

Uki Garden Club

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<http://ukigarden.club/wp/>



As I write this, our Tweed Valley is engulfed in thick smoke and the strong winds are buffeting the trees. Fires burning locally originating near Mt. Nardi are crossing the ridge and approaching the Doon Doon area. Our thoughts are with those of you on properties in the vicinity. I am aware that some of you have been evacuated from your homes and can only imagine your anxiety. May all our members remain vigilant in this worryingly dangerous time and look out for those we know could do with a helping hand.

Despite the continued dry weather, flowering trees are adding a spot of beauty to the browning landscape. More Jacarandas are bursting into late bloom and flowering gums are buzzing with bees and lorikeets. Flame trees are standing out like beacons and Poinciana trees are starting to brighten local gardens. However, many of our vegetable patches are sadly shrivelling through lack of water worsened by the drying winds. My empty beds are currently under a layer of cow manure – if I can't grow much then maybe fertilising is the answer.



As we near the end of the year there are some brighter times ahead. Our Christmas party on November 30th at Don and Sandra Capner's home promises to cheer our senses. Their botanical-like garden always abounds with blooms and provides us with cool shade as well as stunning valley views. Bring along your plate of food to share for lunch as well as your gift, chair, hat and glass (for the champagne or soft drink provided) but remember there will be no swap table that day. December 10th will also be a great day to celebrate with friends at the Food Group Christmas party atop the highest hill in Uki at Mark Collison's garden. No gift giving that day, but a shared lunch and memorable celebration will be our agenda. Both of these gatherings start at 11 am and will

go ahead no matter what the weather. Rain would be the best gift we could ask for but I don't think it will be in evidence unfortunately.

Thank you to those who have already offered to host garden gatherings and Food Group meetings in 2020. We still need quite a few more venues – especially for Food group – so don't be shy. Talk to Lynn O'Hara or Lyn Reid (or myself until Lyn Reid returns from holidays in December). Thanks also to members who have made suggestions for speakers, bus trips and nurseries to visit. Our committee welcomes your input and wants to provide a variety of events for our large and growing membership. We now have 113 garden club memberships representing 143 individuals. Of course with that many gardeners there will always be many different interests, so we continue to strive for new topics and ideas.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our Christmas events to celebrate another great year of gardening friendships.

Happy gardening

Gillian

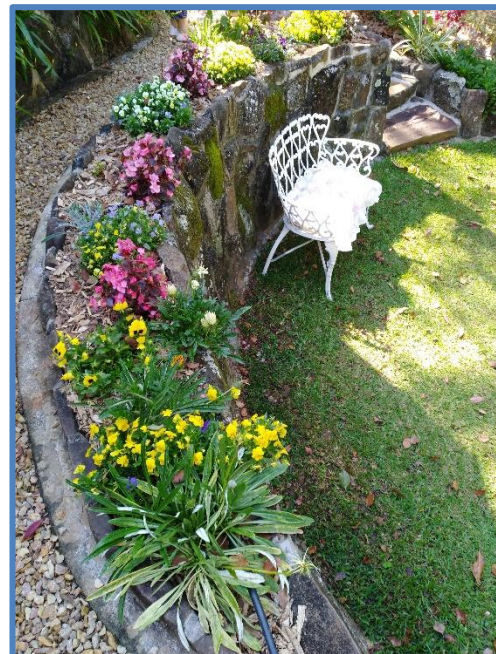
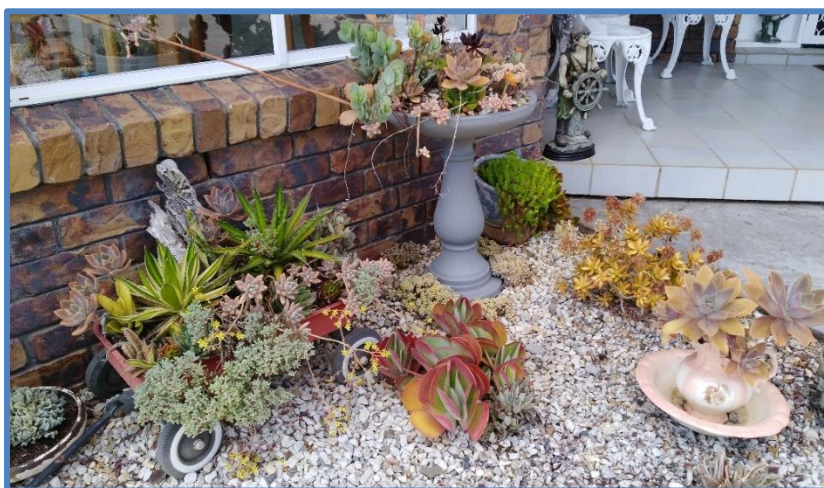
Titbits from the October Food Group

Gillian Woodward

Nearly 30 members gathered at the home of Marie and Peter in Dallas Park on a warm Spring morning. Their 1½ acre garden recently won "Champion Garden - town/country" (followed closely in 2nd place by Jackie and Michael Balk's Nunderi garden in second place).

