



E: newsletter.bundyorgard@gmail.com M: PO Box 4158, Bundaberg South QLD 4670

E: secretary.bundyorgard@gmail.com Secretary Karyn Ennor 0447 360 882

Website: <https://www.bundaberg-organic-gardeners.com/>

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022

Hello and welcome to our November Newsletter.

October was a great month for Workshops and Field trips! It was so helpful to learn more about successfully growing parsley from Marlene and Dragon Fruit from Lenzie. More information about these workshops is in this newsletter.

We appreciate members inviting us to view their gardens. The October visits to Cathy and Dan's and Bhavana's were no exception. I'm sure you'll enjoy reading about these visits too.

Note: Lenzie is opening up his garden on this Saturday, 26th November for members and friends to view. Details further down in this newsletter!

You are most welcome to contribute your best gardening tips or recipe using organic products, please contact me by email at newsletter.bundyorgard@gmail.com

As there is no newsletter or meeting in December, I'll take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2023!
Happy gardening!
Deltry (Newsletter Editor)

CLUB MEETING – Tuesday 29th November 2022

Always the last Tuesday of the Month.

Time: Doors open 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start

November Speaker: Trevor will be sharing important information about DIY Soil-Biology Booster! There is a link in your November email from Secretary Karyn!

Please note there is no December Tuesday meeting. Our next BOGI meeting will be on Tuesday 31st January!

Venue: McNaught Hall (Uniting Church Hall)
Corner Barolin and Electra Street, Bundaberg

Attendance \$3-member, \$5 visitor, tea, coffee avail.

Reminder: Members, please wear your badges to the meeting! Thank you!

Get your lucky door ticket (free with entry), bring along produce to show on the 'From My Garden' table and share in the free seedlings at the end of the meeting.

Christmas Raffle

Please return tickets and money for the raffle at either the November meeting or at the Christmas party.

First Prize is a 16 litre Swagman Sprayer 12 Volt with wheels (easy work).

Second Prize is a Stihl Battery-powered hand-held chainsaw.

Both excellent prizes. Make sure you get your tickets.



Here are the great raffle prizes!
Drawn at our BOGI Christmas Party
On 11th December



16 Litre Swagman Sprayer
with Wheels 12 Volt

Membership

Membership Fees: These are due before our Annual General Meeting which is held at the March Meeting. There will be a reminder in the February Newsletter and membership fees can be paid in February or March.

Membership fees are:

Single Person - \$15, Family - \$25.

If you are unsure if your membership is still current or you wish to renew your membership, please ring Kay, our Treasurer on 0477014096 or check at the front desk when you come to the next Tuesday night Meeting.

Visitors are eligible to apply for BOGI membership after attending three (3) events e.g. evening meetings or Field events. Once your membership is finalised, a membership badge is presented to you at the next Tuesday night meeting.

Growing Parsley for Commercial Sale

BOGI meeting 25th October

The October meeting saw members treated to two workshops. One of these was delivered by Marlene who shared how she and Malcolm grow parsley for commercial sale.

The parsley is cut off at ground level once a year in December. This foliage is laid on the soil and the a 'new' soil is placed back on top of this. Marlene demonstrated how this replacement soil for the parsley beds is prepared.

Replacement Soil

Into a cement mixer barrel is placed: the top 100mm (4") of existing soil which has been removed from the parsley beds, mulch (double the volume of the soil), gypsum and Neptune. The cement mixer is used to combine the soil and amendments.

Before the new soil is replaced, Super Growth, Blood and Bone Plus and Cow Manure Plus are sprinkled over the top of the cut parsley in the beds.

The newly mixed soil is then spread over the beds. On top of this is sprinkled Manutec Trace Elements and wood chip. The beds are then watered well.

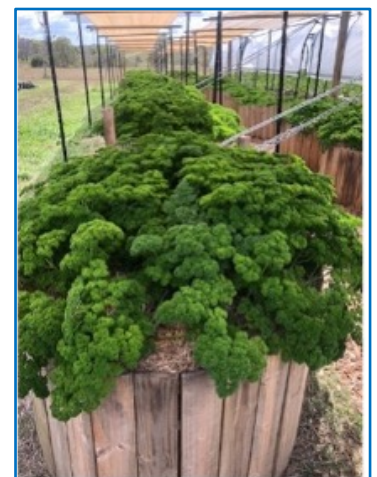
(All amendments are sourced in bulk lots from Northside Produce in North Bundaberg.)

