

# Maleny Garden Club Inc.



## SNIPPETS

Summer 2003

President	Hon. Secretary	Hon. Treasurer	Editors
Peter Golledge 5499 9116	Gillian MacLeod 5499 9590	Ivy Cox 5494 2500	Rosemary Simmons 5435 2035 Sandra Slack 5435 2357

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.

### From the New President

I look forward to serving the Maleny Garden Club Inc as its President. The Management Committee has had its first meeting and various functions have been allocated to its members. We are looking forward to a number of challenges including finalizing the program of topics and garden visits for 2003, the Autumn Fair and examining the various insurance options for the Club. Best wishes are extended to members and families for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Peter Golledge*

### Report of 2001/2002 by Past President

The Maleny Garden Club Inc has 115 financial members and is in a sound financial position where income and disbursements, including community donations are balanced.

Many interesting meetings were held during the year and the committee is grateful to those club members who opened their gardens for these events.

Three enjoyable and educational coach trips were organized during the year and were well supported by club members.

Once again the Autumn Fair was the main fund raiser contributing to the \$3910.00 distributed to community organizations, however I emphasized that social and artistic enjoyment should be the main reason for organizing such events, not fund raising.

### HANDY HINTS



To make "flower food" for cut flowers, mix a few drops of bleach, 1 teaspoon of sugar, 1

teaspoon of white vinegar into a vase of water. It keeps flower water fresh longer.

### Just A Reminder.....

Now is the time to pot up plants for the **Autumn Fair**. Plants need not be large, but they must be well grown, in good condition and labeled with name, description and growing conditions.

### FAIR SUCCESS !!!

A big **Thank You** to the Springtime in Maleny Committee and the many helpers who were involved with the setting up, running and dismantling of the Spring Fair which raised around \$3000.00. It was voted a resounding success.

Interesting paintings were displayed with their beauty enhanced by floral art relevant to the theme of the painting.

Competition tables radiated from a hexagonal centerpiece, which allowed easy access by the public to the displays.

### Trophies Presented:-

Champion Cut Flower - won by Joan Price, presented by Mal Price.

Skerman Trophy (for members only) - won by Jo Fraser, presented by Rodney Skerman.

The Range Country Prize - won by Nancy Schafer, presented by Gail Turner.

Well done, everyone! We look forward to the next success.

*Norma McLeod*

### Point to Ponder

One year's seeding is seven years weeding.



## Thought

Someone once said,  
'What goes around comes around,  
Work like you don't need the money,  
Love like you've never been hurt,  
Dance like nobody's watching,  
Sing like nobody's listening,  
Live like it's heaven on earth.'

## **Snippet**

*Seen on a tee shirt...*

I dug,  
I levelled,  
I weeded,  
I seeded,  
I planted,  
I waited,  
I pleaded,  
I mulched,  
I gulched,  
I watered,  
I waited,  
I fumbled,  
I grumbled,  
I poked,  
I hoped,  
So GROW.....DAMMIT!

## **Recipe**

### Basil Pesto

*Use your excess basil before it goes to seed.*

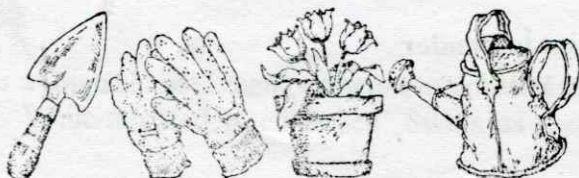
In a food processor combine 2 cups lightly packed fresh basil leaves,  
¼ cup lightly toasted pine nuts,  
2 coarsely chopped large cloves of garlic and a pinch of salt. Process till finely minced. With the motor running, slowly pour in 1/3 cup of extra virgin olive oil.

Add ½ cup of freshly grated parmesan cheese, ground black pepper and process until just combined.

Transfer to a sterilized jar and cover surface with a thin layer of oil.

Seal and refrigerate for up to 7 days.

Serve as a pasta sauce, with chicken & shellfish, as a dressing for vegetables or as a dip. Makes 1 cup.



## Summer Reading



***The Complete Backyard*** Book (Better Homes & Gardens Publication) is a favourite of mine. It helps to get the imagination motivated and the ideas start to form.

It is a practical guide to organizing and creating an attractive garden, starting with planning the layout, which is so important.

It shows how garden structures like paths, steps, fences and gates, pergolas shade houses and arbours can enhance your garden, and how special features such as pools, ponds, barbecue areas, courtyards and decks can be placed.

The book finishes with a section on gardens for special purposes.

The reference section at the back includes a garden resource guide listing various plants and a building resource for the handyman.

So, be inspired and see what you can create.

*Joyce Butterfield*

## **Future Events**

Nil in December

**23-26 Jan.** – Ginger Flower Festival, Buderim  
Ginger, Yandina

**28 Jan.** – Maleny Garden Club meeting,  
Community Centre, Maple St, Maleny.

**7-9 Feb.** – Aspley Orchid Society \*

**15-16 Feb.** – Qld. Begonia Society \*

**22-23 Feb.** – Palm & Cycad Society of Aust. \*

**25 Feb.** – Maleny Garden Club meeting,  
Community Centre, Maple St, Maleny.

\* Venue – Mt Coot-tha Auditorium

## **Useful Hint**



Recycle plastic cake and strawberry containers to make good covers for seed raising.

## **Garden Tips**



*Colin Campbell*

- Do not put leaves affected with black spot into the compost heap. Pick any diseased



leaves off the rose bush and ground, place in a plastic bag, tie the top tightly, leave in the sun to "cook" and then place in the rubbish bin.

