

# 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 before the meeting. Please be seated by 7pm ready for the proceedings.

*Bayside Community Church  
Cnr McDonald Rd and Macarthur St  
ALEXANDRA HILLS*

## Don't forget:

- Pay your membership dues (only fully paid members may attend)
- **\$2-00 entry all ROGI Members**
- **\$5-00 entry for visitors**
- Observe social distancing
- Return washed seedling pots
- Bring a basket/box/bag for your purchases
- A plant for ROGI Rewards
- Free swap/share/giveaway
- **NB. No Plant Clinic tonight**

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ROGI webpage: [www.rogi.com.au](http://www.rogi.com.au)  
ROGI Email: [info@rogi.com.au](mailto:info@rogi.com.au)



*The hydroponics setup at Rebecca and Mathew's urban farm in Wellington Point. On their 642sq metre block they promote sustainable gardening techniques to demonstrate to community its connection to good health and wellbeing. Read more on p 4-6.*

# Get the most out of ROGI!

Hello fellow ROGI members,

Are you getting the most of out of your ROGI membership? We have booked interesting and informative **guest speakers for our monthly meetings**, as well as inspiring member's **garden visits** and exciting **field trips** for the calendar.

And let's not forget the bi-monthly **Seed Saver's workshops** - where you'll learn the 'ins and outs' of saving your own local seeds from Ecobotanica's Linda Brennan - and pick up a bonus helping of organic gardening tips from the highly respected horticulturist and author. Seed Saver's flower and vegetable stock is available at our monthly meetings, and they're also free to ROGI members. What a bargain!

Have you checked out the **ROGI library** lately? Over the years, many books have been purchased relating to a number of organic gardening subjects. It is located to the left of the stage, and borrowing is free to members.

The **ROGI Seed Bank** is a great source of seeds from reliable producers like Green Harvest. The Seed Bank offers low cost seeds that you'll not find elsewhere. We know members value this service, so do make a point of buying some for your gardening pleasure.

The **ROGI Plant Table** is where you'll find a variety of seedlings for sale to help get you growing. And if you have gardening related products or produce to sell, you're very welcome to **set up a table** at ROGI meetings.

As always, you can rely on the **monthly newsletter** (that you're reading now) to give you the latest ROGI news. Thanks to everyone who contributes - we couldn't do it without you. By sharing successes and failures, we can learn how to be better organic gardeners. The newsletter is emailed to members each month, and posted on the ROGI website - where there's also a huge number of back issues covering every gardening topic under the sun.

The **ROGI Buddy program** is also offered to new members who want to understand how ROGI works and get the best out of it.

There are other ways you can get involved - it's a great way to meet new people and learn new skills (always good for brain boosting!). At ROGI meetings, volunteers are always needed to set up chairs and tables, help out in the kitchen with supper, or assist with tidying up afterwards.

Behind the scenes, the ROGI Management Committee has been hard at work ensuring the organisation runs smoothly and has a healthy future. Like many groups, we've had to deal with unexpected impacts to our bottom line, including Covid19 and inflation. Our experienced Treasurer reports that our club must get on a more sustainable footing. So we've been reviewing our finances, and taking steps to make sure every dollar is used wisely and effectively for our members. As you know, we recently raised membership fees for the first time in many years by \$5.00 per category.

Recently, we've made the decision to reinstate the \$2.00 entry fee for all members who attend monthly meetings, starting with the April meeting. This extra income will go a long way to making up the current shortfall. We hope you agree it is a small price to pay for all the benefits that ROGI offers members.

So, we'll see you at **supper** after the meeting, where you can meet other garden enthusiasts over a cup of brewed tea.

Warm Regards,

*Peter Haakman (President),*

*Kathy Petrik (Vice-President),*

*Patricia Stewart (Secretary),*

*Bernadette Reid (Treasurer),*

*and Committee Members Rhonda Binns,*

*Toni Bowler, Ann Roffey and Terry Sullavan*

## April Meeting

### Choose your Topic

We will have four discussions available. You choose which **three** you wish to attend. Each will be 20 minutes.

