

Glebe Garden Club (Ipswich)

August – September 2015 Newsletter



August Meeting

We were all like possums in headlights this meeting, transfixed to our guest speaker, Leyland Minter.

What a fascinating and history making journey he has lived, leading him to his current discovery of the abundance of natural elements to be extracted from sea water. With almost all of the periodic table represented to provide plants with the minerals and nutrients they need, Leyland showed us first-hand how his new organic bio fertilisers 'Sea Energy' and 'Sea Abrade' have produced such amazing results.

Leyland used three seedlings, all planted in plain coco peat so there were no added nutrients; one seedling received nothing but plain water and was predictably struggling. The second was watered with Seasol and had double the growth. The third seedling was watered with Sea Energy and the comparison was night and day, with the Sea Energy seedling double the size, vastly deeper in colour and significantly more robust than the Seasol pot. When the proof is there in front of you, naturally, Leylands products sold like hot cakes after the meeting with so many of us wanting to achieve the same results at home!



Close up of the significant difference in growth and colour between Seasol (left pots) and Sea Energy (right pots)



Leyland Minter – Among the first scientific pioneers of agricultural research, achieving such results as increasing yield in the global silk industry and developing many of the products we use today, such as the Eco Neem range

Leyland was in hot demand during afternoon tea, answering everyone's questions, so we extend a huge thank you to Leyland for his time and most enjoyable presentation.

September Meeting

We celebrated all things 'palms' this month, with a fantastic slide show presentation by Ben Smith from 'Palms for Brisbane'. Ben gave us a captivating insight into some rare and unusual palms, their growing habits and conditions, environmental likes and dislikes.



Ben Smith from Palms for Brisbane

Ben's knowledge of palms was truly impressive, with two of his best tips being to try coloured varieties of clumping Betel nut palms as a great alternative to Lipstick palms, which contrary to popular belief, will not survive more than a couple of years in Brisbane. The other tip, was that



any palm originating from New Caledonia will do extremely well in our SEQ climate – for example, the Flame Thrower Palm (*Chambeyronia macrocarpa*). Thank you Ben for a very informative presentation.



*The Flame Thrower palm (*Chambeyronia macrocarpa*) - A stunning addition to any SEQ garden.*

Ipswich Home Gardeners Expo®

Wow! What another great success! Every year, our annual expo seems to get better and better. The storms that were forecast stayed away until gates closed and it was a gorgeous sunny Ipswich day that greeted our gardeners from across the region. A huge thank you to everyone who visited on the day and supported this event. We hope you all came away with some great finds and bargains, and enjoyed the tips and knowledge gained from our esteemed guest speakers.

To see some photos of the day, be sure to visit our website gallery or our club facebook page.



Noel Burdette and Jerry Coleby-Williams answering questions at our expo Plant Clinic.

As you can imagine, an event of this size takes a lot of organisation, planning and behind the scenes work, as well as on-the-day commitment and labour. So here's a huge shout out to everyone involved, no matter the size of your contribution...

Thank you!!

We would also like to thank the following people and organisations, and in particular our club secretary David Murphy, who worked tirelessly on this event:

- Ipswich City Council and Mayor Paul Pisasale
- MP's, Shayne Neumann and Jennifer Howard
- The Glebe Garden Club Committee
- Volunteer Glebe Garden Club members and friends
- Glebe Road Uniting Church and volunteers
- Queens Park Boy Scouts and Rangers
- The Fiddlers Inn
- All of our fantastic exhibitors
- Our special guest speakers; Noel Burdette, Jerry Coleby-Williams, Alan Singleton, Le-Anne Whittred and Shirley Dance.
- The Queensland Times, The Ipswich Advertiser and other media.



The friendly faces behind the counter of our Food Canteen.

