

ROGI News

ROGI meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday night of the month, with doors opening at 6.15pm. Members can visit the plant table, Seed Bank, library and stalls, or have a chat and something to eat before the meeting. Please be seated by 7pm ready for the proceedings.

Bayside Community Church
1-9 MacArthur Street
ALEXANDRA HILLS

Don't forget:

- A small plate of finger food to share for supper (hot/cold)
- Your keep cup for a cuppa
- Return washed seedling pots
- Bring a basket/box/bag for your purchases
- Any questions for Plant Clinic
- A plant for ROGI Rewards
- Free swap/share/giveaway

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ROGI webpage: www.rogi.com.au
ROGI Email: info@rogi.com.au

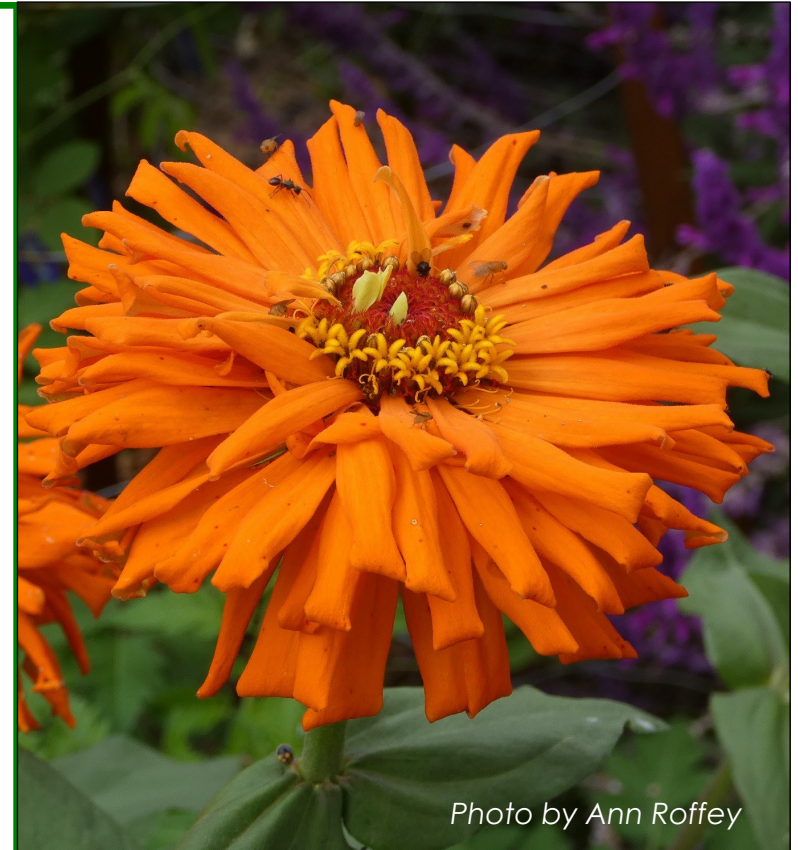


Photo by Ann Roffey

Not only do flowers look good, they provide food for pollinators and beneficial insects. Other benefits are outlined on pages 11-12 in Linda's informative article. Flowers that do well in our summer heat are zinnias (above), as well as alyssum, celosia, coreopsis, cosmos, dahlias, echinacea, marigolds and sunflowers.

Jill's Jottings

Our last meeting had a bit of an uncertain start, as three of our four AV-trained members were unable to come, and Erin could not arrive at ROGI from work until almost 7pm. However, 'disaster' was averted when Mike and Keith spoke on the phone with COVID-stricken Bevan who guided them through the procedure. Thank you to all three for saving the day.

Although both Mike and Keith have their official roles, it will be good to have a couple of spare AV operators should a similar situation arise in the future. As ever, we are always keen to have offers of help for any job in ROGI. Please talk with a committee member.

As your management committee, we want to make sure we are delivering what you need and want from ROGI to help you make the most of your membership and achieve success in your gardening endeavours. Please let us know any ideas you have to improve ROGI's offerings.

Several years ago I read a book called *'The Soil will Save Us: How Scientists, Farmers and Foodies are Healing the Soil to Save the Planet'* by Kristin Ohlson.

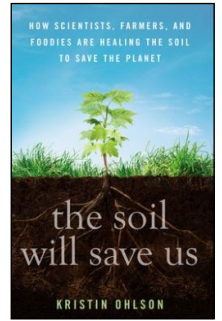
Some takeaways from the book are:

- There is a trend towards small farming, but these farmers may call themselves 'soil farmers' or 'microbe farmers' or 'carbon farmers'. They concentrate their efforts on what's in the soil and then everything else thrives.
- Mother Nature has a low-tech method of extracting carbon from the atmosphere: photosynthesis and the build-up of carbon in the soil that naturally follows; so grow plants on every spot of your land to maximise photosynthesis and do your bit to sequester carbon.
- Bare land starves the soil microbes. They need living plants (or dead, in the form of mulch) to get their food.