Over several years Peter has gradually terraced a very steep slope at the rear of the house. He has made superb rock walls, steps and paths that contour down the hillside. The beds are planted with a wide array of flowering shrubs as well as vegetables (nearer the top) and fruit trees. There is also a shady pergola which Peter built, providing a wonderful spot to sit and look out over the hillside garden.

Jackie has photographed many of the special nooks and crannies so you can see the amazing amount of beautification achieved by Peter and Marie, who obviously love to spend time in their self-created haven.



General Discussion

- ☼ Congratulations to Lyn Reid for being named Champion for her basket of herbs in competition last week (Murwillumbah Garden Club).
- ☼ Sheila announced that the wonderful company - Eden Seeds - which is located near Beechmont, is up for sale. Many of our members appreciate their fantastic variety of quality seeds.
- ☼ Sheila also announced that "It takes a town" project is offering fruit trees for Murwillumbah residents to plant either 1 metre inside their fence or on the nature strip. The aim is to share the fruit with neighbours/other residents. They have a stall at the monthly Sunday Mur'bah markets.
- ☼ The Keegans brought a bundle of cooking and garden books to the swap table. Some were taken but the remainder will be at our next Garden Gathering.
- ☼ Claudia asked why her chilli plants are flowering but not producing fruits. It was thought that the dry weather could be the cause.
- ☼ Pamela has cleared out her garden beds and asked what greens she could plant during summer before she replants in winter.
- ☼ Mustard seeds were suggested. Also Eden Seeds has a general greens crop mix that is good.
- ☼ Martin said his garlic and potatoes had disappeared - due to the dry no doubt. He was advised to dig them out.
- ☼ Comment was made that if your garlic is flowering, then fry or roast the flowers and eat them - delicious!
- ☼ Martin asked Julia if it was ok to feed his citrus while they are in full blossom. Yes, you can, was the answer.

- ☼ Jackie asked whether anyone had grown chia seeds. Apparently, Julia did but said it wasn't worth the effort. Helen Flemming also grew some and it took a long afternoon for two people to harvest a whole 300 grams!
- ☼ Simone had bought grafted fruit trees about 12 months ago. She said the new growth was dying off but the old growth tree was sprouting. Unfortunately it means that the grafted tree will not grow. It was suggested that she should have trimmed off all the foliage below the graft. Peter said to put silver foil around the trunk over the graft as this stops the growth on the original tree.
- ☼ Richard asked about the need to trim a dragon fruit plant when it sprouts in different directions. The answer was 'no' just leave them to grow.
- ☼ Desiree is concerned about her bird netting on fruit trees. It is killing or injuring some birds. Lyn said that new strict rules apply to how big the holes in the netting can be and how taut it needs to be. It was also said that using polypipe as a frame over trees to hold up netting helps save the birds.
- ☼ There was considerable discussion regarding the scarcity of water. Some people have been lucky to be under a burst cloud and received rain in double figures! Others however were not so lucky. Amanda suggested standing in a large plastic bucket in the shower. Use this water to flush your toilet - you will save litres of water this way.

Hartmut says the seed box is restocked with surplus seeds being offered to the seed library.

Wedgetail veggie garden is planted and now needs some regular watering. Hartmut will set up a roster for this, so please volunteer if available.

The meeting closed so morning tea and the swap table could be enjoyed.

Thanks to the hosts (pic at right) and to all who contributed so generously.



Naughty boy statue at right and the productive veggie patch at left

(Ed: thanks to Jackie Balk for gorgeous meeting pics)



October Garden Gathering

Di Morrison

It was a hot and windy day when we met at the home of award winning rose grower John Bennett and his partner Ron. The main meeting was held in the shade of the adjacent park.

General Business

Seed Box. Hartmut was not present at the meeting but the seed box was well stocked for Spring planting. Contributions are always welcome.

Wedgetail Retreat. Hartmut is still looking for volunteers for the watering of beds, especially over the summer if we don't get rain. Details of a schedule are in the last Newsletter. Please ring Hartmut if you can help. 0448 880 209.

Newsletter. Contributions, photos, comments, riveting information most welcome!

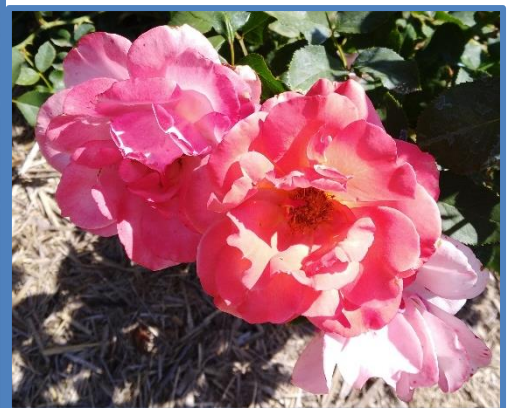
Calendars. Will be available at the Christmas Meetings. If you are unable to attend one of the Christmas meetings please arrange for someone to collect it for you.

John briefly outlined the history of his property and his gardening philosophies. He has lived in this current home for about 13 years having come from a larger property in Nunderi and various other homes in NSW. Like many of us, some of his plants have moved with him!

The suburban garden is a spectacle of roses –so many varieties and colours! John said at one time he had about 180 different roses! His interest in roses started about 10 years ago and much of his preparation is for Competition Rose Shows in the region and beyond.

