

BROMLINK



DECEMBER 1993

THE GOLD COAST SUCCULENT AND BROMELIAD SOCIETY

PATRONESS

Olwen Ferris

PRESIDENT	Mary Nicholson	72 0993
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Olwen Ferris	77 1904
VICE PRESIDENT	Graham Besgrove	800 5431
SECRETARY	Diana Hughes	
TREASURER	Jum Daniels	77 1469
EDITOR	Wendy Besgrove	
HOST & HOSTESS	Audrey & Mac McAlister	
PLANT SUB-COMMITTEE	Olwen Ferris, Bev Collins	
	Graham Besgrove, Nev Ryan	
	John Catlan, Genny Vauhkonen	
	Rolly & Doug Reilly	
PLANT SALES	Doug & Rolly Reilly	
GOODS SALES	Peter Ludowici	
LIBRARIAN	John Catlan	
CATERING SUPERVISOR	Irene Small & Trish van Pelt	
RAFFLES SUPERVISOR	Roy Wenzel & Clarrie Morrow	
LIFE MEMBERS	Olwen Ferris	
	Rolly & Evelyn Reilly	
HONORARY MEMBERS	Jum Daniels	
	Roy Wenzel	

MEETING DATES AND VENUE

Our meetings are held at the Uniting Church Hall, Elanora on the second Saturday of each month starting at 1.30 pm. as of October 1993 meeting.

DISCLAIMER

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER	11	Christmas Party - Big Continuous Raffle
JANUARY		No Meeting
		Albert Aussie Day - For date, refer article later in Bromlink
FEBRUARY	12	Regular Meeting
MARCH	12	Cent Auction

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Twenty-five members attended the November meeting at Uniting Church Hall, Elanora.

Two invitations were extended to us by the BSQ but there was not enough time to arrange for us to go in a group. Several members attended both the Christmas Party and the field day at Neville Ryan's. Our meeting was on Saturday, 13 November, the BSQ Christmas Party on 18 November and Neville's field day on 21 November.

We all admired the new signs that Wendy made for our tables at the meetings. Thank you, Wendy. What a talented lady she is - just look at our Bromlink.

Olwen Ferris told us about hail and your plants. Now that the summer storms are about, hail is very much on our minds. If hail is in your plants ***do not*** empty it out or you will have damaged centres in your plants. Let it melt slowly and naturally and there is no great shock to them. If the leaves are bruised, you will need to bleed the bruise by cutting lengthwise to let the soft damaged tissue to drain or else you may find the damaged leaf going soft and you could lose your plant.

Merry Christmas. Health and Happiness for 1994.

A CELEBRATION

By Olwen Ferris

A few of us shared morning tea at John and Genny's place at Jacob's Well one glorious morning in honour of the first bromeliad to become known commercially.

On 4 November 1493, just 500 year ago, Columbus returned from the West Indies and presented the pineapple, *Ananas comosus*, to Queen Isabella of Spain, as part of his thanks for her help in outfitting him for his voyage, to what most people said would lead to disaster over the edge of what was thought to be a flat surface. When he struck the first land, he thought he had found an outer island of what we now know to be the East Indies. He still didn't know he had discovered the way to North and South America.

Sipping our tea or coffee, in such a lovely setting, we all marvelled at what was now the end result of all the hunting and collecting that has been done to give us the lovely plants we have in our collections 500 years down the track.

Thank you John and Genny for a nostalgic day.

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

PHOTOGRAPH APPEAL

If you have an additional copy of photos of your Bromeliads in bloom, why not donate them to the Society's Library.

The goal is to have a compilation of photos in albums to help with future identification of plants. So bring in those photos, please.



LIBRARY BOOKS

Library books are available on loan for one (1) month only. Please return them so someone else can take the book out.