Friendship Days

Last newsletter, we mentioned that we receive many invitations to friendship days from other gardening clubs and associations. Here are some highlights from recently attended events:

Toowoomba Clivia Society

By Faye Wright

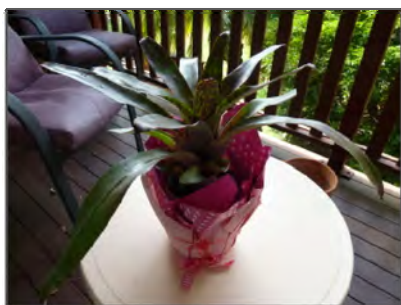
On June 29, Graham and I represented the Garden Club at The Clivia Society Friendship Day in Toowoomba. It was a rather cool, damp day in Toowoomba but a very pleasant function with a soup and sandwich lunch. Everyone who attended received a Clivia seedling. A member of the Society demonstrated how to plant clivia seeds. Guest Speaker, Peter McQueen, a horticulturist from Toowoomba TAFE, spoke on 'Organic Pest Control'. He highlighted a Mundubbera business 'Bugs for Bugs'. They supply beneficial 'bugs' that control 'pest bugs'. It was a very interesting talk. The day concluded with a couple of prizes in the raffle – more clivias.



White Hill Garden Club**By John and Dell Harle**

White Hill Garden Club held their Friendship Day on 15th August and it was well attended. Helen Rattenbury from Jimboomba was Guest Speaker and she spoke on all things that can be re-cycled. One idea was a Swivel from old fishing gear for hanging pots enabling you to turn the pot without it swinging back – good for the plant to have light on all sides for even growth.

Prizes consisted of a table of Plants and if you won you could choose your own. Below is the Bromeliad from our Greenhouse that we donated for a Prize. It was chosen in the first round of numbers drawn, so that was pleasing.



The Bromeliad donated by John and Dell Harle

A Gift Bag with Mini Muffins and Biscuits was given to Guests as well as Ipswich Items. Paul Smith had his wonderful plants for sale and the conclusion of the event was afternoon tea with all the wonderful food delights by the Club.

Spring has sprung!

The gardening calendar is in full swing again, with all things 'spring' being celebrated. Don't forget to check our website and our club meeting noticeboard for upcoming events.

Starting in the 14th century, this time of year was called "springing time", due to the obvious reference of plants "springing" from the ground. In the 15th century, this was shortened to "spring-time" and in the 16th century to "spring".



Before the season was called these terms, it was called "Lent" in Old English.

If you were able to visit the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers (TCOF), you would have experienced the delights of this amazing event. Have you ever wondered what goes into creating these award winning masterpieces? If you are inspired to create your own show stopping garden, here is an excerpt from the TCOF souvenir guide, written by Ross McKinnon, former curator of the Brisbane Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens:

Have you always wanted to enter a garden competition but don't know where to start? Follow these tips:

Year round – information gathering.

- Get to know your local nurseries.
- Attend workshops and information days, watch gardening shows, join a gardening club – the more you learn, the better your garden will be.
- Walk around your neighbourhood and take note of gardens you like.
- TIP: Nurseries are always keen to sell stock that has finished flowering. Spring is a great time to buy Camellias.

October / November – get down and dirty.

Late spring is all about soil preparation.

- Dig in manure and mulch such as hay, straw, compost, a sprinkle of lawn cuttings and some potash.
- For heavy clay soil, dig in Dolomite or Gypsum to break it up and sweeten it if its too acidic.
- Plant new shrubs and trees now, such as camellias.
TIP: Tube stock plants are inexpensive and will re-establish in your garden faster than a larger plant.



Plant in late spring to allow them to reacclimatise and your tree/shrub will be over a metre high by the following spring.

Summer Holidays – get mulching

- Mulch is crucial for a good garden. It's much cheaper to buy it in bulk and as cartage is expensive, consider sharing a truckload with a neighbour.
- Develop a relationship with a local farmer for your regular supply of chook/cow manure.

March / April – action stations

- Autumn is the busiest time in the garden. Separate and replant perennials.
- Get bulbs (daffodils, tulips, ranunculus) and store in the fridge for a month before planting.
- This is your last chance to plant shrubs and trees before winter.

May / June – pinch out annuals

- Late autumn is the time to plant the biggest variety of annuals, vegetables and herbs.
- TIP: Once annuals are established they should be pinched out (buds removed) so the plant puts its energy into growing bigger rather than growing flowers. Do this fortnightly and the plants will be six times larger by spring. For a crescendo of colour, pinch them out again two to three weeks before spring carnival.