He fertilises and mulches heavily using both soil and foliar products. Timing of pruning is related to flowering for Shows with about 64 days to flushes. John says most roses don't really grow well here as humidity is a problem, resulting in the need to control many pests and diseases. This year he mulched with sugar cane which he doesn't recommend.

(pics below of some of the large variety of roses in John & Ron's magnificent garden)

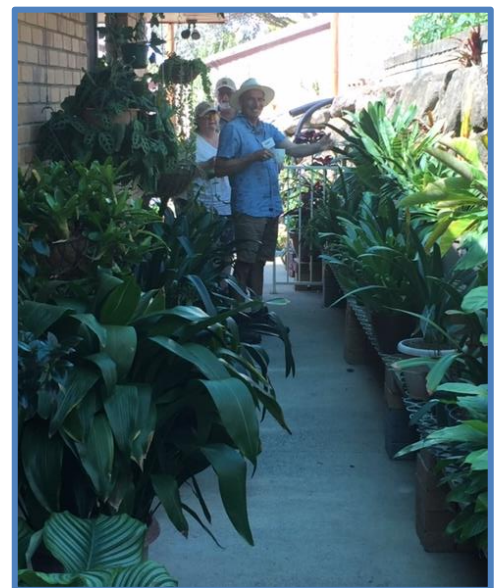


His recommendations for our climate are a single rose 'Home Run' and a purple banksia rose he has flowering now. John uses a rooting gel and river sand for cuttings and has even propagated his own orange rose which is. currently in flower.

The steeply sloping rear section of his garden has been magnificently terraced and planted with not just roses but various other plants and vegetables (see pics as below). A real labour of love.



Potted plants under the eaves include a very well cared for Hoya and Stephanotis (pic at left).



Show and Tell

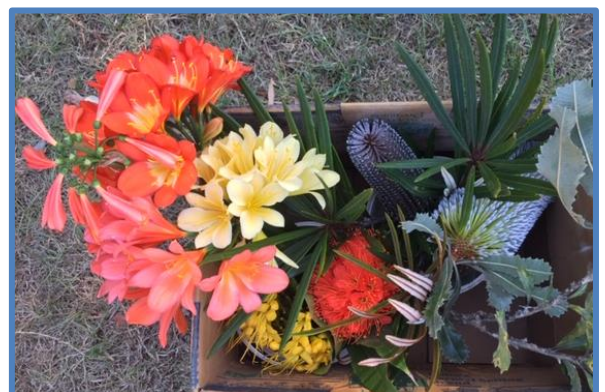
Don Capner again delighted us with a variety of flowers from plants in his garden. These included:

- a variety of different coloured Cliveas which Don grows from seed. (3-5 years from seed to flower)
- *Brownea grandiceps*, sometimes known as "The Rose of Venezuela". A magnificent red South American flower.
- *Banksia serrata* and *Banksia plagiocarpa* (from

Hinchinbrook Island)

- *Deplanchea tetraphylla* from North Queensland. A small rainforest tree with a stunning bouquet of yellow flowers.

We are all urged to bring plants and flowers for show and tell.



Q & A

- ⚙ Fran is looking for strawberry runners. Answer: wait until about April.
- ⚙ Laverne would like local yellow pawpaw seeds or seedlings and Caladium corms.
- ⚙ Laverne also asked about native beehives. Answer: make your own or buy from Bunnings and many plant nurseries. The bees will come.
- ⚙ Sheila is building a new pond and wants to know how high off the ground it should be to exclude cane toads climbing in. Suggestion was knee high or about 0.75m. Beehives should be at least the same height off the ground.
- ⚙ Diana is looking to buy some silky bantams. Suggestions were Murwillumbah Matters on Facebook, Mullumbimby market on Friday mornings or even the local show.
- ⚙ Julia's gardener has a basic lawnmower for sale. \$500 new sell for \$300. Contact Julia.

The meeting closed about 3pm and we retired to John's home for refreshments.