#### 1. Fruit trees

**Fruit tree expert George Allen will share tips on how to choose and grow fruit trees successfully.**

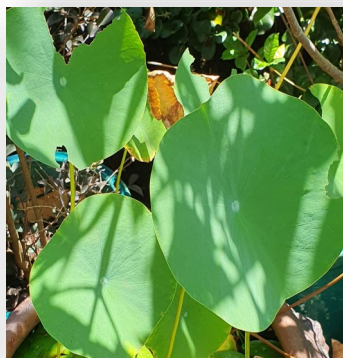


#### 2. Wildflower cards

**Learn how to make plantable wildflower cards from recycled paper with Jan Haughton.**

#### 3. Tools

**Terry Sullavan covers how to choose the right garden tools and their care and maintenance.**



#### 4. Edible aquatic plants

**Rohanne Young presents edible aquatic plants and how you can successfully grow them in your garden.**

*The usual attractions will be there - Seed Bank, the well-stocked library, some seedlings and plants, plus local honey, home-made jam, wax wraps and more. **NB: No Plant Clinic tonight.***

**All ROGI Members - \$2-00 entry**

**Visitors welcome - \$5-00 entry**

**Please bring finger food (preferably home-made) to share for supper. Free tea and coffee.**

## ROGI Events

**May newsletter deadline is  
27 APRIL 2023**

**Thursday 13 April  
ROGI MEETING**

**Sunday 30 April - 2pm** (please book on TeamApp)

**GARDEN VISIT - Bevan Saul, Birkdale**

*"The Tiny Jungle" - a hidden oasis of edibles and ornamentals. Divided into two areas, our garden features a mixed section of fruit trees and ornamentals, as well as a newer area that we're conditioning for annual vegetables.*

*Over the past two and a half years, we've been busily developing our gardens after purchasing the property from another couple in ROGI. We have a 'more is more' approach to gardening, so we've filled in the gaps between existing plantings with a variety of plants and landscaping. Most of the garden materials are recycled.*

*Our garden contains two frog ponds, increasing the biodiversity of our little slice of paradise. We've also just finished building a chicken coop and incubating our first clutch of eggs. We can't wait to show you around!*

**New Members - Please be aware that it takes a little while to set up your name in TeamApp for bookings to garden visits and field trips. If you are having trouble booking, please contact Romana 0430 227 876 while Toni is away in April and May.**

### TEAM APP FEEDBACK NEEDED

ROGI Management Committee would like members' feedback about TeamApp. Please email your response to [info@rogi.com.au](mailto:info@rogi.com.au)

- Are you finding it easy/difficult to use?
- If difficult, what is the problem/s you are experiencing?
- What do you like/dislike about TeamApp?
- Do you have any suggestions re TeamApp?



# Field Trip - Munch & Crunch, Wellington Point

Report by Ann Roffey, Photos by Margaret Sear & Ann Roffey

Our field trip in February was to *Munch and Crunch* in Wellington Point. On their 642sqm suburban block, husband and wife team Mathew and Rebecca promote self sustainable gardening and horticultural therapy. Rebecca understands more than most the value of gardening for health and wellbeing. After being diagnosed with a medical condition, the former scientist swapped the lab for the garden, and reinvented herself as a horticultural therapist.

They conduct workshops (for free) to give inspiration to those wanting to grow their own vegetables and fruit. Almost their entire block is devoted to their growing passion – they have raised beds, wicking beds, hydroponics and aquaponics. They also keep bantam chickens and European bees.

It hasn't always been easy sharing their garden with others. Some neighbours have made complaints to the council about them - claiming they have nuisance bees, the chook shed is unhygienic, and that they have too many people over (the workshops are only two hours). There has even been a complaint about their use of the word 'therapy'!

Thank you Mathew and Rebecca for hosting ROGI - we wish you every success in your venture.