The list of some of the books available for loan are as follows:

BROMELIADS:

Journal of BSI 1981 - 1993
Bromeliads - The BSI
Bromeliads - Werner Rauh (2 copies)
Bromeliads - Walter Richter
Bromeliads for Modern Living
Bromeliads for Everyone - Bea Hanson
The Colourful Bromeliads - Victoria Padilla
Tillandsias - Paul Isley
The Bromeliad Lexicon - Werner Rauh
Bromeliaceae of Venezuela
Bromeliads - Victoria Padilla
In Search of Flowers of the Amazon Forest -
Margaret Mee
Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors - BSI,
1982



CACTUS AND SUCCULENTS

Cactus and Succulents - Sunset
Succulents and Cactus - Sunset
Cacti and other Succulents, Vol 1-6 - Edgar Lamb (2 copies Vol
5)
Cacti for the Amateur - Abbey Garden Press
The Book of Cacti and other Succulents - Claude Chidamian
Cacti and Succulents - E.E. Kemp
Cacti and Succulents for Modern Living
Cacti - Sir Oliver Leese
The Stapelieae, Vols 1, 2 and 3

Photo Album of members' donations.

HOW TO GROW CRYPTANTHUS

By Doug Reilly

Cryptanthus being terrestrial are best grown on the floor of the shade house or outside under trees or shrubs. When the plants are mature, small white flowers appear in their centres. *Cryptanthus arautic* which I used to call Sweet Sue has blue flowers.

The pots being on the ground mean that earthworms can enter the pots. Hence the addition of the sand to the mix to help keep it open. Don't use too much sand or the pot will be too heavy.

The Cryptanthus pups do not have roots but can be grown in a box of permiculite and coolite and in three months or more when the roots have started to grow, the pups can be potted on.

They do not like frosts or cold snaps but if you cover them with newspaper at night you will help to keep them warm.

Pots: Squat pots are best for cryptanthus as they are shallow rooted, spreading plants. 4" - 6" should fit small to large size plants.

Mix: 1 bucket leaf mould, 2 buckets of hammer mill hoop pine bark, 1 ice-cream bucket of coolite, some sand - fine or coarse grade, plus some charcoal is what I find grows these plants well.

Light: Our plants need plenty of light to show off their full beauty. Grow under 70% shadecloth but not direct sun or the leaves will burn and the lovely colours bleach.

Water: The Earth Stars love plenty of water in Spring and Summer but keep them drier in Autumn and Winter when the plants are usually dormant. If the roots are allowed to dry out the plants will die back from the tip of the leaves. Water dripping from overhead will mark the leaves and spoil your plant for the competition table.

Fertiliser: Cryptanthus can be fertilised once a month during growing period with liquid fertiliser or with 9-month slow release fertiliser. Once a week feeding can be used for growing seedlings.

Happy Growing.

WORD PUZZLE

1	FRANCOIS	A	POLO
2	SPANISH	B	BEAUTY
3	LAD	C	CLOUD
4	MARY	D	RAIN
5	WYN	E	WATERMAN
6	RED	F	BELL
7	MARCO	G	TWIST
8	SANTA	H	DOT
9	SOUTHERN	I	REID
10	MURIEL	J	GEM
11	PAINTED	K	TONE
12	MAGIC	L	HYDE
13	MINNIE	M	SPAE
14	VIOLET	N	BURST
15	POLKA	O	DESERT
16	PURPLE	P	CROSS
17	SCARLET	Q	BARBARA
18	STORM	R	CUTAK
19	TWO	S	GRACE
20	OLIVER	T	MOSS

Match up the names above - a number and a letter.

ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER CROSSBROMS

Across

1	BIGENERIC
4	NEW
6	WHO
7	TODAY
9	TRI
10	EURYCORYMBUS
14	IT
15	RUBRA
17	AXIL
18	DRIFTWOOD
21	OFFSETS
24	WOOD
26	TI
27	SCALES
28	NOSE
29	DECORA
31	SCURF
32	SEPAL

Down

1	BROMELIADS
2	GENERA
3	RED
4	NOT
5	WHITE OIL
8	YUM
11	COUNT
12	BERT
13	SPANISH
16	ROOM
19	FROGS
20	DO
22	FEED
23	THOR
24	WINGS
25	CALYX
30	CUP

ALBERT AUSSIE DAY DISPLAY

We have a display coming up in January 1994. At present, we are not sure of the actual dates for the display as it is usually the closest weekend to Australia Day. In 1994 this day falls on a Wednesday so it is unclear as to which weekend will be chosen for the celebrations - 23 & 24 or 29 & 30 January. As the date gets closer, please contact Mary or Olwen to confirm the dates for the display.

ORDINARY RAFFLE

This is one way of making money for the Society. It is up to all of us to help by bringing in some plant/s when we have extra ones. It doesn't have to be a bromeliad, just something you would like to win yourself. Let us see if we can make this one good continuous raffle.

!! CONGRATULATIONS !!

Happy Birthday to Olwen Ferris, Bev Collins, Nev Ryan and Alma Wenzel birthdaying in December.

Also Irene Small and Jeanette Henwood in January.

We can't forget Peter Ludowici, Mary Nicholson, Athol Nicholson and Gloria Morrow all birthdaying in February.

A Happy 53rd Wedding Anniversary to Roy and Alma Wenzel.

If you would like to have a birthday or any other message put in the Newsletter, please just let us know. You don't have to tell us the year. This is your newsletter, make use of it.



PLANT SALES

You can bring in your excess plants for sale at our meetings. They must be healthy plants and be named, if possible. They can be any kind of plant, not just succulents and bromeliads. There is a 10% commission to the Society on all sales.

Please see that you have a tag with your name and the price of the plant attached to each pot. The tags are available through the Society now. Make use of them and make Doug's work easier for him.

CENT AUCTION

It was wonderful how much fun can be had by our Cent Auction every March, June and September. If members keep bringing in several plants each to be placed in groups the responsibility will be less of just the same few. The building up of our Library is the aim of the Cent Auction. Please remember to retain No. 1 ticket for the draw.

WANTED URGENTLY

Could you please get pen to paper and write us a story, long or short on how you began collecting bromeliads, or your first attempt to grow bromeliads, or even the way you grow your favourite bromeliads.

There are many members who have a long distance to come to meetings so this is one way you can participate. This is your Newsletter. Let's try to make it better.

Could you please either give your articles to Mary or send them to Wendy at the following address:

The Editor
Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society
c/- 19 Ellington Street
BROWNS PLAINS Q 4118

PLANT ROSTER

We are now operating a roster to share the responsibility of bringing in plants for the Lucky Door Prize and the Special Raffle. If anyone other than the people rostered for that month would like to donate a plant, please feel free to do so. The plants do not have to be succulents or bromeliads. The Lucky Door Prize is drawn first and has the pick from the table followed by the Special Raffle with a choice of the plants available.

FEBRUARY

Peter Ludowici, Jill Surch, Joyce Staff, Gloria Morrow

MARCH

Narelle Rowe, Nev Ryan, Trish Van Pelt, Jim Kerr

If you are unable to attend the meeting, either get the plant to someone to take it in for you or swap with someone else.

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.

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.

ITEMS FOR SALE

POTS	105 mm squat pot	20c
	125 mm	25c
	140 mm	30c
	165 mm	45c
	200 mm	65c

OSMOCOTE 500g \$2.50 (9 month)

LABELS 10 for 50c

PENCILS \$2.50 each

SALES STICKERS 10 for 50¢

SOCIETY BADGES \$3.00 each
Available from the Treasurer, Jum Daniels

BOOK "Bromeliads for Everyone" by Bea Hanson - \$3.50
"Growing Bromeliads" - \$11.50
"Bromeliads for Modern Living" - \$8.50

WHO AM I?

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

Merry Christmas

and



a Happy New Year

to members and their families

