

SNIPPETS

From here and there



Spring 2026

Mailing Address: The Secretary, P.O. Box 563, Maleny Qld 4552

Website: www.malenygardenclub.org

President
Alan Boyle
0419 255 948

Hon. Secretary
Leanne McKeague
0412 977 137

Hon. Treasurer
Debbie Mitchell
0438 632 374

Editor
Margaret Owens
0403 388 378

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 - September 2026.

Spring has sprung and what seemed like a very short winter is now behind us. Off and on showers have helped to keep the gardens fresh and also maintained water supplies for those of us who use tanks.

Spring also means something special for our Club with the Spring Fair coming up quickly now on Saturday 3rd October. Jan has again done a fantastic job with her team in the preparation for the day.

As usual, there are some new initiatives this year which will keep the event fresh, and we thank Jan and her team for everything that they have done in preparation.

Having said that, there is also the need for the rest of our members to provide the significant support for what is needed on the day. Please sign up to make the day a great success.

At the upcoming September meeting there will be the opportunity to vote on our new Constitution (Rules). The Club has a very long history of adopting the basic format of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) Model - which is in turn tied to the Incorporated Associations Act.

Some 22,000 Not for Profit organisations in Qld adopt a similar path and this is an opportunity to bring our Constitution up to the latest version. The Committee have considered the issues involved over the last few months and will be recommending its passing.

Alan Boyle

Quote of the Day.

True loneliness is "when you have nobody you can make a cup of tea for".

Audrey Hepburn

To Think On

I was visiting my parents with my new husband, a navy frogman when he drew me aside and said, "I don't think you mother likes me. I told her that I can't wear my wedding ring when I dive as barracudas are attracted to shiny things and might bite off my finger, your mother replied, "well can't you wear it on a chain around your neck?"

Reader's Digest

Quick Quiz.

For answers see back page

1. Which Queensland town is named after a year?
2. The Taj Mahal is made principally from (a) gold (b) granite (c) marble?
3. Who played King George VI in the 2010 movie The King's Speech?
4. Which TV show host and AFL club president recently apologised for labelling western Sydney "the land of the falafel"?
5. After 125 years of secrecy, a website recently claimed to have listed the ingredients and quantities for making which popular soft drink?
6. Last year, which Queensland Nationals senator wrote off a \$95,000 taxpayer-funded 4WD as he tried to drive it through a flooded New South Wales creek?

Trivia.

*American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating 1 olive from each salad served in 1st class.

*Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise, (since Venus is normally associated with women, what does that tell you!)



Our June Esk Tour.

Exposure to the vibrant world of plants at Esk's country fair has worked its magic on a throng of garden lovers from Maleny. We're all Eskies now! There was colour There was humour

The fair was huge. We raided the plant stalls and admired the creative work on display in other stalls. The whole place had a happy feel about it and made us glad we came.

Contributed by John Cotterell



The Best of Ronald Reagan.

A story of an older preacher who was talking to a younger preacher about members of his congregation who nod off during his sermons on a Sunday morning.

"I've found a way to keep them from nodding off", said the older preacher. When I see them beginning to doze, I say, "Last night I held in my arms a woman, the wife of another man." That wakes them up and when I see them look at me startled, I say, "It was my dear mother".

The younger preacher took that to heart and a few weeks later, sure enough there were some members beginning to nod off. He remembered the words of the older preacher. "Last night I held in my arms a woman, the wife of another man". Members woke at the statement, when he added, "but I can't remember who it was".

The Best Way to Fertilize Petunias Giving Your Petunias the Right Blend of Nutrients for Blooms.

One of the biggest mistakes gardeners make when feeding petunias (and nearly all flowering annuals) is giving them the wrong type of nutrients. Especially in the summer when they are trying to keep their petunias flowering. Unfortunately, many of the fertilizers on the market contain **only** high amounts of nitrogen. Nitrogen certainly is important for growth - and it is also important for maintaining healthy green stems and foliage.