- How many microorganisms are in a cup of healthy soil? More than all the humans who have ever lived! Wow!

The message is: take care of the little fellas.

As members of ROGI and keen organic gardeners, I'm sure we're all doing our best to put this into practice in our yards.



Now that spring is well-and-truly here, your plants most likely are looking pretty good. That usually means your weeds are doing pretty well also. As we know, all the word 'weed' reflects is someone's negative attitude towards that particular plant. Purslane, cobbler's pegs, dandelion, chickweed, fat hen and more are common in our area and are all edible by us and our chooks. Why not borrow a weed book from the library and discover how to make the most of these free greens?

While we're talking about edible weeds, remember the edible flowers. Fruity sage, chives, pineapple sage, chicory, brassica, dandelion, viola, pansy, nasturtium, coriander, cosmos, borage and calendula are just some of the flowers whose petals you can eat. Their other benefit is that the beneficial insects need them.

Jill Nixon
ROGI President



October Meeting

Basics of Australian Native Bees



Sarah Hamilton is an Australian native beekeeper based in Brisbane. Australian native bees help pollinate your gardens and crops, helping them bloom to their greatest potential. Producing a unique honey, they are stingless, making them completely safe to have in all environments. They are very simple to install and maintain.

Not only are stingless bees a safe and fun educational tool with a wide variety of learning outcomes, they can also act as a form of therapy for people who are experiencing mental, emotional or physical difficulties. Sarah's focus over the last few years has been to get her hives into therapeutic spaces for these reasons. Did you know she has a few installed at the Redlands hospital?

Come along and learn the basics of stingless bees, their care and their benefits. Sarah will also have hive tools and books for sale, cash only.

The usual attractions will be there - Seed Bank, the well-stocked library, some seedlings and plants, plus local honey, home-made jam, and more.

ROGI Members \$2.00 entry
Visitors \$5.00 entry
Free tea and coffee

Supper will be held at the beginning of the night (6.30pm). It would be appreciated if all attending could contribute by bringing a small plate of finger food to share (hot or cold). The meeting starts at 7pm.

ROGI Events

SEED SAVERS GROUP *

Tuesday 15 October - 10 to 11.30am

Sowing the Seed for a Productive Summer Garden!

We'll be looking at how and what to plan for a summer garden that gives you food every day. We'll also separate and package up seeds for sharing at ROGI meetings. These are collected from our own gardens, dried and saved to share with members free of charge.

Please bring:

- *Seeds from non hybrid plants that you'd like to winnow/ separate and share*
- *A hat*
- *A cup for morning tea*

You are welcome to walk around our garden before or after our meeting. It promises to be a fun day once again.

*** PLEASE BOOK ON TEAMAPP**

FIELD TRIP

Yandina Community Gardens & Cedar Creek Nursery **Saturday 19 October (full day)**

*We will car pool from the PCYC at Degen Road, Capalaba, leaving at **7.30am**. Our first stop is the Yandina Community Gardens. We will then visit Jenny at Cedar Creek Nursery, and enjoy a tour and informative presentation on her fruit trees. Jenny is offering a range of fruit trees to purchase for \$15.00 each (only for those who attend the visit). You are asked to bring your own lunch, or it can be bought at a cafe close by. To book, please email tonibowler@hotmail.com your name and if you need a lift/you wish to be a driver. Drivers will be compensated by ROGI for petrol for a full car only. Toni can be contacted on 0402 323 704.*

Welcome New Committee Members!

VICE PRESIDENT: KEITH HESLOP

I grew up in Stanthorpe on an apple orchard. I left to join the Royal Australian Navy and worked as a helicopter maintainer (airframe and engines), later changing my role to a professional photographer for the Navy. After ten years of service I pursued a career as a professional photographer in Brisbane and had a successful business for nine years. My next role for 16 years was as a telecommunications rigger, working all over Australia on mobile phone networks like Telstra, Optus and Vodaphone. I currently work in the aerospace industry in Capalaba.



Ten years ago, I set out with a dream: to transform our 750sqm property in Birkdale into a sustainable oasis before retirement. What started as an overgrown yard with a few citrus trees and an old fern house has evolved into a vision for a self-sufficient future. Along the way, I realized the importance of generating passive income and cutting utility costs, which led me down an incredible learning journey.

I've immersed myself in the world of aquaponics, aquaculture, worm farming, subtropical fruit trees, wicking beds, vegetables, herbs, and raised garden beds. My interest also extends to renewable energy systems and home automation. I have developed a power system with digital timers, speed controllers, and climate controllers—all rigorously tested over five years.

