



Wild about my garden

May this
place be a
stepping
stone

for all
that needs
to be done,

for the
care of the
planet's
wonders

this jewel
in the
light of
the sun.

in
conjunction
with



Extract from a poem by Michael Rooke

Hosted by **Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc.** (TFNC), this project is supported by a donation from the family of Joan Kolbe, a former member of TFNC.

The club is honouring Joan's legacy through this project.

Aim:

- To focus attention on gardens that provide a safe and welcoming habitat for wildlife.
- To create an event that invites people of all ages and interests to connect with nature.
- To highlight the activities of **Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc.** and other environmental groups within the Toowoomba Regional Council region, including **Gardens for Wildlife Toowoomba Region (G4W)** and other groups supported by **The Darling Downs Environment Council (DDEC)**.

Categories:

- Photography
- Nature Journal page
- Poetry or Prose
- Work of Art

Age Levels:

Under 16 /Open (16 and over)

Entries open:

25th August to 22nd September, 2024

An Honorary Award will be presented in each category and in both age levels.

All contributors will receive a certificate of participation as a downloadable PDF.

Entries will be displayed at:

DDEC Eco Hut,

1A Heller Street, Toowoomba

on Thursday 26 September from 2pm – 5pm.

Entry Criteria

- Entry is FREE
- Anyone can enter but ALL entries must pertain to the Toowoomba Regional Council Region.
- All entries must be the original work of the entrant.
- Entries should convey a personal connection with the chosen topic, gained through time spent with some aspect of nature found in your chosen space.
- There is no restriction on the size of the garden space, and includes private gardens, community gardens, parks, school grounds etc.
- Images may include man-made items including frog ponds, nest boxes etc.
- All entries must be made digitally as a .PDF or a .jpg or a Word document.
- Maximum file size: 5mb
- Each entry is to be submitted separately as an attachment to an email to: tfncwildaboutmygarden@gmail.com
- Before attaching an entry, the image must be saved with your name and age category. e.g., Jemma Lawson U16. (Images identified by a number only will be returned for editing.)
- In your accompanying email, please include your name, contact details, entry title and category.
- Topics and titles are the entrant's own choice, in keeping with the theme: *Wild About My Garden*.
- Total number of entries per person is three (3) e.g., one in each of three categories OR any other combination.
- Poetry and Prose must be a maximum of 300 words.
- Written works may include an original hand-drawn illustration on the page.
- The entrant agrees that entries can be used by TFNC for educational or promotional purposes including in the TFNC's web site, Facebook page, Newsletter and in an eBook and may also be shown on other platforms. The entrant will always be acknowledged where the image is used.
- Copyright and intellectual property remains with the entrant and no commercial use of entries will be made without their prior consent.
- The TFNC organising committee's decisions are final.
- By submitting an entry, you are confirming that you have read the rules of entry.
- * **For more information on Gardens for Wildlife Toowoomba Region (G4W)** please follow the link: g4wtoowoombaregion.com/home/
- * **For more information on Nature Journaling**, we recommend the following link: www.paperbarkwriter.com/product/make-a-date-with-nature-an-introduction-to-nature-journaling/
- * Keep an eye out for workshops, talks, etc. throughout July, August & September that will contribute to the *Wild About My Garden* Project.

Wild
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garden

Joan Kolbe (1921–1992)

Joan Kolbe (nee Beardsworth) was born in 1921 in Toowoomba, and like many girls of that time who lived on the Range side of Toowoomba, she went first to **East State School** and then to **Fairholme College**. Her two brothers, Ted and Bill, also lived and worked in Toowoomba. Another brother, Jack, died in 1944 at the Battle of Shaggy Ridge while serving with the **Australian Air Force (AIF)** in Papua New Guinea.

Joan was employed at **Elvery's Garage** before and after the war and appeared in one of Elvery's advertisements.

In 1942 she enlisted in the **Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF)**, serving in Townsville, where duties included repairs to flying boats. She was discharged in 1946 as acting Flight Sergeant. Subsequently she married Laurence Kolbe and they had two sons, John (a specialist physician in Auckland) and Tony (a medical scientist), now both retired. John and Tony attended **Toowoomba South Boys State School** and **Toowoomba State High School**.

After her husband died in 1962, Joan brought up her family by herself and undertook secretarial duties including as a secretary, from 1976–1986 at **Toowoomba Preparatory School** (now TAS), where she was highly regarded. Joan was also the first secretary of the **Toowoomba South Boys State School P&C**, commencing in 1965. Joan was a Life Member of the **Business and Professional Woman's Association**.

Joan was a member of the **Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc.** which she loved attending, not only because of her interest in natural history but also for the companionship and the enjoyment of being with others with similar interests.

As a gesture of appreciation for the enjoyment Joan found in being a member of TFNC, her sons recently made a donation to TFNC. In honour of Joan's legacy, **The Joan Kolbe Project** was conceived.



The Joan Kolbe Project is titled *Wild About My Garden*.

Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc. is inviting community members of all ages to share a special moment with nature through any of the following media:

- Photography
- Nature Journal page
- Poetry or Prose
- Work of Art

There are TWO categories: Open & Under 16's

Entry is FREE and contributions will be eligible to be included in an eBook to commemorate the project.

A Paula Peeters workshop on Nature Journaling, a Nature Photography workshop with Robert Ashdown, along with specialist talks by published naturalists are also planned as part of the project to honour Joan's legacy.

Further entry details can be found on the **Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc.** blog: toowoombafieldnaturalists.blogspot.com

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