July / August – garden sleep time

- Gardens slow down and sometimes stop growing during winter.
- TIP: To avoid frost damage, only water in the morning and cover plants overnight with hessian bags or shade cloth. Old carpet is good to cover lawns.

- If you haven't covered your plants on a frosty night, get up before the sun and lightly hose the lawn and shrub edges to melt ice before the sun rises and burns your plants.

August / September – the garden awakes

- Spray lawns to remove bindii, clover and broad leaf weeds.
- Prune winter and spring shrubs as they finish flowering.



Flowering annuals in a home garden at the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.



October Bus Trip

Our second bus trip this year is an outing to the first annual Brisbane International Garden Show at Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine. This event is shaping up to be a good one,

with some fabulous stalls and guest speakers on offer.

Glebe Garden Club (Ipswich) invites you to join us on a bus trip to the

BRISBANE Garden INTERNATIONAL SHOW
Saturday 10th October 2015

Location: Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine
Departure: The bus will depart from GRUC Green Street entrance at 8:00am
Return Home: The bus will return to the GRUC at approximately 5:00pm
Cost: The cost is \$45.00 which includes the bus fare and entry into the show
Registration: To register your seat on the bus, please see Mavis Wakefield or contact on 3281 0665 or 0408 775 510
Payment: Please see Faye Wright or Mavis Wakefield

For further information visit www.brisbanegardenshow.com.au

The bus will depart from the Glebe Road Uniting Church Green Street entrance at 8:00am and will return at 5pm, Saturday 10th October. As is customary with our bus trips, a delicious morning tea will be served once we reach the grounds. And don't worry if you purchase one too many plants on the day – there is plenty of room under the bus to carry your purchases safely home.

If you would like a place on the bus, please contact Mavis Wakefield (3281 0665 or 0408 775 510).





Did you know?

Camellia buds
take up to 2
weeks to open.

Dropping the
stamens from
your cut lilies
into the vase
water will make
them open
faster – it must
be the stamens
from the same
bunch though or
it will not work.

Committee members

If you have any ideas that may be beneficial to our club functions and/or activities, our committee members would love to hear from you. Perhaps you have some club news or gardening advice you would like to share in our newsletter. Feel free to contact us by phone, by person or via email.

President: Rev. Peter Arnett
0400 774 890

Vice President: David Murphy
Secretary: David Murphy
3288 8467

Assist. Secretary: Faye Wright
Treasurer: Faye Wright
3288 8420

Committee Members

Mavis Wakefield	3281 0665
John Harle	3818 0564
Dell Harle	3818 0564
Judy McLaughlan	3816 0704
Desleigh Murphy	3288 8467
Lee Martin	3129 6062

Email for all matters & inquiries
Secretary, David Murphy
secretary@glebegardenclubipswich.com.au

About our club

The Glebe Garden Club (Ipswich) was formed in November 1999. While it is an outreach ministry of the Glebe Road Uniting Church, its primary role is that of a garden club servicing the community and open for anyone in the community to join and become a member. The club operates in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, is

multifunctional in its activities and does not specialise in any particular area or plant species. It is a general garden club!

The Glebe Garden Club conducts its club functions on the first Saturday of every month (except January) commencing at 1.30 pm.

We meet in the big hall of the Glebe Road Uniting Church, cnr Glebe Rd and Green Street, Booval.

While the program for each club function varies, the format revolves around a guest speaker, helpful hints, gardening news, question time, birthday club, lucky door prizes, and afternoon tea. The cost of each club function is \$2.00 per person. Members can also become financial members at a cost of \$10.00 each year, or \$15.00 per couple.

Club activities have not been limited to in-doors, but also outdoor activities, some being bus trips, visiting personal gardens and parks, and presenting horticultural displays at various shows. The club has also taken on a project, in conjunction with the Ipswich City Council, to refurbish and re-open Queen's Park Glass House to the public.

The focus of the club has, and will always be, people. Because the club involves members from many walks of life, it is totally focused towards the sensitivity of its members. It is often in sharing and working alongside others that the greatest bonds of friendship are built, and meaningful dialogue takes place. You are most welcome at the Glebe Garden Club!

Until next time...
Happy Gardening! 😊
(Editor)