The seed is planted in December (into small coir seed pots) and planted out in January. The newly updated garden will be left unplanted for 4 weeks until the seedlings are ready to be transplanted.

The parsley is grown in a clever 'habitat' constructed by Malcolm. It is a system of growing containers connected with pipes and monitored with floats to ensure that water is always available to the plants.

Marlene's parsley is sent to the Brisbane Markets for sale. These bunches are formed from approximately 215g to 235g.

The plants are harvested by peeling the outside leaves from each plant - never from the centre. After harvest (each Sunday - sent to market on Monday) each week the plants are given a foliar spray of 'Grow'.



DRAGON FRUIT

Also at our 25th October meeting, Lenzie demonstrated how to propagate dragon fruit and brought along many cuttings for members to grow their own.

In the early days 35 years ago, Lenzie says there was only one colour of Dragon Fruit and the plant was very prickly. Today there are a variety of colours, the purple being most sought after as it has the best taste.

To grow Dragon Fruit first, you need a trellis. This is a post 3m high set in concrete with a tyre up near the top so the fruit can hang down. The air roots stick to the post. The flowers hang down and Lenzie cuts the eye out of the leaves stops it stops extra growth. This concentrates the energy into fruit production. This also takes any prickles and extra shoots out. Flowers open about 4pm and close about 10am the next day. The plant has a massive root system. The plant needs little water as it is a desert plant and stores its own water. Just give it compost and horse manure. Before planting you need to allow the plant to dehydrate for about 3 weeks.



Lenzie brought along lots of cuttings for members to plant!



***** Field Trip*** On Saturday 26th November – this coming Saturday - Lenzie is opening up his garden at Avenell Heights for you to browse through and get some great gardening tips! There are a few spots left at 11.am – 1pm or 1.30pm to 3.30pm! You can call Lenzie on 0428 457 527 to book your spot and get the address details! You can also bring along afternoon tea for the last time slot!**



Contributions from our members for our give-away table.



October's lucky door prizes! Again, wonderful support of produce donations from our members!

Seedling Give-away: Please clearly name any seedlings you bring in for the give-away table. That will make it easier for members to choose the plant they would like for their garden.

Supper: Do you have a special snack to share with others? In keeping with our BOGI objectives, please feel free to bring healthy food for the supper table, even if your name is not on the monthly Roster!

Sometimes those on the Roster are unable to attend the Tuesday night meeting and as supper is an important part of the Meeting, we appreciate any food brought in.

Please also provide a list of the ingredients of your contribution due to various dietary concerns of our attendees! The Supper Roster for this month, is on the last page of this Newsletter! Thank you!

Field Trip Reports

Dan and Cathy CRITCHLOW's GARDEN ON SATURDAY, 29TH OCTOBER 2022

Cathy, Dan, Austin and Olive have lived in East Bundaberg for about 5 years. Before East Bundaberg, they lived at Moore Park on 6 acres where they had cattle, sheep and chooks. Downsizing to a suburban block had its challenges and Cathy showed us photos of the house when they moved into town and these photos show a very bare front and back garden.

The transformation of the gardens has been terrific. The backyard still boasts a cubby house for Austin and Olive, a trampoline that doubles as a pumpkin trellis and an impressive chook pen with Olive enthusiastically showing us a container full of fresh eggs.

Cathy told us that most of the material used in the garden construction comes from the Bundaberg Council tip shop. This is a fantastic way to get good quality building material and help the environment by saving this material from going to landfill.

Cathy's veggie garden was very productive providing black and yellow cherry tomatoes, asparagus, sweet potatoes, arrowroot, salad greens and many other crops. Towards the back were lots of fruit trees including mulberry and bananas. Cathy showed us a new garden she is making and said she has put banana leaves, chicken compost, arrowroot and some potting mix in it for starters.

