

# B R O M L I N K



**November/December  
1995**

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# THE GOLD COAST SUCCULENT AND BROMELIAD SOCIETY - OFFICE BEARERS

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## PATRONESS

**Olwen Ferris**

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LIFE MEMBERS	Olwen Ferris	
	Rolly & Evelyn Reilly	
HONORARY MEMBERS	Jum Daniels, Roy Wenzel, Genny Vauhkonen, John Catlan, Bev Collins	

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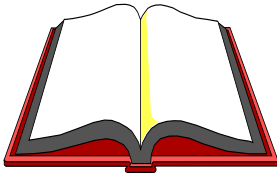
## MEETING DATES AND VENUE

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

## 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.

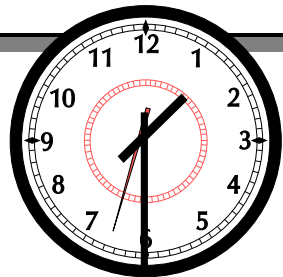
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, 11 November	General Meeting
Saturday, 18 November	Trip to John and Genny's
Saturday, 9 December	Christmas Party, Elanora Church Hall
January	NO MEETING
Saturday, 10 February	General Meeting
Saturday, 9 March	General Meeting
March (date to be decided)	Field Day - The Olive Branch

Committee Meetings - 1 hour before regular meeting.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

At the September meeting there were many people who were together for the 3rd Saturday in a row and with one more to come the following Saturday. That is what these very involved members do for their Society when they are called upon.

Special thanks were given to those who came to the Twin Towns Civic Centre where the members put on a very colourful display of plants on the stage.

The Elanora Garden Fair was also very well attended by members with another colourful display.

We have been invited to bring along plants and give a talk on 1st November to the Blue Pacific Garden Club.

There were many plants on the Show and Tell and Plant of the Month Tables, some of which were:

September:

*Pitcairnia heterophylla* - white and pink

*Quesnelia testudo*

*Guzmania gloriosa*

2 succulent lilies, 2 forms "Silla"

*Tillandsia loliacia*, *sprengeliana*, *streptocarpa x purpurea*, *gardneri* (3 forms), *brachycaulos x flabellata*, *chiapensis*, *seleriana x ionantha*, *schiedeana* (5 forms), *aeranthos x stricta*, *sucrei*, *argentina*, *aeranthos* (dark blue flower), *reichenbachii* (2 forms), *juncea*, *juncea x schiedeana*, *hammeri*, *carlsonia*, *hildae*, *albida*, *stricta x aeranthos*, *heteromorpha* 3 forms), *pruinosa*, *pruinosa* (large green), *tectorum*, *streptocarpa*, *cacticola* (2 forms), *ixioides*, *mauryana*, *straminea*, *latifolia*, *seleriana x streptophylla*, *plumosa*, *acrostachys*, *balasiensis*, *harrisii*, *lorentziana*, *micans*, *magnusiana*, *xiphoides*, *atroviridipetala var tanola*, *frezneliana*,

*tectorum* (longifolio), *tectorum* (Equador), *purpurea* “Shooting Star”, “Hayleys Comet”.

October:

*Dyckia marnier-lapostollei*, *platyphylla*, *fosteriana*

*Hectia marnier-lapostollei*, *tillandsioides*

*Orthophytum disjunctum*

*Neoregelia meyendorffii minor*, *princeps* hybrid, Red Star, Orange

Supreme, Monte, Fall in Love

*Tillandsia depeanna*

and several succulents in flower.

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### SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE



All subscriptions were due at the October meeting, so if you haven't paid your subscription yet, see Mary.

Family - \$6.00

Single - \$4.00



If you require postage of your newsletters, please forward 6 (six) current-price stamps.

