

# 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:**

- \* A tool for sharpening (see page 4)
- E-Waste (see page 4)
- Observe social distancing
- A small plate of food for supper
- 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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**PLEASE NOTE:**  
**ALL members are now**  
**welcome to attend ROGI meetings.**  
**Visitors may attend, \$5 entry.**

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



Despite unprecedented heavy rainfall this year and being winter, Erik's capsicum bush is thriving! Read more about his amazing garden and some of his tips for growing healthy plants on pages 9-12.

# Carolyn's Corner

Hello fellow ROGI members,

Another ROGI year is coming to an end, and we will be seeing some changes in the ROGI committee. August is our month for the AGM. At this coming meeting we will be welcoming a new committee and office bearers.

We have been talking about the different roles over the last few months, and we would like you to put some thought to how you could help our vibrant gardening club. This is a great opportunity to make new ROGI friends. It doesn't matter if you are a new member or a life member - you have an opportunity to be part of a committee of eight gardening enthusiasts, ready to share in the learning and enjoyment that comes from being on the ROGI committee. Not only are we looking for people for the different committee roles, but also extra as backups.

We really do mean it when we say that you learn so much more about organic growing and are greatly inspired to grow more (and better) when you become involved in the running of the club. Have a chat with some current and former committee members and office bearers to hear what they say.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have invited ROGI to visit their garden in the past year. Having a garden visit is a great way of getting new ideas for your garden. It benefits you as well as the visitors.

At the August meeting, we will have relatively new ROGI member Bevan Saul talking about 'What is happening in his garden'. We will also have Substation 33, who will have a bin for e-waste. And Shannon Pout will be in attendance to sharpen garden hand tools, (one per person) free for members. Please make sure they are clean and clearly labelled.

I would like to thank the outgoing committee and office bearers, for doing such a wonderful job and performing their roles with lots of energy and enthusiasm. I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this important meeting. If you have any questions concerning nominations or other AGM procedures, please talk to a committee member on the night.

Happy gardening.  
Carolyn Lassen,  
ROGI President

## 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 [info@rogi.com.au](mailto:info@rogi.com.au) and help keep the ROGI Newsletter topical, interesting, local and relevant.

The September  
Newsletter  
deadline is  
**25 AUGUST 2022**

## LOST AND FOUND

An outdoor foldup chair was left at Erik van Zuilekom's garden visit, Thornlands on Saturday 18 June. To claim, please contact Toni Bowler on 0402 323 704 or see her at the August meeting.

## August Meeting & AGM

### Adapting a garden to suit your needs

Bevan recently bought a house with a beautiful organic garden. He will tell us how he is going about adapting this pre-existing productive garden for his lifestyle.

He is very keen to design systems to suit his family's needs and the changing climate. This will be of interest to anyone setting up or regenerating a garden.



This will be preceded by the **ROGI Annual General Meeting** and **Plant Clinic**—so bring along your gardening problems.

Collect any **unwanted e-waste** (anything with a battery or plug) of yours, your friends and neighbours, and bring it along for pickup by Substation 33 who will repurpose it. We will also have **tool sharpening** by Pout Sharpening. See page 4 for more details.

*Most of the usual attractions will be there - the Seed Bank, well-stocked library, some seedlings and plants, plus local honey, home-made jam, wax wraps etc.*

**ROGI members and visitors welcome.**

**Visitors: \$5 entry. Members: free**

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

## ROGI Events

**Thursday 11 August**  
**ROGI MEETING & AGM**

**Wednesday 17 August - 9.30 to 11am**

**SEED SAVERS MEETING \***

**Linda Brennan's house - 8 Silverash Court, Capalaba**

We'll be saving home-grown seed to share with ROGI members. You'll get to take home free seed too. We're also looking at dahlia tuber growing, and how much seed to sow for successional growing. Please bring along...

- Paper bags or envelopes to take seeds home in;
- Seeds of plants that you'd like to share;
- Seeds you've grown that need separating - we'll do that as a group and save some in the Seed Bank;
- A cup for tea and small plate of food to share.

We'll also grow seeds in punnets and pots that you can take home and look after for sale at our ROGI meetings. It's a busy meetup but good fun! New members are always welcome.

