

# ROGI News

ROGI meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday each month (except January). Doors open at 6.15pm. You can visit the plant table, library, seed table & stalls or just have a chat over tea before the meeting. Please be seated by 7pm ready for the proceedings.

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

*Members \$2 entry,  
visitors most welcome \$5 entry.*

## REMEMBER:

- Return washed pots
- Swap and share
- ROGI Rewards
- Bring a basket/box/bag for your purchases
- Queries for Plant Clinic
- Pay your membership dues
- Bring a plate of food for supper (home-made is best!) please provide a list of ingredients where possible.

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**Supper will be available after the meeting only. Tea and coffee before and after.**

## Jill's Jottings October 2025

Many people I've spoken with over the past several months have expressed concern about many things going on in the world – lack of solid action on climate and environment issues, escalating political tensions and wars, and more. Some are very distressed and wish they could just stop hearing about it. Others feel so hopeless that they're on the verge of depression 'What's the point?'. Do you feel sort-of helpless – like there's nothing you can do? Many people I've spoken with recently feel frustrated because it's all so BIG and 'what can one person do, anyway?' In his book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, Covey explained the concept of the Circle of Concern and the Circle of Influence. If the things that you are worried about (your Circle of Concern) are things you can do something about (within your Circle of Influence) – well and good – get on with it. However, if you're concerned about huge things, such as climate change and the situation in Gaza, Ukraine and in USA politics – things that you personally can't control – then you're in for a stressful time. There's quite a bit of this stress going around. Most people, when faced with something of such magnitude, do nothing. Fair enough ... if nothing can be done. But we each can do our bit to help mitigate the looming climate and environment crises.

So ... what can you/we/I do about this here in Australia? None of us have a big Circle of Influence, e.g. a premier or prime minister or even philanthropist (I think?) who can make the BIG decisions and make things happen. But we can make big (and small) decisions within our smaller Circle of Influence. We all know about installing solar panels and rainwater tanks and reducing our use of the car and reducing unnecessary consumption. What other decisions?

Well, you've already made a decision by joining ROGI and becoming an organic gardener – no matter where you are on that journey. We're part of a marvellous gentle revolution (to quote Peter Cundall) – an explosion of people choosing to grow backyard (and front yard and verge, even) vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers.

Did you know that growing our own food organically helps us mitigate the causes of climate change in our own backyard?

Here's how:

**Make compost:** Use green waste, kitchen scraps, grounds from coffee shops, and carbon sources such as torn newspaper and shredded office paper. Allow your neighbours to contribute. This prevents food 'waste' from going to landfill where it creates methane (at least 30 times stronger than CO<sub>2</sub> as a greenhouse gas), and keeps carbon in the soil.


**Nurture your soil:** Increase organic matter in your soil. Apply your compost. Encourage the microorganisms in the soil – don't use poisons. Have a worm farm. Use rock dust. Grow green manure crops. Add bio-char. All of this increases your soil's humus levels - humus is the 'glue' that holds your soil together. According to Graeme Sait of Nutritech, 'An increase in just **1%** organic matter in your soil means that this soil can now hold ... 17 litres of water per m<sup>2</sup> that cannot evaporate and is readily accessible beside the plant roots.' Water is set to become the most precious commodity - 'the new gold' – so this is important.

**Help someone else start a garden.** Tell others about ROGI. As Margaret Mead said, *'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has'*.

So don't despair. Do what you can, using what you have, where you are ... now. Grow a garden and believe in the future.

