



# SNIPPETS

Winter 2005

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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.

## *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

## From the President

Our Club will embark on a new venture on 11 and 12 June when Gardening on the Edge will take place. A sub committee has worked hard to organize this event which features 8 open gardens along the Blackall Range. Tickets costing \$6.00 for all the garden visits can be purchased at the Maleny High School Activity Centre from 9am to 4pm each day. We have managed to attract specialist growers who will be selling camellias, orchids, bromeliads, native plants and herbs.

Garden products will be on sale.

Colin Campbell will be giving a garden talk on Sunday and other experts will be talking about orchids, camellias and native plants over the two days.

*The Club will run a camellia competition which all are urged to enter.*

We will have our plant stall, gourmet food stall and will be selling teas and lunches.

We hope to see many garden friends and other garden enthusiasts from a broad area of south east Queensland.

I hope that most of our membership will rally to the cause and help at either High School Hall or at one of the open gardens. If you are unable to help, you are always welcome as a visitor.

Although the Annual General Meeting is still some months away, I remind members that the Club is looking for members who will assist in its running by serving on the Management Committee, in one capacity or another.

We need also to think of topics for inclusion in the 2006 programme, for suitable speakers and for members to offer gardens for the monthly meetings – apart from January and February. We have had some enjoyable and memorable meetings at members' gardens over the years. As long as the number attending the monthly meetings does not increase too much, we should still be able to meet at members' gardens.

## HANDY HINTS



To lessen transplant shock in seedlings, soak the seedlings in a solution of Charlie Carp for ½ an hour before planting and then water in well with a solution of Charlie Carp and Seasol.

## ..... RECIPE

### Jodie's Health Cake

1 cup SR flour (rye flour is nice)

1 cup dessicated coconut

1 cup mixed fruit

¼ - ½ cup raw sugar

1 cup milk

1 mashed banana (optional)

Pre heat oven to 180 C.

Combine all ingredients and mix till moist. You may need a little milk.

Place in a buttered bar tin. Cook for 40 mins.

Check with a skewer till it comes out clean.



## Tina's Olive Tapenade

350-400 gms Kalamata olives – stoned  
2 cloves garlic - chopped  
2 anchovy fillets – drained of oil  
2 tabs capers – rinsed of salt  
sprigs of fresh thyme – chopped and leave some for garnish  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil

Blend all ingredients except the the oil till smooth and spoon into a bowl.

Add oil to cover then stir

Add salt and pepper to taste and garnish with thyme.

## THOUGHT

What lies at the heart of gardening?

It is the planting of a tree by an old man or woman when they know that they will never see it grow to maturity.

## PERFORMANCE PLANTS

by Andrew Lawson



(This book is in the club's library)

The main topic of discussion in this book is planting for performance ie getting the most out of trees, shrubs and flowers by their and placement in the garden. We are told how they can be placed to perform together or to compliment each other.

Masking one plant's weakness by putting beside it another with corresponding strengths is how this done. Hostas, for example, are beautiful foliage plants but the flower spikes appear after the leaves have begun to look tired. By interplanting clumps of spring flowering bulbs, the illusion is created that they come from the fresh green leaves of the hostas. Foxgloves interplanted with either hostas or ferns give a similar effect later in the season. Thus we can have a progression-bulbs first, then foxgloves, then hostas – all appearing to emerge from the same clump of foliage over an extended season.

Trees have been selected for features they offer in addition to their spring and summer foliage. Some have blossoms, others richly

tinted leaves or colourful fruits and berries in Autumn.

In winter the bare outline of deciduous trees and maybe even the brilliantly coloured bark never fails to impress.

Also covered in this book:-

1. Plants that spread and seed themselves.
2. Underplanting and ground covers.
3. Essential perennials, biennials and annuals.
4. Double value shrubs and climbers.

Although the book deals predominately with cooler climate plants, the ideas can be used, with modification, in our warm climate gardens. There are 250 plants described and accompanied by beautifully illustrated photographs.

## Future Events

11 & 12 June Combined Cactus & Succulent Society & Bromeliad Society of Q'ld Show \*

11 & 12 "Gardening on the Edge" Maleny High School Hall and private gardens.

24- 26 June Art in bark Assoc. of Australia Show \*

28 June Maleny Garden Club Meeting , Masonic Hall, "Growing Cold Climate Plants" 1 -3 July North Morton Orchid Council Show.\*

9 & 10 July Q'ld Camellia Society Show \*

23 & 24 July John Oxley District Orchid Society Show \*

26 July Maleny Garden Club Meeting , Golledge Garden, 101 Treehaven Way, "Worm Farming" and "Composting".

28 July Maleny Garden Club Bus Trip -Brisbane Port Authority.

Those marked \* are at the Mt. Coot-tha auditorium.

## Garden Tips



Colin Campbell

- When storing seeds, make sure they are kept in a cool, dry place and mark the packets with the name of the plant and the



year collected. Old 35mm film containers are ideal for this purpose..

- If you have a high set house and you want to grow papaw trees, plant them close to a balcony so the fruit is more easily harvested.

I've been told that by planting only the black seed of papaws (discarding the lighter coloured seed ) you will get female plants. I guess it's worth a try.