Now, my garden features a growing collection of banana species, figs, dragon fruit, citrus, sugarcane, and finger limes,

with 40% of the work complete. Whilst I work full-time, I dedicate time to the garden daily. I have plans to complete it in the next five years. One of my accomplishments this year was installing ten large LED lights, allowing me to pick fresh vegetables, even on winter nights.

This year I joined ROGI, recognising the value of teamwork and community. I'm excited to contribute my knowledge and continue learning, one plant at a time.

COMMITTEE MEMBER: ANIKO MAJOR

My first encounter with ROGI was about ten years ago, when Pal Juvancz, a fellow Hungarian, shared some of his ROGI experiences with me and suggested I go along to the monthly meetings. Regrettably, however, I was not interested in gardening. In our family it was my husband who did some ad hoc gardening, with much more disappointment than success. He did manage to go along to one meeting but had no interest in joining.

Our blasé attitude to gardening was somewhat surprising, considering that our parents have always been, and still are, amazing organic gardeners. They grew all kinds of vegetables, herbs and even fruits in their limited backyards, complemented with raising chooks, pigs, rabbits, geese, ducks and even goats and sheep. They were versatile and knowledgeable...to which we just shrug our shoulders.

However, this was all to change with the 2021 lockdowns. I suddenly realised that growing our own organic food might just be essential in the future so I swiftly joined ROGI and started to re-imagine our backyard. We live on a half an acre block which we bought for its 'holiday appeal': countless palm trees, bromeliads, and natives around the pool, plus plenty of mock orange along the fence to provide privacy. Heaps of grass in between too.

Welcome New Committee Members! *(continued)*

With much manual work we eventually managed to create a few garden beds and commenced growing edibles. With some guidance we planted citrus trees, finger lime, a coffee tree, acerola cherry, Brazilian cherry, and heaps of banana trees. Thus far we have successfully grown eggplants, zucchini, spinach, beans, lots of herbs, turmeric, galangal, capsicum, and, of course, cherry tomatoes. At present, we are learning about the value of flowers.

In addition to ROGI, I keenly attend groups that intrigue me, such as sound healing, felting, women's circles, etc. I even run my own groups of Movie Nights and Connecting Consciousness. Over the years I have dabbled in many other groups including energy healing, Red Tent, various Meetup groups, travel, etc. I love meeting new people and enjoy volunteering. I volunteered at my children's school over many years, and recently at the Brisbane Jazz Club and Co.As.It. for two years. Volunteering my time at ROGI is my new and exciting adventure. I have a lot to learn, and I trust that I can contribute in some capacity to this wonderful organisation.

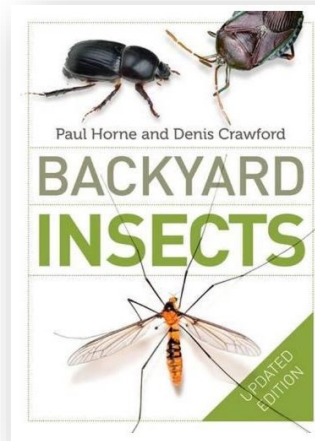
TREASURER & LIBRARIAN: ROSE FALEAFA

I've always been interested in gardening. A few years ago I removed some large ornamentals from my garden, and this made me re-evaluate what I wanted to achieve in my small yard.

At about the same time I joined ROGI, and was instantly amazed by the expansive knowledge of members and the idea that even small spaces can be very productive. So, I started putting in fruit trees and dabbling more with vegetables.

I've more recently become interested in endemic plants and productive perennials, and look forward to eventual retirement so that I can devote more time to gardening and reading. I decided to become part of the Committee because I value the purpose and goals of ROGI.

Library News



We have two new additions to the ROGI Library:

* *Backyard Insects* by Paul Horne and Denis Crawford (NP-blue dot)

* *1-Minute Gardener* by Mat Pember and Fabian Capomolla (GG-orange dot). Book review below.

BOOK REVIEW

1-Minute Gardener

By Mat Pember and Fabian Capomolla



As the name suggests, this book has 70 ideas which can each be read in one minute and done in not much more time. Packed with step-by-step instructions and matching images, it's very easy to follow. The authors cover everything from choosing a site to what to do with your harvest, and so much more in between.

There are handy projects, often using recycled items, and ways to protect your plants from marauding pests. It also has

'Top Five' plant category recommendations throughout. For example, easy growers, tomato varieties and fast growers.

This is a terrific book for the beginner gardener!

By Rose Faleafa, ROGI Librarian

Microclimates in the Garden

Reported by Ann Roffey.