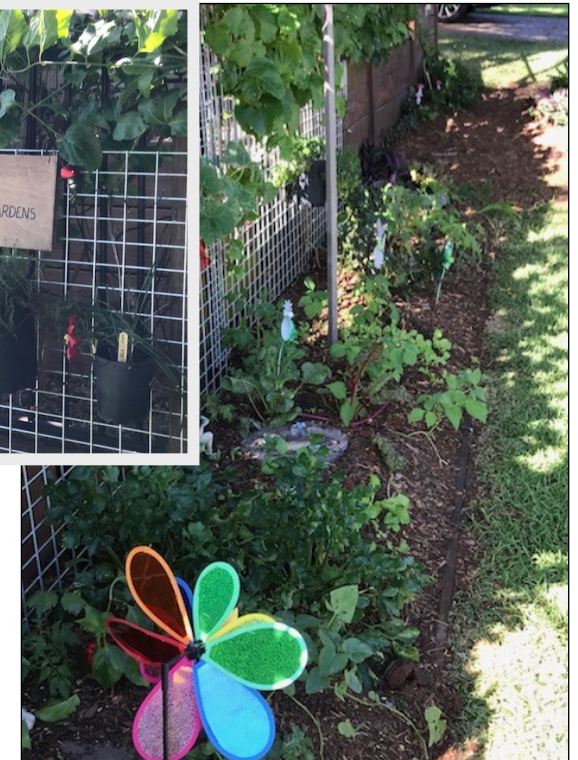


Right: The front garden was sloping, but they levelled it out and Mathew built raised garden beds and wicking beds. They also grow fruit trees along-side the front fence - they've been espaliered to take advantage of vertical growing space. Where possible, arbours have been erected between garden beds to also take advantage of vertical space.



Above & Right 'The Nurture Strip' - verge gardening to lift the spirits and inspire connectivity with nature and others.

Below: The front yard has been converted into a growing space.





## Field Trip - Munch & Crunch, Wellington Point (continued)



Above: The custom built hen house Fowlty Towers boasts storage for chook food (right) and a very comfortable space for their bantams to live.



Left: Old toilet as frog habitat.



Right photos 1,2 & 3: Tie up system for growing climbing veggies such as tomatoes, pumpkins, cucumbers. Plants can be lowered when bottom stem finishes producing and upper still in production. Making more accessible use of space and harvesting.





## Field Trip - Munch & Crunch, Wellington Point (continued)



Left: Bugs on the Tropical milkweed attract ladybirds. They bought two batches from Bugs for Bugs when they had problems in the greenhouse with aphids and two-spotted mites. Lacewings were tried, but they flew away. The ladybirds have been successful.

Right: A large structure in the corner of the yard houses the aquaponics and indoor hydroponics setup. A wind turbine on the house generates electricity to provide some power for it. They have native fish Silver perch in the large tank, and eat them when they are fully grown (1 year).



Mathew and Rebecca are registered beekeepers. They keep some hives on their property and have hosts in Ormiston and Wellington Pt.



Utilising maximum space and sunlight – bees on the (flat) garage roof along with small fruiting and flowering plants.





## Be Prepared for What's Ahead - Grow Even More Food

By Leonie Shanahan

Following on from my talk at ROGI in March - it might surprise (but probably not), that I still have more I would like to tell you, as I LOVE sharing information. I wrote this in summer, so some plants will need to wait until next spring to grow - it's a good reference list for you to keep handy.

Unless you have your head in the sand/soil, you would have a sense that life as we know it is changing rapidly, and we need to respond to **secure our food security and health**. Grow extra food for yourself and to share with your neighbours, community or to use to barter.

Growing nutrient dense, organic food has always been a priority for me, and I have spoken, written, and taught about it for years. We talked about growing soil at ROGI, here is a comprehensive guide (part 1) on what I believe you need to get growing NOW (check season) to maximise food in your backyard or neighbourhood. I particularly select **plants that are easy to grow and abundant**.

Let's start in the vegetable patch:

**SPINACHS** - (or tropical greens) – *Aibika, Amaranth, Brazilian spinach, Ceylon spinach, Okinawa, Sambung, Warrigal greens (NZ spinach), Kale, Kang Kong, Ethiopian Cabbage, Lebanese cress, Mushroom plant, Rocket, Salad mallow (Malu Khia), Sorrel, Tahitian spinach, Timor lettuce.*

**BEANS** - *Madagascar, Snake (many varieties), Wing, Blue Lake, Purple King.*

**STARCHES** - *Cassava, Cocoyam, Elephant Foot 'greater' Yam, Taro, Qld Canna edulis (arrowroot), West Indian Arrowroot, Sweet potato.*

**OTHERS** - *Asparagus or Pit Pit, Aloe Vera Barbadosensis (also medicinal plants - burns, bites etc), Amaranth, Choko, Comfrey, Herb Robert, Lebanese cress, Lemongrass, Luffa, Mints, Nasturtiums,*