For all postal members, please send your subscription to:

Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society

c/- Mary Nicholson

55 Dawn Parade

MIAMI Q 4220

## UNDER THE MANGO TREE

John Catlan

The asmat are for the most part reformed cannibals. They live on the Casuarina Coast in Indonesian New Guinea. Their houses are on stilts because their land is a giant tidal mud flat. The literal translation of Asmat means “the human beings” and they refer to all others as Manowe which translates into “the edible ones”.

Agats, their main town is situated on the only navigable river and is turning into a thriving little metropolis. It has shops, a school and sawmill all connected up by raised footpaths made out of boards. One area of the mud flats has been set aside as a sports oval. Each Saturday afternoon you are treated to a muddy and noisy soccer match. The enthusiasm surrounding these matches would do justice to a grand final.

The local missionaries sent out from America to instruct these people in western religion and the civilised way are by tradition the designated referees. The matches began in the early eighties and for years without exception always ended in a draw. A rather new referee frustrated by his umpteenth draw got stuck into the captains pointing out you must have a winner, you can't draw matches week after week.

The two captains with a gentle but firm manner as if dealing with the tantrum of a two year old, pointed out an obvious fact, we do have a draw each week any way if we had a winner some one would have to lose. Maybe they enjoy playing soccer.

oooo0000oooo

For years the argument has been presented to me that plant competitions within the Brom Societies promote an improvement in the members ability to grow plants and this is the reason they are of importance. Our Society does not have plant competitions.

I put a motion to a meeting in the early days that we have a monthly competition. My Yes vote was the one and only, lonely vote.

The following years have resulted in a dramatic improvement in the Broms being displayed on our Plant of the Month Table, Show and Tell Table, Sales Table and offered for sale at our display venues. Could it possibly be that competitions have a nil impact on improving members growing abilities.

Could the possible reasons for our club's dramatic improvement in their plants be a friendly club that promotes members discussing their plant problems amongst themselves or maybe the hands-on experience gained by observing growing conditions during their field days? Are our members picking up information from the plant commentaries of our Show and Tell and Plant of the Month Table?

Whatever has caused this Club's plants to dramatically improve it is certainly not our plant competition. Congratulations to all our members on the effort they have put into their plants. It is certainly showing up in the results. Maybe our members enjoy growing Broms.

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A plant labelled *Aechmea melinonii* flowered for the first time, only its not an Aechmea. The flowers are on stems that are 1 cm long which makes it a Portea (refer to Bromeliads by Rauh, page 261, stage 31A). This may not be very scientific but if a plant looks like an Aechmea and the flowers are on stems between 1 and 4 cm then you have a Portea. Smith & Downs have Portea flowers on stems at 6 mm or less (page 2039).

Looking at Baensch's Blooming Bromeliads on page 138 under the name *Portea fosteriana* is my plant. Foliage and flower and it does look like a more compact form of *Portea petropolitana var extensa* that was easy.

A quick look a Leme's Bromeliads in Brazil and there on page 48 is *Portea fosteriana*, not even remotely like my flower or plant. Leme states on page 49 sheltered by the forest, species such as *Portea fosteriana* give up water storage in favour of maximum use of solar energy, facilitated by the more horizontal position of the leaves. Does this mean:



1. They only grow in sheltered forest and that is why they grow in a more horizontal position; or
2. They grow in sheltered forest and their leaves are more horizontal here but when in more open and hard position the leaves are more vertical thereby retaining more water?

Any way out of Smith & Downs my pick with the pin comes up with *Portea petropolitana* var *petropolitana*. This is a very fine hardy plant that has come through winter without a mark.

The original material was obtained in Brazil either by or for Seidel. Stock was bought as named material by Skotack and then pups from this stock was imported by Peter Tristram. Peter said around Coffs Harbour they recorded the coldest days since records had been kept. Even the fact that ice was scraped off the foliage, it did not result in any damage.

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Starting next newsletter, our club will be offering Brom seed at the price of a donation of 50¢ per packet to the club. There will be two lists of seed: first list is seed available, second list is seed that will possibly be available during the next two months. The reason for this is to ensure you get the freshest seed possible.

