

# BROMLINK



SEPTEMBER 1993

# THE GOLD COAST SUCCULENT AND BROMELIAD SOCIETY

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<b>PATRON</b>	<b>Olwen Ferris</b>	
PRESIDENT	Mary Nicholson	72 0993
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Olwen Ferris	77 1904
VICE PRESIDENT	Graham Besgrove	800 543 1
SECRETARY	Diana Hughes	
TREASURER	Jum Daniels	77 1469
EDITOR	Wendy Besgrove	
HOST & HOSTESS	Audrey & Mac McAlister	
PLANT SUB-COMMITTEE	Olwen Ferris	
	John Catlan	
	Graham Besgrove	
	Terry Vogt	
	John and Pat Carpenter	
PLANT SALES SUPERVISOR	Doug Reilly	
GOODS SALES SUPERVISOR	Peter Ludowici	
LIBRARIAN	John Catlan	
CATERING SUPERVISOR	Irene Small	
RAFFLES SUPERVISOR	Roy Wenzel	
LIFE MEMBERS	Olwen Ferris	
	Rolly & Evelyn Reilly	
HONORARY MEMBERS	Jum Daniels	
	Roy Wenzel	

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## 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.

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## 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

### SEPTEMBER

16 Display - Southport Mall: 9.00 am - 4.30 pm

### OCTOBER

9 Annual General Meeting and Regular Meeting

30 Field Day to Len and Olive Trevor

### NOVEMBER

13 Regular Meeting

### DECEMBER

11 Christmas Party - Big Continuous Raffle

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thirty members and three visitors attended our August meeting. Our Host and Hostess, Mac and Audrey, had a busy time on their first day in their new positions. It was lovely to see Trish among us again.

When Olwen Ferris accepted the position of being our Patron, little did she know that we were going to put her to work straight away. Olwen's first official duty was in making Jum Daniels and Roy Wenzel Honorary Members of our Society.

In answer to Barry's question on the voting for the new name of the newsletter - the results were: Bromlink - seven; then Newsletter, Bromelcoast and Brom News and Views all with four votes each.

I wish to thank all those members who have responded to the call for photographs. I am sure that many of us have been asked the name of a plant just by a description which could fit any number of plants. These photos are going to be an aid to all of us.

The Lucky Door Prize was won by one of our visitors, June King, and the Special Raffles were won by Evelyn, Jum and Roy.

A special thank you to Doug Reilly for a very interesting talk on Cryptanthus. He patiently answered all the questions asked of him. Doug has written an article on Cryptanthus that are easy to grow and you will find this later in this Bromlink.

Rolly Reilly wasn't letting his son have all the limelight and he then told us just how frustrating it becomes when trying to get the rare *Tillandsia*

*sprengliana* in Australia to flower at the same time in an endeavour to hopefully set seed and then to grow new plants. This is the only way for this plant to be around much longer as there are no more in the wild. Rolly has donated a plant for a special raffle which will be held at our October meeting. The asking price of one of these plants, if you can get one, is \$50.00. So please remember that all proceeds go to the Society. Rolly also showed us the frustration of buying plants by name and when they flower the plant with the same name can be so different. Thank you to the Reilly Family for sharing their knowledge with us.

The Pioneer Rally was a success. Thanks to Graham who answered the challenge of another display in very difficult conditions; and to Roy, Olwen, Bev, Mac, Audrey, Dorothy and Wendy who all helped over the weekend. It was also nice to see members come to visit and see what went on.

Our next display will only be a small one in Southport Mall on Thursday, 16 September, from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm. We were invited to this Craft and Hobby Day arranged by the Gold Coast City Council. If anyone can come and help out for a short time or even just visit, it will make the day pass easier for us. We won't be having any sales but we will be having a raffle.

On Saturday, 30 October we are having a Field Day to the home of Len and Olive Trevor in Brisbane. It is to be decided at the September meeting if we are going to make this a bus trip or if we will be travelling by car. We will need the money for the bus at the October meeting if it is decided to go by the bus as we have to pay in advance. We will take our lunch as we can sit under trees to eat. We hope it will be a lovely day.