**Sunday 21 August**

**GARDEN VISIT \***

**Carolyn Lassen, Alexandra Hills**

Our 2021-2022 ROGI President lives on a suburban block with many raised garden beds. She likes to grow plants from seed in her purpose built shade house, situated just outside the back door so she can keep an eye on her baby plants. Carolyn will have a few growing tips for you, including how she makes her compost.

*\* Please book to attend on TeamApp or email Events Coordinator Toni at [tonibowler@hotmail.com](mailto:tonibowler@hotmail.com). The address will be supplied by text or email closer to the date - check your messages.*



## E-WASTE COLLECTION

Substation 33 will have a collection of E-Waste at our next ROGI meeting on the 11th August. **Bins will be set up outside in the parking bay - please place your e-waste in them as you arrive.**

Electronic waste (E-Waste) is any electric or electronic product that has become non-working, unwanted or obsolete, and has essentially reached the end of its useful life.

They accept batteries, CDs and DVDs, computers and accessories, electrical appliances, phones, smoke detectors, televisions, video and audio tapes, whitegoods.



RECYCLING

Substation33 specialises in electronic waste collection and processing - diverting e-waste from landfill.



## TOOL SHARPENING AT AUGUST MEETING

Shannon from Pout Sharpening will be providing tool sharpening at the August meeting ... this will be FREE for members.

- One tool per ROGI member. If there is time, a second can be done at your own expense. Prices on Shannon's website: <https://www.poutsharpening.com.au/>
- Please write your name on the tool with indelible ink or name tag it
- Clean hand tools, not spades



## ROGI Management Committee Positions

**The ROGI Annual General Meeting will be held at the 11th August meeting.** All committee positions will be declared vacant at the beginning of the AGM.

### PRESIDENT

Leads and inspires ROGI.

Delivers monthly meetings to members.

Seeks guest speakers, field trips and other opportunities.

Promotes ROGI and organic gardening to the community.

### VICE PRESIDENT

Assists the President to:

- Lead and inspire ROGI.

- Deliver monthly meetings to members.

- Seek guest speakers, field trips and other opportunities.

- Promote ROGI and organic gardening to the community.

Stands in if president is absent.

### SECRETARY

Keeps records of the business of ROGI, including the rules.

Records officeholders and trustees of the association.

Sets agendas and records minutes of committee meetings.

Completes and sends documents to the Office of Fair Trading after the AGM.

Manages correspondence.

### TREASURER

Handles all monies paid or received and issues receipts.

Deposits monies into ROGI bank account.

Makes payments from ROGI funds with appropriate authority.

Complies with Associations Incorporation Act.

Submits report, balance sheet or financial statement to the committee on a monthly basis.

Has custody of all accounting records of ROGI.

Reviews transactions online prior to all meetings.

Prepares and forwards financial statements and supporting documents to auditor before the Annual General Meeting.



## ROGI Management Committee Positions *(continued)*

### ROGI OFFICE BEARERS

#### EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR – INTERNAL (COMMITTEE POSITION \*)

Sources and coordinates member workshops, garden visits and field trips.

#### EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR – PUBLIC (COMMITTEE POSITION \*)

Organises public ROGI events (eg. IndigiScapes, Green Heart Fair).

#### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY (COMMITTEE POSITION \*)

Updates membership list monthly; sends to committee.

Compiles list of visitors each month.

Sends an individual welcome letter to each new member.

#### PR & COMMUNICATIONS CO-ORDINATOR (COMMITTEE POSITION \*)

Handles advertising and press releases.

Arranges maintenance of website, including Directory and Public Events.

Arranges maintenance of social media (Facebook, Instagram, Team App).

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS (4) \*

*The committee members will have office bearer positions and be an integral part of the decision-making process. The eight committee members (listed above) are expected to attend ROGI management committee meetings. Currently these are usually held two weeks after the ROGI monthly members meeting.*

### POSITIONS VACANT:

**You may nominate for any committee position (vacant or not) if you wish to be part of the decision-making process.** All nominations must be lodged in writing on the appropriate form before the AGM, with a proposer and a seconder and signed by the nominee.

### COVID CO-ORDINATOR

Ensures COVID restrictions are adhered to and oversees the COVID cleaning requirements as listed by the Salvation Army and completes the signoff after the members meetings. Coordinates helpers.

