

In the garden with Greenthumbs of Montville

Just when we thought we were going to miss the usual winter chill - someone turned down the thermostat!

Yes, winter has well and truly arrived and as much as it is a beautiful time of year, I have to say I am looking forward to the days being a few degrees warmer, for two reasons. Firstly, I like to be able to feel my fingers and toes when I work in the garden and secondly, I am also having trouble doing up the button on my jeans... a direct result from the cold weather - too much soup, crusty bread and anything else I can savour in an effort to stay warm.

Add to that the delay in work schedules due to another delicious dose of rain and we have a recipe for the 'muffin effect' on the lower torso.

Apart from that, winter is a beautiful time of year and necessary for many growth cycles and renewal in our gardens. The cooler months of the year for many plants provide a rest period and time to rejuvenate in preparation for new growth and abundance as the seasons change.

The four large liquid ambers that stand proud in our garden have finally shed their canopy of leaves generously providing yet another layer of fabulous organic matter to my compost heap, and the beginnings of another nutrient rich contribution to garden beds and vege patch later this year.

It has always amazed me that even during cold weather growth still occurs - like many avid gardeners I busied myself in the garden every (rare) chance I had planting out for winter and spring including about 300

assorted bulbs, albeit late. With precious little attention once in the ground, I was delighted to discover this week the numerous iris and jonquils pushing their way toward the sun, and the first of the daffs also breaking the surface.

Mother nature is and always will be an awesome force, even though conditions have been erratic and less than favourable at times; however, she still manages to deliver the goods. It is nice to give her a little help every now and then - so if you have been unable to keep on top of things in the garden, winter is the perfect time to play catch up in preparation for the delights of spring.

Encourage spring bulbs to flower enmasse with a quality bulb fertiliser. Although we have had a decent drop of rain it is vital to keep up water to vege patches - the cold wind will quickly sap moisture from the ground and prove detrimental to crops. I would also recommend topping up mulch levels on garden beds as we head into the month notorious for westerly winds. Apply a complete citrus fertiliser to established fruit trees and water well.

Jobs for July - Prune roses back by 1/3, removing old canes and dead wood. Ensure secateurs are clean and sharp to prevent the spread of disease from plant to plant. Take advantage of this dormant period and tend to all of your gardening tools and equipment. Your mower will also enjoy a full service and sharpening of blades before the season kicks off again.



Robyn Moore

Greenthumbs of Montville

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Range Bush n' Beach Walkers

Schedule of Walks for June & July

Thurs 5 July - 7am	Nature Walk Mary Cairncross Nature Reserve (3Ks/2hrs)
Tues 10 July - 7am	Trachyte Track and Tibrogargan Circuit (7.5Ks/3hrs)
Thurs 12 July - 7am	Exploratory/Test Walk (8Ks/3hrs)
Tues 17 July - 2pm	Coolool Beach walk (10Ks/2.5hrs)
Wed 18 July - 6pm	Christmas in July @ Tranquil Park, 483 Mountain View Rd, Maleny
Tues 24 July - 7am	Thilba Thalba Bush Walkers Camp to Gherulla Rec. Area walk (6.5Ks/2.5hrs)
Thurs 26 July - 7am	Long Bush Walk- Circumnavigate Parklands Circuits (15Ks/2.5Hrs)
Tues 31 July - 7am	Noosa Forest/ Tanglewood Track circuits (7Ks/2.5Hrs)

For more information & meeting places phone 5478 6634 or 0432 188 178

To all the team at Roger Loughnan Real Estate,

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I know I was not your only client but I must say how much I really appreciated the regular communication we had, it gave me the feeling that the entire team was working for me. Most of all however I would like to thank you for finding someone that I believe has the same passion that I had for the land and appreciates how special it really is. It means a lot to me to know that the torch is passed and the dream will continue.

Thank you all for your efforts. Don't stop what you're doing."

Sincerely, Mark Schreiber - 07 3846 3461

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