*Jill*

## Events – What's coming up

October Garden Visit	November Garden Visit	Bethania St Community Garden
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Marissa Hughes – Capalaba</b>  <b>Sunday 26th October 2025</b>  <b>2.00pm – 4.00pm</b></p> <p>This abundant 800m<sup>2</sup> block is a wonderful example of making the most of a suburban garden. Out the back, a mixture of raised garden beds, pots and trees hosts a diverse collection including natives, fruit trees, permaculture species, annual vegetables, flowers, medicinal and shamanic plants. The front garden is non-edible, designed to require minimal maintenance while providing privacy and habitat for wildlife. The property is home to bees, chickens and dogs, with an active honeybee hive in the centre of the garden. There are also two dogs (one large) who will be outside unless they've been naughty.</p> <p> Caution is advised for anyone allergic to bees or uncomfortable around dogs. Street parking is minimal as this is a small court, so please be respectful and use an adjoining street where possible.</p> <p>Bring along a small plate of homemade food or home grown produce to share, and a mug for a cup of tea or coffee. This is a free event for ROGI members, but numbers are limited. Please register your intention to attend on TEAM APP or at the October ROGI meeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mini Field Trip</b>  <b>Sunday 23rd November</b>  <b>2 – 4 pm</b></p> <p>Join us for our mini field trip to Tilly's Garden, a verdant oasis tended by Chantelle in Capalaba. Nestled on a cosy 600 square metre block, Tilly's Garden is a testament to what can be achieved with dedication to low-cost gardening and a commitment to sustainability. Experience how Chantelle has transformed her small block into a productive haven, employing no-dig, chop and drop, and composting techniques to enrich her soil and support a thriving ecosystem without the need for commercial fertilisers, mulches and soils. Tilly's Garden is a living example of how we can contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly world right from our own backyards. Her approach is about nurturing the environment to feed her family, her poultry and local wildlife, proving that this sort of lifestyle is within everyone's reach. Please bring along a small plate of homemade food for afternoon tea and a cup for tea or coffee. Chantelle is offering her garden tour as a free event - You may like to support Chantelle by subscribing to her 'Tilly's Garden' pages on <i>YouTube</i> and <i>Facebook</i> Limit 25. Please register your intention to attend on Team App or at the November meeting The address will be supplied to registered attendees three days before the event Contact: Linda Barrett 0401157713</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 26th October 2025</b>  <b>Seasonal Get Together</b>  <b>2:30pm – 4:00pm</b></p> <p>Everyone is welcome to join us for our Seasonal Get-Together. Bring your friends and neighbours to wander through our productive garden, talk to our friendly gardeners, meet new people, have a cuppa and celebrate our garden and wonderful community.</p> <p>If you have any garden produce to share you are most welcome to bring it along, but this isn't necessary. Just come for a cuppa and a chat.</p> <p><b>Gold coin donation - No booking required</b></p>

SEED SAVERS with Linda Brennan	Speakers at ROGI meetings	Events out and about
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 19 October</b> <b>9.30 -12 midday</b></p> <p><b>How to Prepare Your Organic Soil for Planting</b> <i>Hands-on prac:</i></p> <p>This session will be at the time of the lunar calendar with increasing vitality, when we prepare soil for growth, planting etc. It is a perfect opportunity to learn how to create the ideal conditions in your soil for excellent growth.</p> <p>Linda has a particular technique to create good, fertile soil conditions and she will show us how she does it today.</p> <p>Wear gardening clothes, bring a hat and gloves and a share plate for morning tea if you like.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Free for ROGI members.</b> <b>Book with Team App or at ROGI meeting.</b></p> <p><i>And please, remember to <b>save and bring along the seeds of any plants that have been particularly delicious or gorgeous</b>, so that we can share them with others.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9 October 2025</b> <b>Colin Harris</b> <b><u>Queensland Fruit Fly</u></b></p> <p>Click the above link for QFF article available on the ROGI website and get your questions ready for Colin in October.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>13 November 2025</b> <b>Jerry Coleby-Williams</b> <b>English/Australian conservationist &amp; gardener</b></p> <p><u>Jerry Coleby-Williams</u> is an English–Australian conservationist, horticulturalist, plant curator and television and radio personality. He has been a presenter on ABC TV's Gardening Australia since 1999.</p> <p>He is the director of The Seed Savers' Network and an Executive Member of the Queensland Conservation Council.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Just a few days left!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>12 September to 6 October</b> <b><u>Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers</u></b></p> <p>Four Floral-Filled Weekends Across Toowoomba and surrounds</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u>Explore Events here</u></a> Check the website for details</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 4 October</b> <b><u>Maleny Spring Fair</u></b></p> <p>Maleny Showground Pavillion, Maleny Stanley River Road, Maleny <b>Open gardens as well as a garden market at Maleny Showgrounds</b></p> <p>Entry to the Garden Market at the Maleny Showgrounds Pavilion is \$2.00 per adult. Children to 16 years are free. Entry fee to each garden is \$5.00 per adult. Children to 16 yrs are free.</p>

## NEXT MEETING

## SEED SAVERS Seed List 2025

**Seed Bank** - Seek out Seed bank table for organic and heirloom/heritage seeds for sale.

**Library** - ROGI maintains a comprehensive library of books and magazines available for members only, come early and look at the range of topics on offer.