*New Guinea Bean, Passionfruit, Pawpaw, Pepino, Pumpkins (because you can grow so many of them and store), Snake Gourd, Taro.*

**TUBERS** - *Ginger, Turmeric, Galangal, Garlic, Jerusalem artichoke, Yacon, Yam Bean (Jicama)*

**SMALL TREE/SHRUB** - *Moringa, Sweet leaf, Musk mallow (hibiscus), Ashwagandha (Withania), Andrographis (King of Bitters, supports immune system), Cat's Whiskers, Cranberry hibiscus, Bell Chilli, Bell Capsicum, Perennial capsicum.* I also like banana plants for its multiple uses besides the fruit – leaves for cooking and wrapping, and the cut trunks can be grown into or used as edging etc.

**WEEDS** - Know your weeds (misunderstood plants), as they have so many nutrients. You also need to educate yourself as to what parts are edible, and whether they can be eaten raw or cooked. Before harvesting, make sure plants (weeds) are coming from a clean environment, with no previous chemical sprays. *Cat's Ear, Chickweed and Tropical Chickweed, Clover (white), Cobbler's pegs, Dandelion, Dock, Fat Hen, Gotu Kola, Mallow, Nodding Top, Plantain (Broadleaf and Narrow leaf), Purslane and Sow Thistle* are some of my favourites.

There is a huge range of familiar seasonal annual salads, vegetables, flowers, and herbs you can plant as well. Check your local planting guide, markets, and plant nursery.

Growing nutrient- rich food in your own backyard grows your health and peace of mind. And, importantly, some food security. Remember to **SAVE SEEDS** from your produce to share and sow.

To learn more, watch instructional DVD *Edible School Gardens* (for all ages) to learn all organic gardening processes or, check out my comprehensive organic gardening book *Eat Your Garden – Organic Gardening for Home and Schools* available from <https://leonieshanahan.com.au/shop/>

Happy gardening and growing your community.  
Hugs, Leonie

## Black Genoa Fig: Ray

**Problem:** Leaf curl at edges

**Solution tried:** Trace elements, Epsom salts

**Possible Diagnosis:** Leaf hoppers (very small white insects noticed on back of leaves). Hoppers are rasping, sucking insects and can be vectors of disease. Spray thoroughly with horticultural soap or oil.



## Anthurium: Janette

**Problem:** Leaves have blotchy patches with black spotting and brown/dry at sides and edges

**Solution tried:** Watering regularly

**Possible Diagnosis:** Blotchy white areas with spotting appears to be scale infestation. Remove and bin all badly infected leaves. Horticultural soap or oil spray the top and bottom of leaves. The brown/dry patches could be several issues. Possible water cause. Anthuriums like a free draining soil mix and minimal watering at soil level. Too much or too frequent watering can cause root rot. They also need time between watering to dry out in the top portion of soil. They like bright light but not direct sun, and an airy environment.

Researching leaf problems, I found that there is also a bacterial blight issue that can affect plants. The yellow edge on your leaf patches look similar. The first visible symptoms are yellowed (chlorotic), water-soaked lesions along the leaf margins that grow rapidly to form dead (necrotic) V-shaped lesions which are characteristic of this disease. The issue can develop through damage to leaves and constant moisture. Again, remove and destroy all affected leaves. You could try a copper spray, but follow the water regime above as well.

## Sweet Potato: Charlene

**Problem:** Leaves eaten and holey

**Possible Diagnosis:** Sweet potato weevil. Check the tubers - if brown streaks or patches have occurred, it's weevil. If badly affected, remove and dispose of infested roots and plants. Do not compost. Weevil prefers dry, warm soils and temperatures. Female lays eggs in leaves. Adults feed on sweet potato and some weeds. Use a fresh area/soil to replant. Use fresh soft cuttings into damp, well-watered soil. Mulch well. Can interplant with maize, ginger, yams etc and practice crop rotation.