### AV DESK OPERATOR/S (Two or more people are needed)

Operates AV desk on meeting nights.

### LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR

Maintains records of books in stock and all loans.

Acquires new books as directed by the committee.

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Liaises with President, Committee, and Office Bearers to publish their articles, upcoming events and other relevant articles/news. Develops ideas and arranges for members or self to write articles. Arranges for write-ups from events and speakers. Edits for accuracy of spelling, grammar, sources and facts. Sends finished document to President for review and distribution.

### SEED BANK, SEED AND PLANT SALES CO-ORDINATOR

Purchases, saves or procures fresh quality seed for seed bank. Maintains records of seed stock and rotates to maintain viability. Sells seeds at ROGI meetings, garden visits and events. Arranges for envelopes, labels and seed-packing days. Ensures Seed Bank has seasonal stock.

### SUPPER CO-ORDINATOR

Supplies consumables and keeps receipts for reimbursement by the Treasurer.

Lays out supper provided by members.

Ensures kitchen is clean after meetings with help of volunteers.

Launders tea towels.

## July Speaker - Michael Wardle

Reported by Douglas Jones

### Permaculture

Michael Wardle is a permaculture educator and consultant. He gave an informative talk at our July meeting on permaculture and its applicability to suburban yards. Michael owns and runs Savour Soil Permaculture, which provides land design consultations and Permaculture Design Courses. He has 25 years of experience in permaculture, the last eight as a professional. He is also the adult education coordinator at the Northey Street City Farm in central Brisbane.

Michael's property in Laidley was developed using permaculture design principles, a process which took eight years. In the final full year of his ownership of that property (2020), it produced over three tonnes of food (vegetables, fruit, nuts, etc.)

Michael's working definition of permaculture is:

***"Permaculture is a design process to meet human need while enhancing ecosystem health."***

The design process is based upon three foundations which provide the ethical framework for using the permaculture design principles (12 altogether). Those foundations are:

1. **Earth Care**
2. **People Care**
3. **Fair Share (or more recently, Future Share)**

The twelve design principles include:

1. Observe and interact
2. Catch and store energy
3. Obtain a yield
4. Apply self-regulation and accept feedback
5. Use and value renewable resources and services
6. Produce no waste

7. Design from patterns to details
8. Integrate rather than segregate
9. Use small and slow solutions
10. Use and value diversity
11. Use edges and value the marginal
12. Creatively use and respond to change

Michael emphasised the importance of observing and interacting with your garden space as you develop and manage it, and capturing and storing energy, particularly solar energy.

### Designing your Garden

When designing a garden, design with management in mind. In developing a garden, remember that it is better to develop a square metre per week than trying to develop the whole garden at once. If you develop a square metre per week, you would still develop 52 square metres in a year - in the process, you will be able to assess what size garden you can manage. This requires that you understand your own behaviour and your capacity to manage a garden. Self-regulate and accept feedback.

**Consider your water budget** - As a rule of thumb, summer vegetable gardens require 5 litres of water per square metre, and trees also require 5 litres of water per day per tree. Use this to get some idea of what your garden's water budget will be.

**Decide where to set your focus** - Options include soil, water and sunlight capture.

**Identify pinch points** (*i.e. factors that may constrain the development of the garden*) - Understand the limitations of the site (soil, rain/water, sunshine) and self (such as time and energy).

**Site type** - This will influence/shape the approach to be taken. Sites can range through the following: container, courtyard, suburban block, communal garden/agriculture, broadacre cropping, grazing and agroforestry. The type of site will help you to decide where your focus and pinch points will be.

## Considerations

### 1. Access:

- a. Plan, map out and mark the site using a can of spray paint.
- b. Leave the marked-out site plan for a couple of weeks and then walk it to check on accessibility.

### 2. Vertical Accents:

- a. There are four dimensions to consider in designing a garden – three spatial and one temporal.
- b. The height that plants grow over time may impact on the amount and quality of sunlight available to other plants.
- c. Remember that *a vegetable garden needs 6 to 8 hours of sunlight a day in both summer and winter.*

### 3. Fixed Garden Beds:

- a. Focus on soil management.
- b. Ensure access for wheelbarrow, etc.
- c. Decide on garden width. 1.5 to 2.5 metres allows for access from both sides of garden.