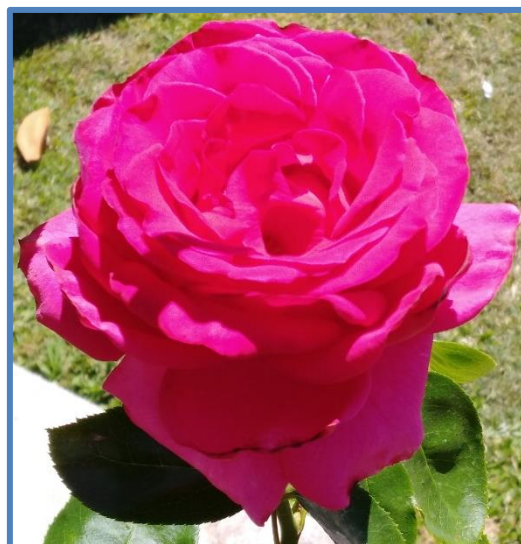
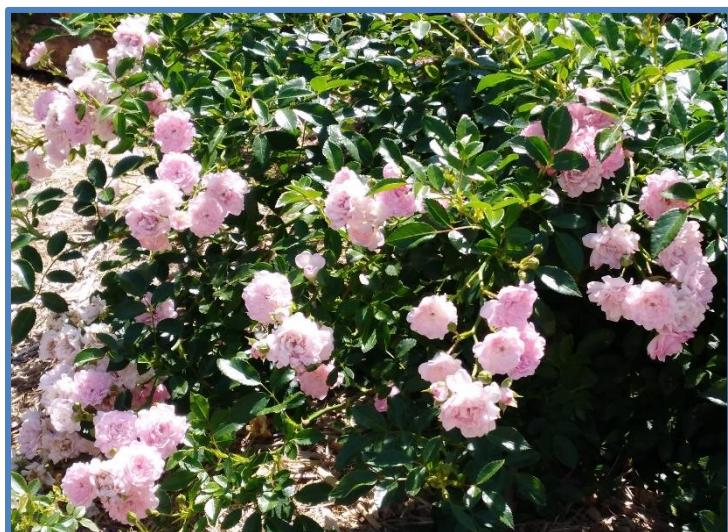
At left below – Marcella & Marie enjoying some of the roses in John & Ron's garden



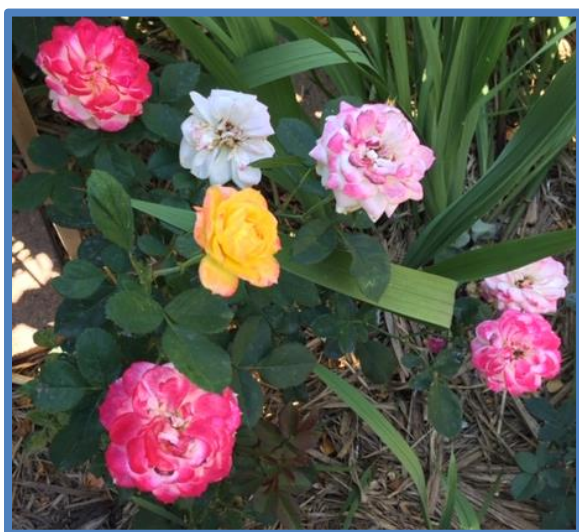
Below – the very successful champion rose grower himself



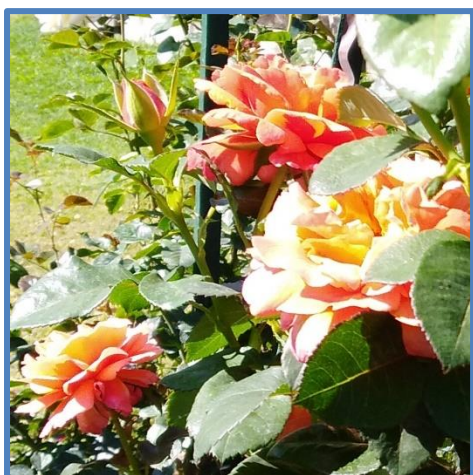
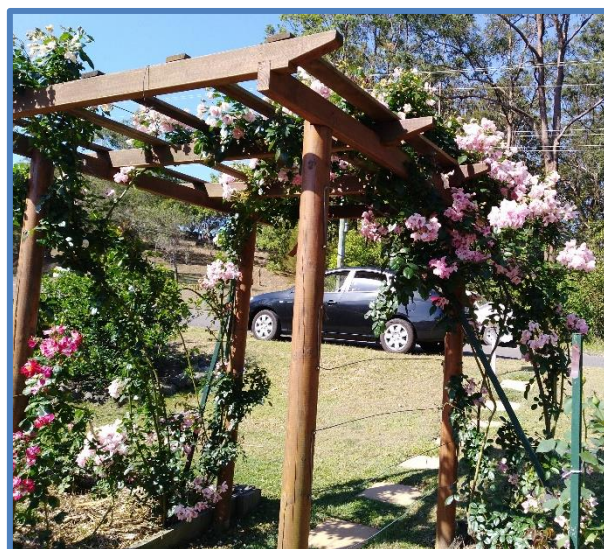
Everything is coming up roses in John & Ron's garden – with thanks to Jackie Balk for the lovely pics.



After the afternoon tea - John then took a group to inspect the garden of fellow rose grower Gordon Smith at Park Avenue in Murwillumbah. This front garden was a picture of colour and variety and was a delight to those who went along.



(L: Chameleon
Rose – all
flowers are on
the same
bush!)



R: Rarely-seen white hippeastrums





Fruit & Nut Cake – Jean Nuttall

Ingredients

- 125 g roasted hazelnuts or cashew nuts
- 90 g slivered almonds
- 125 g dried figs
- 90 g dark chocolate
- 125 mixed peel
- 3 eggs
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 ¼ cups self-raising flour

Method

Roughly chop nuts, figs, chocolate and peel. Add flour. Beat eggs and sugar in a separate bowl until white and fluffy. Add to nut mixture; fold in gently. Place in a greased 20cm by 10cm loaf tin. Bake in a moderate oven for one hour or until light brown. Cool slightly in the tin, then turn onto a rack to cool before cutting. This is a very good cake!

