

NEWSLETTER

Registered Address: P.O. Box 1004, Preston, 3072.

Registered Number A0006535U

PRESIDENT:
BILL SAUNDERS

ISSUE NO. 167

SEPTEMBER 2016



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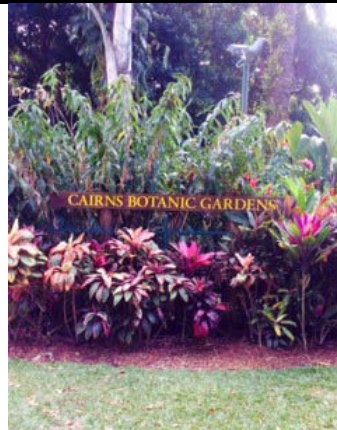
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Friends,
Once again this year I was able to get a ridiculously cheap deal and was able to fly to Far North Queensland, basing myself in Cairns to celebrate the end of winter in the warmth of the tropics. Whilst it was wet, windy and cold in Melbourne, I was swimming in the Coral Sea almost every day. The temperature ranged from as low as 20C at night, and 29 – 30C each day.

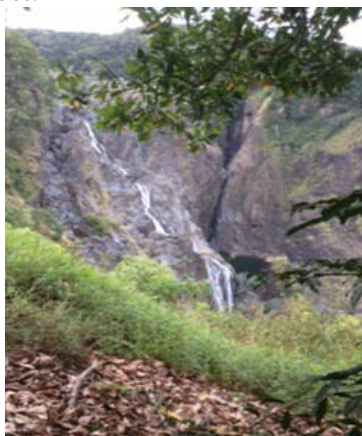


Coconut Palms (Cocos nucifera), at Palm Cove

As usual, I visited Cairns Flecker Botanic Gardens. These gardens are always a delight to view, with a number of renowned collections of tropical plants from across the world. Their conservatory is also a breeding area for some of the local beautiful and delicate butterflies, and you can view these sipping the nectar from the bright flowers.



This year I took a walk through the tree tops on a boardwalk, ending near the Barron Falls, where I took a breather sitting near the railway siding, watching the water cascade over the precipice. It is intriguing getting a birds-eye view of the forest.



Barron Falls

This area is also one of our major areas for growing sugar cane and bananas. It was harvesting time and I found it fascinating to watch the birds of prey circling the cutting areas watching for rats, mice, snakes and whatever else takes refuge in the cane, make their escape as the blades cut into the

cane and made their refuge grow ever smaller.

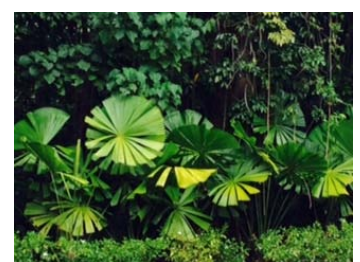


Sugar Cane

Now, with the weather becoming warmer, and plenty of rain to encourage growth, it is time for us to get back into our own gardens, where we can exercise, create, relax and sit back and admire nature.

It is also time for us to prepare our favourite plants in readiness for our own Preston Spring Garden Show – it is only a month away. That shocked you, didn't it?

Please ring your entries in to me 9478 0269 early to avoid a last minute rush.



Bill.

PRESTON GARDEN CLUB
COMMITTEE
2016/2017

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscription fees are due on July 1st.

Fees remain at: Single: \$15.00
Family: \$25.00.

Cheques or money orders can be addressed to: Preston Garden Club Inc. P.O. Box 1004, Preston, 3072, or payment made direct to the Treasurer at the next meeting.

SPRING SHOW

Our Spring Show is on Saturday 22nd October in Preston City Hall. Read your schedule carefully, if you have any questions, speak to Bill our Show Manager or Phone 9478 0269.

Make sure that you phone your entries in by 9pm on Thursday 20th October, do not leave it to the last moment to phone. We hope to be in the hall Friday to set up, from 9am. If you can spare some time to help, the more hands the better.

On show day we need volunteers throughout the day, all assistance is appreciated. If you would like to help and can spare a hour or so just see Bill, he will point you to somewhere to help out.

We are looking for home made cakes for the cake stall and scones for the afternoon teas. If you can

help out either on the Friday or on show day, let Bill know. Every little bit helps.

DOOR



Ever walk into a room with some purpose in mind, only to completely forget what that purpose was? Turns out, doors themselves are to blame for these strange memory lapses.

Psychologists at the University of Notre Dame have discovered that passing through a doorway triggers what's known as a Event Boundary in the mind, separating one set of thoughts and memories from the next. Your brain files away the thoughts you had in the previous room and prepares a blank slate for the new locale.

Thanks goodness for studies like this. It's not your age, it's that damn door!

SPRING IN THE GARDEN

Despite having had our month's rainfall in only 2 weeks I have been digging over a vacant bed in preparation for some more potatoes. The bed had not been cultivated since Autumn and the soil was quite compacted but after being turned over was in a fine tilth and ready for planting up.

Had the ground been turned over I feel sure that much of the recent rains would have soaked in rather than run off to the lowest point in the garden. The motto of the story is plant or raised beds in a wet year and in a dry year leave room for the water to soak into the soil by creating depressions near the plants. The only problem with this system is we don't know whether we are going to have a wet or dry year!

Now that some of the early flowering shrubs have completed their Winter and Spring displays it is a good time to do any pruning and fertilizing for the coming season. In doing this now it gives the plants time to grow and form buds for the next season.

