



NEWSLETTER

March 2026 edition

NEXT MEETING & SHOW

Please note that there will be no meeting for April due to our 160th Anniversary Celebration on 18 April 2026.

Our next meeting and show is **Autumn Show Day** on **2 May 2026**.

Floral Art Schedule (Open Show):

1. Mother's Day
2. Green is Fine
3. Reflection

MARCH MEETING & SHOW – HIGHLIGHTS

March was a busy meeting, including our Annual General Meeting chaired by our patron, Councillor Jim Madden. Congratulations to our new and returning office bearers (details below).

Patron	<i>Councillor Jim Madden</i>	
President:	<i>Sandra Logue 0411 066 787</i>	
Treasurer:	<i>Sandra Harvey</i>	
Secretary:	<i>Helen Farley 0498 205705</i>	
Committee:	<i>Lynette Rose</i>	<i>Anita Dwyer</i>
	<i>Kim Prince</i>	<i>Helen Reich</i>
	<i>Gemma Starr</i>	<i>Melissa Barton</i>
Points Secretary:	<i>Sandra Harvey</i>	
Honorary Member	<i>Rob Wilson (Mountain Man)</i>	
Stewards:	<i>Ashley Haag</i>	<i>Patrick Smith</i>
	<i>Kim Prince</i>	
Raffle Convenor:	<i>Patrick Smith</i>	
Webmaster:	<i>Colin Power</i>	
Honorary solicitor:	<i>Peter Walker</i>	
Newsletter Editor	<i>Melissa Barton Melissa.Barton26@telstra.com</i>	

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GUEST SPEAKER – ROB WILSON

Thank you to **Rob Wilson**, who stepped in at the last moment as our guest speaker.

Rob shared updates from Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha, City Botanic Gardens, and Sherwood Arboretum.

A standout story was the relocation of two critically endangered palms (*Tahina spectabilis*) to Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha. These palms are native to a remote area in north-western Madagascar, with fewer than 100 plants surviving on a single 5-hectare site. Rob noted that each frond can be around 3 metres wide, and the palms produce a terminal flower.

The new nature-inspired playground at Sherwood Arboretum also drew plenty of interest.

If you would like to hear more talks by Rob, he will be giving talks at **Queensland Garden Show** in Nambour 10 & 11 July 2026.

SHOW RESULTS

Judge Anne Baster congratulated everyone who entered and especially loved seeing the Junior Section.

Best Cut Flower: Brian Heath's dahlia.

Best Exhibit: Rob Wilson's stapelia.

Worth a mention: Brian Heath's anthurium in a pot—Anne loved how well the pot and plant suited each other.



Above: Anne Baster with Brian Heath and his winning dahlia

Below: Anne Baster with Rob Wilson and his winning stapelia



Above: Anne Baster with Brian Heath and his noteworthy anthurium in a pot.

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RAFFLE & LUCKY DOOR WINNERS

- **Lucky Door Prize:** Rob Wilson and Glenda Imhoff
- **Raffle:** Anne Baster, Kim Prince, and Barbara Cush

Thank you to Councillor Madden for donating the hamper prizes for our last meeting.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

A warm welcome to everyone who joined us for the March meeting and show—whether you were visiting for the first time or returning after a break; we hope you enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and found plenty of gardening inspiration.

POSITION VACANT – OUTINGS COORDINATOR

We're looking for a volunteer **Outings Coordinator** to plan and organise club outings. If you can help, please contact **Sandra** or **Helen**.

HELP OUR GARDEN CLUB GROW

Visitors are always welcome—please feel free to bring friends, family, neighbours or anyone who loves gardening (or just wants to learn!).

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UPCOMING EVENTS

IPSWICH GARDEN SPECTACULAR

When:	11 & 12 April 2026
Where:	Silkstone State School, Prospect St, Silkstone
Time:	11 April – 8.30am to 3.00pm 12 April – 9.00am to 1.00pm
Entry:	\$5 (Under 18's FREE)
What's on:	Hosted by the Ipswich Orchid Society and the Ipswich & District Bromeliad Society , with proceeds supporting Ipswich Hospice . Enjoy plant and product stalls from a range of vendors, cultural talks, a plant crèche, and raffle prizes.
Highlight:	Ipswich Orchid Society Show & Sale Ipswich & Districts Bromeliad Society Sale

AN AUTUMN AFFAIR TREVALLAN'S GARDEN PARTY

When:	11 April 2026
Where:	Trevallan Lifestyle Centre, 77 Fernvale Rd, Brassall
Time:	9.00am to 1.00pm
What's on:	Small businesses, artisan makers, foodie favourites, and live local musicians.
Highlight:	Kevin Ahearn and Rob Wilson in conversation about native rainforest plants, local timbers, and how those stories can inspire a tropical garden at home.

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ESK GARDEN FAIR

When:	Saturday 20 June 2026
Where:	Pipeliner Park, Esk-Hampton Road, Esk
Time:	From 8.00am
Entry:	\$5 (Under 16's FREE)
Tickets:	Pay cash at the gate or book online via TryBooking.com
Highlight:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More stalls, with a wider range of plants and garden art.• New Searles Butterfly Stage for live music and performers.• A new Mega Food Court (expanded food options and seating).

MARBURG GARDEN & OUTDOOR EXPO

When:	Saturday 22 August 2026
Where:	Marburg Showgrounds, 45-55 Queen St, Marburg
Time:	8.00am–2.00pm
Entry:	\$5 (under 16's FREE)
What's on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approx. 150 stalls (plants and garden items)• Free onsite parking• Free talks by guest speakers• 3 food courts• Plenty of seating and shade for a break• Bus groups (20+)—dedicated drop-off area and bus parking, with booking rates available.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit our website for the latest club news:
ipswichhortgardenclub.com.au

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