Source: Kate Wall. Photos by Kate Wall

Kate Wall is a highly regarded and awarded Brisbane horticulturalist and gardening author. At our September meeting she gave us an insight as to why subtle differences in the climate within our gardens can be the difference between a plant thriving or dying. When you work with these microclimates you will find gardening so much easier.

Microclimates matter, because although plants have a broad range of tolerances, they always have a preference where they want to grow. Plants will be easier to grow and require less care if they are growing in a climate that suits them.

Sun and Shade. If a plant requires full sun, that means six hours of sun a day. Part shade is less than four hours of sun a day. Work out how much sun a spot gets in a day and plant the right plant there. E.g. grow Brazilian walking iris in the shade and geraniums in the sun. Furry and grey leaved plants need more sun.

Summer Sun but Winter Shade. Only certain plants will tolerate summer sun and winter shade. One example is the frangipani. It doesn't need sun in winter as it is deciduous. Not all plants need sun all year round; they require more sun at the time of flowering. Examples given were Salvia Black Knight, *Odontonema strictum* Fire spike, dracaenas and cordylines, *Strobilanthes goldfussia*, Chinese rain bell, iriscene, and Brazilian spinach.

Slope. At the top of the slope grow plants that don't like to be waterlogged. Examples are geraniums, lavender, rosemary, olive and aloes. The challenge of mid slope growing is to get water and nutrients to soak in rather than run off. Alter the microclimate by digging trenches/swales across the slope. This will help water penetrate the soil. The bottom of the slope is excellent for growing bananas, as they require lots of water and nutrients.

Hard Surfaces. Are your hard surfaces directing water away from your garden? Are they reflecting extra heat into your garden?

Pictured right is oregano growing between pavers. It tolerates the heat of the pavers and reduces heat that normally would be reflected back into the garden. If we work with microclimates you can find plants that suit.



Air Flow. Some plants require good air flow, especially mediterranean plants such as lavender. Lavender doesn't like humidity. If you grow it on the verge in full sun it will be happy. Big-leaved plants require more water and have better tolerance of humidity. Indoor plants like humidity, so placing them near fans and in air conditioning will not do them any favours. Move them away, and sit them next to a dish of water or spray the leaves with a water spray bottle.

Drainage. Most of south-east Queensland has heavy clay. Plants that require free draining soil include natives such as grevillea and westringia, bay laurel, salvias, pawpaw and citrus. Plants that don't mind poor drainage are day lily, peace lily, lily pillies, native violet, fire spike and canna. If you plant in a spot that isn't free draining you can mound it to improve drainage.

Soil. The better your soil, the greater the chance a plant will cope with a less-than-ideal microclimate. Add microbes, rock minerals and compost to your soil to improve it. If plants are dying, their right situation is not being met.

Microclimates in the Garden (continued)

The plants in this photo are growing in full sun in summer, and full shade in winter. They also don't have good drainage, but are thriving because a slope has been created to allow water to run off.



The information for Kate's talk is only one chapter in her book *Earth Repair Gardening*. She has written three books, the others being *Working With Weeds* and *Gardening After a Flood*.



Kate's books can be bought directly from katwall.com.au. She also offers garden coaching and online gardening courses.

Plant Clinic

Reported by Linda Brennan, Ecobotanica

Parsley with leaf spots

This is most likely to be septoria leaf spot of parsley (*Septoria petrosileni*). This fungal disease on the parsley usually comes with infected seed. It can be managed with potassium bicarbonate, e.g. *Eco Fungicide*, but it cannot be eradicated on the plant. The most effective thing to do is to remove the infected parsley plant and dispose of it in a bag in the bin. Clean up all dead leaves in the spot, and avoid growing parsley for four years in the spot.

Source: <https://ipm.ucanr.edu/agriculture/cilantro-and-parsley/septoria-leaf-spot/#gsc.tab=0>



Lemon Balm with leaf spots

It's hard to differentiate in the sample given and without a hand lens to look at it, but it's most likely either septoria spot of lemon balm or bacterial leaf spot. Both diseases are exacerbated by hot, humid days and cool nights, and overhead watering on leaves. It's best to remove the diseased plant and start again, giving soil based watering i.e. dunking the pot in water to wet the soil rather than hosing overhead.

Garden Visit - Greg Lindner, Wynnum West

Greg and Louise have lived here for 15 years – it was grass over a clay soil. What a difference now! They live in Wynnum West, so there is kerbside cleanup collection. Greg loves this! When they say that one man's rubbish is another man's treasure, they are talking about Greg – the king of recycling/repurposing! Here are some examples:

Repurposed Bath Tubs

1. Wicking Beds.

There are ten bathtubs that Greg has made into self-watering wicking beds with the facility to reuse the water. Although these work very well, he would use old IBCs (International Bulk Containers) if he started again. There are two 5,000 litre water tanks nearby on the southern wall.



