

# NEWSLETTER



# DECEMBER 1992

# THE GOLD COAST SUCCULENT AND BROMELIAD SOCIETY

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<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Mary Nicholson	72 0993
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b>	Olwen Ferris	77 1904
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Graham Besgrove	(07) 800 5431
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Genny Vaukonen	46 1401
<b>TREASURER</b>	Jum Daniels	77 1469
<b>EDITOR</b>	Joint Effort	
<b>PLANT SUB-COMMITTEE</b>	Olwen Ferris John Catlan Graham Besgrove Terry Vogt John and Pat Carpenter	
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	John Catlan	
<b>CATERING SUPERVISOR</b>	Irene Small	
<b>RAFFLES SUPERVISOR</b>	Roy Wenzel	

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## MEETING DATES AND VENUE

Our meetings are always held at the Red Cross Rooms, 11th Avenue, Palm Beach on the second Saturday of each month starting at 1.30 pm.

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### MARCH

**13** Our regular meeting at the Red Cross Rooms, Palm Beach

### APRIL

**10** There will be NO meeting in April as many members will be attending the Australian Conference in Brisbane

### MAY

**8** Our regular meeting at the Red Cross Rooms, Palm Beach

### JUNE

**12** Our regular meeting at the Red Cross Rooms, Palm Beach

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are due in October of each year. If you require postage of your newsletters, please forward 11 (eleven) current-price stamps.

Family	-	\$6.00
Single	-	\$4.00

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## DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed in the Newsletter are the contributor's own and are not necessarily those of the Committee or the Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At our November meeting, 26 members attended. The Lucky Door Prize of *Aechmea Rajah* was drawn and won by Olwen Ferris.

We had many plants for our Show and Tell Table. Some were:

*Aechmea nudicaulis* variegata; *nudicaulis* Mary Hyde reverse form  
Pink Beads - 1 in flower and 1 in berry; *lueddemanniana*  
Mend

*Neoregelia concentrica* albo marginata - 2 varieties;  
Painted Lady; Wow; *meyendorffii*; Manoa Beauty;  
variegated seedlings; *carolinae*; *carolinae* tricolor; perfecta  
- german hybrid

*Nidularium innocentii purpurea*

*Pitcairnia xanthocalyx*; *undulata*

*Quesnelia edmundi*

*Vriesea* Red Chestnut; *heiroglyphica* x; *glutinosa*; *fosterianum*;  
*corillina*; *accumulata*; dk Perfection; *viminilis* Rex; Van  
Ackeri; Plantation Pride; Banana

*Guzmania* Cherry; *pennellii*

*Tillandsia streptophylla* (mex); *juncea*

*Adenium obesum*

*Notocactus* (brazilcactus) flowering

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Our day was held at Cascade Gardens on 12 December in fine weather. Twenty-five members attended and all had a lovely day. Our raffle table had to be seen to be believed - there were over 50 plants for the continuous raffle. John and Genny came up with most of the plants as well as the idea to make it a special raffle. Our raffle seller, Roy, worked overtime to keep our members supplied with tickets and then aided Graham and Wendy with the drawing of the prizes. The Society funds are much healthier after such a profitable day. Thank you one and all.

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## **ONE MAN'S EFFORTS**

By Olwen Ferris

It's congratulations to Terry Vogt, a member from Grafton, New South Wales, for the part he played in the recent Jacaranda Festival of that city.

Terry was invited to stage an entry in the various plant display, held over a two-week period at South Grafton. He used about 80 bromeliads to form his entry and his efforts carried off the Grand Champion award.

Congratulations Terry on a job well done. Bromeliads have been brought before another group of people.

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## **A NAME FOR OUR NEWSLETTER**

In keeping with a new-look newsletter, it has been suggested that a name for our newsletter might be in order.

The search for a name is always difficult because of the inexhaustible variations. To give you some examples, the Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc use "Bromeletter" and the Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc calls its newsletter "Bromeliaceae".

Our President would like to hear from anyone who would like to offer an interesting or innovative name for our newsletter.

## TILLANDSIAS - SEED GATHERING AND PROPAGATING OF THE SPECIES

Now that the heat of summer is on us in full strength, you have to be watchful for escaping seed. From early morn to forenoon the seed capsules open and all is lost on the wind.

I find that it is better to collect the capsules as soon as you see a colour change from the green to brown on the exteriors. Allow to open in a dry container.