[Verbatim from *The Floral Mother* by Kate Llewellyn]

I used macadamias instead of hazelnuts (because they're local) and had no slivered almonds, so added a few extra macadamias. I also used choc-bits instead of chopping up dark chocolate (a messy job).

As Kate says, it's a very good cake! (*Ed: thanks Jean – it was a delicious cake indeed*)



3 Ingredient Shortbread (+ vanilla) – Marcella Keegan

Ingredients

- 250gm softened butter
- ½ cup castor sugar
- 3 cups plain flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Method

1. Preheat oven to 160 and line a shallow baking pan with baking paper.
2. Place butter, sugar and vanilla in a bowl and beat until mixture is light and creamy (about 5 – 7 mins on medium if using an electric mixer)
3. Add flour ½ cup at a time. Mix until mixture resembles dough.
4. Press into the baking pan.
5. Partially bake (about 10 mins) and then remove and prick with a fork and slice into squares (as this is the best way to achieve clean cuts).
6. Continue baking until the edges begin to turn golden (about another 10 minutes)

Allow to cool and in the pan and then slice it up.

Delicious when served with a nice cup of tea or coffee.





Reminder re the Club Christmas Party – 30th November at Don & Sandra's place

As mentioned last month – the Club's Christmas Party is on Saturday 30th November and we conduct a Secret Santa gift swap at this meeting. The gift to be swapped should be worth not more than \$10 and preferably be home-made. Each gift delivered will be swapped for a ticket. Each ticket will later be swapped for a gift (not the one you brought!) – so to get a gift you need to bring a gift.

Also – please note that this meeting starts at 11am – not the usual 2pm. There is no Swap Table at this meeting as the tables will be laden with food and gifts instead.

Details for the Food Group Christmas party in December are at the end of this newsletter – however please note, no present exchange is done at the Food Group meeting.



Change of Club Bank Account Details

We have had to change the club bank account number to a 9 digit one.

This information has been added to our website and changed on any forms; however if you do have us saved in your normal bank EFT details please change to the new details as below:

BSB: 722744 (stays the same)

Account no.: 100017935 (changed)

The Benefits Of Growing Sweet Potato

This is a good article, promoting sweet potato as both a nutritious root crop and an attractive groundcover that is an alternative to the new GM yellow Rice.

Jerry Coleby-Williams posted: "Pleased I got my sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*) crop planted this week. It's so easy to grow in a warm climate. Here in Brisbane I aim for two crops of (mostly) rain watered tubers a year. I'm never without their edible leaves, and bees like their flowers."

See more at:

<https://jerry-coleby-williams.net/2019/11/02/say-no-to-gm-yellow-rice-and-yes-to-improved-sweetpotato/>

(Ed: thanks to Sue Holzknecht for providing the link.)



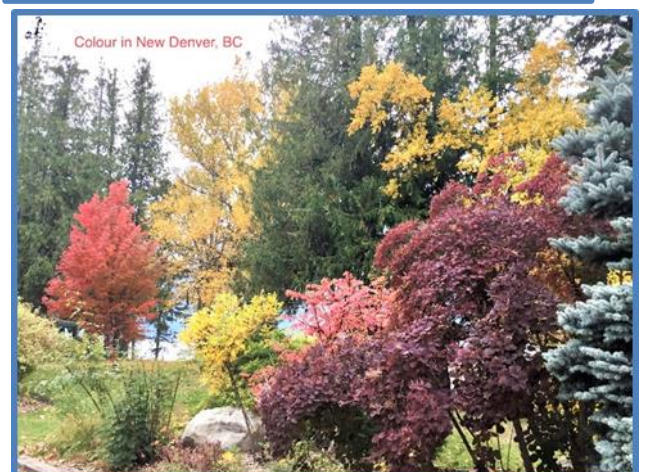
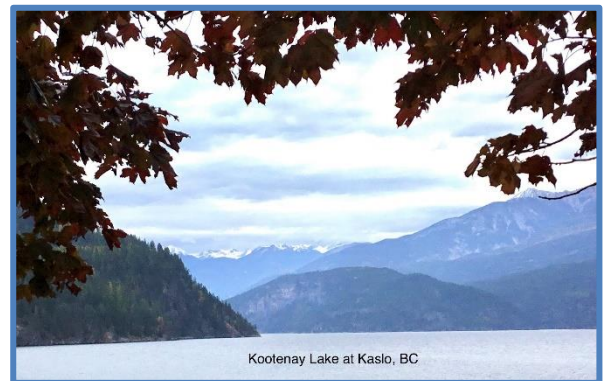
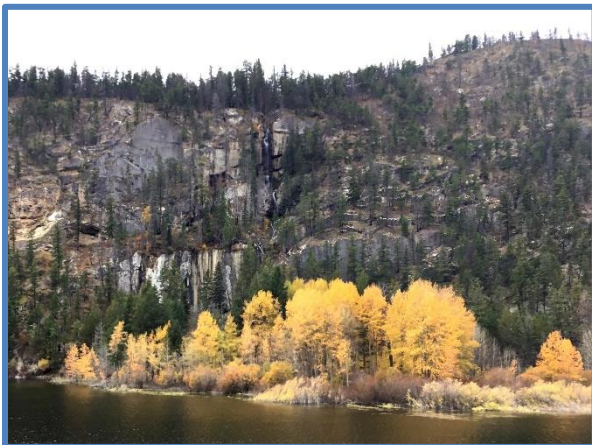
On the Road Again – Travellers' Tales

Greetings from Canada – Kate & Gary Botham

Gary and I were in Canada for the month of October, and as you can imagine, being "Fall", the colours and scenery were spectacular.