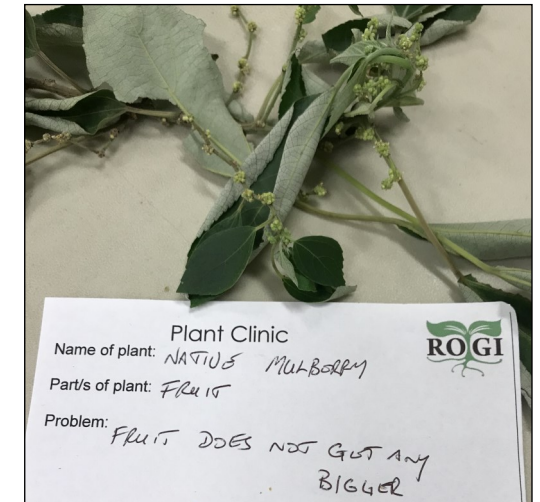
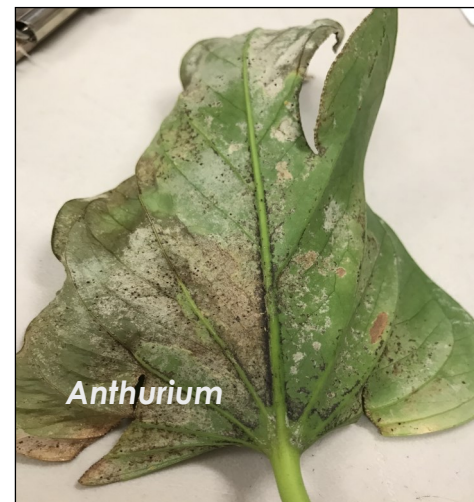


## Native Mulberry: Ray

**Problem:** No fruit. Flowers do not appear to swell and form fruit

**Solution tried:** Trace elements

**Possible Diagnosis:** Native Mulberry plants can be male or female. This one appears to be male and will not form fruit. Try getting another plant. Good luck.



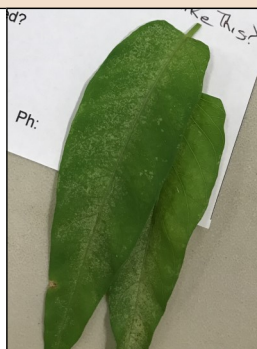


## Plant Clinic (continued)

### Kang Kong: Bronwen

**Problem: Leaves are blotchy**

**Possible Diagnosis:** Active mite infestation on back of leaves. Sucking insect will affect health and look of leaf. Could be broad mite, as it is not red spider mite. Black dots on underside is mite frass. Smother leaves top and bottom with horticultural oil.



### Unknown plant: Mary

**Problem: Weed!**

**Recently appeared, spreading rapidly!**

**Solution tried: Pulling it out**

**Possible Diagnosis:**

An emerging environmental weed, *Dyschoriste* (*Dyschoriste depressa*) is found in lawns, parks, gardens, roadsides, footpaths, and waterways in Brisbane. It prefers wetter environments such as creek banks and wetlands, but will also grow

in drier habitats. The small fruit is an elongated, cylindrical capsule (10-15 mm long) that explosively releases its seeds.

From: [weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/dyschoriste](https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/dyschoriste)

The common name is Butterfly Heaven. Website suggests herbicide for extensive infestations. For the home garden, stay on top by digging it out as soon as noticed, especially before flowering or seed setting.

### Unknown plant: Bernadette

**Possible Diagnosis:** A plant ID group came back with *Alternanthera brasiliana*, which is considered a weed.

Thanks to Linda Brennan, Rohanne Young and Julia Geljon for their assistance.

Remember, I'm not a plant expert!



## FREE PLANT IDENTIFICATION

If you are unable to get identification of a plant from your local nursery, go to: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/identify-specimens>.

Fill out the Botanical specimens cover sheet, and send with your plant cutting (between two sheets of newspaper) to:

Botanical Information & Advisory Service,  
Queensland Herbarium, DSIT,  
Brisbane Botanic Gardens  
Mt Coot-tha Road, TOOWONG QLD 4066

They will identify your plant for free and send you a reply by your choice of post/email/fax/phone.

## MEALYBUG DESTROYER - A GOOD BUG



Margaret Sear had a bad infestation of mealybugs on some of her plants, especially this Black Knight salvia (pictured left). Whilst cutting it back by half to get rid of the worst of the infestation, she noticed a fuzzy bug amongst the mealybugs. Research revealed it is a good bug - the 'mealybug destroyer' ladybird *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*. Over two days it almost cleaned up the rest of the infestation. Biological control of mealybugs is important, as they are difficult to control with conventional insecticides. Both the adult ladybird beetles and their larvae are predators of mealybugs, as well as some species of soft scale insects.