- To stop tomato wilt, make a staple out of copper wire, 15mm long- bend and push it through the stem..
- If aphids, scale or caterpillars are present, mix a couple of tablespoons of soap flakes into one litre of warm water, shake to mix well. Once soap has dissolved completely, allow to cool and spray affected plants. This will kill only the insects on the plant at the time.
- Should nematodes or cut worms be a problem, dissolve 3 tabs of molasses in 4 litres of water and apply to an area of 3 square metres.
- Some organic gardeners make a solution of 1 tablespoon of molasses to 1 litre of water, then add a few drops of liquid soap. This mixture is supposed to be unattractive to grasshoppers and chewing insects.

## REMINDER!!

Please fill in and return your membership renewal form found in this current issue. Remember that this needs to be done by the August meeting- at the latest - so that you can vote in the September AGM and, equally important, you are covered by insurance.

Please note that there has been an increase in fees this year. Membership is now \$15 for a single and \$25 for a couple. For those people joining before January in any given year, a full year's membership is required but for people joining from February to June only \$7.50 or \$12.50 will be required. This

**reduced fee applies ONLY to new members.**

## Garden Advice

### JUNE

- With Bindi appearing in the lawn (grass) and garden particularly under open trees or power lines, systematic manual removal or spraying with Bindi and Clover Killer is recommended.
- All spring flowering annuals should be planted now. Have a few in pots for blank spaces.
- Water early in the morning rather than later in the day.
- Prior to the usual dry season, check irrigation systems, sprinklers and hoses.
- Check that your 'resting' indoor plants are away from frost areas.
- Plan a block statement in your garden but only one theme in view at a time as bold can become 'ho hum'.

### JULY

- Some think that fertilizing in winter is a waste, **NOT SO**, but those with a high nitrogen content are only suitable for leafy green growth such as in cabbage and spinach.
- Fertilizing with liquid sea weed plus fish emulsion will build resistance to disease and prepare plants for healthy growth in spring.
- Salads with a difference - use coloured lettuce, rocket or baby true spinach.
- Plant a green crop in fallow veggie gardens. Legume seed is ideal then the plant can be dug in before it seeds.
- Feed your geraniums with super phosphate then, in early spring, use a potassium rich mix.

### AUGUST

- Go into a maintenance mode by sharpening your blades, washing, drying and oiling garden tools. To oil, use a mixture of half linseed oil and kero. Dry in the sun then hang to store.
- Deadhead all flowers as they fade.
- Prepare your food garden for spring and



summer.

- Apply plant food to annuals and veggie crops every two weeks.
- Prune passionfruit vines as they develop fruit on new growth- then apply complete fertilizer.

Apply aluminium sulphate to your blue hydrangeas for a vibrant display.

## Birds



### THE GREY GOSHAWK (Accipiter Noveahollandiae)

To anyone who has chooks, make sure that you have them in a secure enclosure as it is goshawk time again. A bold and persistent hunter, this goshawk flies directly in pursuit of its prey, striking suddenly at speed and taking birds by surprise or in ambush. It usually preys on small birds and mammals up to the size of a rabbit. .

The female is larger than the male and occasionally, when they soar to great heights, they can be readily identified by their white grey tones, broadly rounded wings and long rounded tail.

Grey Goshawks keep to heavy humid forests, occupy rainforests wherever they are found and spread to eucalypt and paperbark woods only if they are dense or form tall galleries along streams –like parts of the Obi Creek.

Permanently mated pairs tend to hold to the same territory year after year. They breed in July to December in the southeast with the female doing most of the incubation while the male does most of the hunting. He takes the food to the female who then feeds it to the chicks.

All in all, these birds are beautiful but lethal hunters who never forget where to get an easy meal.

(Reader's Digest Complete Book of Australian Birds.)

## YATES GARDEN NOTES

*The following are taken from the garden notes sent to the club every month by Yates and can be accessed in the club library.*

Once deciduous trees and shrubs have finished flowering they can be pruned. Don't prune, however, unless it will provide some benefit

either for the plant or for yourself. Most importantly, don't cut back plants that flower in spring. These should always be pruned straight after flowering.

June is a good month for planting. Apply a protective layer of Stressguard all over the plant before moving it as this helps to reduce transpiration (water loss from the leaves) the most common cause of plant loss.

Deciduous trees and shrubs that are transplanted in winter have the best chances of surviving the move.

Make the effort to rake up and collect the last of the autumn leaves as they make fantastic compost and are too good to waste.

## Pest control.

- Treat caterpillars on winter vegies with low toxic Success or Dipel.(bacteria)
- Check for borers in trees. Clear away debris and spray hole with pyrethrum.
- Spray deciduous plants with lime sulphur after their leaves fall. This helps clean up fungal spores and some insect pests.
- Do the same to roses (lime sulphur) immediately after pruning.
- Watch for aphids on new growth in late winter. Control with Confidor.

The Garden Clubs of Australia Convention is to be hosted by the Nambour Club in September, 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>. Gillian has registration forms and you must register by 30<sup>th</sup> June if you are interested in attending.

The July Bus trip is planned for the 28<sup>th</sup> and we need definite numbers by the June meeting because if we don't have at least 30 people it is not financially viable. We plan to visit the Brisbane Port Authority, Redland Bay Research Station and Hawkins Nursery at Chandler. Approx cost \$20.

All contributions to Sandra Slack PO Box 563 MALENY Q 4552  
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## Disclaimer

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