### 4. Fertilisers:

- a. Fertilise because gardening is an extractive process.
- b. All plants need all elements, not just N (nitrogen), P (phosphorus) and K (potassium). They do, however, need them in different concentrations.
- c. Sick/unhealthy plants attract pests (nature's composters) e.g. aphids.

### 5. Control Pests:

- a. Aphids are not simply pests. *Aphids are a keystone species.* Aphids are the base of many food chains in the garden, playing an important part in a garden ecosystem. Many different predators eat aphids, and in turn, other insects, birds, and mammals prey on them. For example, lady beetles eat aphids. Once aphids appear in a garden, lady beetles will usually follow in a couple of weeks. *The eating of aphids by lady beetles is part of what is known as a trophic cascade.*

- b. *"Trophic cascades are powerful indirect interactions that can control entire ecosystems. Trophic cascades occur when predators limit the density and/or behaviour of their prey and thereby enhance survival of the next lower trophic level. Predators eat prey. By so doing, predators can impact both prey abundance and behaviour (e.g., prey get scared when predators are around and hide or move away). When the impact of a predator on its prey's ecology trickles down one more feeding level to affect the density and/or behaviour of the prey's prey, ecologists term this interaction a feeding, or trophic cascade."*

[SOURCE: <https://www.nature.com/scitable/knowledge/library/trophic-cascades-across-diverse-plant-ecosystems-80060347/>.]

### c. Attracting Beneficial Bugs:

- i. When you discover a bug in your garden, research whether it is beneficial. If it is not beneficial, decide how you are going to deal with it.
- ii. *Plant flowers* (annuals and perennials) *well in advance of planting vegetables.* Pollen eaters attracted to the flowers will, for the most part, eat pests. Michael favours passionfruit marigolds but stinking rogers will do a similar job. (i.e., provide a habitat for beneficial insects).
- iii. *Use plants that repel insects.* These include tree wormwood and some flowers.

## Other Points Covered by Michael

- Some plants require minimal fertilisation. For example, macadamias and casava grow in poor soil.
- **Use stable rather than soluble fertilisers.** Soluble fertilisers can be taken up by plants straight away. Stable fertilisers allow the soil biology to function properly. This is essential for indigenous microorganisms (IMOs) to fulfill their key functions in healthy soils.
- **Rock minerals are one example of a stable fertiliser** - *the Earthlife product, Garden Mate, is rock mineral based and can be purchased from Capalaba Produce.*



## July Speaker - Michael Wardle (cont'd)

- A useful tip is to apply rock minerals to your compost heap so that when you use compost, you are providing for both soil biology and fertilisation.
- Biochar and compost are habitats for soil biology, *not* stable fertilisers.
- Ultimately, you should aim for no dig/no till gardening. This is important for maintaining soil biological health and soil health. It also helps to maintain carbon in the soil, contributing to better soil structure, food for soil biology and better water retention. Carbon is generally from soil organic matter.
- Having living plants in a garden improves soil water retention, as plants capture moisture from the atmosphere.

### Green mulch/manure

- Eventually gardens produce some mulch.
- Best green manure for Michael results from planting one of the cheap bird mixes (with 8 or more seed types) and slashing it before seeds set for use as a green compost/mulch.
- Sugar cane mulch is good because it is seed free and still has some sugar content to feed soil biology.
- A living cover of soil is better than a dead cover.

Want to know more about permaculture? Michael Wardle will be conducting a course **Serious Backyard Abundance** at the Northey Street City Farm over three Saturdays in September - the 3rd, 10th and 17th from 9am to 4pm.

