

2013 Tablelands Regional Council Garden Award Winners Announced

A DAZZLING variety of gardens left the 2013 Tablelands Regional Gardens Award judge with an almost impossible task.

"Judge Len Curtiss was faced with some very difficult decisions, gardeners right across the Atherton Tablelands have pulled out the stops this year," Tablelands Regional Council Mayor Rosa Lee Long said today.

"The winners across all categories are very deserving, having put great effort and creativity in to the 36 gardens which were nominated."

"This year, as in previous years, the Garden of the Year has been chosen from winners from both the Northern and Southern divisions. In 2013 the Garden of the Year has been won by Ray and Alice Titmarsh of Tolga."

This year also marked a number of changes to the Awards, explained by Divisional Councillor Shaaron Linwood.

"We have introduced a Hall of Fame, to recognize the exceptional efforts of some of our premier green-thumbs," Cr Linwood said.

Inductees are (Northern zone) Selfie Xhafer and Adile Shyqyr and (Southern zone) Ray and Alice Titmarsh and Shirley Kilpatrick.

"This year we altered the categories, deleting some and introducing a new 'Sustainable' category which attracted some very strong entries," Cr Linwood said.

"It was a broad category, allowing everything from vegetable and produce gardens, to those with exceptional sustainable fertilizing and anything innovative and it uncovered some exceptional entries."

Cr Linwood said that the standard of entries was so high, in some cases special Judges Awards had also been made.

Many gardens will be participating in Open Days where the public can admire, and be inspired by, their fellow Tablelanders' efforts.

The Northern Zone open day will be held on Saturday 7 September in the Northern Zone and Saturday 14 September for the Southern Zone.

John and Kathryn Edwards, of Kuranda were placed 2nd in the Acreage/Rural section of the Northern Division.



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Tree Planters Keep On Planting

This month we have had 2 tree planting activities at Wha Hae where we planted 300 trees. As the dry season has certainly set in we have also had 2 maintenance days watering and mulching some of our younger trees. After working with volunteers for many years now I still take my hat off to their tireless efforts and unconditional love for what they do to help protect their natural environment and in doing so are building stronger Communities! The delicious morning teas Ruth bakes may have something to do with it, but either way your help is greatly appreciated.



Coordinator Sylvia reporting from the banks of the Barron Turning a sea of guinea grass into a corridor of trees and views

PLANT OF THE MONTH -

Hibiscus diversifolius



Australia is home to a number of species of Hibiscus. Here we have the Hibiscus diversifolius, commonly known as the Swamp Hibiscus. This plant, 1-2m in height, is often found along drainage lines in coastal hills and ranges, also sometimes in remnants or edges of dry rainforest. If you have a boggy place in your garden, this beautiful maroon form of the more common pale creamy yellow is in 20 cm pots for \$5.

Dr Conrad Hoskins speaking on Litoria myola Sat/Sun 7th/8th September

Talk 6-6:30pm, Monitoring session 6:30-7:30pm

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We still have a few places left to fill. If you called me months ago, please call again to confirm the day that will suit you. All those who would like to be part of an internationally funded conservation effort here in our own backyard, Dr Conrad Hoskins, the frog researcher, will be in Kuranda on w/e 7th & 8th September to set up our monitoring stations. You can come just for the talk or both. One evening is sufficient training, so you choose which one. Monitoring sites will have easy access and be dry. Please contact Cathy on 4093 9926 to book your place and get directions to the venue.

Thanks for all the mulch, Ron.

J.G. Grego of Kuranda Raw Materials kindly donated a very large pile of bagasse mulch which we accepted with gratitude and spread around the nursery gardens and road side plantings. A huge thanks goes out to Ron and the team for supporting one of your local volunteer community groups. Keep up the good work!

Date Claimers

Envirocare exec meeting Thu 19th Sept. 7:00 pm 19 Kullaroo Close, All members welcome. Ring Cathy on 4093 9926 to confirm date

Myola frog monitoring training - Sat/ Sun 7 & 8 September

Nursery opening

Box trailer for hire, ring Garth on 4093 9926 10 - noon Sat. ring nursery on 4093 8989 or by appointment 4093 8393

Sat. morning Plantings 8am-9:30am Meet at the nursery. Email info@envirocare.org.au for reminder or call Sylvia on 0409 647 714

Give a gift that keeps growing, through our local Grow Project.

www.envirocare.org.au info@envirocare.org.au

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