2. Worm Farm. One bathtub has become Greg's worm farm. He has built a tall frame covered with green shade cloth to shield it from extreme heat. Manure from stabled horses (no weed seeds) is the substrate, and kitchen scraps are added regularly. Greg and Louise collect these scraps (minus citrus and onion family) in containers in the fridge until they've collected enough to put them through a blender (kept purely for this purpose) before feeding the worms. Egg shells are important for their calcium content.

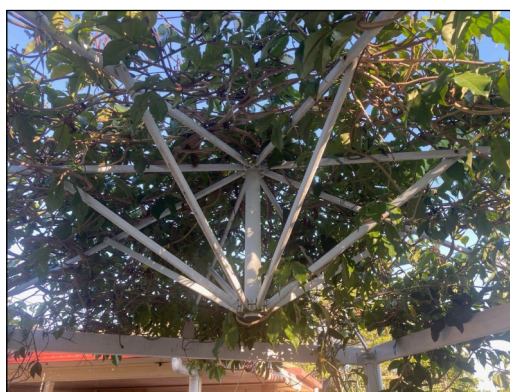
The area is used one half at a time so that the worms will all move to the side where the food is. Once it's full, he starts adding to the other side. Once the worms vacate the full side, Greg can harvest the rich worm castings they leave behind. He uses them to



make his own seed-raising mix (he adds perlite) and he also adds it to the hole when planting out seedlings. (Thank you, Greg, for the container of worm casting mix that you gave to us.)

3. Asparagus Beds. Two bathtubs grow asparagus, which was still gathering energy, ready to burst forth in spring.

4. There is a bathtub to spare – anyone want one?



Gazebo Greg made this structure using an old market umbrella for the top. Covering it are *Ipomea horsfalliae* (cardinal creeper) and *Petrea volubilis* (sandpaper vine), which would be a beautiful sight when in flower.

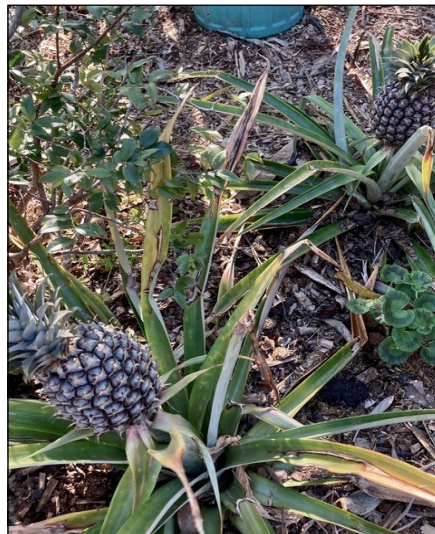
Garden Visit - Greg Lindner, Wynnum West *(continued)*

Using empty aerosol spray cans. Greg uses these to make little pots in which to sow seeds. Different brands have different-sized bases so you can vary the size of your 'pots'.



Recycled pineapples. Yes, you read correctly! Local community garden members were invited to clear an old garden because the house was being demolished for development. Greg dug up some fruiting pineapples and they are doing well!

Woodchip is on the pathways to 200mm deep. This will gradually rot down at which time Greg will use it as a base for potting mix.

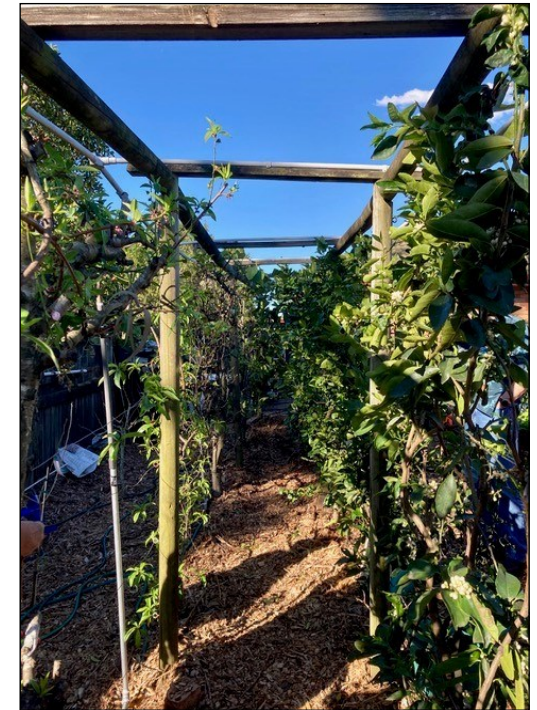


Compost. There are three large compost bins positioned on a platform frame so that the compost can fall below the level of the bin's base. Then the finished compost can be collected through a flap below the platform.



