Maleny Garden Club Inc.

SNIPPETS

From here and there

Spring 2025

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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.

After what seems like an unusually long winter, it is good to see some warming. In the process, the normal flowering processes have been late - leading to some very recent amazing displays right across the hinterland.

This bodes well for our Spring Fair on Saturday, 4th October. Jan and all the team have been doing a fantastic job and we are looking forward to a successful day. If you are able to volunteer for the day, please do so as it is a great opportunity to get involved in the Club's premier event.

Speaking of which, the Bribie Island bus trip organized so well by Diana and Gemma was another wonderful excursion. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the day, including provisions for morning and afternoon tea.

Many of our large group that did the trip noted how much Bribie Island had developed. One of the highlights was the visit to the Bribie Island Butterfly House – a remarkably successful attraction. As a not for profit with a strong volunteer base, they give their surplus funds to the Community – roughly $10,000 a month – and to date the total given back to the Bribie Island community now exceeds $1 million – very impressive. If you missed the bus trip, a visit to the Butterfly House is definitely worth the trip.

Another quality attraction while you are on Bribie is the Art Gallery.

Alan

A Check list for Spring

The warm weather is waking up the dormant plants. Here are some of the things to prioritize in the garden during spring to ensure a productive season:

Clean up: Time to clear unwanted debris in the garden to make way for new growth. That includes raking fallen leaves, sticks, and small stones on your garden plots. Remove dead, diseased, or dying branches and tidy up the shed. Prepare your garden tools for another productive season ahead.

Starting seeds: If the weather is still too cold to plant outdoors, you can start growing seeds indoors in the early spring. Just transplant the seedlings outdoors as soon as the weather warms up.

Prepare the soil: After clearing the garden of unwanted debris, it's time to prepare the soil for planting. As you know, the soil is depleted of nutrients at the end of every growing season. Amending the soil with organic fertilizer or compost brings nutrients back into the soil. Amending the soil also improves its structure and fertility, ensuring it can support plant life throughout the growing season.

Planting: Once the soil has been amended, plant your crops. We suggest starting with cool-season vegetables like radishes, lettuce, peas, and spinach because the climate is perfect for these crops. It's also a good idea to plant spring-blooming bulbs like hyacinths, tulips, and daffodils. By the summer season, your garden will be in full bloom! Cool-season herbs like parsley, dill, fennel, borage, and cilantro can also be grown in the early days of spring.

Pruning: Pruning is one of the essential tasks to complete at the start of the spring season. Trimming dead, dying, diseased plant stems encourages new growth. Pruning also improves air circulation, promotes healthy foliage, and reduces the spread of diseases. For flowering plants, pruning encourages the production of new blooms. Keep your pruning shears sharp to avoid damaging the plant stems because this will make plants vulnerable to pests and diseases!

Pest Control: Speaking of pests, keep an eye out for burrowing insects, small rodents, and worms that could wreak havoc on your spring garden. Implementing pest control measures as soon as possible is essential so the problem won't worsen. We suggest attracting pollinators and natural predators to discourage pests from making a home out of your precious garden.
Mulching: Improve the look of your garden by adding a layer of mulch. Mulch helps insulate plant roots, prevent burrowing pests from nibbling on your perennials, minimize weed growth, and add to the beauty of your garden. You can also use mulch to define new paths, walkways, or borders to improve the accessibility of the garden and enhance its overall design. *Ecogardener.com*

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Bribie Island Springtime Bus Trip – 16 September

Thirty-nine enthusiastic Maleny Garden Club members set off from the Showgrounds - nice and early at 7:45 am, for a wonderful day trip, organized by Diana, with the assistance of Gemma.
First stop was the Plant Shack at Deception Bay,

with a great variety of plants and many purchases made. Morning tea was enjoyed in their grounds, with a big thank you to those who contributed.

Next stop was the Butterfly House at Bongaree, with an informative talk about their not-for-profit organization, manned by volunteers and the life cycle of butterflies and their diet. It was a very peaceful and calm environment, within the enclosed grounds, with plentiful butterflies around, and on us. We walked next door to Bribie Island Community Gardens, which sells very well-priced plants.
Lunch at the Woorim Golf Club was then enjoyed, followed by a visit to Matthew Flinders Banksia Gallery. This is well worth a visit, with an extensive cross-section of art and craft work on display, and for sale.
The final visit for the day, was to the home and garden of the Camerons, with afternoon tea in their grounds. Their acreage property is planted with many native shrubs that encourage birds.
A very happy, but tired group, arrived back at the showgrounds at 6 pm.

Thanks to Diana and Gemma; and all contributing others, who made the day a success.
Leigh Josey

10 Fun Facts

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue sticking out.
4. You just tried number 3.
6. When you tried number 3, you just looked a bit like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now because you were fooled.
8. You skipped number 5.
9. You just checked to see if there was a number 5.
10. Now share this with your friends to have a bit of fun.

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Maleny Garden Club's Spring Fair

is fast approaching and is being held on Saturday 4 October 2025

#Showgrounds: 8.30am – 3pm / Open Gardens 9.30am – 4pm

The Spring Fair is an annual Garden Expo at the Maleny Showgrounds with a variety of stall holders showcasing and selling a diverse range of garden plants, produce, by-products, garden implements and associated goods. Art and Craft also on sale.