The front garden has equally been transformed by lots of native trees and shrubs and a mangosteen fruit tree for shade and fruit. A bare front yard has become private, colourful and attractive for both people and our feathered friends.

Thank you Cathy, Dan, Olive and Austin for a wonderful garden visit!!



Before



Now



Waiting for love and attention!



"Fat Bastard" Asparagus



Cathy said "Delicious"



Ollie's Happy Hens



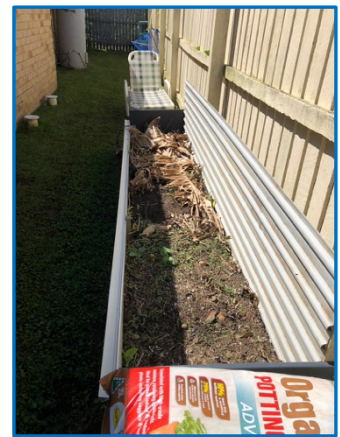
Cathy with trays of oats for cat food!



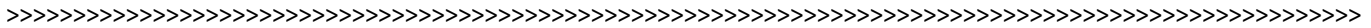
Mangosteen



Austin and Olive's Cubby



New bed preparation



2nd Field Trip on 29th October to Bhavana Shukla's garden

After our visit to Cathy and Dan's, we ventured forth to see Bhavana's garden in Kepnock.

There were many similarities to Cathy and Dan's situation. Bhavana said how there was virtually no garden, front or back, when they moved in about 20 years ago.

We all enjoyed sitting around in Bhavana's back yard, appreciating the lovely afternoon breeze, while we heard Bhavana's story of her work in developing her garden. She was very keen to hear suggestions on how to improve and extend on the present situation.

Trevor provided the following report.

Bhavana has been busy establishing the framework of a great garden. Larger trees and shrubs are giving sun and wind protection and providing a protected spot for herbs and quietly sitting in the garden. There is always more one can do in a garden. We discussed how to reduce her husband, Mayur's job, of mowing around every tree. One suggestion was to build a garden bed or mulching zone around several plants. The small corner between the shed and avocado tree could become a mulched area to help with moisture and weed control.

Another area Bhavana wants to turn into a luffa bed. Several views on how to add soil, compost, mulch, fertilizers and larger branches were put forward.

I liked the neem tree which is central in the backyard. Also, the curry tree and hot herbs make Bhavana feel at home.

I am also looking forward to hearing from Bhavana in the future to see how she is improving,



Bhavana and Cathy were delighted receive "thank you" flowers from Trevor's garden.



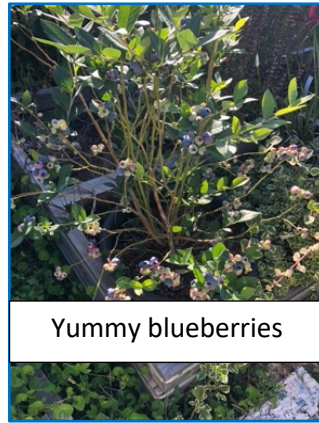
'Round' garden discussion!



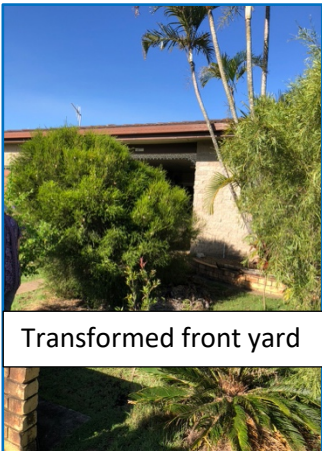
Bhavana explaining the culinary uses of the plants



Healthy Herbs!



