

More Bus trips pics by J Wilkinson & K Power



TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB INC.

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NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 13, 2024

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From the President -

Hello all,

I hope you enjoyed the Olympics. For a small country, we did very well. It was heart warming to see our athletes succeed in so many events.

And I feel our little garden club is succeeding as well. I'm reminded of our last bus trip which was very enjoyable. Also today's guest speaker should be informative and very relevant to us. These things and the general feeling of welcoming and caring at our social meetings all make it a success. So I think we too can be proud of our garden club.

Take care and enjoy today's meeting.

Alex

Updates from the Committee

The management committee has been working to refresh and update how our social meetings run. At today's meeting we'll be trialling a new format and have our guest speaker up front before morning tea. Do make sure you arrive on time for social meetings for a prompt 9:30 start.

As always, the committee is at your service to ensure the successful running of the garden club for the benefit of all members. To that aim, we are delighted to receive ideas and feedback from you. Do come and talk to one of us or put a note in the new suggestion box that will be available at the sign in table.

Alex and fellow Committee members

@ GARDEN CLUB TODAY Commencing at 9.30am

GUEST SPEAKER: Jez Clark (local award winning landscape and interior designer)

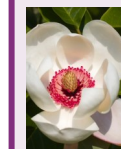
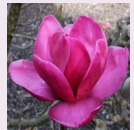
Jez Clark has a Masters in Landscape Architecture and over 25 years of experience in the design industry. He is the current holder of the Landscape Design Institute of Australia's Landscape Designer of the Year – Residential Design Award.

TOPIC: Landscape architecture

DISPLAY TABLE

THEME:

"Magic Magnolias"



PLANT OF THE MONTH:

Magnolias

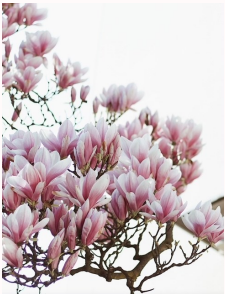
Presented by Robyn Hesse

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

BYO Morning tea and beverage or bring along something to share.

- **Library (borrowing and sales)**
- **Raffles**
- **Share table**

PLANT PROFILE by Robyn Hesse "Magnolias"



Magnolias are one of the primitive plants in evolutionary history. Fossil records show that they once extended into Europe, North America and Asia. However, today they are indigenous only to China/SE Asia (deciduous) and to southern USA (evergreens). Carl Linnaeus who created **binomial nomenclature** (the system of formally classifying and naming organisms according to their genus and species), adopted the genus name Magnolia in 1735. Today there are more than 80 species, half of which are evergreen tropical/sub tropical and half temperate deciduous. There are another nine linked species which include Michelias.

M. soulangiana is the most common (deciduous) magnolia on Tamborine Mountain. Its colours ranging from white and pink to purple. They can reach heights of eight metres. They also are the basis of many hybrids including black tulip and Felix, both with very large blooms and intense colour. (Felix is smaller ~ 6m). Another delightful smaller (2m) magnolia is stellata (star), butterfly magnolia or party girl, names reflective of its appearance with its multiple petals waving in the breeze. It is usually white or pale pink.

Evergreens include grandis, which as the name suggests are large (10x15m) trees. Much smaller hybrids are little gem and teddy bear. Both retain the large flower and bronze leaf undersides of grandis. Michelias usually are more strongly scented. Examples include port wine, Figo and cocoa. There are yellows some reaching 20m.

Conditions on Tamborine are ideal with acid, free-draining soils, cool wet winters and warm summers. They prefer sun to part shade with protection from hot, drying winds. They flower in spring. Feed after flowering with a suitable slow release fertiliser: plant in spring rather than winter, and water as necessary. Once established, they need little attention. Keep pruning to a minimum as wounds heal slowly and new shoots reach skywards spoiling their natural shape. Trim off any such shoots and to repair damage.

Along with the commonly seen pinks and whites, there are a number of beautiful yellows such as Elizabeth, butterfly, yellow fever, solar flair, hot flash and golden pond.

NEXT TM GARDEN CLUB SOCIAL MEETING...

@VONDA YOUNGMAN COMMUNITY CENTRE, 2-4 KNOLL ROAD,
NORTH TAMBORINE

9.30 AM TUESDAY 10th September, 2024

BYO Morning tea and beverage or something to share.

Guest Speaker: Don Taylor
Topic: Cunningham's Expedition
& Our "Springtime" garden owners will be introduced and will speak about their gardens.

Table Setters: Rosemary Stephens, Glenda Sullivan,
Wendy Tait, Trish Thompson.
Please set 2 tables each with floral.

August Garden Walk Tuesday 20th August



A real treat is in store when we visit the lovely cottage garden of our MC Heidi Reeve. An early Spring delight with many beautiful magnolias in bud and flowering, plus camellias and interesting trees, garden features and an expansive grass area. A very pretty garden to cheer us during winter.