## Plant Breeding: Intentional Pollination to Create New Plant Characteristics

By Linda Brennan, Ecobotanica

At our last Seed Saver's meeting we had an introduction to how to cross pollinate vegies and flowers in the garden to create our own 'Landrace' (a gardener or farmer bred variety).

We can select the characteristics we want in our plants (e.g. colour, size, flavour, stem strength or length etc), by intentionally cross pollinating selected plants. It's called phenotype selection – when we select for outward appearances rather than select for known genes in a laboratory.

When we cross pollinate a flower with that of another with desirable characteristics, the seeds of the fruit produced will show the changes, not the first fruit developed after pollination. So, we have to save the seed and grow it again to get the 'new' crossed plant.

This next plant will be genetically unstable and may revert to the dominant parent, so we then need to cross the flowers of the seed with the same parents once again, and repeat this for up to six generations in order to achieve a stable offspring.

Each time you grow from the seeds, grow plenty of plants and physically remove the plants with poor performance before they flower and fruit. This will rogue out the weaklings (e.g. small plants, disease prone etc). That also means you'll have the best plants from which to pollinate and collect seed.

### Self fertile plants

Some plants are self fertile (e.g. tomatoes, lettuce, capsicums, peas and beans). In this case, to cross pollinate and produce different plants (e.g. a new type of tomato), we need to remove the male parts of the plant to prevent it self pollinating, and then pollinate the flower with a different male pollen. With tomatoes, remove the anthers using a pointed tweezer before cross pollinating. For peas and beans, open up the flower and remove anthers with a pointed tweezer, then add the pollen of the selected

plant. The flowers can be taped or bagged to prevent external pollination.

### Large flowers (e.g. dioecious pumpkins)

When a plant has both male and female flowers, it's called *dioecious*. The female flower can be easily pollinated by hand. Tape the female flower closed before it opens, and when mature, remove the tape and introduce the pollen to the stigma. Then close the flower and tape or bag it.

### Japnut or Butterjap or Japnutter?

Jill Nixon has a great example of intentionally cross-pollinated pumpkins, created originally by Bonnie Cencig at Lunar Farm. Hers are Jap/butternut. Jill has kept her flowers, then the developing pumpkins, bagged with fine mesh bags. She undertook cross pollination with its own male pollen. The mesh bag has protected the fruit from being stung by fruit fly. This fruit is delicious, and provides just a few seeds with a thick, wide neck and slices of delicious pumpkin.

All Cucurbita pepo will cross pollinate readily by hand or by insects (e.g. pumpkins, spaghetti squash, zucchini, pattypan squash, marrows etc). Do take care when planting so you grow just one variety at a time if you want to save true seeds.





### Choosing your family

Happily, when we are dealing with pollinated plants, we intentionally choose the characteristics of our intentionally pollinated plants. To ensure a genetically stable seed of plants we've cross pollinated, there are a few steps to go through:

1. Grow a selection of the seeds from the fruit of the pollinated plant.
2. As they grow, weed out and compost the weak, poor performers and those that look different to what you are seeking to produce. Don't allow them to grow (this is called positive selection).
3. Hand pollinate the flowers with excellent specimens of the plant you are seeking to grow.
4. Grow to maturity and save the seed of the best plants.
5. Toss out any small seed or seed that doesn't resemble the desired characteristics.
6. Grow again next season from those great seeds. Remember seeds can revert to parents easily when they've been recently crossed, so continue to rogue out seeds and plants that don't fit the characteristics you want.
7. Keep sowing, growing, cross pollinating and protecting the flowers from contamination from other pollens for generations/six growing seasons. This may be up to six years! The genetic line will become stronger with each generation. After that long effort of many years, you can feel happy that you've created a new variety or landrace. Congratulations!!

**The next Seed Saver's meeting will be held on Thursday, 18 May at 7 to 8.30pm at Linda's, 8 Silverash Court, Capalaba. Please scan using the QR code to book your free Seed Savers spot OR book using this link:**

<https://events.humanitix.com/rogi-seedsavers-18th-may-2023>



This month Seed Bank and Seed Savers have some news. Both teams will be working more closely to encourage and help you to save, sow and grow more of your own food and flowers from seed.