Details can be found at:

<https://www.nscf.org.au/home/learn/sustainable-living-workshops/#backyard>

Or

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/serious-backyard-abundance-3-saturdays-tickets-372575191427>

### Nut grass – what to do about it.

- Nut grass serves a useful purpose on loamy creek banks where its roots help to bind and stabilise soil, an important hedge against erosion. Often, the loam used for lawn dressing came from creek banks with nut grass.
- There is no easy way to get rid of nut grass.
- Nut grass is an early level succession plant. All plants will grow, but they will only thrive in the right environment. *Improving soil quality is one of the best ways to deal with nut grass.*

### An Abundant Backyard

- It takes time!
- A list of vegetables is included in the *August Garden To Do List*, which can be accessed on Michael's website:

<https://savoursoilpermaculture.com/august-garden-to-do-list/>

- A list of flowers can be found in *A Years Worth of Flowers*, which can be accessed at:

<https://savoursoilpermaculture.com/a-years-worth-of-flowers/>

PLEASE NOTE - if you have trouble locating these, go to Michael's website [www.savoursoilpermaculture.com](http://www.savoursoilpermaculture.com) and go to BLOG.

### Sundries

- One book worth reading is *The Intelligent Gardener: Growing Nutrient-Dense Food* by Steve Solomon with Erica Reinheimer (2012). The ROGI library has a copy of this book.
- **Crop Rotation** - Cycle crops from legumes (beans, peas) to leafy vegetables (lettuce, broccoli), to fruit bearing plants (fruit that grows on a vine - tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplants) to root vegetables (carrots, potatoes). Known as fourfold crop rotation - leggy, leafy, fruity, rooty.

**NB: The full report of Michael's permaculture presentation by Douglas Jones is available on the ROGI website.**

Go to [www.rogi.com.au](http://www.rogi.com.au) then **RESOURCES**, then **Click on some of ROGI's articles.**

## Garden Visit - Erik & Danielle van Zuilekom

Report and photos by Ann Roffey

Erik, Danielle and their son Aiden relocated from Melbourne to the Redlands about four years ago. They looked at 40 properties, before purchasing an old Queenslander in Thornlands. It was one of the first farmhouses in the area, and the 1214m<sup>2</sup> block had the beautiful rich red soil he desired. Erik has a background in botany and horticulture, but growing edibles is new to him. He has also needed to adapt his approach to growing in our very different sub-tropical climate.

When they moved in they waited one year before planting, to observe what was happening on the site. There was turf everywhere, a large fig tree with canopy to the ground, a mango tree, and very compacted soil with little life in it. Compost was added and sweet potato grown (to break up the soil). They watched where the water moved, and established a swale system - with all pathways loose so they can be shifted if needed. Gravel and concrete edges surround the house, as they are unsure if chemical treatments (e.g. for termite protection) have been used in the past.

The garden has different areas - a research area (for Erik's work designing vertical gardens), rainforest area, food forest, and a more traditional way of growing with raised vegetable garden beds, as well as living pathways.

Erik's advice for improving soil and growing amazing plants is:

- Make compost from as many ingredients as possible. Use to help solve problems in the garden.
- Don't focus on plants in isolation - use companion planting.
- Chop and drop anything that has moisture in it (e.g. arrowroot, canna and banana leaves) to improve the soil.
- Buy sugarcane mulch and leave in bales to hold moisture. Leave in situ to decompose.
- Use green manures and biochar.
- Practice crop rotation. Grow vertically to maximise space.
- Learn where in nature the plants you're growing come from. Look beyond the nursery plant label and work with plants according to the habitats they evolved within. Use them as part of ecologies rather than as isolated plants, as each species has evolved into what it is as part of ecological communities.



*In less than three years, the back yard is a thriving oasis. When they purchased there was turf everywhere, and the soil was compacted with little life in it. After a lot of hard work, the site has been transformed into a botanist's delight.*





## Garden Visit - Erik van Zuilekom (cont'd)



Left: Rock drain designed to take excess water from the site to banana circle. Plantings around drain include (front to back) Brazilian spinach (easy to propagate and good for weed suppression), and pawpaw. On the left, Jaboticaba and achacha are planted in low lying depressions excavated alongside the swale to maximise flooding over their root systems (this will increase their growth rate and fruiting). This is something they experience in habitat.

There are also cavendish banana, bana grass, lemongrass, and Mexican sunflower - the last three being routinely chopped and dropped, to create their own mulch onsite.

The tepee at the rear is covered with five different types of winged yam (*Dioscorera alata*), which they will taste-test to decide which one is preferred to grow for the family.

This small building located at the rear of the property under the fig tree is believed to be a school-master's office. It is used as an office when working at home, as well as for guests. They have added a composting toilet.



