

# SNIDDETS

# WINTER 2006

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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

Greetings Fellow Gardeners, It's hard to believe that it is almost winter and that Gardening on the Edge is upon us. It was such a success last year that I worry we won't be able to repeat it. Still if the weather is good( which we can't control )and all members pull their weight, I don't see why we can't do the same

I hope you have all got your potting done and that cakes and slices are being made. Please remember that we need the help of everyone who is in Maleny over the long weekend. The more members who help the shorter the time of commitment. With the membership at over 130, nobody should have to work for too long. Don't forget to invite your friends along as

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting on 30th May at 164 Mountain View Rd and at Gardening on the Edge on the 10th and 11th June. Cheers. The Pres. Sandy.



MORE OF JODIE'S FAVOURITE ROSES

QUOTE- IF YOU ENJOY THE FRAGRANCE OF A ROSE, YOU MUST ACCEPT THE THORNS WHICH IT BEARS. Isaac Hayes

## Climbers

Banksia rose – Rosa Banksia Normalis-4 other species(1877) Scented, single white with fragrant flowers. Very vigorous-up 30feet(9m) Thornless and evergreen.

Souvenir de Madame Leonie Viennot (1897) Climbing Tea with loose double, rose-pink blooms with yellow base and a strong scent. Continuous. (I had to chop mine down to the base and it regrew beautifully). Susan Irvine (rose expert)says hers reached a height of three metres

in its first year.

Prosperity (1919) Hybrid Musk with clusters of double, pearly white flowers. Continuous. Bloomfield Courage (1925) Rambler. Clusters of single, red flowers, early summer flowerer. Cecile Brunner (1881) Chinensis. A continuous flowerer with small, pale pink, scented blooms. No thorns.

Albertine (1921) This is a stunning rose that can gain massive proportions. A hybrid Wichurana. Loose, double, apricot pink, fragrant flowers. Once only flowering in early summer. Large thorns.

Altissimo (1967) Cluster flowering with single, red, large flowers. Continuous. Grows to 6m. Crepescule (1904) Noisette. Cluster flowering, double, apricot, perfumed and continuous flowerer.

Cornelia (1925) Hybrid Musk. Clusters of small, double, fragrant salmon-pink blooms. Continuous. Sparieshoop (1953) Shrub/pillar rose, single, warm pink, continuous.

Rosa rugosa alba (c.1876) Rugosa, single white, hips and lovely fragrance. Continuous. Sunblest or Landora (1970) Hybrid Tea. Double, bright yellow. Climbs to 1.3m.

Did You Know? The rose was part of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and has also been used as a form of currency.

Quote: The exceeding beauty of the earth in her splendour yields a new thought with every petal. Richard Jeffries

# RECIPE -

From Terry's Kitchen, the recipe that is one of the delights on offer for lunch at **Gardening on the Edge.** Members may like to sample it for dinner one night.

# **CURRIED CHICKEN**

11/2KG. chicken thighs, cut into bite sized pieces 60g. (2oz.) butter
2 onions diced
1 red capsicum, diced
3 tablespoons flour
Salt and pepper
1 tablespoon curry powder
1 teaspoon sugar
1 bay leaf
1 cup chicken stock ( I use 1 cup water , 1 Massel ultracube chicken stock)

## Method:

2 cups milk

Melt 1 oz. butter. Add chopped chicken, a little at a time till all is sealed. Remove from pan. Add remaining 1 oz. butter and cook onion till soft. Add capsicum. Cook a further 2 minutes and add curry powder and flour. Cook further one minute and remove from heat. Add chicken stock and milk and cook till mixture boils and thickens. Add chicken, sugar and bay leaf and simmer till chicken is cooked through. Serve with boiled rice. Enjoy!



#### Rainforest Plants

Once all books on native plants were written for knowledgeable botanists, until Hugh and Nan Nicholson decided to spread the good news about our wonderful, adaptable beautiful range of Rainforest Plants.

The colour photos, by Hugh, can seduce us, but infomation on size when mature, habit of growth, suitability of location is invaluable when confronted with a tube size plant.

After reading the library's two copies of a series of six, most gardeners, either on the range, half or all the

way to the coast could find a suitable attractive plant, even for a courtyard garden, from a selection of Australia's most unique plants.

