

BROMLINK



January/February 1997

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OFFICE BEARERS

PATRONESS

Olwen Ferris

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PLANT SALES	Mac and Audrey McAlister	
PLANT SALES ASSISTANTS	Narelle Rowe and Betty Page	
GOODS SALES	Peter Ludowici	
GOODS SALES ASSISTANTS	Bobby Powel & Sue Levine	
LIBRARIAN	Jeanette Henwood	
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN	Dawn Collas	
RAFFLES SUPERVISOR	Roy Wenzel & Mike Levine	
AUDITORS	Yong Gee Raftery & Co	
LIFE MEMBERS	Olwen Ferris, Rolly Reilly, Mary Nicholson, Graham and Wendy Besgrove, Genny Vauhkonen, John Catlan	
HONORARY MEMBERS	Jum Daniels, Roy Wenzel, 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.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



DATE	EVENT
January 1997	No meeting
Monday, 3 February to Friday, 7 February 1997	Display at Showcase on the Beach, Coolangatta (<i>Details this issue</i>)
Saturday, 8 February 1997	General Meeting Don Smith will be showing slides of plants in their native habitat taken on his recent trip
Saturday, 8 March 1997	General Meeting and Cent Auction

Committee Members:

Committee meetings are held at 1.00 pm on the day of Society meetings.

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 Inc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1996

John Catlan

Although Bromlink has brought you a full report on the happenings of our Society during the last twelve months, of you have good news there is no harm in repeating it twice.

Our membership has increased and the number of members attending meetings has improved. This has resulted in increased sales in both our plant sales and goods sales. The Show and Tell Table is displaying plants by more members, I believe this is due to the collections of the members who joined the Society two or three years ago producing mature plants. Its very rewarding to see such well grown plants being tabled by the almost new members. The Plant of the month display has only had increased participation in the more available genera where as on the Tillandsia and Guzmania months we are still relying on plants from the older collections.

Our cent auction which raises funds to buy library books, this year bought Blooming Bromeliads by Baench. The waiting list was so long that we had to buy a second book for the Library.

The Society is now the proud owner of a one hundred square metre portable bush house which the Society has used and will be using in future to display Bromeliads to promote the plants and our Society.

The Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society became incorporated during the last year and this has led to slight changes so we can conform to the regulations.

I would like to thank all my fellow office bearers for all their support during the year. To Graham, the Vice President, who has been of great assistance to me and filled in for me when I have been unable to attend

meetings. To Mary, the Immediate past President who has been holding down the positions of Treasurer and Secretary (due to the fact that incorporation requires the Secretary to live within the State while the Treasurer may live in Spain). To Diana, the Society's Minute Secretary for keeping the minutes, to Jennifer our Hostess and to Olwen who has been the Assistant Hostess, we all wish a speedy return to better health. To Wendy our Editor because of the excellent way in which she presents Bromlink and has to crank out more copies each month. To Mac, Audrey, Narelle and Jo who not only look after plant sales but ably dispense growing instructions. To Peter, Bobby and Nev for looking after goods sales. If you find you require other products, let them know. To Jeanette, our Librarian who has worked wonders and to Dawn her assistant. To Anita and Inge our caterers, thank you, thank you, thank you. Our thanks to Charlie, our bus driver and Mary his copilot who tells him where to go. Last but not least, Roy and John the raffle boys who by the time you say "Hello, how are you?", have parted you from all your change.

I know this thank you has dragged on but I feel these people deserve a public thank you from me. Thank you.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members for your support over the last year and for supporting the club during the previous years. Your good fellowship has built this club into a club its members enjoy belonging to. As I am not standing for President again this year, I hope and know your support will continue for your new President.



SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES

We have two very special people who are celebrating their birthdays and will be joining the ever increasing rank of Octogenarians in our Society.



Our special Birthday Wishes go to Irene Small (in January) and Nell Baldwin (in February).

UPCOMING DISPLAY

In January each year we have put on a display at Carrara over the Australia Day long weekend. This is not the case this year. There will be NO display at Carrara for Australia Day. Instead, our first display for the year will be Showcase on the Beach. This is our first adventure into a shopping centre since the Society was restarted. Being a five day display we will need plenty of plants for display and sales and the people power to manage the area as we have the stage. The commission from the sales goes to your Society funds.

Newer members: This is the ideal way to learn more about our exciting plants. You don't have to answer any questions you don't know, you just keep talking to the people till someone else can answer the questions. It is not always busy so you will have another person there just to answer any questions you may have. It is surprising how much knowledge can be learnt at these displays.

We are setting up on Monday morning and we **NEED** help for the week. The hours are 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. If you can help any morning or afternoon, please contact Mary on 5572 0993.