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It was not an organised effort but our members have started entering their plants in the local flower show competitions. This is another way our members have of putting Broms before the public.

oooo0000oooo

The sun's position has changed dramatically over the last month. By 21st December it will be at its closest to us. Keep checking your Broms to ensure the altered sun's position will not result in burnt foliage.

A Bromeliad in nature has as its prime objective survival and in doing so helps to modify its environment to its own and companion plants benefit. Our Bromeliads not only have to fill the former criteria but must be pleasing to their owners and depending on their owners, fill the role of a status symbol. Bromeliads can manage to do all the above with minimum help from us except the status symbol bit - from status symbols, we humans expect perfection.

Quilling is the problem of the inner leaves sticking together. In other words the leaves do not form properly. This is believed to be a deficiency of the trace elements zinc and copper. Broms require such microscopic quantities of each of these elements. The only safe way to supply them is with a balanced fertiliser program. Some hybrid plants are prone to quilling. In their case, it is probably related to genetics. Quilling is not a problem that will affect a complete collection. It is a problem with isolated plants.

Tip burn on young leaves is a sign of over fertilising or under watering. Providing the root system is healthy, stop fertilising for at least four weeks and during this period make sure plants do not dry out and on separate occasions flood plants to flush out excess fertiliser.

Light patches on the centre part of leaves, especially during summer, that then dry out to a white dead patch is generally sunburn. If there is a lot of it, the plant has been placed in too much sun.

When older leaves die back from the tip while younger leaves are unaffected, it is a deficiency of potassium - an element that seems very important to bromeliad culture. Potassium helps Broms through winter with fewer burnt tips.

If the centre leaves are yellowish and the older leaves green, its probably an iron deficiency known as Iron Chlorosis. The trace elements in a liquid feed should rectify the problem. Iron is mostly readily absorbed from soil

or the water in the cup at a pH of 5.5. This is about the correct pH for Broms. Check to make sure of your pH.

Nitrogen deficiency shows up when older leaves are yellowish and young leaves appear green. Liquid feed more often and don't allow plants to dry out.

When the pH is not correct, you will find the foliage is more wilted looking, leaves lack width and feel thinner. If you correct the pH, the older leaves will not change but the improvement will be found on new foliage.

Most problems can be solved by correct pH. Use an open soil mix, water adequately but do not over-water and establish a regular program of liquid fertilising.

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God willing, you will hear from us next issue. Just an observation from life:

*The trouble with experience is that you never have it until after you need it.*

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## **BADGES**

As we are becoming incorporated in the near future, your opportunity to obtain an original society badge is fast running out. The original badge was designed by Olwen Ferris and it would be nice to have a memento of the Society at its early stage and the way it was when you joined.

Badges cost \$3.00 each. Please see Mary to obtain your badge.

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 9th is our Christmas Party. Please bring along your Show and Tell Plants and any Sales Plants. Also remember to bring a gift marked His, Hers or Either. A plate of goodies for the table and any plants for our continuous raffle.

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## **LIBRARY BOOKS**

Please make sure that you have returned all your library books before the break as they need to be checked over the break.

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## **BUS TRIP TO JOHN AND GENNY'S**

The bus trip to John and Genny's is to be on 18th November. Please bring along your lunch and plenty of repellent for the Mozzies and sandflies. You have been warned by Genny, so don't forget. Our cuppas will be provided. The bus will leave Mary's at 8.30 am and Olwen's at 9.00 am.

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## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

This will be in our January/February Bromlink for those who are interested.

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## **TRIP TO THE OLIVE BRANCH**

This much put-on put-off trip is now to be in March. The exact date will also be in the January/February Bromlink.