Above: Banana circle (rear) is underplanted with arrow-root, betel leaf, coffee, cocoyam, ginger, Chinese keys (*Boesenbergia rotunda*), elephant's foot yam, galangal, Kra-Chai, Okinawa spinach, and tamarillo - all plants that love the dappled shade. In front of the banana circle is a moringa hedge, used as an edible windbreak and 'room divider' to separate different growing areas.

A frame has been made from galvanised steel pipe to grow vegetables and fruit vertically. Underneath are raised vegetable beds, with drip irrigation. Erik is going to convert the lower gardens into wicking beds, as they are close to the house and they are not sure what chemicals have been used in this area.



## Garden Visit - Erik & Danielle van Zuilekom (continued)

There was much admiration of Erik's wood store. He shares with us its purpose and how it was built. The wood store, as with everything else in the garden, is designed to fulfil multiple functions:

- Lift wood off the ground to minimise termite activity
- Create habitat for local wildlife
- Minimise space on the ground to open up usable storage of growing area
- Dry wood for fire use
- Align the wood stores to create wind protection for the garden to be planted alongside
- Create visual separation from the dustbin area

They are created from placing two Besser block bricks next to each other with their internal holes facing vertically. A piece of recycled timber is placed into each hole, projecting outwards. Each Besser block has two holes, thus each side of the wood stack has two pieces of timber supporting it, into which firewood is stacked. The weight of the firewood settles and balances the entire structure.

A mixture of thicker wood is placed near the base, therefore creating larger gaps between each piece of firewood, to maximise airflow and drying near the base where moisture would generally collect. Smaller pieces are progressively stacked on top - this also increases habitat value and makes kindling more easily accessed. To reduce rain access to the top, cut thicker firewood in half and lay them horizontally along the top with flat surfaces facing downwards, to act like moisture repelling tiles, to keep the stores dry.



Right: Tomato and pepino grow vertically on galvanised steel pipe frame. Vertical pipes are on a joiner so they can be moved. In summer the frame was covered with a cucumber vine, giving much needed shade to edibles such as lettuce, Brazilian spinach, Surinam spinach etc.

Left: Strawberries from one plant gifted at last year's Samford Edible Garden Trail. A hardy variety, it would seem!





## Garden Visit - Erik & Danielle van Zuilekom (continued)

Right: The lemonade tree was covered with mites and the fruit didn't look very good at all. It is growing in the shade, so this doesn't help (it is going to be relocated). To improve its health, Erik has treated the soil, not the plant. The soil was inoculated with humates and watered with teas such as comfrey and weeds. Look at the fruit now!



Left: Cosmos for the bees and other beneficial insects.



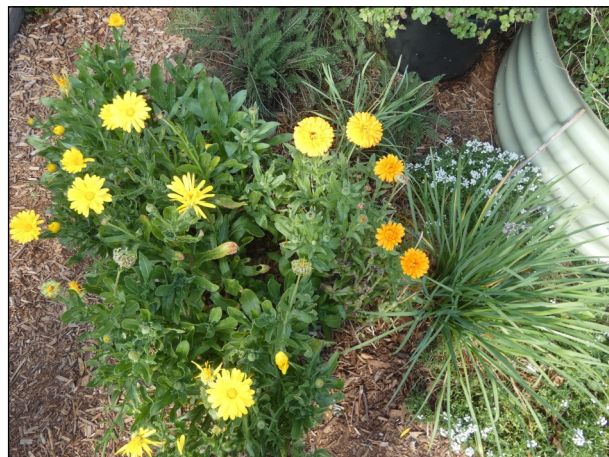
Right: Erik's shade houses are where he grows research plants for vertical garden use (living architecture). Many of these species are Aroids that develop a dramatic change between their juvenile to mature forms. Thus, he grows many plants on totems up to 3m in height, to allow plants to undergo their changes. Plants are trialled for multiple functionalities, and to use for data collection for a book he has been writing on the subject for the last 6-7 years.

Read more about Erik's work at:

<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedNaturesDesign>

Read more about Erik's edible garden at :

<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedNatures-Edible-Garden-by-Erik-van-Zuilekom-110712930448361/>



Living pathways of herbs and flowers grow beside gardens beds. Their purpose is to provide flowers for pollination by bees and beneficial insects, and scent to confuse and detract bad bugs.