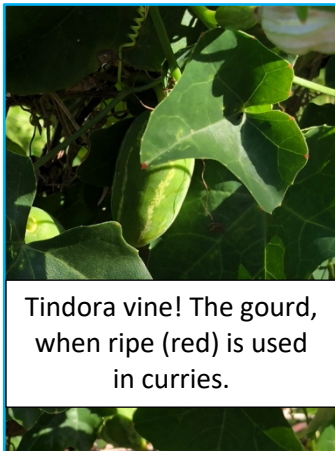
Yummy blueberries



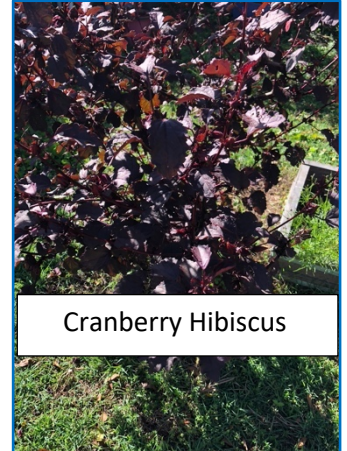
Transformed front yard



Trees providing shady areas



Tindora vine! The gourd, when ripe (red) is used in curries.



Cranberry Hibiscus



More lovely Herbs!

Gin Gin Landcare Plants to be available at BOGI Tuesday night meetings

Bush tucker plants, herbs, bird, bee and butterfly attracting plants are just some of the plants available from Gin Gin Landcare that will be able to be ordered and collected at future BOGI Tuesday night meetings. Val Wright, who volunteers at Gin Gin Landcare Nursery, has come up with a plan to help Gin Gin Landcare, BOGI and time-strapped BOGI members. Members interested in buying plants can ring Ray Johnson on 0419 199 168 up until 4pm on the Friday preceding a meeting, discuss their plant needs and place an order with Ray. Val will then bring these plants to the BOGI meeting for collection and cash only payment.

Tube stock sell at \$2.50 per plant and prices for larger pots depend on the pot size and plant type. From every plant sold, BOGI will receive \$0.50. In time, Val will have a plant list of what is on offer from Gin Gin Landcare to show BOGI members.



Two Weeks to Go to the BOGI Christmas Party!

Contact Maureen on 0427 517 759 to register if your name is not on the list or put your name down on the list at our final November meeting for the 2022!

11th December Baldwin Swamp Shelter Shed BOGI Christmas Party.

We are looking forward to you joining us for a fun end of year celebration.

When: Sunday, 11th December from 11am till 3 pm approx.

Where: Baldwin Swamp Shelter Shed - entry to Shelter shed is off Steindl Street, East Bundaberg

Catering: The Club will provide ham and free-range chicken, bread rolls and tea and coffee.

Please bring: A dish to share with others of either salad or sweets. List your name on the sheet at our November Meeting to list what you are bringing.

BYO: Chairs, plates, cutlery, cups, nibblies, own drinks and preferred food to suit your diet. Dishes can be washed and dried at the Shelter Shed.

Our Christmas gathering is our big social occasion for the year. It's a chance to celebrate what we are all about with good food, both what we grow ourselves and other healthy organic ingredients.

We will have music, a trivia session to test the brain and the drawing of our Christmas Raffle which has excellent prizes on offer. This is a great chance to chat and spend a relaxed time with other BOGI people.

Visitors and children welcome.





Planting by the Moon – November

(First ¼ to Full Moon) 1 – 7 Nov: Increased light from the waxing moon benefits leaf growth, and root growth slows down. Best time to sow or transplant fruiting annuals.

(Full Moon to ¼ Moon) 8 – 16 Nov: Gravitational pull decreases and moonlight decreases, so leaf growth reduces and root growth increases. Plant root crops now (below ground).

(Last ¼ to New Moon) 17 – 23 Nov: The waning moon is good for balanced growth. No sowing or planting during this phase. *Harvest vegetables, weeding, digging, pruning and cultivate. Apply mulch.*

(New Moon to ¼ Moon) 24 – 1 Dec: Influences balanced growth; a lower gravitational pull decreases and this stimulates root growth. The best time to sow or transplant leafy vegetables.

What to plant in November:

Asian vegetables; Beans; Capsicum; Chilli; Cucumber; Eggplant; Lettuce; Luffa; Marrow; Melon; Mustard Greens; Pumpkins; Radish; Rosellas; Shallots; Squash; Sweet Corn; Sweet Potatoes; Tomatoes; Zucchini.