Greg is full of ingenious ideas! He has an Ozito powered auger which he uses to stir and aerate the compost. The compost bins are filled on a rotational basis – one being filled, one 'cooking' and one being emptied. Greg says a minimum of three bins/bays are needed to give the compost enough time to fully mature.

He has numerous fruit trees. There is a delightful tunnel with espaliered trees on each side – lemonade, lime, orange, apple, fig, tropical peach and nectarine.



Garden Visit - Greg Lindner, Wynnum West *(continued)*



There's jackfruit (a massive tree that produces massive fruit), feijoa, chocolate pudding fruit, astringent persimmon, jaboticaba (very slow-growing), and a custard apple.

On the western side there is a sturdy frame holding a currently-dormant *Iona* grapevine. This shades the bedroom in summer, but allows warmth in during winter.

Problem-solving

The **avocado** elicited a lot of discussion considering this is clay soil and thus prone to waterlogging. Avocado trees need perfect drainage as they are very susceptible to phytophthora root rot, which will kill the tree. Twenty-four hours of wet feet spells the beginning of the end.

The tree is near a fence with vacant public land on the other side which is lower than Greg's land. He dug down and modified the clay soil and inserted drainage pipes within the hole to drain surplus water away below the fence. Then he built up above the soil level and planted the avocado tree.

For information on phytophthora: <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/biosecurity/plants/diseases/horticultural/phytophthora-root-rot>

The original framework for the **dragonfruit gave way under the weight** (hundreds of kilos!) of these cacti, so Greg built a very sturdy new structure that will do the job. Greg had cuttings of red

and white to give away. There was some discussion about the flowering of dragonfruit – here's a link with info on that:

<https://dragonfruitobsession.github.io/analysis/data-analysis.html>

Rats have been eating produce out of the wicking beds – a very frustrating problem that many gardeners know about. He's used a rather vicious-looking rat trap which worked well for a while, but perhaps word got out as it's not working now. One trap disappeared overnight, and it had a rat stuck in it – an owl maybe? Once he found a rat's foot left in the trap – the rest of the rat was gone! No wonder they're staying clear!



Then he bought a mesh cage live trap. Seems they are used to that one now as well. There was some discussion about what to do with the live rat once it's been caught. Drowning is the recommended humane approach, although opinions may differ. Relocation? Freezing?

After walking all around Greg's garden (there's more, but you get the idea) we adjourned for afternoon tea – sitting on recycled kerbside chairs. What a wonderful afternoon, and the weather was springtime warm. Lovely. Thank you Greg and Louise for hosting us and being so generous with your time.

A Garden Visit is a great way to get to know other gardeners in a more relaxed setting than a ROGI meeting. Exchanging ideas and advice is always stimulating and we go home reinvigorated to get stuck into our own garden. Let us know when you're ready for us to visit your garden. We don't want or expect perfection as a productive garden is always a work in progress.

Report by Jill Nixon. Photos by Kathy Petrik and Jill Nixon.

Vegie Garden Companion Flowers

By Linda Brennan, Ecobotanica

We often think of companion planting as marigolds planted around tomatoes to help deal with root knot nematode. However, there are many more reasons, and flowers, that we can plant in the vegie patch to help keep our plants healthy.

Companion plants:

- may deter pests
- attract beneficial insects that parasitise or eat pest insects
- can act as a decoy or sacrificial plant
- may feed a crop through nitrogen fixing bacteria
- can reduce plant stress by creating shade
- are most likely to attract pollen or nectar feeding insects that are also crop pollinators

Create shade, reduce stress

When planting your summer lettuces, coriander, rocket and other leafy greens, consider planting them on the south side of Queen Anne's Lace or Garland Chrysanthemum (*Glebionis coronaria*) for some sun relief. The lettuces etc will run to seed if they are water or heat stressed in hot weather, so shade cast from another row of plants is immensely beneficial.



Blue cornflower

Deter and confuse white cabbage butterfly

Planting blue flowering annuals (e.g. lobelia, Love-in-a-mist or blue cornflowers), as well as red poppies dotted between rows of cabbages and other brassicas such as sprouting broccoli and Asian greens are effective at confusing and deterring the cabbage white butterfly that lays

eggs on these leaves. She prefers brassicas for her eggs to hatch on and consume.