## UP THE MULBERRY TREE

Derek Butcher

John Catlan is always sending me photographs and bits seeking some confirmation of names of Bromeliads. I wonder whether he changes the labels and marks the new names “sensu Butcher”. I find these queries challenging and enjoyable and some I can even answer. He boosts my ego just a little bit by hinting that I am the expert. This is far from the truth but there is one area where I am ahead of the rest. I do have a comprehensive collection of books, magazines and journals on the Bromeliaceae and information is extracted from them and sorted into looseleaf folders. That way I do not have to use my brain to try to remember what I last read what where! The plants that John grows are no doubt some of the plants that you grow and it is interesting to talk about plants and how names get changed. The botanists keep changing names to keep us on our toes but perhaps the hardest thing to achieve for both botanists or gardener is to put the right name on a plant which has little documented history. The easiest thing to achieve is to say what it is NOT.

Let us have a look at the latest problems John sent me and which have a certain interest.

***Billbergia eipperii***: When I first saw the photograph I thought the plant to be *Billbergia euphemiae* and because of the spotted leaves the variety *saundersioides* and I am still leaning that way. Padilla's check list of hybrids list a *Billbergia eipperii* (note *ii*) and this is repeated in Don Beadle's more up-to-date listing. Parents are unknown. So the plant is known in the USA. It also appears to be recent and localised in Queensland because I have not come across this name before even at Bill Morris's or Peter Franklin's. If a new plant or name emerges in Queensland, it generally drifts down the east coast before wandering into South Australia! So that “you lot” do not get the impression that all good things come from Queensland, there are certain super duper plants that stay in Adelaide. (For confirmation, check with my correspondent.)

Back to business! HJ Eipper is a nursery in Corupa in Santa Catarina in Brazil and they mainly deal in Orchids. (Well, they did in the 1960's.) In

their explorations they came across the odd different Bromeliad but they were hazy about names. In fact, Bill Morris got seed from this firm in the 1960's and helped them out with the odd name or two. There is a blue flowered variety of *Aechmea caudata* named after one of the Eippers. But they were not known for their hybridising and I think a collected plant was sent to the USA, given the name *Billbergia eipperii* and ignored. What I find strange is that Don Beadle (in the US) doesn't appear to have come across this plant and corrected matters. He had done a lot of work with Billbergias and not just hybridising. Any information about how this plant got to Queensland would be appreciated.

***Orthophytum disjunctum*:** Someone “under the Mango tree” seems to like prickly things but I can't say who for fear of offending the other by suggesting they might be prickly too! Anyway, there are now six recognised varieties of this species instead of two and details have been sent to John. Anyone wishing to increase their knowledge on this species are asked to contact John.

***Aechmea melinonii*:** I had thought that Adelaide had the only plant under this name which had given rise to many letters between Harry Luther and myself and which appeared in Bromelletter. Eventually the plant was tracked down by Elton Leme as being *Aechmea macrochlamys* and was being offered overseas at very high prices. So my plant, only a smallish prickly under Adelaide conditions, with both “Purple Globe” and ? Melinonii on the label immediately became valuable. Unknown to me there was another *Aechmea melinonii* being grown in the Eastern States (Queensland and New South Wales) but which had longish pedicels (stalk between floral bract and ovary) about 5-6 mm long and should have been queried as a *Portea*. In brushing away the cobwebs of my mind, I feel sure that Elton Leme was over in Brisbane in 1993 saw this plant and said it was *Portea fosteriana*. The photograph that John sent me links well with the photograph in Baensch's book. The photograph in Leme's own book is not a close up shot and not much of an identification aid. Because of Elton's comments, it does not seem worthwhile taking a flower to pieces and comparing it with the rather vague description in Smith and Downs.

I wonder if anyone did take notes of Elton's comments when he was here because they would be worth printing.

