Which German city is famous for it's perfume?
2. Where is the smallest bone in the body?
3. Which is the only mammal that can't jump?
4. Who lived at 221B Baker Str. London?
5. What did the 7 dwarves do for a living?
6. What country gave Florida to the USA in 1891?.

See back page for answers

## Going West with the Garden Club

The day dawned bright and sunny, a promising start to our journey into the Northern Downs. We were ready to follow in the footsteps of the explorers, and peek into Nancy and Malcolm's own farming history as well. Soon we would be Miles away.

Lunch saw us at Jimbour station, the departure point for



Leichhardt's 1844 expedition to Port Essington, nearly 5000 km. to the northwest. A simple timber shack acknowledges that amazing journey. The Jimbour Homestead of today is an imposing 2-storey sandstone house, with noble trees, sweeping gardens, and an avenue of Jacarandas. The blend of garden beauty with local history was established at the outset of our tour, a blending that we would detect all along the way.

Daphne's Chinchilla garden was a great contrast with the homestead's formal layout. It is a potpourri of plants in pots – pots around trees, pots hanging on long steel pipes, pots in wheelbarrows, pots on old motor-mowers. It is pot-luck run wild in a riot of shapes and colours. Sharon's garden entranced us with magnificent roses and flowering trees – large blooms, bold colours. *Condabri* is a working cattle property, where Kylie and Simon have transformed a paddock into a garden. There we discovered its charming shrubs and flowers flourishing in a hot demanding landscape. Two floods destroyed a previous garden, so they moved to higher land and began again. *Meadowbank* is another sweeping country garden with a clever design to cater for small and large groups with seating in clusters under shady spots, and pavilions for loads of folk at a wedding. Shade is their gift to the visitor. My favourite was Val and Brian's place. Over a space of 15 years, this elderly couple have transformed a dry paddock on the edge of town into a place where discovery is rewarded. It had paths through groves of trees, and a bridge over a creek with its resident croc. There were sculptured boys climbing a fence. And the sheepdog facing off 3 corrugated iron

sheep. Val said, "You've got to have some humour in a garden".

Many of the gardens incorporated old farm objects into their design, as art, or for practical use, or just for humour. Thus the gardens stay linked to the past. Here are some examples:



Letter Box      Carriage Wheel      Bicycle Weather Station      Tyre  
Rim pots      Mower seedlings Box      Corrugated Iron sheep

Can a town garden match the variety of the large gardens? We found that some do. Alison and Ken managed to put trees, small plants, and a lawn into a town garden, where old weathered sliprails cordon off small areas to give them a special feel. The *Biblical Garden* in Bell deserves a special comment. Most garden designs are easy to appreciate. This garden is designed around the trees and flowers found in the Bible; and it includes them all, it is a wonder. It shows us that a garden can not only express beauty and evoke deep feeling. It can also be a source for enquiry and contemplation. This garden speaks to you when you enter its domain.

Our time in the Miles Historical Village took us into the past, through its displays of transport, farm machines, and the work tools of the time. We visited its bank, its school, its hospital. We dined in the café. The village is large enough to contain all the elements of past settlement. Its stories of endurance renewed our respect for the resilience of farmers then and now.

The towns we visited are not museums; far from it. They are vibrant, with new visitor centres and civic centres. The new botanical gardens in Chinchilla show energy and imagination. The old council depot has become a great rolling parkland. And the garden humour is preserved with a watermelon waterfall. Every few minutes, a huge watermelon bucket fills and tips its contents in a great cascade.



Working with nature is a continual work in progress. Nature's reward - in a fat steer, in a sunlit field of sorghum, in the scent of a rose, or in a cascade of colour from a bougainvillea – unites us in wonder. **Us** is an important factor; touring in a group enables us to share our joy; it doubles or trebles our personal appreciation. We travel together; we dine together; we poke around the gardens together. We meet the garden owners, and we share their dreams.

So here are the survivors. No bones left bleaching in a field. But plenty to mulch over. *John Cotterell*

**For You to Know.**

\*Jane Austin started writing *Emma* at the beginning of 1814 and finished it about 14 months later when she was 39 yrs old. It was her fourth and longest published novel, and the last to be released before her death --*Persuasion* and *Northhanger Abbey* were published posthumously. She earned less than £40 from the book in her lifetime, although it earned more afterwards.