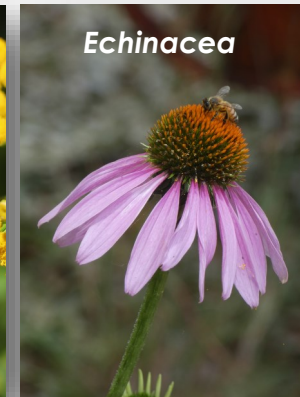
An odorous combination

Once my apple and nectarine trees have set fruit, I transplant feverfew underneath. The feverfew keeps away unwanted pests with its odour. I also net the plants with vegie net to ensure no fruit fly!

Strong smelling foliage and flowers such as tansy, dill, fennel and nasturtium will also help to deter pests through scent confusion. You need to take care that these plants don't overtake the crop as they can be boisterous.



Tansy



Echinacea



Fennel

Pollinators please

To attract bees and other pollinators to crops such as zucchini, cucumbers and melons, grow basil nearby and allow it to flower. Cosmos, calendulas and alyssum all attract pollinators that will likely hop or fly on over from the attractive flowers to your crops and give them a tickle too.

I also find a patch of borage and some echinacea and coreopsis will encourage a multitude of bees and other pollinators to the vegie garden.

Vegie Garden Companion Flowers (continued)



Fixing food

Sweet peas, broad beans and lupins (in a cool climate), are legumes and will fix atmospheric nitrogen, thus feeding adjacent plants as the original plant roots die and release the plant available nitrogen. These can be grown concurrently or prior to a vegie crop that needs a companion feeder plant.

Above all, planting flowers in or around your vegetable garden will bring a smile to your face and will get you out into the patch more often to admire the beauty of your planting. In doing so, you'll be much more attuned to the insects and to the vegetable growth in the garden.

Happy planting!

VALE BILL MELLOR

Bill Mellor will be remembered fondly by long-term ROGI members for his enthusiasm for gardening, his interest in people, and his passion for making cakes from fruit grown in his garden. Those who attended the August meeting this year will recall him speaking about his dragon fruit cuttings, which he came to ROGI especially to share. Sadly, Bill passed away on Sunday, 15 September 2024. He was 95 years old.

Bill was a member of ROGI since 2017. He enjoyed telling 'Dad' jokes, and always had a plate of his legendary (and healthy!) home-made cakes to share at meetings and garden visits. These very often featured chocolate pudding fruit from his black sapote tree. If you'd like to check out Bill's recipes, they are featured on page 10 of the ROGI May 2020 newsletter: <https://www.rogi.com.au/uploads/May2020.pdf>

John Borg and I were privileged to be given a guided tour of Bill's half acre block in Victoria Point in May 2020. He had a huge variety of subtropical fruit trees, including mango, banana, dragon fruit, macadamia, citrus, pomegranate, avocado, passionfruit, pawpaw, jackfruit and of course, his favourite, the black sapote.

By Ann Roffey



Bill was always in his element in the garden. Well into his nineties he could still be found pottering outside in his beloved garden.



Upcoming Events

WELCOME BACK, SHOREBIRDS

GJ Walter Park, Shore Street East, Cleveland

Sunday 13th October, 8.30-12 noon

More Information on Flyer (right)

HELPERS NEEDED TO STAFF ROGI STALL!

ROGI will be staffing a stall to support the important environmental issue of protecting wildlife in our local area. We will have bird-attracting and beneficial insect-attracting plants, seedlings and seeds for sale at this event. Please be in touch with a committee member if you're keen to help out on Sunday 13.



BETHANIA STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

Bethania Street, Lota

COMPOSTING AND WORM FARMS

Sunday 13th October 2024, 9:30am - 11:30am

Join us for this hands-on workshop, where you will learn the basics of composting and worm farming, various types of composting and what is compostable. There will be time for troubleshooting problems and answering your questions.

This event is free, but bookings are essential. Please email your name and phone number to bethaniabooking@gmail.com

HARVEST SHARE

Sunday 27th October 2024, 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Gold coin donation - No booking required

FREE FAMILY FUN!

TOONDAH ALLIANCE PRESENTS

WELCOME BACK, SHOREBIRDS

Sun 13 Oct **8:30 - 12 noon** **GJ WALTER PARK**
SHORE STREET EAST, CLEVELAND QLD

Celebrate **World Migratory Bird Day** and its focus **Protect Insects, Protect Birds.**

- Watch shorebirds through long range scopes
- Hear 'The Bug Lady' Michelle Gleeson explain why birds need insects to survive - and get a close-up look at her 'bug display'
- Learn more about birds, insects, koalas and other wildlife around us
- Fun Art activities
- Plus:** Art, food, music, market stalls, nature displays

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT A BETTER TOONDAH HARBOUR PLAN
- See what's possible

Supported by

Ubuntu Foundation, ACF Community Bayside, birdlife, Redlands 2030, GJ Walter Park, KOALA, Manly, ECF

FOR MORE INFORMATION [ACFcommunitybayside](https://www.facebook.com/ACFcommunitybayside)

Some Reminders from your New President & Committee

ROGI has several systems in place for members to share plants, produce and surplus useful gardening-related 'stuff'. Please consider contributing to one or all of these occasionally. They are:

Swap/share/give-away. Situated outside. **Items you don't want payment for** e.g. egg cartons, empty jars and pots, surplus chillies, coffee grounds, shredded paper, cuttings/prunings or strawberry runners, surplus produce when you have a glut, and so on. This is where you may want to work out an arrangement with other members to do some swapping outside of the meetings. If in doubt, ask. (*This is for members only*). If your item is still there at the end of the meeting, please take it home with you.