Nan and Hugh have an extensive nursery in the hinterland of northern N.S.W. at Terania Creek. They have continually researched the propagation and cultivation of rainforest plants to help all the gardeners and those interested in regenerating our land, make informed and suitable choices.

The full range of these beautifully photographed research books would be a worthwhile addition to our library.

The Armchair Gardener

## **Future Events**

3& 4 June - Perennial Poppies Show. \*
10&11June - Cactus & Succulent Society of Qld.
Show\*

10&11June-Maleny Garden Club "Gardening on the Edge" Maleny High School.

16-18 June –North Moreton Qld. Orchid Council Show\*

24&25 June –Art in Bark Assoc.of Australia Show\*

27th June – Maleny Garden Club meeting John & Joan Dillon, 803 Hunchy Rd Hunchy

7-9 July – Nambour Garden Expo, Showgrounds Nambour.

8&9 July –Qld. Camellia Society Show\*
15&16 July-Floral Art Society of Qld. Show\*
21-23 July –Farm Fantastic, Elimbah
22&23 July –John Oxley District Orchid Society Show\*

# 25 July-Maleny Garden Club Meeting Showground

29&30 July-Sogetsu Ikebana Assoc. Show\*
10-19 Aug-Ekka, RNA Showgrounds, Brisbane
12&13Aug-Botanical Artists'Society of QldShow
19&20Aug-Society for Growing Australian
Plants Qld. Show\*

25-27 Aug- Gardening Australia Show, Sydney.

26 Aug-Maleny Garden Club Meeting Showground



# Garden Tips

 Old boots make ideal pots for plants but make sure you allow for drainage holes

- When buying seedlings, avoid buying the tall ones-bigger is not always best
- If staking plants, don't put the stake too close to the plants it could damage the roots
- Most trees and shrubs will do better if the roots are teased out before planting from the pot
- When pruning the upright growth of trees, always cut branches on an angle so that the water will run off. When pruning side growth branches, make sure the cut is at right angles to the branch itself. This means that the size of the cut surface is kept to a minimum.
- After planting up pots or any container, cover the exposed potting mix with mulch or pebbles to help prevent water evaporation.
- Never reuse potting mix. Always use fresh mix when potting up plants.
- Small narrow garden beds usually look better when planted with a single species.



## Lunch & Tea Roster

June:

Food: Margaret Golledge Dorothy Gordon Rosemary Gready Di Hall

Tea: Margaret Rutherford Jill Rowland

July:

Food: Wendy Hartman Daphne Hunt

**Emily Jeffrey Heather Jones** 

Tea: Marjorie Robertson Jim Robertson

August:

Food: Lorna Kempner
Beatrice Lane
Beth Lawson
Jennifer Lennard

Tea: Dianne Rowe Anne Siemon

## THE MALENY GARDEN CLUB BUS TRIP

And a good time was had by all!!! A 7.45am start took 22 enthusiastic garden club members to **Bamboo Australia** at Kenilworth where Dunford Dart inspired us with stories and slides of the uses and cultivation of the 250 different varieties he grows on his farm, all of these absorbing water during their growing period to the extent that they are damp to the touch and can drip water in a reasonable breeze. His saying "sleep, creep, leap" (1st year bamboo sleeps, 2nd year creeps and 3rd year leaps) might encourage us to be patient when our newly purchased plants seem to have a death wish.

Morning tea and guided tour followed. With calls of "nursery" from the women and "pies" from the men, we succumbed to male hunger and went on to **Kenilworth**, where the swings proved a highlight (some members a little higher than others!). Libby,

Sandy,... we have photos of your folly!!!

On to Imbil and a hearty meal at the Pub and visit to the antique-craft shop. The smell of burning coal told us the Rattler was waiting where we settled into our 2nd class carriage. Our mad Irish host informed us that 1st class had fans that didn't work, while 2nd class didn't have fans that didn't work! We went through unlit tunnels, 180 degree turns in the track, an 80ft. high bridge, a section where the track went over a bridge which went over a road which went over a creek... with a string of such jokes from our host – the highlights were many.

After wine and cheese tasting at Dagun, the bus collected us at Gympie for the last leg of our journey—the soon to be open garden at Kin Kin for a sneak preview. Steven Weiss' creative garden with massive dueling banjo gates, sound sculptures and an organic mix of fruiting, native and exotic plants was an interesting finish to a wonderful day.