But once plants have reached full maturity, too much nitrogen is actually detrimental to annual flowers. Why? Because for starters, excessive nitrogen will cause plants to only grow more stems and leaves - at the expense of setting blooms and flowers.

Even worse, too much nitrogen for potted petunias will cause the roots of the plants to prematurely outgrow their container and become root bound. And once a plant is root bound, if it's not replanted, it will struggle to survive. So, what is the best fertilizer to feed petunias to keep them flowering? It actually comes down to selecting a water-soluble fertilizer that still has plenty of nitrogen but also packs a good dose of potassium too!

The Best Blend of Nutrients to Fertilise Petunias With

Once late spring and summer arrive, petunias need to be fed with a fertilizer that has equal or near equal amounts of nitrogen and potassium - along with a lesser amount of phosphorous. This is actually different than many other annual flowers and even vegetable plants that need higher doses of phosphorous in the summer to get them to flower bigger and better.

While it's true that phosphorous promotes more blooming in most annual plants, it's actually potassium that is more important for petunias. Potassium helps petunias with overall health. This includes root health, disease resistance and the ability to distribute water and nutrients. And it's that distribution that keeps petunias blooming steady and strong.

Petunias still need to have some phosphorous, but it can be much lower than the nitrogen and potassium levels. When feeding petunias in the summer, look for a fertilizer that has double to triple the amount of nitrogen and potassium to phosphorous.

Old World Garden Farms. 27/8/26

.....

4 Ingredient No Bake Keto Lemon Cake Bark.

No-bake-sugar-cookie-bark. This lemon bark is easy to prepare and stores well for a quick snack or dessert.

Ingredients:

- Lemon
- Almond flour
- Sugar-free maple syrup
- Sugar-free white chocolate chips

Lemon: Lemon juice and zest are used to add lemon flavour to the bark.

Almond flour: This recipe uses superfine almond flour. Make sure to use superfine almond flour and not regular almond flour, which is too gritty. Superfine almond flour will have a softer texture, more like cake.

Sugar-free maple flavoured syrup: This recipe uses maple flavoured syrup that is sweetened with a sugar substitute. Any type should work though. You may need to adjust the almond flour amount if your syrup is runnier. You can also use pure maple syrup if you don't need this bark to be low sugar or low carb.

Sugar-free white chocolate chips: You can use your favourite brand of keto white chocolate chips but try to choose one that melts easily. You can also use regular white chocolate if you don't need the bark to be keto-friendly.

Also add sugar-free sprinkles on top to make them look more like sugar cookie bark, but this is completely optional.

How to Make Keto Sugar Cookie Bark;

- The almond flour, vanilla and syrup are mixed together until a dough forms. If the dough is too sticky and wet to work with, add a little more almond flour. If the dough is too dry and crumbly, add a little more syrup or a splash of water.
- Roll out the dough between two sheets of parchment paper until it is a rough rectangle about 1/4 inch thick.
- Melt the chocolate until smooth. Spread chocolate over the dough. If desired, add sprinkles or any other garnishes. I used 2 teaspoons of sprinkles. Place into the fridge until chocolate is set. Cut or break bark into small pieces to serve.

How to Make Keto Sugar Cookie Bark.

- Make sure to use superfine almond flour which melts into the dough better.
- This dough is very forgiving. You can add more syrup if it seems too dry. You can add more almond flour if it seems too sticky.
- The amount of almond flour needed will vary slightly depending on how runny and watery your syrup is.
- Sugar-free sprinkles are completely optional. The bark tastes like sugar cookie bark without it. You can buy sugar-free sprinkles online.

- You can also add almond extract along with vanilla extract for more flavour.



kirbiecravings.com

His Mother's Son.

He didn't like the casserole
And he didn't like my cake,
He said my biscuits were harder
Than his mother used to make.
I didn't perk the coffee right
He didn't like the stew,
I didn't mend his socks
The way his mother used to do.
I pondered for an answer
I was looking for a clue.
Then I turned around and
Smacked him one
Like his mother used to do.

