

# SNIPPETS

From here and there



## Spring 2022

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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.

### President's Report.

Spring is upon us when our gardens come to life with abundant colour and our efforts are rewarded.

The Spring Fair is just days away and I trust you are busy making jams, pickles, shortbread, cakes and other goodies for the MGC Produce Stall.

Our Potting Sessions earlier in the year inspired many and the MGC Plant Stall will be brimming with a variety of plants.

A big THANK YOU to the Events Team for their dedication in bringing the Spring Fair to reality.

Celebrating 70 years of "Friendship through Gardening" is a magnificent achievement and we look forward to sharing that achievement with like-minded gardening friends at the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations on Tuesday 25 October 2022.

Enjoy every day, be it in your garden or sharing it with family and friends.

Happy Gardening

Jan.

#### Quick Quiz

1. Which currency is used in Spain.
2. Who sang "Oops...I did it again"?
3. Which one of Shakespeare plays takes place in Verona, Italy?
4. Who wrote Charlie and the Chocolate Factory?

Answers on back page.

### Maleny Garden Club Day Trip

(Esk Garden & Lifestyle Fair plus 2 private gardens)

A great day was had on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> June, with 31 enthusiastic Maleny Garden Club members visiting three

wonderful destinations. It was an early 7:30 am start with the sunniest of days.

After a very scenic drive, the first stop was the Esk Garden & Lifestyle Fair where three hours were easily spent, visiting the large array of stalls including plants of all types, gardening supplies, home and garden décor items, food and refreshments. There were guest speakers, performances, children's entertainment and workshops. The weekly markets were also running adjacent to the fair, with some club members visiting there also. Lunch was enjoyed while visiting Esk.

The next destination was a 5-acre private home and garden, "Windemere", located in Summerholm, a rural locality in the Lockyer Valley. During the drive there we noted evidence of the recent flood damage to the region.

Windemere is an extensive rambling, country garden - 90% grown from seed, cuttings and divisions shared by family and friends. It has had to withstand extremes of temperature and periods of drought and more recently floods. There are water features, ponds - one large with a jetty, statues and sculptures, gazebos, many garden rooms and an outbuilding containing interesting knick-knacks and memories....

The garden is a home for barn owls and other birds, possums, bandicoots, echidnas, and insects. It is also a place of refuge, medicine and where the owners' hearts feel at home. The garden was greatly enjoyed by all garden club members.

The final destination of the day was a memorable visit to "Wivenhoe Station", originally a 43 000-acre property, before it was sub-divided for closer settlement in the 1800s, then resumed in the 1970s for the construction of Wivenhoe Dam. It is now a 1500-acre cattle property, with a one-and-a-half-acre architect-

designed house and garden. The owners native and exotic garden can be viewed from every room with surrounding water views. It sits up high with no neighbours and absolute serenity. The garden beds, pool and northern wall mirror the inlets and curves around the shoreline of Lake Wivenhoe.

Afternoon tea was enjoyed, courtesy of several garden club members, while admiring the gardens and soaking in the peaceful water vistas.

The scenic drive continued until a tired but very happy group returned to Maleny around 6 pm.

Thanks to Diana Begbie for organizing this wonderful day. Thanks also to club members who provided afternoon tea; and to others who helped make the day one to remember. *(Apologies to the person who kindly sent me this article as I have misplaced your name)*.....



**"Your birthday's next week. D'you want a surprise party?"**

### Being Dizzy Doesn't Always Pay

A plane was on its way to Toronto, when a blonde in economy class got up and moved to the first class section and sat down. The flight attendant watched her do this and asked to see her ticket. She then told the blonde that she paid for economy class and that she would have to go back. The blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Toronto and I'm staying right here."

The flight attendant then went into the cockpit and told the pilot and the co-pilot that there was a blonde bimbo sitting in first class that belongs in economy and refuses to move back to her seat.

The co-pilot went back to the blonde and tried to explain that because she only paid for economy she would have to leave and return to her seat.

The blonde replied, "I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Toronto and I'm staying right here."

The co-pilot suggested to the pilot that they probably should have the police waiting when they land to arrest this blonde woman who won't listen to reason.

The pilot asked. "You say she is a blonde? I'll handle this! I'm married to a blonde. I speak blonde."

The pilot went back to the blonde and whispered in her ear, who replied, "Oh, I'm sorry." She promptly arose and went back to her seat in economy.

The flight attendant and co-pilot were amazed and asked him what he had said to make her move without any fuss. "I told her, - first class isn't going to Toronto." *Anon*

### Sodium Bicarbonate in the Garden



We all know bicarbonate soda is great for around the house, but did you know it has many uses in the garden, too?

Here are 10 bicarbonate soda tricks for the garden:

#### 1. Control powdery mildew

Mix one tablespoon of bicarbonate soda, one tablespoon of vegetable oil, one tablespoon of liquid dishwashing soap and four litres of water together. Pour mixture into spray bottle and spray on plants weekly. Make sure to check for signs of burning as some plants are sensitive.

#### 2. Stop cabbage worms

If pesky cabbage worms are nibbling your vegetables, use this natural bicarbonate soda mixture to get rid of them once and for all. Mix together equal parts bicarbonate soda and plain flour. Sprinkle over plants.