Austin referred to *Emma* as a heroine 'whom no one but myself will much like' and indeed, she is usually considered rich, spoilt, meddlesome and self-unaware. Although her matchmaking attempts for others go horribly wrong, she finally ends up marrying someone almost old enough to be her father who has known her since babyhood – anything but a typical romance.

\*General Allenby's successes in the Middle East campaigns of World War 1 became well known. He is the main character in the film *Lawrence of Arabia*, which starred Peter O'Toole as Lawrence and Jack Hawkins as Allenby. Hawkins was not producer Sam Spiegel's first choice to play Allenby – he originally he originally wanted Cary Grant or Laurence Olivier in the role.

\*In general Italians don't drink cappuccino after 11am because they believe that drinking milk after a meal interferes with one's ability to digest food properly. To them, milk is actually a meal, so drinking a cappuccino in the morning is having a complete breakfast, whether or not it is accompanied by a small pastry.

\*Mocha has two meanings in the coffee world. First, it is the name of a type of Arabica coffee, native to Ethiopia but grown around the Yemini port, which has a smooth taste. The mocha drink, while it may be made from mocha coffee beans contains both coffee and cocoa. The beverage is usually sweet; the cocoa content can be from powder, syrup, dark, milk or white chocolate.

\*About 90% of all bird species are monogamous, which is defined as one male mating with one female and forming a bond. This bond can last for one nesting, a whole breeding season, several consecutive seasons or even for life. Although recent research is shedding new light on the topic, it is thought that the pair bond is important for successfully raising chicks to maturity as many male birds play an active or primary role in nurturing their young.



**Who Said That?**

- . A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man. *Lana Turner.*
- . A day without sunshine is like, you know, night. *Steve Martin*
- . We are all here on earth to help others; what on earth the others are here for, I don't know. *W. H. Auden*

. Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close knit family in another city. *George Burns*

. I was eating in a Chinese restaurant downtown. There was a dish called Mother and Child Reunion (chicken and eggs). And I said, I got to use that one.

*Paul Simon.*

. Before you judge a man, walk a mile in his shoes. After that who cares? He's a mile away and you've got his shoes.

*Billy Connolly.*

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**Lost Words from our Childhood:**

Mergatroyd! Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not recognize the word Mergatroyd? Heavens to Mergatroyd!

The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy; and he looked at her quizzically and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old. But not that old!

Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you read this and chuckle. About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, You sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China! Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" Or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!" We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw, The milkman did it. Hey! Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Wake up and smell the roses.

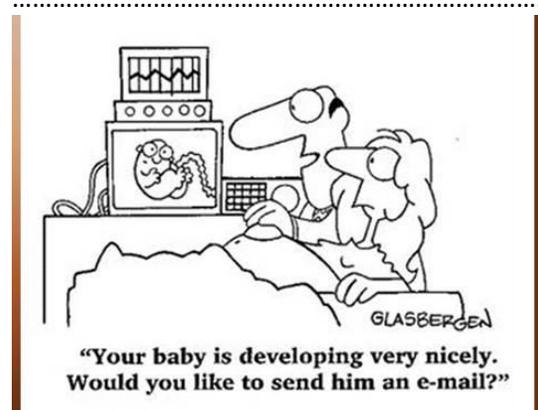
It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff! (Carter's Little Liver Pills are gone too!)

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeable times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more,

except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging.

WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE FABULOUS 40'S & 50'S ... NO ONE WILL EVER HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY AGAIN ... WE WERE GIVEN ONE OF OUR MOST PRECIOUS GIFTS: LIVING IN THE PEACEFUL AND COMFORTABLE TIMES, CREATED FOR US BY THE "GREATEST GENERATION!"

Anon



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**Answers to Quick Quiz.**

1. Cologne.
2. Ear.
3. Elephant.
4. Sherlock Holmes.
5. Mining.
6. Spain.

**Editor's note**

*Well here is another edition of Snippets and we are back into Winter again.*

*Thank you very much to Jan McGuire and John Cotterell whose contributions were gratefully received.*

*However, this newsletter would not exist if I didn't receive articles from you members so if I approach any of you for an article of your travels or other experiences it's because I know the rest of us like to read about them. Even one of your favourite recipes are appreciated.*

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**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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