Plant these in seedling trays first: *Asian Vegetables; Asparagus; French Beans; Choko; Cucumber; Eggplant; Lettuce; Melon; Marrow; Mustard Greens;; Pumpkins; Radish; Rosella; Shallots; Squash; Sweet Corn; Sweet Potatoes; Zucchini.*

To make water go further in your garden...

- Mulch, mulch, mulch to retain moisture in the soil.
- Water in the early morning or evening so water is not wasted by evaporation in the sun.
- Water at the base of your plants to direct water to the roots where it is needed. Avoid wetting the foliage to reduce the incidence of some fungal diseases.
- Water once or twice a week rather than giving mean amounts more frequently.
- Use shade netting over young crops to prevent evaporation and reduce the amount of water needed.
- Soak the soil well rather than sprinkling the surface. Excess watering damages the soil structure and washes nutrients away.

Member Contribution: USING THE POLE SAW

From Les and Kay de Gunst : We recently pruned the back neighbour's trees which encroached on the NW corner of our property. We did so with prior arrangement with our back neighbour.

We used the Pole Saw, generously supplied to the club by Malcolm and Marlene Fuller. The procedure was much less demanding, laborious and time consuming than our previous use of a hand saw. We encourage members to use this facility! The Pole Saw effortlessly pruned branches and trunks up to 70mm in diameter.

The icing on the cake was when the back neighbour turned up with his horse float into which we loaded the pruning for transit to Green Solutions.

The Pole Saw and accessories are stored on our property and all it takes is a phone call to arrange the time and date of collection – 0477 014 096.

A complete set of instructions has been provided by Malcolm and Marlene.

SWAP MEET

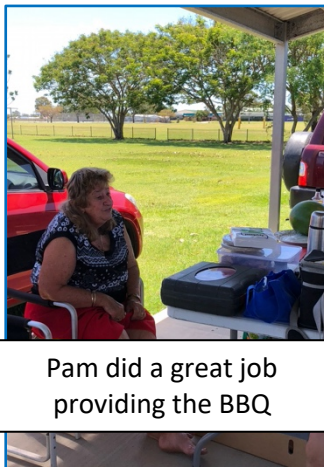
It was lovely to see the number of members who took advantage to bring along their goods for our Swap Meet on Saturday 12 November. It was a great opportunity to take home various items and plants and put them to good use. We were grateful for the use of the shelter shed and the facilities of the United Park Eagles Football Club.

As always, the occasion provided time to catch up and enjoy spending time together. We were delighted that two of our visitors, Patricia and Lorenzo, came along to check out the goods and stayed for lunch.

Pam and Paul brought along the BBQ and good tucker! Marlene shared her vegan tacos which everyone enjoyed! All in all, it was a great morning! To finish off our lunch, we shared yummy cakes and slices provided by members Maureen, Pam and yours truly!



Just some of the goods available! Take your pick – literally!!
Also lots of containers to grow our seedlings!



Pam did a great job providing the BBQ



Visitor Lorenzo chatting with President Maureen!



Paul and Mike cooking up a storm!



Les and Lenzie enjoyed a chat!



The ladies appreciated lunch and the beautiful breeze under the pavilion!

Vale Barbara!

Barb Braddock, a long term member of BOGI until 2016, passed away in Brisbane last week. Barb was a keen gardener, canoeist and traveller and I remember her telling me about her trips to Myanmar (Burma). She even gave me some left-over Burmese money from one of her trips to give to Burmese flood victims a few years ago.

Barb lived in Kepnock, just a couple of blocks from me, and we would spend time together discussing gardening and travel. From what I have been told, Barb was born in Bundaberg and was a trained nurse who worked for some time in Alice Springs. She also loved opera. Barb moved to Brisbane to be with her family and would help them in their gardens whenever possible. Submitted by President Maureen



Barbara pictured with Tony Wolfe after receiving a certificate at a previous BOGI club Christmas party!

Did you Know:

Slaters, are also known as Roley Poles, Pill Bugs, or Wood Lice. Just like worms, slaters are great for your garden as they eat organic matter and return nutrients to the soil. Having a few slaters around will keep your plants happy and healthy.