Address: 94 Sierra Drive, Tamborine Mountain
Meet at the front gate at 10am.

Friends may accompany a member. BYO morning tea.

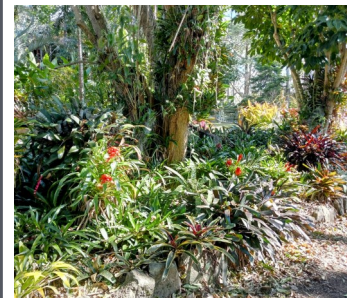
Ann Zaremba

July's Bus Trip:

Happy to board the bus on a very cold and windy winter's day, 40 club members quickly warmed up and chatted animatedly until we arrived at our first stop, 'Wolston Farmhouse' at Wacol. This heritage-listed and restored colonial house is owned by the National Trust of QLD. It was built by Dr Stephen Simpson who acquired 260ha in 1851, soon after closure of the Moreton Bay penal settlement in 1839 and the release of land for free settlers. By 1851 Simpson had constructed a two-room brick cottage with stone basement overlooking the Brisbane River and, by 1860, it was extended to its current proportions while the holding had increased to 8000ha. (It helped that Simpson was not only a surgeon but also a founding member of the Legislative Assembly and the land commissioner.) We had a good look around, noting the restoration effort and taking in the primitive conditions (relative to today's standards) before reboarding the bus and winding our way via Mt Crosby to 'Coucal Gardens'.

Here, we were met by the owners, Jan and Jim Flanigan and guided down via zig zag paths to the house terrace where we were served a very welcome morning tea. Against a backdrop of Jan's extensive collection of orchids, she outlined the garden's history and hard work over many years. On shallow, unstable soils with little water, the site was an odd selection for an avid gardener. However, perseverance and attention to water conservation has produced a memorable garden. After morning tea, we wandered through the orchids and potting house purchasing a few plants of interest before once again boarding the bus and proceeding to Rafting Ground Park for our very welcome boxed lunches. An excellent location: sunny, out of the wind and a great opportunity to find a happy spot to relax, eat the great food and chat.

A quick shift over the road to Brookfield Nursery and our last stop. We received a quick orientation before breaking up to explore, select, buy and refresh with coffee in preparation for our return trip to a cold and still windy, mountain. A great day with something special for each of us and enjoyed by all. Thank you Gill. *by Robyn Hesse*



Pics by J Wilkinson & K Power

August in the Garden – a Snapshot

Winter is slowly coming to an end, the days are getting longer, bringing with them the promise that spring is on its way. Little bursts of colour are dotted here and there with camellias still putting on a spectacular show, magnolias are just superb and azaleas are beautiful. August is preparation month with lots to do as we get ready for springtime in the garden.

What to plant in August

In the veggie patch plant or sow artichoke (globe and Jerusalem) Asian greens, asparagus crowns, French & climbing beans, beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, chives, coriander, eggplant, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, nasturtium, onions, parsley, peas, potatoes, radish, rocket, silver beet, snow peas, spring onion, squash, tomatoes, turnip, zucchini.

For some colour sow or plant seedlings of alyssum, begonias, Billy buttons, calendula, Californian poppy, carnation, cineraria, dianthus, honesty, impatiens, marigold, nasturtium, polyanthus, primula, snapdragon, sunflower, sweet William, verbena and zinnia.



Jobs to do

The sunny days are perfect for getting ready for spring:

- Turn compost to aerate and speed up decomposition ready for spring application.
- Prune and fertilise camellias after they finish flowering.
- Pinch growing tips of spring flowering annuals to encourage bushier plants.
- Prune and shape summer blooming shrubs like hibiscus, Chinese lanterns, abelia and plumbago.
- Prune passionfruit vines by two thirds to make room on the trellis for next year's growth
- Spruce up paths and paved areas by scrubbing or with a pressure cleaner.
- Lawn lovers get ready for spring by checking for bindi and other weeds, aerate with a pitch fork and apply fertiliser and water well.

Springtime on the Mountain is less than two months away, so keep spreading the word!

Enjoy the sunshine and happy gardening.

Kaylene Power

Sources: *The Tamborine Mountain Gardener*; *Gardening Australia Magazine* and *Organic Gardening* (Annette McFarlane)



Our next bus trip will be Thursday 24 Oct.



We will visit the wonderful Kerkin Garden in Kingsholme. Over 30 years ago, John and Carol Kerkin began the transformation of a hillside from an abandoned banana plantation to a private paradise. Now they have over a hectare of beautifully-tended gardens. They will provide morning tea. On our way to Kerkin Garden we will stop at a nursery, tba. We will have a picnic lunch at the Gold Coast Botanic Gardens and then a guided walk by the Friends of the Garden. More details to come. [Gill Violet—Bus Trip Organiser](#)

JULY 16 GARDEN WALK REPORT

It was a cold and windy day when twenty members of the garden club arrived at the garden gate of Anne Wilde's garden. Here she handed out a mud map for her 3 acre garden showing points of interest and where she needed suggestions of garden design.