We will have a '**Sensational Seed Suggestion**' segment at each ROGI meeting that gives you insight into a great seasonal plant you can grow in your garden from seed. Those seeds will be available for purchase from the seedbank at the normal excellent price.

Geoff and Cheryl who run Seed Bank, have also packaged a selection of 8 different vegetable seeds that are perfect for growing at this time of the year. These are called '**Cool Season Garden Starters Packs**'. It takes the guesswork out of knowing what you should be growing at this time of the year. The pack will include 8 varieties of easy to grow seed, perfect for starting now in your garden. Instructions for sowing and growing will be supplied with each '**Cool Season Seed Starters Pack**'. All at a great price.

**Small containers of ROGI seed sowing mix** will also be available for purchase - enough that you can start your seeds at home in our excellent mix. All you need is the punnets or small containers, water and some TLC, then watch them grow into healthy little seedlings.

You'll be able to sow some of your seeds to take home. Our experienced growers will help to start you off on the right foot.

**Red Spot Seed Specials** will be available again this month at 2 for 1 price. These seeds are near their best before date. We are calling them 'Double Up' seeds. Grow them now and sow them more densely for the best result.

# Brassicas – Coping with those Caterpillars

By Jill Nixon

Now is the time to start planting brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale, kohlrabi etc). So it's time to plan your pest control strategy. The main culprit is the green caterpillar of the cabbage white butterfly (it's not a moth!), which was accidentally introduced into Melbourne in 1929.

The female butterfly *Pieris rapae* (photo 1) lays her eggs (just one or two) on the brassica leaf. The resulting solo green caterpillar feeds on the leaf – often the first sign is frass (poo).

A few years ago I got serious about this issue, because nothing I tried was working – netting (beneficials couldn't get in), white decoy butterflies (the butterfly is not solitary, so she likes hanging with friends), planting land cress *Barbarea vulgaris* (didn't make any discernible difference), Dipel kills *all* caterpillars and washes off in rain, and picking off the caterpillars (okay if you have time).

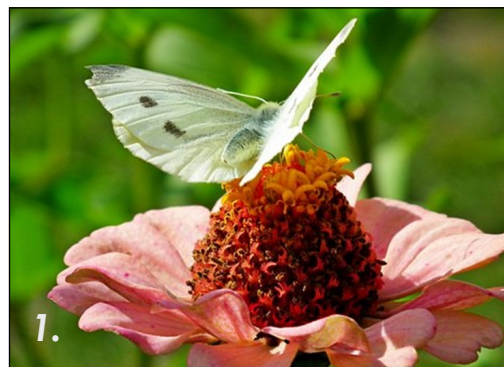
Then I stumbled across *Cotesia glomerata*, a parasitic braconid wasp, which lays its eggs in the caterpillar of the butterfly. Nature can be gruesome – once the caterpillar has been parasitised, it makes its way to the underside of the leaf to protect its load. After 15-20 days larvae develop and depart, killing the host caterpillar (photo 2). These larvae spin cocoons in a cluster which are easily visible. The adult wasps hatch out up to 30 days from egg-laying (photo 3).

What I do now to facilitate this process:

- I don't remove all the green caterpillars.
- I never interfere with caterpillars on leaf undersides.
- I always destroy cocoons that are the developing butterfly (photo 4).
- Once yellow pupal clusters have formed on the leaf underside, I cut the leaves off the plant and keep them out of the weather until the wasps have hatched (photo 5).
- I ensure there are a lots of flowering plants as nectar feed sources for the wasps (particularly in the 'off' season).

- I interplant brassicas with companion plants – strong scents, variety of shapes, sizes and colours, and mostly taller than the brassicas will be – to discourage butterflies from laying eggs on them. They may then lay their eggs on easier targets such as nasturtium, or even the land cress recommended by Jerry Coleby-Williams - <https://jerry-coleby-williams.net/2014/11/01/nannys-cabbage-companion-confirmed-caterpillar-killer-by-university-of-queensland>

The plants I use to interplant with brassicas are: alyssum, Johnny jump-up *Viola tricolour*, curry plant *Helichrysum italicum*, spring onions, various mints in pots on saucers (I find eau-de-cologne mint is good for this), rosemary and basil and thyme and sage in pots. Always experimenting.