We were visiting family and friends in Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton and Vancouver in British Columbia (BC). Squamish is a town half way between Vancouver and Whistler. It is situated at the head of beautiful, fjord filled, Howe Sound in the Coast Mountains. It is cool and crisp at the moment. Many of the surrounding mountains are still snow-capped. Everywhere there is glorious autumn colour. Although BC is largely covered with forest, every street, garden and park contains magnificent maples.

We went for a little road trip to the interior of BC, across 7 mountain ranges and beside a multitude of glorious lakes to Nelson and the gorgeous Kootenay Lake region. And all along the way we saw colour including: poplars (cottonwoods and aspens); tamaracks and larch; and maples of many varieties. It is all breath-taking and I'm sure Gary thinks I have taken a photo of every tree in Canada! It is such a treat as we just don't get that colour here. Please enjoy these pictures.



Creating a Wildlife-friendly Backyard

In these harsh climate times it is good to create an environment that welcomes the local wildlife.

Creating a wildlife-friendly backyard is much easier than you think. A few simple additions will provide food, water and shelter to a variety of wildlife.

There are many benefits to a wildlife-friendly backyard. Not only can you help the conservation of local wildlife and native plants, but you can also reduce garden maintenance and create a place of interest and beauty.

Also consider what wildlife you want to attract to your yard. For example:

- ✓ Prickly bushes will provide shelter for small birds.
- ✓ Native grasses will provide food for birds like finches.
- ✓ Some plants provide food for butterfly species such as the vulnerable Richmond Birdwing. For more information see the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network.
- ✓ Clumping plants such as Lomandra and Dianellas provide ideal habitat for small frogs near a pond.
- ✓ Replacing parts of your lawn with groundcovers will not only reduce mowing but also provide habitat for small lizards, insects etc.



Below are a few hints and tips to help you achieve a wildlife friendly space.

1. To have wildlife diversity you have to have habitat diversity. From ground level to tree canopy, use plants that have different types of foliage, grow to different heights, have dense foliage or sparse foliage, are deciduous or evergreen.
2. Plant a variety of endemic natives. Local plants can be purchased inexpensively from Burringbar Rainforest Nursery, local markets and garden centres around the Shire.
3. Create layers in your garden by planting a variety of trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers with different growth patterns. This not only provides you with an amazingly interesting garden, but also offers the widest possible choice for wildlife of all sorts to find a place in which to set up home.
4. Create pet-free areas. Most importantly, keep your pets indoors at night. If you are aware of feral cats and dogs creating problems in your area, contact Tweed Shire Council who will help you to deal with the offenders.
5. Include rocks, logs and leaf litter. It's not just the plants in a garden that are important, but what is happening on the forest



floor. Rocks and logs provide shelter and basking sites for lizards and snakes, while leaf litter provides cover for insects, worms and microfauna. Don't be too fussy about cleaning up your garden when you've pruned or had trees felled.

6. Avoid use of pesticides or snail baits. Organic solutions can be found for most common garden problems.

7. Enhance your habitat with nest boxes and frog ponds. The Men's Shed can help with the creation of nest boxes or consult the internet for DIY nest boxes. Frog ponds can be simple or extensive depending on what room you have and how much digging you want to do. Fibreglass ponds set into the ground provide an instant solution.

8. Control weeds and pests. Most gardeners try to do this anyway, but letting any plant or pest get out of control in the garden upsets nature's balance and brings more problems as time goes on.



Life at Cathill Allotments

It has been some time since you heard from us. The summer has been exceptionally kind to us this year with abundant sun all through June, July and August and rain just when we needed it. So, no complaints – we can now reap the rewards of all the earlier hard work on the plot and enjoy the harvest.

With little of the hard work left to do until October, we can enjoy the social side of our allotment community as the plot takes care of itself. Our annual BBQ held in late July was the best ever! Lamb and potatoes, cooked slowly for 3 hours in the site oven, with Greek sausage, salad and halloumi on the side.

About 160 of our plot holders, family and friends were well catered for and enjoyed the day judging by the numbers who stayed to dance the night away! And what dancing we did! Being part of such a multicultural community there was an opportunity to see and participate in Greek, Indian, Brazilian dancing as well as the usual bopping.

This busy time coincided with our site being judged as we had entered in the Barnet Allotment site competition (more later).



We like to show off the fruits of our labour and in early September

held our annual Produce Show, with some 40 classes of entry for fruit



and veg as well as a few fun classes. Sweet and savoury produce, drinks and cakes made from

what we grow (of course) were also displayed.

It always surprises us how many of our plotholders come up trumps on the day and the number of entries goes up every year. For each class there is a 1st, 2nd and 3rd certificate and entrants with seven best entries are totalled to win the coveted "Best in Show" cup. A traditional cream tea is served as refreshment.