***Billbergia sanderiana***: This is one of the better and more reliable species to have. Its inflorescence is spectacular with the bright pink bracts having that dusted look. In the 1960's it was grown in Australia as *Billbergia elegans* because that was the name that Adda Abendroth had been given. She had sent seeds to Australia all the way from Brazil and we had grown them on. It took some years before Lyman Smith told her that her specimens were really *Billbergia saunderiana*. By this time the plant had been spread far and wide and only a few corrected the name on the label. Now, some 30 years on, you will still come across a wrongly named *Billbergia elegans*. There are some alleged true *Billbergia elegans* in Australia but everyone that I have acquired and flowered has been almost but not quite the true article. Both plants are very similar in their botanical descriptions but *Billbergia sanderiana* is more widespread in the wild and should be easier to grow.

***Aechmea seideliana*** is not really understood even by its discoverer Alvim Seidel because he told me the inflorescence was hanging and like *Aechmea racinae*. So when I got the botanical description by Wilhelm Weber and translated it from the German, I had one great big surprise. You see, *Aechmea seideliana* is similar to *Aechmea pimentovelosoi* and this is similar to *Aechmea recurvata*!! The leaves are stiff and the inflorescence small and erect. Baensch's book, page 69, shows Seidel's view of what he thinks his plant looks like but we know this is incorrect. In my view, the plant with the pendant inflorescence is a large form of *Aechmea warasii* and the name should be changed to this.

***Billbergia rosea***: John sent me a photo of *Billbergia rosea* but then I saw the name on the back was *Billbergia* Santa Barbara x Theodore Mead - Whoops! How prevalent is this name - up your way? Let's have a look at parentages. *Billbergia* Santa Barbara has *Billbergia nutans* in it somewhere and I would suggest *Billbergia distachia* as well. Theodore L Mead is an enigma but it seems the parents are *Billbergia nutans* and *Billbergia amoena*. With the crossing of *Billbergia* Santa Barbara and *Billbergia* Theodore Mead one would expect a *Billbergia nutans* looking

plant and not one with helicoid flowers (petals like a watch spring). None of the supposed parents or grandparents are in the helicoid group of *Billbergia* so this plant must have been a case of swapped labels. I am sure you have better forms of *Billbergia rosea* in cultivation and if this alleged hybrid were put in the “muncher” it would at least provide humus in helping other plants grow!

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## **BILLBERGIA EIPPERI**

Olwen Ferris

In the 1960's I corresponded with Adda Abendroth of Brazil and with each letter Adda included a little seed.

One such seed was a small portion of *Billbergia eipperi* that someone had given her when he called upon her on his way back from a collecting trip. It may have been in Brazil or maybe nearby. She used to help them get established for their trip with guides etc and they always shared some of their spoils with her on their return. That is how I got a lot of the seeds that provided plants for my collection.

When we came to Queensland in 1972, I planted a lot of the narrow tubular forms in hanging pots and they soon made attractive specimens that I enjoyed, but they didn't attract the general customer into the garden. These people were taken by the larger tubular, or flat, open vase types. The few I sold were to someone looking for something different.

I sold some by mail order to growers who said they had little space and some could easily have found their way to South Australia.

I no longer have this bromeliad as someone bought all the plants from this section when I sold out.



## THANK YOU

You have had a monthly report in your Bromlink, so I will not repeat all the happenings of the last 12 months. We must strive to keep up the good work.

I would like to thank all my fellow Office Bearers for all their support for the year. To Graham, my vice president, who has been of great assistance to me. To Diana, my secretary, for keeping the minutes. To Jum, who has very ably kept the books balanced. To our Olwen, who is always there, ready to lend a hand. To all of the Committee who have worked to ensure that we keep going forward and improving as we go. To Wendy, my Editor, who does such a wonderful presentation of our Bromlink. To all the people who work on the plant and goods sales tables. A Thank You. To Jeanette and Dawn, Jeanette has worked wonders with getting our Library up-to-date. To Mac and Audrey and Olwen, who make sure that the book is signed and any new member is greeted with a smile. To our caterers, Anita and Inge, who are certainly doing a grand job. To Roy and Clarrie and their helpers with the Raffle Tickets who work so hard to make sure they make as much money as they can for our Society.