Native bee hive gifted from a friend. It has done so well it has been split, and now they have two.





## Upcoming Garden Events

### Bethania Street Community Garden Bethania Street, Lota

#### Harvest Share

**Wednesday 10th August, 10.00am - 11.30am**

Everyone is welcome to join us for our Harvest Share, focusing on gardening, home-grown food and local produce. Bring your friends and neighbours to wander through our productive garden, talk to our friendly gardeners, meet new people, have a cuppa, listen to some local music and celebrate local food growing and community.

Are you a gardener or a foodie? Bring along any spare home grown produce or homemade food to share. This is the perfect opportunity to share the joys of our garden with your family and friends.

**Gold coin donation, no booking required.**

#### Adults Water Colour

**Thursday 18th August, 9:30am - 12:30pm**

Local artist Megan Forward will use the community garden environment as a stimulus for an enjoyable and easy watercolour workshop. Take home your paintings. No experience necessary.

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - email [bethaniabookings@gmail.com](mailto:bethaniabookings@gmail.com) (please include your name and phone number). Cost \$5.00**

#### Propagation: New Plants from Old

**Thursday 25 August, 9:30am - 12:30pm**

Learn various methods of propagation, including starting from seed and using existing plants. This workshop will focus mainly on edibles and you will take away some plants to grow at home.

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - email [bethaniabookings@gmail.com](mailto:bethaniabookings@gmail.com) (please include your name and phone number). FREE.**

### BOTANICAL BAZAAR

**Saturday 6 August, 11.30am - 5.30pm**

**Sunday 7 August, 9am - 4pm**

**Nerang Country Paradise Parklands**

- ⇒ Over 100 green exhibitors
- ⇒ Speaker program with celebrity gardeners
- ⇒ Workshops and demonstrations
- ⇒ Walks through the community garden
- ⇒ Kid's Hub: adventure playground, animal farm, pony rides
- ⇒ Botanical art
- ⇒ Entertainment, Food vans

For tickets and latest news, go to

<https://www.botanicalbazaargc.com.au/>

### BRISBANE ORGANIC GROWERS INC. ORGANIC FAIR

**Sunday 28 August, 8am - 2pm**

**Peace Hall, 102 McDonald Road, Albion**

- Learn all about growing organically "for the kitchen garden"
- Free demonstrations and talks
- Free gardening advice
- Free animal nursery
- Stalls selling herbs, books, seeds, plants, jams, tools
- Relax with friends at the BOGI Café
- Browse the produce from member's suburban gardens
- Stay for the auction of competition entries

#### A HANDY HINT! By Michael Pehrson

*I attended the Garden Expo in Nambour recently and bought some Eco Labels from Aussie Environmental, one of the store holders. They are nearly equivalent to the cost of plastic labels from the big green shed, but do not deteriorate in the sun like the plastic. They can be reused by a light sanding or even an eraser if written on in pencil. Much better than using plastic. Go to:*

<https://aussieenvironmental.com.au/product/eco-plant-labels/>



## ROGI MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Rhonda Binns, Toni Bowler, Jill Nixon, Erin Houselander	

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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.*

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[www.facebook.com/groups/redland.organic.growers](http://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

## HIVE PARKING FOR NATIVE BEES

We are always interested in keeping our native stingless bees in other people's backyards. We need new spots for the coming season.

Here are some requirements:

- \* Suburban acreage
- \* South, east and south-west side of Brisbane and also south of Brisbane along the coast to say Ballina.
- \* The site needs to be safe, secure, tamper-proof, shady and accessible

We would like to keep at least 12 colonies at each site. Please get in touch if you think this is possible for your place, or you know someone who would be able to help.

Some ROGI members are already happy hosts to our bees (talk with Margaret Sear or Ann Roffey).

We do not pay an agistment fee - the benefit to you is that you enjoy the pollination services provided by our bees.

Russell and Janine Zabel  
Keepers of Australian  
Stingless Native Bees  
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[www.zabel.com.au](http://www.zabel.com.au)



## Did you know?

**You can go online** [www.rogi.com.au/resources.php](http://www.rogi.com.au/resources.php) **and read every edition of ROGI News since September 2014.**