### 3. Sweeten tomatoes

It is believed that a sprinkle of bicarbonate soda on the soil around tomato plants will sweeten tomatoes. Bicarbonate soda helps lower the acid levels in soil, which makes tomatoes sweeter.

### 4. Test soil PH levels

Before you plant your garden, scoop some soil into a small container and wet it with some water. Sprinkle bicarbonate soda on top of it. If the bicarbonate soda bubbles, the soil is most likely too acidic.

### 5. Kill slugs

If you have slug problem in the garden sprinkle bicarbonate soda directly onto them. This will dry them out.

### 6. Discourage weeds

To prevent weeds from growing in the cracks of pavement or garden stones, pour a generous amount of bicarbonate soda into the cracks. This will kill off small weeds and discourage new weeds from growing. Do this every couple months.

### 7. Remove crabgrass

Crabgrass is one of the worst lawn weeds in the world and should be removed immediately. To kill crabgrass, spray with water and sprinkle bicarbonate soda on it. This will kill crabgrass in a few days. Be careful not to sprinkle bicarbonate soda on any other plants or grass

### 8. Keep flowers fresh

To prolong the life of a fresh bouquet of flowers, fill vase with water and mix in one teaspoon of bicarb soda.

### 9. Treat black spot fungus

Mix four teaspoon of bicarbonate-soda with four litres of water. Spray on infected roses at the first sign of the disease.

### 10. Make a safe organic pesticide

This non-toxic pesticide will kill insects harmful to plants, like aphids, without damaging the environment. Mix one tablespoon of bicarbonate-soda, ½ tablespoon of oil and two litres of water. Spray on plants every few day until problem insects disappear.

[stuff.co.nz/life-style/home-property](http://stuff.co.nz/life-style/home-property)

*I found the above article on sodium bicarbonate on the web. I know that one has to be careful with the information one prints off, so if you have differing information re the use of sodium-bicarbonate in the garden, use with discretion.*

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Dust if You Must.

(contributed by Jill Rowland)

Dust if you must, but wouldn't be better  
To paint a picture or write a letter  
Bake a cake or plant a seed,  
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time,  
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,  
Music to hear and books to read,  
Friends to cherish and life to lead,

Dust if you must, but the world out there,  
With sun in your eyes and wind in your hair,  
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain,  
This day will not come round again

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,  
Old age will come and is not kind.  
And when you go - and go you must,  
You, yourself will make more dust.

Rose Milligan

### Recipe

A Be-Ro cookbook was given to me many years ago by my husband's great aunt and some of the recipes I still use. I would like to include one of the book's recipes that is a favourite of ours. I

use ordinary self raising flour for this recipe.  
See how you go!

### Be-Ro Walnut Bread.

1lb (375g) S R flour	1 tsp salt
2oz(60g) butter	1oz(30g) sugar
4oz(125) shelled walnuts	1oz(30g) chopped peel
3oz (90g) raisins	1 egg
10 fl oz(300mls) milk	

Mix the sifted flour and salt in a basin and rub in the butter. Chop the walnuts and raisins and mix in with the sugar and flour.

Beat the egg with the milk thoroughly with the dry ingredients, making a soft dough. Place in a well greased round 7"x 3" deep (18 x 8cm) cake tin and smooth over the top with a knife.

Bake in a moderately hot oven at 375°-400° (190°C) for an hour. Remove from oven and cool before cutting into slices. Nice served with butter for an afternoon snack with a cup of tea.

Enjoy!

Margaret Owens

Answers to quick quiz.

1. The Euro.
2. Britney Spears.
3. Romeo and Julie.
4. Roald Dahl.



### Mixed Berry Clafoutis

(This classic French dessert will wow your dinner guests with a minimum of cooking preparation).

1 egg	¼ cup plain flour
¼ cup milk	1 ½ tbsp caster sugar
1 tsp melted butter	1 tsp vanilla
1 cup melted or fresh mixed berries	½ tsp icing sugar, to serve

Preheat oven to 180°C. Lightly oil a 20cm diameter shallow baking dish.

Whisk egg and flour in a bowl until combined. Whisk in milk, caster sugar, butter and vanilla extract. Pour into a dish.

Top with berries. Bake 30min or until mixture is puffed and golden. Add more fresh berries and dust with icing sugar to serve.

(about the garden issue 102 2022)

### *Editor's Note;*

*Apologies for my error in the Winter's edition of Snippets. The correct answer is Beaufort scale and not Richter scale as was supplied.*

. What measurement scale is used to determine wind speed?

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Beaufort Scale | <input type="radio"/> Richter Scale. |
| <input type="radio"/> Synoptic Scale | <input type="radio"/> Gusting Scale  |

*My thanks go to those who contributed to this edition of Snippets. They are: Jan Maguire, Jill Rowland and the person who wrote the article on the day trip to Esk and the Lifestyle Fair. I am always pleased to receive any suitable articles for our journal, so if you feel so inclined to write a travel article, past or recent or one on gardening. I would be happy to include it here.*

Margaret.

**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.

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**Disclaimer** Articles contributed to this newsletter are published as a service to members and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the club.