I know this list is long but this is the only time that these people who work so hard every time get a public Thank You.

I would lastly like to thank each and every one of you members for your support over the last four years as we have come a long way in that time. As I am not standing for President again this year, I hope that your support continues on for your new President.

Mary Nicholson

## UNEXPECTED HIGH ACHIEVER

Wendy Besgrove

Last night (7 November), Graham and I received a phone call from our dear friend, Pat Alton who lives in Wedderburn near Campbelltown, New South Wales. Pat became a member of our Society while visiting us in 1992 and grows mainly Tillandsioides in her Bromeliad collection.

Pat is an extraordinary lady. She and her husband, Tom, built a house on their son's acreage in 1993. After the house was built, it very much looked like a building site. No grass but dirt everywhere you looked. Tom was very ill, so Pat set out to build a garden where they could sit and enjoy the view. And so the process began.

She designed the garden, brought in a concreter to put in continuous concrete edging and then barrowed in every handful of topsoil and garden soil, and every rock to create her garden. Then came a wide variety of plants to finish her cottage garden. Unfortunately, Tom passed away that same year, but not before seeing what Pat had started to create.

We visited Pat last year in April and, I can tell you, it was a picture then. The colours and variety of plants made the surrounding countryside pale by comparison.

This year, Pat saw an advertisement in Your Garden about a statewide New South Wales Garden Competition. She decided to put an entry in just for the fun of it. Well, you're never going to believe it, this tenacious lady took out Third Prize. I'm sure you would join with me in saying a hearty Congratulations and Well Done. As I mentioned, this is a statewide competition and Pat's garden is only two and a half years old! Can you imagine what she could achieve in the coming years when the garden becomes even more established.

## PUZZLE - PLANTS FOR VERY BRIGHT CONDITIONS

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

AZTEC

BRETT

BULBOSA

BUTZII

CRUENTA

FARINOSA

FRIGIDA

GOLD

JUNCEA

MAGDALENAE

MARIAE

MARY

MEXICANA

NANUS

NUDICAULIS

NUTANS

PETROPOITANA

PINELIANA

PORTEA

PURPUREOROSEA

RECURVATA

REGINAE

RIDLEYI

ROSEA

SERRA

SETACEA

SETIGERA

STREPTOPHYLLA

VITTATA

ZEBRINA

The remaining 27 letters in order form a statement about our plants.

**SOLUTION TO SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PUZZLE:  
ATTRACTIVE FRUITS OR BERRIES**

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

## ORTHOPHYTUM DISJUNCTUM

We have received some very interesting information from Derek Butcher about *Orthophytum disjunctum*. There are eight pages of information relating to six different varieties.

Graham Besgrove has offered to photocopy these pages and send them to anyone who wishes to have a copy. Please see Graham at a meeting, or phone or write to him and he will arrange for you to receive them.

Thank you Derek for this information.

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## NAME CHANGES

You may be aware that several plants have been put into different genera. Some of these changes are:

- A lot of the silver Vrieseas have become Tillandsias;
- An old family has been resurrected (Alcantarea); and
- A new genus has been established (Werauhia).

These changes have been published in the November/December 1995 edition of Bromeleter.

If you don't receive your own copy of Bromeleter, then you may be able to borrow one from the Library. Failing this, please contact Graham Besgrove and he will arrange for you to receive the relevant information.