Don't forget that the October meeting is our elections and that subscriptions will be due then also.

We have outgrown our Red Cross Hall where we have been meeting for the last five year and where we have had so many happy times. Our new venue will be The Uniting Church Hall at Elanora. There is a map (not to scale) in this Bromlink (see back page for map). Please note that we will be meeting there for our October meeting.

If anyone has a nametag, could you please wear it.

Mary

# CRYPTANTHUS

Doug Reilly

The following are ten cryptanthus that are easy to grow.

I have been growing cryptanthus for nine years at Crestmead in Logan City. The easiest cryptanthus to grow here are Cafe-Au-Lait with its cream to coffee colour. It grows pups very easily and fills a 125mm pot.

*Cryptanthus acaulis* grows pups easy but releases the pups very easily. It colours to a light brown and is sometimes green in dull light.

Cryptanthus Red Bird grows and pups easily and is a good collectors plant. It is green out of the light and colours to red in reasonable light.

*Cryptanthus bahianus* green form is a dry or desert growing plant but also likes water. It is green in reasonable light but will colour up to a brow-red colour in sunlight that is very hot.

*Cryptanthus* Coffee Royal grows a medium to large pup and is a light brown colour.

*Cryptanthus fosterianus* will pup up easy and is a large plant to grow in a pot of 150mm. It varies in colour with bands of light to dark brown.

*Cryptanthus* Sweet Sue grows pups easy and is green in colour on its leaves and grows light blue flowers in the centre of its rosette of leaves.

The other six cryptanthus that I have mentioned grows white flowers in the centre of its leaves.

*Cryptanthus* Marian Oppenheimer will pup up and fill a pot of 125mm or larger. It is pink in colour.

*Cryptanthus* Ruby will pup up and fill a pot of 125mm or larger but will release the pups very easy if it is touched by finger. The above two cryptanthus grow white flowers in the centre of its leaves.

*Cryptanthus bivitattus* grows pups to fill a pot of 125mm. The pups are a light brown colour with a white stripe of dull colour down the centre of the plant. The pups release from the mother plant very easy.

Good Growing.

## **!! CONGRATULATIONS !!**

Happy Birthday to John Collins



Happy 44th Anniversary to Mac and Audrey McAlister

We hope that Irene has enjoyed her trip to the Red Centre of Australia

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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

# AN ACCOUNT OF THE CAMELASAURUS

Clarrie Morrow

Gender, uncertain - subject to greater research. Most likely female. Based on the facial expression of deeper concern, thoughtfulness, worry and etc, which is, naturally, more characteristic of female having a greater degree of feeling required to bear the offspring and give that initial life support.

Although not totally transformed to stone from mineral petrification, these primordial skeletal remains from pristine times have an amazing resemblance to local weathered driftwood pieces and burls (those bulbous deformative growths seen on many Australian hardwood trees) in bodily form. Even the agatised eyes deep in the skull sockets have a strong red light reflective quality.

## I, The Camelasaurus

Two hundred million years I lay  
Since mesozoic times they say  
Before the feathered bird did sing  
And the only order was to strive  
To do your best just to survive  
And multiply, if you possibly could  
As all things yet were not "good"

I laid me down with forest boles  
In mystic days as time unfolds  
Strange things that happened to my kin  
Before all wrongeousness called sin  
Supposedly came upon the earth  
When Adam failed his test of worth

These fossil bones and bloodshot eyes  
Have seen life spent and species rise  
From syncline troughs to mountain peak  
And fall again to tooth or beak  
It leaves me somewhat mystified  
So permanently petrified  
And agatised like logs and stumps  
You'll notice my unsightly humps  
And ponder these primeval scenes  
While I worry of my mixed up genes  
For I thought we reigned before all mammal  
Now I fear my Dad was a -  
    Bloody Camel

## IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE AECHMEA TRIBE

Al (Mac) McAlister

*With apology to my old English teacher, this story is fictional and any resemblance to our plants, alive or dead, is purely coincidental.*

Being interested in Bromeliads, have you ever dreamed of a special overseas trip that takes you to some remote area to see plants in their natural habitat?