Terry Rowan.



## Seasonal Tasks June

- Raise the mower blades during the cool months to allow a higher, stronger grass, which will nourish the roots for a more robust lawn
- When you have the mower out, run it over fallen leaves, catching them before composting them. They make an ideal base for a new heap.
- When you raise the mower, inspect the blades, and if they require replacing, do them
- Go on bindii patrol, either hand removing into an old bread bag or using bindii spray.
- Prepare the garden for roses, camellias and fruit trees early in the month.
- Citrus trees are very ornamental, even without fruit, so if you have the best sun and

conditions for one and it's the front garden, use one.

## July

- When planting roses, citrus, camellias and magnolias, an application of water crystals at the recommended rate will ensure a steady supply of water to your young plants, especially if we have the usual dry late winter and spring.
- If camellias bud or ball, the plant is unhappy with its home. Make a move to a new one with more protection. Researching the move will prove more successful.
- Fool the white butterflies by placing broken egg shells around your cabbages.
- Only plant roses which you know will stay healthy and flower well in our area, to give you the pleasure you expected.
- As the next few months are usually dry and if your grevillea has become seriously untidy, it is worthwhile giving them a heavy prune.
   Yes, you will lose flowers.

## August

- Either with dread or joy, this is the month for pruning. Roses by one third, poinsettias and snowflake, very hard, after they have completed flowering. Dispose of the waste with care.
- Remember to dead head and feed your spring annuals with your favourite liquid fertiliser, rich in potash.
- Regenerate your passionfruit with a good prune. This way you could be lucky and have a small early crop.
- Remember to lightly fertilise pruned plants, giving them a more generous helping as they start to grow again.
- Plant a few tomatoes into small pots, giving them a head start before spring, when you transfer them to a warm area of the garden.

#### Hint

If you like the dainty look of the Seaside Daisy (Erigeron karvinskianus) but don't like its too vigorous growth and self seeding habit then consider buying the new dwarf seaside daisy 'Spindrift'. It is very well behaved and only needs the old flowers trimmed off occasionally. Height is 20cm x50cm and it prefers full sun. Great at the front of mixed borders. I have seen this in garden centres although I bought mine in Armidale.

## A Report from our Travellers to the Deep South

A few members of the Maleny Garden Club recently accompanied Colin and Bev Campbell on their "Gardens of the South" Tour which included The Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show. Starting in Adelaide, as well as taking in the Botanic Gardens, the group visited Sophie Thomson's garden"The Chapel" and "Sheringa" in the Adelaide Hills. Its obvious that the owners of both gardens are plant enthusiasts and everyone enjoyed the time thereeven if the brollies had to come out for a short time! After a visit to Wilpena Pond we traveled to Mt Gambier and then along the Great Ocean Road to Melbourne. The Fletcher Jones gardens at Warrnambool were on the itinerary and even though they looked good, many ladies found the shop to be a greater attraction!

Of course the main attraction was the Int. Flower and Garden Show and, as anyone who has been will know, this is a true feast for gardeners. "Tarn House", "Maren Kamen" the fascinating "Katandra" native gardens, "Mont de Lancey", "Briars Park" incorporating the "Perfumed Garden" and the mind boggling roses at "Morning Star Estate" were also enjoyed, along with the Fitzroy and Melbourne Botanic Gardens. Lovely people and lovely Gardens. Colin and Bev Campbell.

#### OTHER SOCIAL SNIPPETS

Corinne Taylor, Joyce Ferguson and Di Hall accompanied the Campbells on the Southern trip.. Marianne & John Parry also attended the Melbourne Int F &G show. Margaret and John Stevenson fly to Darwin 6th May, before travelling on the Ghan via Katherine and The Alice to Adelaide. President Sandy will visit gardens of the Southern Highlands, NSW, then off to Adelaide, before joining Rosemary & David Simmons in their new Dandenongs home. Powell is home from hospital. Good News! Pat Happy Birthday to Margaret Harper and a special if delayed Birthday greeting to John Falconer. We wish to express our condolences to our new member Margaret Pow, who recently lost her husband.

#### **NEW MEMBER**

A warm welcome to Kevin Radbourne.

All contributions to: Margaret Harper email: jcharper@tpg.com.au or Sandra Slack email sandyslack@bigpond.com

#### 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.