

SNIPPETS

From here and there



Winter 2026

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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 Note – June 2026

Winter is upon us, but so far, we are yet to feel its effects. The Southeast trade winds keep the showers coming.

We are passing a milestone this month with our membership exceeding 150 and as such it's a reminder to welcome the 11 new members who have joined us this year. New members are an important resource in keeping up the energy of the Club and for bringing new ideas. Hopefully we will be able to encourage some of the new members to become part of the Committee in the months and years ahead.

Planning is well underway for the Spring Fair on Saturday 3rd October and Jan and her team will update members at our meeting. Thanks to that special group for all the work that they do to ensure its success.

At the Sip and Snip held at Debbie Mitchell's home we were again warned of the spread of Fire Ants – a reminder then came shortly after with the news of a large infestation in Caloundra (a location outside the known infestation area). One cause that not a lot of people are aware of, is the way purchasing plants in pots could potentially harbour the pests – so please carefully check the pots you purchase with plants for any sign of them and report that to the authorities.

Alan Boyle

Quick Quiz.

1. **Q:** What is the only sea without any coastlines?
2. **Q:** Which language has the highest number of native speakers?
3. **Q:** What is pencil lead made of?
4. **Q:** Which planet is known for its rings?

5. **Q:** What is the hardest natural substance on Earth?
 6. **Q:** Which artist painted the Sistine Chapel?
 7. **Q:** What is the only flag that does not have four sides?
 8. **Q:** Which superhero lives by the motto, "With great power comes great responsibility?"
 9. **Q:** What is the capital city of Japan?
 10. **Q:** What is the largest state in America?
- For answers, please see back page.**

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Sleep Patterns.

*If you go without sleep or suffer from sleep deprivation, after 24hrs; you become cranky and anxious.

After 48hrs; you will feel very fatigued.

After 72hrs; you become paranoid.

*One in three Australians don't get enough sleep.

*Most people require 7hrs of sleep, most don't get that.

*12% of people dream in black and white, why? We don't exactly know.

*Some blind people have visual dreams.

*Do dogs dream? It seems they do. After about 20mins you should be able to see rapid eye movement indicating sleep.

*People who work shift work apparently do not adjust to shift work according to the National Sleep Organisation but some can go on to develop cardiovascular disease and gut problems.

*20% of adults drink alcohol before bedtime and if you've ever done that, you'll know that it will help you fall asleep. But experts tell us that it may not be the best sleep as alcohol prevents that good deep rheem sleep.

@ Theinfographicsshow



Terry Pratchett



Kevin Radbourne.

Winter Harvesting.

Have fast growing veggies for harvesting within several weeks. Here is a list of veggies to start your productive crop.

Herbs – most herbs can be picked straight away after planting seedlings. For Winter growing herbs, plant chives, dill, parsley and chervil in all climatic zones. Rosemary, thyme and mint will also survive the Winter.

Lettuce – harvest within weeks. Harvest younger leaves for better taste and encourage more leafy growth. Grow any time of the year for all zones except the middle of Winter in cold zones.

Dwarf Beans – pick young and often for a more productive crop and encourage flower production. Harvest in 4-6 weeks from seedlings. Can be sown during Winter in warmer zones. For cooler climates grow in Spring and Summer or in a protected shade house during the colder months.

Spinach – easy to grow cool season crop, water regularly and in about 4-6 weeks, you'll have fresh spinach.

Arugula is a fast-growing cool-season salad green with a peppery taste. It is ready for harvest 30 to 40 days after sowing.

Baby carrots don't take as long as full-sized carrots because they don't have to grow to be as large and they can be grown in pots. Baby carrots are ready to harvest in 55 to 65 days after planting. Can be grown in tropical, sub-tropical, arid, Mediterranean and areas with light frosts all year round. For frost prone areas, plant in Spring and Summer.

Radishes are one of the fastest and simplest plants you can grow. They are ready to harvest in about four weeks from sowing. Can be grown all year round in most climatic zones. For tropical areas grow in the cooler months of the year.

Bok Choy is a great super-grower because it can produce a mature harvest in around 30 days. Plant now in all climatic zones.

Kale – You can pick baby greens from kale or mustard greens in only 25 days or wait for mature leaves in about 50-65 days. Suitable to be planted now in all climatic zones.

Green onions take around 6 months to produce full-size onions. But you can get **green onion stalks** at around 3-4 weeks. Great for garnishing soups or added to stir-fries. Shallots – can be planted during Winter in all climatic zones. Harvest within 12 weeks or earlier if planted from seedlings.

Snow Peas / Peas – Peas are best grown in cooler seasons. Being a climber, support their growth by installing a trellis before planting. Liquid feed with Potash to boost flower and pod production. Harvest in 9-11 weeks. Pick the pods every day to increase production.

Cherry tomatoes – buy advanced seedlings and have ruby red tomatoes within weeks. Can be grown all year round in the tropics, arid and frost-free areas in subtropics. For colder areas plant in Spring.

(Apologies-I lost the reference for this article and can't find it. But have placed it just the same. M)

An ABC in our Garden of Eden

*Roses are red,
Violets are blue;
Our garden stinks
From organic chicken pooh*

*We've got azaleas and abutilons
But never artichokes
I'm so lucky that I share my life
With an ardent garden bloke
He's ardent in the garden bed
He's ardent everywhere
And eat your heart out ladies
Cause I'm not about to share*

*We've got begonias, bromeliads,
Blooming neath the trees,
I love crawling round the garden
With mud upon my knees*

*We've also got some bindii
A bandicoot or two,
A bleeding greeny told us
"they've got more rights than you,
you know that they are territorial."
We said "Well so are we"
But the buggers are protected
So they dig our lawn with glee*

*Our sweet peas need a trellis
But a cake rake had to do
We've propagated salvia
In every shade and hue*

*We've grown a heap of spinach
Enough for Pop-eye and for us
We love to go a-touring
On the happy Garden Bus*

*There's camellias and cordyline
And fluttering cabbage moths
The crows and caterpillars
Make Kevin wrath and froth*

*We have a picket courtyard
Painted jacaranda blue
It has an archway entrance
Through which one must walk through*

*The dahlias are delirious
As big as dinner plates
I'm so lucky I've got Kevin
As an ever-loving mate
(except he will not dance with me
so with the broom I must gyrate)*

*I'd love a frangipanni
That Kev could fertilize;
Though undiluted urine
He says - is not that wise.*

*Now come on boys – admit it,
You all have a private pee;
Behind the bushes where you hope
The neighbours cannot see.*

*I wish I had a wishing well
In which I'd keep a wizard
We might have draughts and cyclones
But we never have a blizzard*

*We really don't do zinnias
But we garden with great zest
And we thank you all for coming
And we wish you all the best*

*You've come up to our plateau
Seen our cottages and chateaux
And soon we'll cut the birthday cake
And share a piece of gâteau*

*Now you've heard the alphabet of gardening
The Mountain Maiden Way
And there is nothing like the feeling
Of a Garden Friendship Day
Lisa Plucknett*

Winston Churchill



was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Answers to Quick Quiz.

1. The Sargasso Sea
2. Mandarin Chinese
3. Graphite
4. Saturn
5. Diamond
6. Michelangelo
7. Nepal
8. Spider-Man
9. Tokyo
10. Alaska

Editor's Note:

Thank you to those who have contributed to this month's Snippets. To John Cotterall, Lisa Plucknett, Kevin Radbourne and Alan Boyle. If you have an interesting article or story of your recent trip away, please remember me, 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.

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

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