We flew to that far away land in a Rubber Band Airways 007 plane and after flying for many days and nights we eventually landed at "Aquilega". We then boarded a very old bus that sounded as though it has only one "Cylindrata" working, but it managed to get us safely to the wharf where we embarked on a sky blue boat named "Coelestis".

The weather was kind to us on that "Exotica" day and we settled down for our journey on the "Amazonica".

This trip was a package deal so food and drinks were included and it wasn't long before passengers were relaxing with a drink. I noticed "Bert" and "Benrathii" with glasses of "Burgundy" whilst others were drinking "Orlandiana", "Royal Wine" and "Pimenti".

Naturally conversation at that time centred on drinks that were very popular and the Aussies on board stated their preferences for beer with "Fosters (being) Favorite" for some. Others were more "Candida" and spoke glowingly of Fosters saying it was their "Favorite Favorite".

The crew of the boat was made up of local natives and their melodious "Chantini" as we travelled along at a leisurely pace set a real jungle scene that "Fasciata"-d everyone.

Food was served by a pretty little "Fili(named)caulis" and she was assisted by another beauty named "Racinae". The scenery was so interesting and the drinks were still flowing freely, many just "Pectinate" their food. After finishing off with juicy slices of "Pineliana" many declared they could eat no more as they were "Fulgens".

The boat captain was busy with his "Calyculata" and soon told us how far we had travelled.



As the boat meandered slowly, some went for a swim and three of the girls, "Victoria", "Muricata" and "Tessmannii" were soon diving off the side.

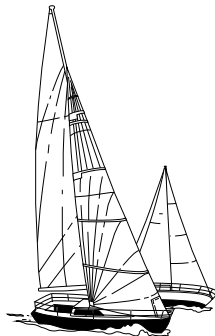
One of the young men dared the girls to go swimming in the "Nudicaulis" but they quickly declined as they didn't want to make a "Spectabilis" of themselves in front of all the passengers.

As the river speed increased we were steered around a "Recurvata" and into a side stream, and we looked in awe at the birds with the beautiful "Redwings".

We landed on this shore only to find that the forest had receded and the Aechmea Tribe lead by their "Silver King" had already departed.

Another Tribe was nearby and we spoke to its leader "Billbergia" who explained that although his group and the Aechmeas belonged to the same macro family "Bromelioideae" they didn't hybridise much together. He also mentioned that the Aechmeas spear tips were very sharp and to be a bit careful if we met up with them.

We sadly departed the area being disappointed that the loss of forest was reducing the size of the Tribes in the wild but we had nice memories of our trip to look back on and our immediate thoughts were that "Weil(be)bachii".



## ALPHABROM

A	T	R	F	L	O	W	E	R	P	O	R	T
N	S	T	R	E	P		O	C	A	L	Y	X
K	S	U	S	P	I		E	O	P	L	A	N
W	N	E	O	R	E		E	L	I	A	K	P
S	P	O	R	T	E		H	A	S	E	A	L
E	T	I	L	L	A		D	S	I	A	T	E
P	R	O	H	A	R		R	I	E	S	I	A
M	A	T	C	A	N		S	T	R	U	M	L
E	C	A	U	D	E		M	E	S	S	A	L
T	O	R	T	H	O		H	Y	T	U	M	L
I	R	L	P	I	T		A	I	R	N	I	A
A	N	S	T	O	F		S	E	T	U	D	A
R	D	B	I	L	L		E	R	G	I	A	I
Y	O	N	S	Q	U		S	N	E	L	I	A
T	L	B	I	L	L		U	E	N	U	E	L
K	I	N	E	G	U		M	A	N	I	A	S
C	A	B	A	N	E		M	E	A	T	R	Y
U	A	N	A	N	A		M	Y	B	E	R	I
E	O	A	E	C	H		E	A	C	R	A	P
C	A	R	I	Z	A		U	L	I	A	D	E
C	A	N	I	D	U		A	R	I	U	M	N
L	R	N	E	O	P		Y	T	U	M	E	L
I	E	C	N	I	D		M	E	A	M	I	N
E	F	L	A	P	U		A	S	T	I	S	T
R	H	Y	B	R	I		O	R	B	R	I	E
B	N	I	D	B	E		G	I	A	N	A	F