It is then essential, as soon as it is convenient for you, to put the seed down on a suitable medium, reason being that on exposure to the elements, germination begins immediately. After experimenting with many different materials over the past six years, I find the two most suitable for our climate are -

1. Melaleuca - tie a bundle of branch thinnings together, approx. 60cm long, 10cm in diameter.
2. Coir - cocoanut fibre tied to a backing of polystyrene board.

These materials are cheap and easily obtained.

Now that the seed has been put down, several problems arise. If you are not blessed with a misting system in your plant house, and to save a lot of leg work, take the medium indoors or to a suitable place on the patio.

From there particular care must be taken to see that misting 3 to 4 times daily takes place, ensuring drying times in between until germination occurs, 8 to 12 days for most species. A 1 litre plastic spray bottle kept handy is essential.

After a few weeks of this care, the growing plants can then be returned to your plant house or shady tree for normal maintenance.

Watching your plants grow to maturity makes this little bit of effort very worthwhile.

Rolly Reilly  
*Reprinted from Bromeliaceae,  
Bromeliad Society of Queensland, January-February 1987*

## IT WILL DEPEND ON YOU

Johnno

If our unnamed newsletter (which is another story) was written consistently by our editor-printer it would become as stale as old fish wrappings. The growth of our journal into a worthwhile venture will require new writers, new views and new subjects.

Don't be shy at putting pen to paper. Small articles are just as important as full page ones. Our readers want to hear about how you grow your plants. You may not think your efforts are worthwhile, but please do not sell yourself short.

The editing-printing of our magazine was previously handled by Barry Hertzog who (the lucky devil) is going on an extended fishing trip to South Australia. As he will be absent for a few months, everyone has volunteered Wendy and Graham Besgrove to produce our unnamed journal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hazel and Barry for not only producing our journal but for the help they gave me with the articles I submitted by making them more readable and correcting spelling mistakes.

Genny (she who corrects my spelling mistakes), is going ga-ga from the effort and although armed with four dictionaries she is losing ground, not to mention her marbles. For example, when travelling to our last meeting we stopped at the BP service station on the Pacific Highway and the sign writer\*, in bold yellow on a green background, spelt kerosene as "kerosine". I had to lock her in the VW and take away her black felt marker.

Have a nice day!

John and Genny  
Mango Mansion

\* The sign writer is not yellow and green - Genny.

*An editor knocked at the pearly gates  
His face was scarred and cold  
He stood before the Man of Fate  
For admission to the fold*

*"What have you done?", St Peter asked  
"To gain admission here"  
"I've been an editor, Sir", he said  
"For just nigh on a year"*

*The pearly gates swung open wide  
St Peter touched the bell  
"Come in", he said "and choose your harp"  
"You've done your share in hell!"*

Anon

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## PLANT ROSTER

Now that we are growing in number, I think it would be nice to have a special roster for our Lucky Door Prize and for our Special Raffle. Please advise of which month you can supply a plant. The same few people have been supplying the plants for these prizes. They do not have to be a bromeliad or succulent - any nice plant will do as most people have other plants in their collections. We will notify you in the newsletter of your turn in the coming months.

Our continuous raffle table plants are supplied by all members. Please bring in your extra plants, any kind, any plant.

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## ITEMS FOR SALE BY SOCIETY

<b>POTS</b>	125 mm squat pot	25c
	140 mm	30c
	165 mm	40c

**LABELS** 10 for 50c

**BOOK** "Bromeliads for Everyone" by Bea Hanson - \$3.50

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## WHO AM I?

Don't forget, anyone who has a mature plant or one in flower but doesn't know it's name, our experts are here to help identify it for you.

## ARTICLES

We would like to thank Wendy for her offer to print the newsletter, which was gratefully accepted. Thank you, Wendy.

Now the same old tale of woe - items for the newsletter. If each member would write a story, long or short, on:

- how they began collecting bromeliads;
- their first attempts to grow bromeliads; or
- the way they grow their favourite bromeliads

we would have a different story every month for many months.

There are members who have a long distance to come to each meeting, this is one way of participating. Distance is only the cost of a letter.

Send to:

Mary Nicholson  
55 Dawn Parade  
MIAMI Q 4220

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## HELP?

If you have a plant that you are not happy with the way it is growing, bring it in and our panel will help with ideas on what you can do different.

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## BUY AND SELL

If any members have plants they are looking for or plants to sell, tell us. We will put it in the newsletter for you. This is your newsletter, make it work for you.