If you grow roses, you should welcome ladybugs to your garden. A single hungry ladybug can munch up to 50 aphids a day, or as many as 5,000 aphids in a lifetime.

Praying mantis are considered beneficial bugs, although they munch on both good and bad insects in our yards. "Mantis" comes from a Greek word meaning "prophet."



Here is some information you may not be aware of concerning Legionnaires disease!

There was a recent case in Queensland. The gentleman who contracted it also suffered from asthma.

Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia caused by legionella bacteria, which is found in damp or wet environments.

Q. What is the most common way of contracting Legionnaires disease?

Legionnaires' disease doesn't spread from person to person. Instead, the bacteria spreads through mist, such as from air-conditioning units for large buildings.

Adults over the age of 50 and people with weak immune systems, chronic lung disease or heavy tobacco use are most at risk. It can also develop by inhaling the bacteria from water or soil.

Many people exposed to the bacteria don't develop symptoms. Those who do develop symptoms may experience cough, fever, chills, shortness of breath, muscle aches, headaches and diarrhoea.

Legionnaire's disease can be treated with antibiotics.

Q. Can I prevent Legionnaires' disease?

Careful cleaning and maintenance of water systems like air conditioning units, cooling towers, pools, baths and showers can help prevent Legionnaires' disease by reducing the risk that legionella bacteria will grow and be released to the environment.

To prevent contamination with legionella longbeachae that may be in soil and potting mix, follow the manufacturers' warnings on potting mix labels, including:

- wet the potting mix to reduce the dust
- wear gloves and a mask
- wash your hands after handling potting mix or soil

Quit smoking to help reduce your risk, as smoking increases the risk of infection for people exposed to airborne legionella bacteria.

BOGI SHOP – See Bruce before or after the meeting to purchase any of the following gardening inputs. This is one way that the club supports its members by buying in bulk and sharing the savings.

Products available are:

- Liquid Lime
- Liquid Kelp
- Liquid Fish
- Mineral Granules
- Microlife
- Organibor and
- Katex Organic Super Growth.



They are available for sale at our meetings, or please contact Bruce McKay on 41544405 for collection from his address in Walkervale.

President – [Maureen Schmitt](#) – 0427 517 759
 Vice President – [Marlene Kent](#) – 0402 216 188
 Treasurer – [Kay de Gunst](#) – 0477 014 096
 Secretary – [Karyn Ennor](#) – 0447 360 882
 Committee Members - [Trevor Galletly](#),
[Christine Jeffery](#), [Joan Smart](#) and [Pam Biden](#).
 Herbal Teas – [Tony Wolfe](#)
 Library – [Joy Millett](#)
 Supper – [Pam Biden](#)
 Workshops and Field Trips – [Trevor Galletly](#)
 BOGI Shop – [Bruce McKay](#) – 4154 4405
 Newsletter Editor– [Deltry Dickie](#)- 0414 992 553
 Assistant Editor – [Donna Watton](#)

This Month's Supper Roster November 29th

*Rose Apap – Daniel Critchlow - Les de Gunst
 Karyn Ennor - Malcom Fuller - Trevor Galletly
 Greer Hardy – Joan Smart - Fred Pennell
 Lara Hawker – Deltry Dickie*

**Deadline for January 2023 Newsletter
Friday 13th January 2023**

Please send through information to the editor by the second Friday of each month.

We would love FEEDBACK from club members on anything and everything.

Tell us about your successes and your failures in the garden and help others learn along the way.

Let us know about community events or what's up and coming in the area

to include notices and details of Club activities
email: newsletter.bundyorgard@gmail.com

Or Phone Deltry 0414 992 553

Our Objectives



- To promote the understanding of the health and environmental benefits of organic gardening and food production.
- To encourage members to grow some of their own herbs, vegetables and fruit using organic principles.
- To help preserve traditional, non-patented and heirloom varieties.
- To provide fellowship and enjoyment in growing and eating organic food.
- To encourage active participation by members in supportive and fun social activities in pursuit of the above objectives.

Treasurer Report for October 2022

Opening Balance	\$5194.81
Income	\$ 284.00
Expenditure	\$ 196.58
Closing Balance	<u>\$5282.23</u>

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