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P  
 Q R S T U V ~~W~~ X Y Z

EACH LETTER of the alphabet will be used once. Cross it off as you use it. It may be first or last or anywhere between. Not all letters in each line are used. Example: first line FLOWER you insert the W and cross it off.

Answer to August's puzzle: *Aechmea fasciata*

## 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 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.

## **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.

### **OCTOBER**

Greg Aizlewood, Joy Flockhart, Dorothy Griffiths and Monica Bailey

### **NOVEMBER**

John Collins, Buck Staff, Jeanette Henwood and Don Hobbs

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.

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### **A LETTER FROM OUR PATRON**

My thanks to our members for inviting me to be Patron of our Society.

It's an honour I accept with much pleasure, having seen the Society, since it's beginning, through thick and thin, ups and downs, to the present very friendly and rewarding days.

I've always said "Bromeliad growers are the nicest".

Again, thank you.

Olwen Ferris

## **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.

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## **WELCOME**

A big welcome to a new member:

Winifred Robinson

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## **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.

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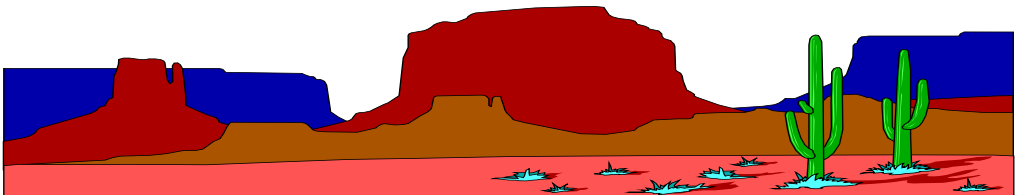
## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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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## 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.

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### DESCRIPTIONS AND MEANINGS

MARGINATA:	Usually Albo-Marginata meaning white edged; the central leaf zone remains solid green
VARIEGATA:	Leaf edge green and middle portion white or yellow
STRIATA:	Foliage is green overlaid with longitudinal white or yellow stripes
LINEATUM:	Green leaf heavily overlaid with many fine white lines
MEDIO-PICTA:	Painted middle similar to variegated form but green striations separate central band
PAXIANUM:	Green leaf margins and a single broad median white stripe
BIVITTATUS:	Double striped lengthwise - two central bands of cream or pink on the green leaf
TRICOLOR:	Three colours, usually green, cream and pink
QUADRICOLOR:	Four colours usually white, yellow, red and green

## 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.

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## ITEMS FOR SALE

<b>POTS</b>	105 mm squat pot	20c
	125 mm	25c
	140 mm	30c
	165 mm	45c
	200 mm	65c
<b>OSMOCOTE</b>	500g	\$2.50 (9 month)
<b>LABELS</b>	10 for	50c
<b>PENCILS</b>	\$2.50	each
<b>SALES STICKERS</b>	5¢ each	or 10 for 50¢
<b>SOCIETY BADGES</b>	\$3.00	each
	Available from the Treasurer, Jum Daniels	
<b>BOOK</b>	"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.

## **New venue as from 9 October 1993 meeting:**

**Using Gold Coast Highway:** Western end of Palm Beach Avenue go under overpass - turn left - watch for traffic exiting Pacific Highway - cross this lane and church sign will be seen in front of you.

**Using Pacific Highway going North:** Take Palm Beach exit - Church sign should be on your left.

**Using Pacific Highway going South:** Take Palm Beach exit - go west under overpass - turn left - watch for traffic exiting Pacific Highway - cross this lane and church sign will now be in front of you.