Devonshire Teas, Sandwiches, Tea, Coffee in the Pavilion by the Maleny Hospital Auxiliary. Outside Food Vans include Tipple and Tamper for Coffee, Cold Drinks and Snacks, Indonesian Street Food Van and Yummy Real Fruit Ice Cream.

Pavilion Entrance $2 per Adult, Children 16 and under Free

3 Open Gardens on the Hinterland Range will be available to visit.

Garden Entrance $5 per Adult per Garden, Children 16 and under Free

Garden Tickets can be bought at the Showground or at the Garden Entrances

Eftpos and Cash at the Showgrounds / Cash Only at the Gardens

We are looking forward to welcoming our regular stall holders plus the new stall holders joining us this year.

Thank you to all the MGC Members who volunteer on this special day.

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE for more details   Jan Maguire

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<u>Alzheimer's!</u>

A story about an elderly couple getting ready for bed one night.

She commented, "I am hungry for ice cream and there isn't any in the house". He replied, "I'll get some". "Oh! would you? You're a dear, vanilla with chocolate sauce". He repeated, "vanilla with chocolate sauce". She added, "write it down now, you'll forget dear". He said,

Woolshed Dance

"I won't forget". She added, "some whipped cream on top dear". He repeated, "vanilla with chocolate sauce and whipped cream on top". She stated, "And the cherry". He said, "with the cherry on top'. "Oh", she exclaimed, "please write it down, I know you'll forget". He replied, "I won't forget, vanilla with chocolate sauce, whipped cream with a cherry on top".

And away he went. By the time he returned she was already in bed. He handed her a paper bag which she opened. In it was a ham sandwich. She said, "I told you should write it down, you forgot the mustard".   *Anon*

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Miracles of Nature

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The Woolshed Dance

Hear the ranges echo!
Hear the music swell!
People come from everywhere
Wool is selling well!

Possums on the rafters
Tremble in a trance.
No one has invited them
To join the woolshed dance

Happy, hearty graziers
Give a cheerful roar
Leaping with their partners
And thumping on the floor

How the floorboards rattle!
How the building shakes,
Disturbing sleepy lizards
And surly, drowsing snakes

The drummer with his drumsticks
Will make a rattling din
A farmer has his fiddle
Tucked underneath his chin.

The girl with the accordion
Will give a tuneful squeeze
To activate your ankles
And rouseabout your knees.

Music through the paddocks….
Strings of coloured light,
Dancing in the woolshed,
Joy on Friday night.

The dawn is coming nearer,
So here's your final chance.
Go swinging with a shearer
And join the woolshed dance.

Our morning heads are heavy.
A splendid time we had.
The woolshed dance is over.
The sheep are rather glad!
Max Fatchen, A pocketful of Rhymes.

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How to Love your Leftovers

Leftovers are often discarded. Avoid waste and save money with these handy tips

We've all faced a fridge full of left over from a week's worth of cooking. Instead of throwing these leftovers out, turning them into something useful can help you save money, time and cut down on food waste.

1, Make it a meal.
Think what to do with your leftovers as you pack them away or factor them into your meal planning right from the start and store them in the fridge or freezer. Tonight's leftovers can be lunch tomorrow, frozen for dinner next week or transformed into a entirely new dish.

2. Keep them in sight.
Store your leftovers at the front of the fridge, on a shelf that is at eye level to prevent the age-old problem of discovering them at the back of the fridge a week later decayed without a hope of consumption.

3. Mark them up
Keep a marker and labels handy to track when food was made and when it should be eaten. Refrigerated leftovers should be eaten within two days to avoid risk of harmful bacteria like listeria. Frozen leftovers, if kept at -18^{0}C can last up to three months. And try and avoid thawing and refreezing again.

4.Act quickly.
To keep leftovers safe, make sure to cover and store them in the fridge or freezer within two hours. This is because bacteria can grow rapidly at room temperature, making the food unsafe to eat if left out too long.

5. Reheat right.
When reheating leftovers, make sure they are thoroughly heated to at least 75^{0}C. To kill most bacteria, soups and other liquid foods should be brought to a full boil and stirred for at least three minutes. Also, don't reheat more than once.

6.Total transformation.
Similar to the 'cook once', eat all week approach, you can prepare various main dishes and enjoy a new meal every night. Even if you didn't plan for it, get creative and turn last night's leftovers into a fresh dish. For example, leftover rice and eggs can become fried rice or burritos and leftover veggies and protein can become a salad, quiche or a pizza.

7.Holiday-style buffet.
Set one evening a week as your fridge clean-out night. Mix and match leftovers to create a main dish and serve the rest as sides. Or turn it into a buffet. You can add a few extras like wraps, bread and salad greens for some fresh new combinations.

sanitarium.com.au

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Editor's Note:

Thank you to those who have contributed to this month's Snippets. To Jan Maguire, Leigh Josey and Alan Boyle a special thank you. If you have an interesting article or travelogue of your recent travel, please remember me. Margaret.

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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.

All contributions to: Margaret Owens email: margaret.owens@bigpond.com