

TOPIC: "UNUSUAL PLANTS".

GUEST SPEAKER : RUSSELL YOUNG

MALENY GARDEN CLUB MEETING : 28 JANUARY, 2020 AT THE OLD WITTA SCHOOL

COTTAGEY; TROPICAL –

- *Weigela florida* native of eastern Asia – deciduous shrub flowering in mid-spring, genus named after German scientist Christian Eherfried Weigel
- *Euphorbia cotinifolia* (firebush) – small tree, quick grower, easy to propagate, prune hard. Use with silver, white and grey plants for effect. If pruned regularly it will keep flushing and stay bushy and tend not to drop leaves in winter
- Guava red/black (Malaysian) fast grower, beautiful burgundy/black foliage, fruit is red colour on outside and pink flush on inside. Grow by cutting or seed
- *Lagerstroemia* (Mystic Magenta Black Diamond Crepe Myrtle) stunning near black foliage crowned with masses of vivid magenta/pink blooms. Minimal pruning so as not to cause suckering
- *Loropetalum* has rich plum coloured leaves and bright pink fringe-like blooms, slow growing shrub, good for small gardens. Prune well as you can't kill it
- *Tabernaemontana* Sweet Love has delicate looking little white flowers with no fragrance. Likes a full sun hot spot. Prune hard, grow by cuttings
- *Tabernaemontana* Little Emerald 1m x 1m has dark emerald foliage covered with perfumed pure white flowers, bushy and compact, good for a small hedge or domed specimen
- Variegated *Abelia* 1.2m x 1.2m has coppery-pink new growth and fragrant flowers
- *Nandina Domestica* (Obsession) upright, dense growth habit, bright red new growth in spring, autumn and summer. Will bounce back if Granny falls on it
- *Mussaenda* 2m x 2m needs warm/hot spot. Prune hard in winter
- Giant *Caladium* has very large green and mottled cream leaves – pretty rare
- *Cardwell Lily* has beautiful, rippled, round heart-shaped leaves, white flowers like small agapanthus
- *Blood Lily* from South Africa has big bulb, prefers part shade
- *Stingray Lily* 2m fantastic plant, very large leaves with soft spike at end, grows in clump, very rare
- *Colocasia Black Magic* (elephants ears) clumping, very attractive, loves moisture, good in pond
- Variegated *Spider Lily* upright strappy leaf, lightly scented white flower, attractive border plant
- Clumping *Chlorophytum* (spider grass) divide like mondo grass for bordering
- *Heliconia Angustifolia* (Red Christmas) dwarf clumper. Use slow release fertiliser
- *Xanthosoma Lime Zinger* 2m high, fast growing in sun with plenty of water, draws eye to lemon/lime coloured elephant ear leaves in the garden
- *Dryopteris Wattsii* fern – tough Australian native, good in hanging basket
- *Rothea microphylla* 'Musical Note Plant' 1m x 1m flowering summer/autumn with white and red stamens which look like musical notes – used to be called clerodendrum
- *Amaranthus Fluffy Duck* prefers shade, responds to pruning, easy to grow from cuttings
- Evergreen *Frangipani* – hammerhead shaped leaves, non fragrant white flowers, full sun hotspot
- Australian native *Jasmine* – soft twiner, full sun, evergreen, fragrant
- Dwarf *Boronia* - Shady Lady Confetti Bush - under storey, part shade
- Weeping *Leptospermum brachyandrum* grows 3-4m high and wide
- *Cats Whiskers* – Australian native flowering 6-9 months of the year
- Dwarf native *Umbrella* – flowers like agapanthus, prefers shade, good in pot
- *Radermachera Summerscent* underrated plant, grows easily, very fragrant, 3-4m high

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