- Ferment papaw seeds in water for a week or so before planting to achieve faster germination.
- Tip prune poinsettias.
- If applying fertilizer to the lawn, ensure that the grass is hosed both before and after application.
- Fertilize roses with an organic based rose fertilizer and keep dead heading to extend the flowering season.
- Regular watering of fruit trees is vital to avoid fruit drop and fruit splitting.
- Leafy vegetables will benefit from a fortnightly application of Nitrosol.
- In February start preparing the site for sweet peas even though they shouldn't be planted out for several weeks. Give the soil an application of dolomite. Also erect a suitable trellis or fence as a support.
- If indoor plants have aphids, wipe off with a cotton bud dipped in soapy water.
- Seeds for winter vegetables, i.e. cabbage, cauliflower, onions, sweet corn etc., can be planted out in February.



### Lunch & Tea Roster

**Those on roster for tea duties should purchase milk and keep the docket for reimbursement.**

Pick up necessary teapots, etc from previous month's meeting and take home in readiness for your turn.

If unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange to have someone replace you.

*Our helpers are:*

January – Margaret Golledge (5499 9116)

Molly Cock (5494 3547)

at the Community Hall

February – Joyce Butterfield (5494 3158)

Barbara Dean (5494 239)

at Community Hall.

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Hint – Tea leaves and tea bags are good for roses.

**Social Snippets** – Birthdays, Travel, New Members etc

### Travelogue

I have recently returned from a month in China and enjoyed the visit enormously. I didn't see any private gardens as most people live in high-density housing or on farms. However, I found the public gardens beautiful, although you are not allowed to walk on the grass. I suppose 1.4 billion pairs of feet would create some wear and tear.

The street plantings in Beijing were especially beautiful, making good use of hedging and mass plantings of colour.

One plant that was most noticeable, because of its scent, was the Osmanthus. Its sweet perfume pervaded the air and was much commented on, as the flowers are not at all obvious. It was planted throughout the Summer Palace and in the city of Guilin, where I stayed at the Osmanthus Hotel. I even drank delicious Osmanthus tea, which has a delicate perfume and flavour.

It is evident that many of the plants with which we are so familiar, come from China, as there were few plants that I did not recognize.

The Lotus is grown in ponds everywhere and the leaves, seeds and roots are eaten. The roots are steamed or fried and are delicious.

Bonsai is very 'big' in China and I visited many markets that sold a bewildering array of pots, plants and ornaments.

I would LOVE to do a garden tour of China next time.

*Rosemary Simmons.*

### Travel News

Colin and Bev Campbell are hosting two trips next year. One is to N.S.W. and Victoria at the end of February/ March (taking in the Ballarat Begonia Festival). The other is to Canada and Nova Scotia in June.

Contact Buderim Travelworld 54454022 for more information.

### REMINDER!!

Just a gentle reminder that 2003 ten dollar (\$10) membership money is overdue.



## New Members

A big welcome to all of our new members. We look forward to your participation in the club's activities.

Marjorie Robertson

Peter Owens

Philip & Susan Myring

Beverley Brown

Patricia Roberts

Anja Pendragon



## Seasonal Tasks – Pat Powell

### December

- Prune spring flowering shrubs also once flowering roses.
- Trim lavender and take cuttings.
- Provide shade for new plantings and water twice a day.
- Take Daphne cuttings around Christmas Day
- If holidaying, take a valued pot plant to be cared for by a gardening friend.

### January

- Lightly prune roses after each flowering.
- Feed roses with extra potash.
- Remove lanky growth from azaleas.
- Take camellia and azalea cuttings.
- Dig or clean drains to prevent excess water eroding your garden.
- Place tulip bulbs in crisper.

### February

- Plant a few cabbage, cauliflower and pak choi.
- Grow a few coloured stalked silver beet.
- Continuing fertilizing lawns.
- Feed hibiscus.
- Deadhead agapanthus.
- Prepare soil for potato crop to be sown in March.

## Birds



It is a joy to behold the spectacular aerobatics of the 'White-throated Needletailed' Swifts as they

surf the air currents around Maleny.

These birds travel vast distances from south and eastern Asia down the whole of our eastern coast. They feed on the wing and sleep overnight in the air in continuous, probably circular, slow gliding (loafing) flight at considerable altitude. They very rarely land on the ground.

It is uncertain if these birds mate for life but by the end of summer most will have paired.

Most of the Swifts will have left Australia by late March to mid April, so this leaves us with the opportunity to observe these wonderful birds in their acrobatic flight.

Wishing all Garden Club members the best for the coming festive season and good gardening conditions for 2003. Thank you for the way in which you have accepted our small contribution to the happy and successful running of our garden club.

Cilla & Keith

## Quizz

### Christmas Cake

(Answers to the following are all ingredients used to make a Christmas cake. Spelling may differ)

1. They bloom in spring
2. Arabian rulers' wives
3. A ring of bells
4. Helps the medicine go down.
5. They flow along electric wires.
6. Certain shaped eyes.
7. Don't put all of these in one basket.
8. A man who does wrong.
9. My little tree would only bear a silver one of these.
10. This always 'makes it better'.



*The producers of Snippets would like to take this opportunity to thank contributors and readers for their support in making the newsletter's first year a success. A very Happy Christmas and New Year to all.*

All contributions to: Kate Nothling P.O. Box 1050 Maleny 4552

### 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.