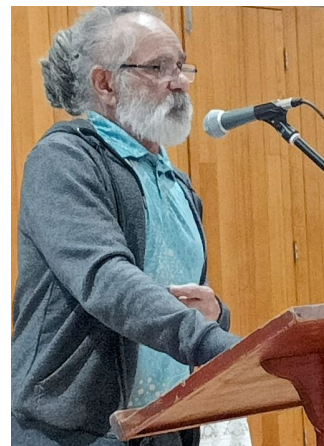
The garden has great bones but the previous owners had allowed it to get out of hand and many plants needed heavy pruning or removing. Everyone enjoyed offering advice which Anne appreciated and we certainly enjoyed identifying plants and helping where we could. Some of the unusual shrubs we discovered were *Rhodoleia* (common name Hong Kong rose). This small tree or shrub is pollinated only by birds and attracts many different species. Another shrub was the *Rothmannia Globosa*, an exceptionally fragrant South African plant. Google these and be amazed at the flowers. Thank you Anne for allowing us to explore your garden.

Ann Zaremba

Pics by D Sartori

JULY GUEST SPEAKER Tony

Gordan spoke about his Indigenous heritage, upbringing, experiences, aboriginal traditions and the connections Indigenous Australians have to Tamborine Mountain.



TMGC Library Recommendation

A review of **Readers Digest Short Cuts to Great Gardens** borrowed and loved by Lenore Los:



I found this book to be a wonderful help to me as I have just started our garden from scratch. Problem solver, time saver, rejuvenating tips, jobs calendar, quick results, pests, diseases, watering and feeding tips, and mulching ideas. Saving time in spring, summer, autumn and winter - useful. Plants for your zone - trees, shrubs, flowers, bulbs, flowers, ground covers and climbers. Super ideas and a book to keep for reference.

From the Treasurer To all Club Members:

I would like to inform all members that the financial reports for the Garden Club are available for your review at each meeting. You can find them either on the notice board or you can ask me directly at the membership sign-in table. I am always happy to explain the financial position of the club, including how our funds are generated and how they are spent.

Financial Transparency

Our financial transparency is crucial to maintaining trust and accountability within our club. By sharing detailed financial reports, we ensure that all members are aware of the club's financial health and can see the prudent management of our resources.

Subsidised Membership Fees and Activities

Thanks to our strong financial position, we have been able to significantly subsidise membership fees as well as the various trips and activities organised by the Committee Members. This has made it possible for more members to participate and enjoy the benefits of our club.

Payment Options

For your convenience, if you are unable to make Garden Club payments at Social Meetings, we offer the option to pay by direct debit. Here are the details for direct debit payments:

Deposit for Credit of:
Tamborine Mountain Garden Club Inc
Bank: Suncorp
BSB: 484-799
Account Number: 481195514

When making a direct debit payment, please enter your name as the identifier in the payer reference field. This helps us accurately record who has made the payment.

If you prefer, you can also make payments via credit card. Please call me at 0488 770 791 with your credit card details, and I will process the payment for you.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or need further information about the club's finances or payment options, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am here to help and ensure that all members feel confident about our financial management.

Thank you all in advance for your cooperation and continued support of the Tamborine Mountain Garden Club.

Best regards, *Richard Wistow* TMGC Treasurer

NEW GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

Welcome

John & Jenny Hands

UPCOMING GARDEN EVENTS FOR PLANNERS

Beaudesert Districts Orchid and Foliage Society Spring Show
31 Aug - 1 Sep @ School of Arts Hall 3-7 Pine St Canungra

Coucals Garden 'Open Garden' 7-8 September @ 8 Belah Street, Mount Crosby coucalsgarden.com

Laidley Spring Festival 6-8 September @ Laidley
laidleyspringfestival.com

Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers 13 Sept - 7 Oct @Toowoomba
tcof.com.au

Gold Coast Rose Society annual Rose Show 28-29 Sept @ the Robina Community Centre goldcoastrosesociety.org.au



Our "Biggest Morning Tea" last month raised \$1,000 for the Cancer Council Qld. Members generously donated \$481 on the day which was matched by TMGC funds and Treasurer Richard rounded the donation to \$1,000. Cancer Council Queensland sent a letter of thanks to TMGC for the kind donation.

The delicious sponge with fresh cream and lemon butter filling was made by Main St bakery.



TMGC LIBRARY BOOK & MAGAZINE SALE

Our librarians Sue McConnell and Helen Lynch will be selling books and magazines at our August & September social meetings. They are giving members the opportunity to purchase bargains before the traditional Springtime Open Gardens Trail public book sale. Bring some cash, nothing over \$10. Richard can process purchases on the card reader! If you have any garden books/magazines you'd like to donate, Sue and Helen are happy to sell them with the proceeds going to our Garden Club.