## 17TH CENTURY NUN'S PRAYER

*Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody: helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.*

*Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details: give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patients.*

*I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and a lessing cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.*

*Keep me reasonably pleasant; I do not want to be a Saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour person is one of the crowning works of the Devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people, and give me O Lord the grace to tell them so.*

*Amen*

## PLANT OF THE MONTH

For Plant of the Month, could you please bring in some plants from the nominated genera for that month. Remember that the plant doesn't necessarily have to be in flower, we also grow Bromeliads for their foliage. This segment of our meeting is to help us to learn to identify the different genera and perhaps see the diversity within that genera. The genera for the coming months are:

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	Any Genera
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Any Neoregelia (including miniatures)
<b>MARCH</b>	Cryptanthus

## 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.

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Jill Surch, Dawn Collas, Gloria Morrow, Peter Ludowici
<b>MARCH</b>	Narelle Rowe, Nev Ryan, Mike Levine, Pat Harrod
<b>APRIL</b>	Jum Daniels, Audrey McAlister, Irene Small, Bobby Powel

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.

## !! CONGRATULATIONS !!

Happy Birthday to Bev Collins, Olwen Ferris and Nev Ryan.



Welcome to Len Riddle (Victoria), Jean Nixon, Betty Page, Len Summers (Victoria), Geoff Lawn (Western Australia), Len and Olive Trevor, Andrew Thompson (Victoria), Bob and Glenis Larnach (New South Wales), Peter Huddy and

Michael Symmons.

We hope that Dawn Collas, Olwen Ferris, Audrey McAlister and Paul Schacht will soon be restored to good health.



We wish Graham and Wendy Besgrove an enjoyable and safe trip to Norfolk Island.

Will you please make sure that we have your birthdays as we are trying to include all members with a personal greeting. Just the date and month - we are not worried about the year (we all have our secrets). This can be sent to Mary Nicholson at 55 Dawn Parade, MIAMI Q 4220.

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### AN ADDRESS FOR MAIL

If you would like to get in touch with the Society by mail, I would be happy to receive your letters and pass them on. Please address them to:

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



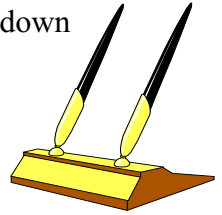


## **PUT PEN TO PAPER**

Olwen Ferris

Have you any questions that require an answer? If so, put it down on paper, someone will help you.

All of us had to start at the beginning. Your Bromlink is a means of communication, between members and should be shared by all.



If you have tried something with good results, let us know about it. I have always found that I can pick up points about something a new grower is doing, with good results that can teach the established bromeliad addict a thing or two. So don't be backward in putting pen to paper.

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### **A SUGGESTION FROM GENNY**

It has been talked of for a while, now we are actually getting it done. This includes our members who cannot attend meetings - maybe it is of more value to you. Will you help by participating in the request for all members to write out any problems they may have with their plants. We will answer your questions and maybe we will even do an article on it. If you are proud of the way your plants are growing, we can share your you. Send to: Mary Nicholson, 55 Dawn Parade, Miami Q 4220.

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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.

## CENT AUCTION

It was wonderful how much fun can be had by our Cent Auction every March and September. If members keep bringing in several plants each to be placed in groups, the responsibility will be less on just the same few. The building up of our Library is the aim of the Cent Auctions.

*Please remember not to throw all your tickets into the lots but retain the No. 1 ticket for the draw.*

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## NAME TAGS

If you have a name tag, will you please wear it to the meetings. Wearing a name tag makes for a more informal meeting which is what we are striving to offer.

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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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## 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.

## 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.

## 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 25c	100 for \$2.50
<b>PENCILS</b>	\$2.20 each	
<b>PHOSTROGEN</b>	625g - \$18.00	
<b>PLANT LADDERS</b>	25c	
<b>PLANT HANGERS</b>	25c	
<b>SALES STICKERS</b>	5¢ each or 10 for 50¢	
<b>SOCIETY BADGES</b>	\$3.00 each Available from the Treasurer, Jum Daniels	
<b>BOOKS</b>		
	"Bromeliads for Everyone" by Bea Hanson - \$3.50	
	"Growing Bromeliads" - \$11.50	
	"Bromeliads for Modern Living" - \$8.50	
	"Bromeliads - A Guide to the Beautiful Neoregelias" - \$20.00	