Well, we did it! The site won first prize as the best large site in Barnet. We have entered in years gone by but our somewhat "relaxed" site never made the strict RHS judging standards. This time there has been a rethink and we have benefited from it. At the same time we entered for the Ted Green Memorial trophy awarded to a site for an "Outstanding Community Initiative". We have recently let two plots to specialist social care organisations offering support to people with physical and learning difficulties. *(Ed: Huge congratulations from all of us to all of you!)*

Our Chairman collected the "silverware" at a special awards ceremony at a recent Barnet Allotment Federation meeting.

Cheers for now, Richard Stile



Want a Dash of Native Colour? Try a Silky Oak

Colourful additions to a browning landscape are the local silky oak trees currently in full bloom. Enough to brighten the eye of every passer-by, they must be a welcome sight for the many nectar feeding native animals stressed by the current dry conditions and lack of food resources. One tree can provide foraging habitat for rainbow lorikeets, scaly-breasted lorikeets, noisy friarbirds, blue-faced honeyeaters and at night flying foxes that are turning to nectar when fruit resources are scarce. They are also one of the best local rainforest trees that provide hollows for nesting birds and other native fauna.

In the ancient Gondwanan plant family Proteaceae silky oaks are the tallest *Grevillea* growing up to 40m tall (hence the species name 'robusta'). It is a native of eastern coastal Australia, growing in riverine, subtropical and dry rainforest environments. The flowers are a burnt orange colour and the bark is dark grey and furrowed.

It is a fast-growing, tall native tree, from eight to 40 metres. It is one of the only local rainforest tree species that can provide hollows for nesting birds, as well as being in flower during spring, providing much-needed nectar for our native fauna. It grows in subtropical to dry rainforest, wet sclerophyll forest, often on basaltic soils, on the coast and inland ranges north of Coffs Harbour district.



A glorious silky oak currently in flower. A saviour to all the hungry nectar feeding critters out there.



Close up of the flowers

(Article reproduced with thanks to Tweed Landcare Inc)

Ever Wondered What the Bees See?

Like humans, insects are attracted to coloured flowers, but scientists now understand that they see flowers very differently to the way in which we do.

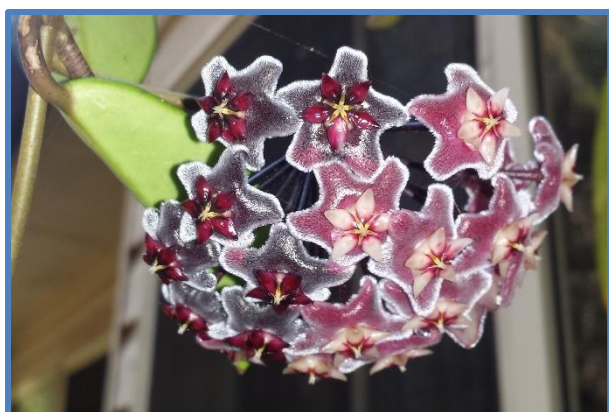
For instance, a yellow evening primrose looks like a solid mass of colour to us, but insects aim straight for the bullseye in the centre. Common dandelions are also a strong ball of yellow to our eyes, but bees see them as white with a scarlet centre. The reason for this is that unlike humans, insects are able to see their world in ultraviolet light, opening up a whole new spectrum of colours for them to use as markers, landing strips and arrows to guide them exactly to the right spot for pollen.

Clever eh?



November Job File – Julia Hancock

- ⚙ Climbing snake beans are one of the few bean varieties that grow really well in the worst of the summer heat. They need a strong trellis to support their rampant growth and regular picking keeps the black-tipped beans coming.
- ⚙ Dwarf snake beans are also extremely drought-tolerant and have no need for a trellis as they only reach a maximum height of 40cm.
- ⚙ Coriander, fennel, potato (both ordinary and sweet) are good clay breakers in a no dig garden.
- ⚙ Try getting your hands on some Jerusalem artichoke tubers – see pic on right. As a vegetable their low sugar content makes them very good for diabetics. It comes from the sunflower family and has brilliant yellow flowers. And also breaks up soil.
- ⚙ There's just time for some last minute citrus maintenance. A quick check to make sure they are scale free, a session with the secateurs to remove the worst of the gall wasp bulges, some water, fertiliser and mulch are recommended to ensure your trees stay healthy and productive over the summer and year to come.
- ⚙ Plant as many herbs as you have room for. If you grow too much they provide wonderful food for worm farms, great herbal tea can be brewed as a tonic for tired annuals, perennials and humans, and you can always dry some and store for use in the winter or as a lovely herb posy for those who don't grow their own.
- ⚙ Looking for a tough annual to grow this summer – try globe amaranth (*Gomphrena*) – pic on right. It is an absolute stalwart that flowers for months and appears to be completely heat and drought tolerant. It comes in a lovely palette of startling purple, pink and white, is a low-growing filler ideal for filling gaps and the butterflies love it.
- ⚙ Yellow leaves on your gardenia are quite natural for this time of year, so don't worry that your plant is dying. Let nature take its course and simply boost the new growth with a bit of camellia and azalea food sprinkled around the base of the bush and watered in well. However, if your gardenia has lots of sooty mould on the leaves, prune it back, spray it with horticultural soap and follow up with a spray of white oil. However, remember not to do this if rain is predicted (chance would be a fine thing!) or in the direct sun as the leaves will burn.
- ⚙ Give your indoor plants a dose of slow-release fertiliser and wipe the dust off large leaves with a soft damp cloth or wash them under a cold shower.
- ⚙ Take cuttings of cane begonias once they finish flowering.