Anon.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Q My 10y/o lemon tree fruits well but the fruit drops when full size and starts to rot from the end, moving through the centre towards the stem end. It has little juice and the flesh is a green colour. It also has no seeds. Maybe it isn't a lemon?

A It is possible your lemon is a lemonade (a lemon × mandarin hybrid). These vigorous growers produce fruit the size of and shape of a lemon but are fully ripe when still green

Water and nutrient stress can result in the premature breakdown in fruit. Fruit with little juice is also an indication of water and nutrient deficiency. I also suspect you are simply leaving the fruit on the tree too long before harvesting (in the hope that that it will turn yellow). Over mature fruit is prone to stylar end rot which causes the base of the fruit to develop a soft rot and fruit to fall to the ground.

Q Is it possible to kill white curl grubs in potting mix in order to reuse it?

A Curl grubs are the larvae of beetles. Pots found to be infested with curl grubs can be watered with a strong solution of molasses (up to 4tbsp per litre of

water). Keep in mind however, that potting mix breaks down over time. Spent potting mix should be recycled via the compost heap.

Q I planted five kentia palms in my garden 20yrs ago. In the last 12 months, each palm has begun to drop healthy fronds every few weeks so now each palm has only a top knot and I fear all will eventually die.

A Cane beetles feeding on the roots of palms can cause plants to deteriorate, so check the soil for cane grub larvae. But I suspect these palms suffer from root rot. Palms cannot stand poor drainage and if your subsoil is clay it is possible the palm roots have now reached this depth. Soil treatment with fungicide drenching is an option but I suspect your palms have deteriorated too far for this. Once decay enters the water-conducting tissue (implied by the healthy frond drop) it's nearly impossible to eradicate.

e; homeground@thesundaymail.com.au

Mystery Trip.

The recent Maleny Garden club mystery trip with 34 club members on board, took us to a number of interesting gardens, a nursery and a pub for lunch. For me the outstanding visit were the community organic gardens at Glasshouse Mountains using companion planting to keep unwanted pests away, including the white butterfly. An interesting addition was- the use of plastic water bottles with about 40mls of white oil and small holes punched in the sides, then hung on small stakes. A great attraction for aphids. These gardens are organized and run solely by volunteers. The large amounts of mulching required to keep the gardens moist and productive is donated.

A variety of raised beds with herbs and vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, carrots and tomatoes are free to the community for their eating and cooking needs.

What also interested me was that none of the beds were covered with netting, while the planting of marigolds and some white daisies seemed to be effective against many pests.

So impressed was I, that the following day I went out and bought some marigold and white daisy plants to test their theory in our own garden. I'll even trial the white oil in used plastic 500mls water bottles.

I'll let you know in 6 months whether it works for us.

Margaret Owens

New Look, New Reach: Our Spring Fair Goes Digital!

This year, the Maleny Garden Club Spring Fair is stepping into the spotlight with its very own brand-new logo and dedicated Facebook page!

Our logo beautifully captures the essence of our region, incorporating local mountains, rolling green fields and our club's floral emblem—the pink camellia. (Though a few local cattle might have made a nice addition, too! 🐄)

To help spread the word, our new Facebook page is specifically designed to promote our annual event and connect with locals, passionate gardeners, stallholders and club members alike. The response has been incredible—after just 10 weeks, our follower count is blooming and we've even received likes from some well-known garden celebrities! Follow us on Facebook at [MalenyGardenClubSpringFair](https://www.facebook.com/MalenyGardenClubSpringFair).

Hazel Newman

Editor's Note:

Thank you to those who have contributed to this month's Snippets. To John Cotterall Hazel Newman and Alan Boyle my many thanks.

If you have an interesting article or a story of your recent trip away, please remember me. Margaret.

Answers to Quick Quiz.

1. 1770.
2. (c) marble.
3. Colin Firth.
4. Eddie McGuire.
5. Coca-Cola.
6. Senator Barnaby Joyce.

Thank you to those who have contributed to this month's Snippets. To John Cotterall Hazel Newman and Alan Boyle my many thanks. If you have an interesting article or a 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

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.