## Upcoming Events

### BETHANIA STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

Introduction to Permaculture in Suburbia Workshop

Sunday 7 May, 10.00am -12.00pm & 12.30pm – 2.30pm

Cost: Free - Bookings necessary

Please email [Bethaniabooking@gmail.com](mailto:Bethaniabooking@gmail.com) with name, phone number, date of workshop and number of places required

(Participants to attend both sessions and bring their own refreshments for lunch).

Permaculture is the conscious design and maintenance of productive ecosystems which have diversity, stability, and resilience. Learn about its foundations and ethics, and how these can be applied in an urban setting. Renowned presenter, Michael Wardle will use the community garden as a demonstration, and explain how permaculture can be incorporated into our own communities, homes and lives.

### SAMFORD EDIBLE GARDEN TRAIL

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 May, 10.00am -12.00pm

Adults weekend ticket = \$20 (inc GST)

Adults concession weekend ticket = \$15 (inc GST)

Children under 16 = free (but need a ticket)

Once a year, over one inspiring weekend, our most inspiring edible gardens in Samford and surrounding areas, open their gates to the public. Featuring:

- Permaculture designs
- Swales
- Raised garden beds
- Compost bays
- Square foot gardening
- Fruit tree guilds
- Orchards
- Annuals
- Perennials
- Arches domes
- Chickens

Hurry! The last 2 years were booked out. Book your tickets online at: <https://www.samfordediblegardentrail.com.au/>

### QUEENSLAND HERB SOCIETY

Annual Show 'Herb Awareness'

Sunday 28 May, 9am to 3pm

Albion Peace Centre - 102 McDonald Road, Windsor

Free Entry

- Discover a wide range of medicinal and culinary herbs and plants for sale.
- Browse a vast selection of herbal and garden related stalls: preserves, teas, spices, skin care, bush foods, craft, gardening and more.
- Relax and revive with home-baked, delicious, herb inspired food at Café Sage.
- Free demonstrations and talks by special guests and knowledgeable Herb Members.
- ATM on site.
- [www.facebook.com/qldherbsociety](https://www.facebook.com/qldherbsociety) for more details.

## End of an Era

Thanks go to ROGI journo Gail Bruce, who has written a monthly column promoting ROGI guest speakers for the Redland City Bulletin for years. We are grateful to the Redland City Bulletin, which sadly closes on 5 April, for promoting ROGI matters for so long. We will be seeking other ways to tell the ROGI story, and we are counting on members to tell their friends and family about our great Club.



## ROGI MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Peter Haakman	<a href="mailto:president@rogi.com.au">president@rogi.com.au</a>
VICE PRESIDENT	Kathy Petrik	<a href="mailto:vp@rogi.com.au">vp@rogi.com.au</a>
SECRETARY	Patricia Stewart	<a href="mailto:secretary@rogi.com.au">secretary@rogi.com.au</a>
TREASURER	Bernadette Reid	<a href="mailto:treasurer@rogi.com.au">treasurer@rogi.com.au</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Rhonda Binns, Toni Bowler, Ann Roffey, Terry Sullavan	

## OFFICE BEARERS

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WEBSITE	Pal Juvancz	<a href="mailto:pal@pcpals.com.au">pal@pcpals.com.au</a>



## TROMMEL TO LEND (FREE)

A home-made, manual operation. You will need a trailer to collect and return to Birkdale.

Hand- powered rotary sieve. Dirt in high end, turn barrel either way, sorted soil into barrow underneath and rubbish, large stones etc. out the low end. I put a barrow under the low end to catch output. You can practice at my place as much as you wish.

Call Stephen on mobile 0419 707 970 to arrange.

*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](mailto:info@rogi.com.au) **Webpage:** [www.rogi.com.au](http://www.rogi.com.au)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/redland.organic.growers](https://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

**FOR SALE AT ROGI MEETINGS - These items are located at the Seed Saver's Seedbank table (down the back):**

## Bottle Top Sprinkler

\$2.50 each

Great for watering seedlings



## Tap Turners

\$7.00 each

Great for arthritic hands