It is a good time to fertilize the rhubarb for the coming season and watch the new growth produce long fat stalks that the plants seem unable to achieve in the Autumn. I have split up two old plants and already they are responding to the liquid manure. It is best not to rush in and pull the new growth in the first year as the roots need to get a good hold, seeing the bed could stay in place for anything up to twenty years.

Keep on top of the weeds and you should have a beautiful Spring.

Good Gardening
Geoff May





MEMBERS NEWS

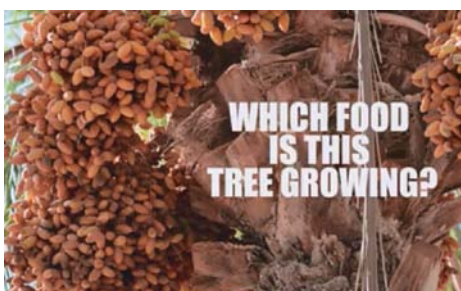


**Happy birthday to you!
Happy birthday to you!**

Neil Lenne, Jessie Velis, Rob Walsh

Wishing you all a lovely day.

At the August meeting, we surprised Joy Snell with a birthday cake. After the meeting we all enjoyed a piece of cake to go with our tea or coffee.





WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

'We Will Remember Them' is a new rose release for 2016 to commemorate World War 1.

In 2005 Knight's Roses in Adelaide, began planning the release of a rose of remembrance to recognise the contribution of the Australian Armed Forces during WW1. "The idea evolved about 10 years ago," Daniel Knight, Proprietor of Knight's Roses says. "I wanted to pay tribute to the sacrifice and heroism, I also wanted to pay tribute to our relatives who had served. My Grandfather lost two of his brothers in France."

"About five years ago, I had a meeting in France with rose breeder Jean-Pierre Guillot where I suggested a new rose could be released to commemorate Australia's involvement in the First World War. Jean-Pierre made me realise the significance to the people of France of Australia's contribution and that the sacrifices the Australian troops made in WW1 have not been forgotten. The Australian flag is still displayed in windows and classrooms in Villers Bretonneux in recognition of the town's liberation."

"As to the name, I didn't want to name the rose after a place, I wanted the name to bring to mind the feeling the people of Villers Bretonneux have for the people of Australia and I chose 'We Will Remember Them' from the poem 'For the Fallen' by Englishman Laurence Binyon published in 1914," Daniel said.

The rose 'We Will Remember Them' is an impressive Hybrid Tea with large high-centred blooms worthy of a prime position in any garden. Growing to 1.7m x 1.2m, this rose produces a prolific number of decorative blooms of rich yellow edged with bright orange. It repeat flowers extremely well in flushes throughout the growing season. It has long straight stems and a fresh sweet rose fragrance. The bush is upright, vigorous and hardy with good disease resistance.

COMING EVENTS

October 8th Saturday 9am-3pm,
October 9th Sunday 9am-4pm.
 Bonsai Exhibition presented by the Bonsai Society of Victoria. Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Entry: \$5.00. www.bonsaisocietyvictoria.com

October 11th Tuesday 8pm.
 Victorian Iris Society - Early Show
 Jean McKendry Neighbourhood Centre. 91 - 111 Melrose Street, North Melbourne. Entry: Free. Enquiries: S. Nisbett 0412 457 725.

October 14th Friday to October 16th Sunday. Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, Better Homes & Gardens in Melbourne. Royal will be there as well as many other great attractions. Activities, inspiration & fun. Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre. Contact: bhglive.com.au

October 16th Sunday 10am-4pm.
 Box Hill Floral Art Society Exhibition. Whitehorse Centre, 379-397 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading. Enquiries: Beverley 9898 2483.

October 22nd Saturday 2pm-6pm.
 Preston Garden Club Spring Garden Show. Preston Town Hall, cnr High & Gower Streets, Preston. Lovely traditional show bringing Spring to you. Entry: Free. Enquiries: Bill Saunders 9478 0269

October 22nd Saturday 12pm-4pm
October 23rd Sunday 23rd 10am-3pm. Broadmeadows & District Garden Club Spring Show. Wiseman House cnr Melbourne Road & Widford Street, Glenroy. Enquiries: Margaret Vidler 0430 663 343 for Show Schedule.

October 22nd Saturday 10am-5pm
October 23rd Sunday 10am-3pm.
 Cactus & Succulent Society of Australia. Succulent & Cacti Show and huge plant sale. Mt Waverley Community Centre, 47 Miller Crescent Mt Waverley. Entry: \$7.00 Children U15 Free. enquiries@cssaustralia.org.au

October 22nd Saturday 10am-3.30pm. Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden Open Day. Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden, Cnr. Green Street & Bulla Road, Bulla. The Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden is the most complete public collection of Alister Clark roses. These beautiful roses which are rarely seen in public gardens will be in full bloom on the day. Entry: Free. Enquiries: Helen 9205 2306.

October 23rd Sunday 12noon-4pm. Ivanhoe Garden Club Festa 2016. Bellfield Community Centre. Cnr. Oriol Road & Banksia Street, Ivanhoe. Talks on Chooks, Composting & vegie growing. Homemade jams, preserves, soaps & handmade cards. Organic Ivanhoe honey & honey products. Recycled wooden planter boxes for sale. Power point presentation on Growing Asian Greens & sale of Asian green seedlings. Enquiries: Julie 94994659 or 0401161461.

MONTHLY COMPETITION

October 26th: One Container Mixed Cut Flowers – At Least Three Kinds

MONTHLY MEETING

October 26th: Pelargonium, Geraniums growing & propagating - Rex Chugg