**Seedsavers** - Seeds of the Month for October – check out list of free seeds available here →

### Choose 2 of 3 presentations

**COL HARRIS** Qld Fruit Fly and its parasitoid wasps

**TOM BOHL** Subtropical perennial edible plants for our summertime.

**MAURIE FOLEY** Selecting and sowing seeds and protecting plants for the coming season.

**Plant Clinic** - Bring along your questions and plant samples for Plant Clinic and we'll try to give you answers. All samples must be contained (perhaps a zip-locked bag), with your name and query.

When you're ready to plant your seeds for the season, plant a couple of extra pots for donation to our ROGI meeting night stall to sell. Make sure you label clearly. Your surplus seedlings will help to raise funds for our club.

Please return seedling pots (*that have been washed /soak them in a bucket of water*) to the Plant table so that they can be reused, especially the small tubes, singles, 4-cell and 10-cell packs like these:



Note that there are usually **additional stalls** inside the hall selling goods such as honey, soap, jam, seasonal produce, garden tools and sustainability items.

Use the above link (the heading is a link) for a list of locally grown and saved seeds available from **Seedsavers**. The list is kept up to date so you can check for seeds to collect prior to meetings.

You will find a full list of available seeds for Veg, Herbs and Flowers, check it out and start planting!

<b>Swap and Share Table – outside</b> - Bring something along that you no longer need but potentially someone else could use, and place this on the table outside. Note: If the items you bring along are not taken by someone else then you must take them home.		
<b>ROGI Rewards</b> - Bring something along that you would potentially gift to someone - could be a larger plant, a book, seed box etc.		
Other organic gardening groups:		
<u><b>Brisbane Organic Growers Inc</b></u> (BOGI) 1st Thursday every month (except Jan) Albion Peace Hall, 102 McDonald Rd, Windsor, 6.30 for 7.30pm. phone 3357 3171	<u><b>Qld Herb Society</b></u> 1st Tuesday every month, Albion Peace Hall. 7.30pm. Phone 54268299	<u><b>Oaklands Street Community Garden</b></u> Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 - noon. Oaklands Street, Alexandra Hills. Phone 0410 974 458
<b>What to Plant in October</b> Vegetables or herbs that are grown from leaf/root/fruit – not seeds – are marked with an *		
<b>Amaranth</b> <b>Basil</b> <b>Beans: French, Snake</b> <b>Beetroot</b> <b>Borage</b> <b>Capsicum / Chilli</b> <b>Choko*</b> <b>Coriander</b> <b>Corn: Flint, Maise, Pop, Sweet</b> <b>Cucamelon</b> <b>Cucumber</b>	<b>Eggplant</b> <b>German Chamomile</b> <b>Jerusalem Artichoke*</b> <b>Jicama</b> <b>Lettuce</b> <b>Marigold</b> <b>Melon: Honey, Rock, Water</b> <b>Mizuna</b> <b>Nasturtium</b> <b>New Guinea Bean</b> <b>Okra</b>	<b>Parsley</b> <b>Pigeon Pea</b> <b>Pumpkin</b> <b>Radish</b> <b>Rosella</b> <b>Spinach: Sambung*</b> <b>Spring Onion</b> <b>Squash</b> <b>Sweet Potato*</b> <b>Tomato</b> <b>Yacon*</b> <b>Zucchini</b>
<b>What to Plant in November</b>		
<b>Amaranth</b> <b>Basil</b>	<b>Eggplant</b> <b>German Chamomile</b> <b>Jerusalem Artichoke*</b>	<b>Peanuts</b> <b>Pigeon Pea</b> <b>Pumpkin</b>

Beans: Snake, Soy, Lablab, Winged, Madagascar Beetroot Borage Capsicum/Chilli Choko* Coriander Corn: Flint, Maize, Pop, Sweet Cucamelon Cucumber	Jicama Lettuce Melon: Honey, Rock, Water Mizuna Nasturtium New Guinea Bean Okra Parsley	Radish Rosella Spinach: Sambung Spring Onions Squash Sweet potato* Tomato Yacon* Zucchini
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Courtesy of ROGI's **Sow, Plant and Grow Guide for South-East Queensland (Subtropics) Revised November 2022**

For the full year list available from the ROGI website, [Click Here](#)

**November newsletter deadline is Thursday 30th October - Send contributions to [newsletter@rogi.com.au](mailto:newsletter@rogi.com.au)**

#### ROGI Management Committee and Office Bearers

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

Committee Members are elected at the AGM and subject to the rules of our Incorporation. Office Bearers are not and can change roles at any time during the year.