ROGI Rewards. These are **gift-quality items** such as a lovely plant or something you have made that is valuable, such as a jar of bone broth or jam or preserves, or a tool that you no longer need in good condition. If in doubt, ask. ROGI Rewards only needs a few items – four or five is enough. Plant needs to be labelled with its name and growing details, and the donor's name.

Plant and seedling sales table. We ask you to sow more seeds than you think you need; hopefully they all germinate and do well. Then you can bring the surplus for ROGI to sell. Maybe you struck some mulberry cuttings or cassava sticks and they are ready for someone to plant. These are for sale at very low prices and the proceeds go to ROGI. Please make sure they're all labelled.

Seed Savers table. This is run by Erin (flowers) and John (veg and herbs). Members save seeds from their successful crops and donate them to ROGI to be given away to members. Thus the seeds are acclimatised to local conditions. This is separate from the **ROGI Seed Bank** which has seeds for sale.

Members' sales table. Items you have produced that are surplus to your requirements and that **you wish to sell** to other members e.g. eggs, honey, jam, seedlings, lemons – things that have cost you money/time/effort to produce. Please ensure items are labelled, named and priced. You will need to help staff the stall.



ROGI Gift Membership

Welcome to ROGI - this gift certificate entitles you to full ROGI membership from until

Signed

 Redland Organic Growers Inc
www.rogi.com.au

ROGI is a community organic gardening group based in Redland City. Meetings are held on 2nd Thursday each month (not January) From 6.15 for a 7pm start at Bayside Community Church, Corner McDonald Rd & Macarthur St, Alexandra Hills.

NEED IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS?

ROGI has Gift Memberships for sale. See Rhonda at the front desk to purchase.



DUCKS TO GIVE AWAY

4 pet ducks, 1 laying. Will not separate.

Please text Francke on 0408 080 113 if you're interested.

ROGI MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Jill Nixon	president@rogi.com.au
VICE PRESIDENT	Keith Heslop	vp@rogi.com.au
SECRETARY	Michael Qualmann	secretary@rogi.com.au
TREASURER	Rose Faleafa	treasurer@rogi.com.au
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Rhonda Binns, Toni Bowler, Aniko Major	

OFFICE BEARERS

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The views expressed in ROGI News and at ROGI meetings are those of the Editor and submitters and guest speakers, not necessarily those of Redland Organic Growers Inc.

Email: info@rogi.com.au **Webpage:** www.rogi.com.au
www.facebook.com/groups/redland.organic.growers

Other gardening groups using organic methods:

Brisbane Organic Growers Inc (BOGI)—
1st Thursday every month (except Jan),
Albion Peace Hall, 102 McDonald Rd, Windsor,
6.30 for 7.30pm. 3357 3171 <http://bogi.org.au>

Qld Herb Society—1st Tuesday every month,
Albion Peace Hall. 7.30pm. 54268299
<http://www.qldherbsociety.org.au/qhs>

Oaklands Street Community Garden—Wednesday
and Friday 9-noon, Sunday 2-5pm. Oaklands Street,
Alexandra Hills. 0408 259 445

PLEASE RETURN YOUR POTS TO THE PLANT TABLE

Please **return washed seedling pots and punnets** to the ROGI plant table so that they can be reused - especially small pots and the 4-cell ones like these:



Also other clean used pots (small sizes up to 120mm diameter). Square pots are good too.

Bigger pots, such as those you get through ROGI Rewards can be put on the swap/share/giveaway table in the foyer.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

We'd like to hear from you!

For example, send us:

- A story about your garden
- A photo of an interesting plant
- An article about an unusual plant
- A request for items or information
- Specific garden or nutrition information
- A recipe for home-grown produce
- A notice that you have something to give away or sell
- A handy technique or tip
- A gardening problem solved
- Anything to do with organic growing
- A review of a ROGI library book

Please send your items to the editor and help keep the ROGI Newsletter topical, interesting, local and relevant.

Email newsletter@rogi.com.au

The November newsletter deadline is 31 OCTOBER 2024