2 Different Colours On The 1 Flower Head...OOOWAAHHH

I got this HOYA from a lady throwing it out. It was so pot bound, I re-potted it and then it grew this beautiful dual coloured flower head...just call me "LUCKY LYNN"

(Ed: Reckon so Couz'n Lynn O'Hara!)



Concert for Wedgetail

8th December 2019, 2 – 4pm at the Murwillumbah Regent Cinema

Original songs of love, hope, magic and belonging, set against the backdrop of the Northern Rivers Hinterland.

Extraordinary guitar, percussion, vocalists and guest artists.

Tickets \$20 p/p available at the Regent Cinema or online via www.trybooking.com/559751

All proceeds go to Wedgetail Retreat.



Garden Clubs of Australia 2020 Calendar – delivery

Delivery of the 2020 Garden Clubs of Australia Calendar will be at both Club Christmas gatherings, 30th November at Don & Sandy's or 10th December at Mark's place.

If you are unable to get to either of these meetings please arrange for someone who is going to collect your calendar as they will not be posted to you.

Thanks

Fran

9,000 Litre Poly Water Tank For Sale

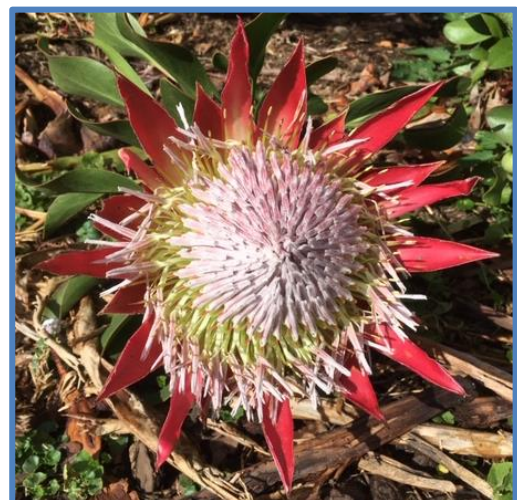
The Keegan's have a green 9000 litre round poly water tank for sale.

You must be wondering why anyone in their right mind would be selling a tank at this time but the Keegans had to replace it with a galvanised tank as part of the council fire-fighting requirements when they built their house in 2007.

They always intended hooking it up to a shed but never got around to it and now have listed their house for sale so may as well sell it. Asking \$600.

If you are interested in buying the tank contact Phil or Marcella on 02 6677 0210 or 0412 178 381.

Watched this protea slowly open while minding our son's farm/garden at Mt. Burrell for 3 weeks - Gillian





November Garden Gathering & Club Christmas Party – Saturday 30th November 11am start time

In the garden of Don and Sandra Capner, Morning Song, 108 Farrants Hill Road, Farrants Hill, 02 6677 7244.

A celebratory glass of sparkling wine, juice or soda water will be offered on arrival and feel free to BYO beverage of choice if you would like a quiet tippie.

There is no Swap Table at this meeting as the tables will be laden with food and gifts instead. The Secret Santa gift should not be worth more than \$10 and preferably be home-made. Each gift delivered will be swapped for a ticket. Each ticket will later be swapped for a gift (not the one you brought!) – so to get a gift you need to bring a gift.

Remember you need to bring all your own cutlery, plates, drinking vessels as well as a chair and of course, some food to share for lunch.

Food Group Christmas Party – 10th December also 11am start time

In the garden of Mark Collison
10 Grants Rd, Uki, 0412 609 351
Tuesday 10th December starting at 11am.

Directions on how to get there:

From Kyogle Road you need to get onto Mitchell Street then Grants Road. No 10 is the last driveway on your left at the end of Grants Road. Just keep going up the hill from Lyn Reid's home. When you get to the dead end of Grants Road then you have arrived.

Parking will be limited so car-pooling is definitely recommended. There will be approx 6 spots on the property & another 10 at street level. Parking is also available near Lyn's home. Julia Hancock will be acting as parking attendant on the day so please follow her advice and directions.

A steep driveway leads to the house from street level but a car will be running people up & down on the day.

The home will also be open for anyone to wander through, sit on one of our 4 balconies & just enjoy the views.

For this meeting, as above, please bring along your drinking vessels, plate, cutlery, chair, a hat, and a plate of food to share for lunch. There is no Secret Santa at this party.

That's all Folks...

Well, that's it for this month. Thanks to all the contributors for another full newsletter.

Keep sending your hints, tips, recipes, travel stories, bragging photos to us at ugcnews@gmail.com

And thanks as always to our printer – Sandra & Alan Guthrie at **Poster Paradise, Murwillumbah**.