**GOLD COAST SUCCULENT AND BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1996**

ASSETS

Bank Account	1684.48
Books	577.00
Furniture	502.00
Petty Cash	11.25
Library Books (@ valuation)	2000.00
Journals (@ valuation)	1000.00
Sundry Assets	527.65

TOTAL ASSETS 6302.38

LIABILITIES 0.00

NET ASSETS 6302.38

REPRESENTED BY

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Balance at Beginning of Year	6365.96
Surplus/(Deficiency) for Year	-63.58

TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS 6302.38

INCOME

Membership	334.00
Raffles	1245.40

INCOME (Cont)

Commission Plant Sales	584.90
Trading Table	678.75
Bus Fares	466.00
Donations Received	109.80
Seed Bank	29.35
Bank Interest	48.59
Misc Income	63.00
TOTAL INCOME	3559.79

EXPENDITURE

Hire of Hall	264.00
Insurance	162.75
Display Fee	275.00
Bank Charges	10.95
Trading Purchases	844.97
Raffle Costs	100.00
Bus Hire	612.23
Incorporation Fee	57.00
Donation	100.00
Library	117.21
Subscriptions	209.54
Shelter Shed	569.72
Refreshments	74.20
Office Administration	225.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	3623.37
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	-63.58

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 1996

At the November meeting, 33 members attended and the Annual General meeting was held followed by our General Meeting. Displays for Australia Day at Carrara and the Display at Showcase on the Beach at Coolangatta from Monday (3rd) to Friday, 7th February with our meeting to be on Saturday, 8th February. What a busy time we are going to be having. It was decided that we will now be having a roster for our afternoon teas. Please check your Bromlink to see when your name comes up. It was felt this was a fair way of sharing this chore.

There was a special raffle drawn at this meeting. Neville Ryan purchased the tables of plants for this raffle. This is the Society's way of thanking all our members for their support during the year. The plants are not your usual run-of-the-mill plants you can get from other members. These had been specially selected by Neville from several growers and importers. Some of the plants on Show and Tell and in the Special Raffle were:

SPECIAL RAFFLE:

Guzmania pennelli, *spucei*, *vulcan x gloriosa*, Ruby, Minnie Belle
Neoregelia Albo Marginata, Victoria, Maggies Pride, Anna No 37,
Skotak No 43, Skotak No 45, Southern Comfort
Vriesea hieroglyphica, *vigeri*, *elata*, Carlsbad, Belgische Hybrid,
Banana, Deutsher Zwerg, *poelmanii* White Lines,
Barbarosa Red, *saundersii* hybrid albo marginata
Tillandsia fasciculata

PLANT OF THE MONTH/SHOW AND TELL:

Aechmea Blue Cone
Canistrum triangularis (2 forms), *siedeleianum*
Catopsis species
Cryptanthus bromelioides tricolor
Billbergia viridiflora rubra
Neophytum Firecracker
Neoregelia Fireball, Anna No 44, Mad Max

Nidularium antoneanum, Meranda

Orthophytum Blaze

Racinae pugiformis, *pendulaspica*

Tillandsia disticha, *cacticola*, *tenuifolia rubra*, *suceri*, *globosa*,
albertiana, *ionantha v stricta*, *intermedia*, *floribunda*,
lorenziana, *arauji*, *heteromorpha*, *streptophylla*, *tectorum*,
viridiflora, *limbata*, *stricta* hybrid, *crocata* hybrid

Vriesea warmingii, *fenestralis*, *spendens*, *fosteriana* hybrid,
fosteriana hybrid (red), Komet, Plantation Pride

December was the Christmas Party and we had 49 people there to join in the fun. There were gifts and plants to exchange and plants for Show and Tell.

VISITORS TO OUR AREA

If anyone is visiting our area and would like to come to a meeting, please feel free to do so. If you need directions to the hall, there are phone numbers in the front of Bromlink where you can get help.

It is very easy to find the hall from either the Gold Coast Highway or the Pacific Highway.

If your visit does not fall at a meeting, maybe you would like to see some gardens where the bromeliads grow so well.



ANOTHER ANSWER TO AN EDITOR'S PLEA

Roy Wenzel

Having read Dawn Collas account of how she and hubby joined our Society (March/April 96 Bromlink) reminded me of how I joined.

It all started with our elder son and his wife arriving for a holiday with us and announcing that he wanted to buy some of those plants "that grew on sticks". None of us knew what they were called and we didn't get time to try to track them down (too many places to go).

After our visitors had returned to Sydney, I was out at the Carrara markets when I found a lady on a stall selling staghorns, elkhorns, bromeliads etc and sure enough she had three or four of our mystery plants. I bought what she had and she told me they were called Tillandsias. I intended to post them down to our son but decided to get a few more to make it worthwhile.

I was looking through some old gardening magazines when I found an advertisement for Bromeliads and Tillandsias at a nursery at Paradise Point. My wife, Alma, and I went out and eventually found it and was greeted by none other than Olwen Ferris. We bought some of Olwen's Tillandsias and also a copy of a bromeliad book which Olwen sold to us at a discount explaining that that was the price paid by Bromeliad Society members. Olwen gave us the address and meeting time of the Society.

We promptly lost the paper that information was written on, but having accepted the book at the discount price we felt obliged to join the club.

When the second Saturday of the month arrived, we set out to find the Red Cross building in 13th Avenue, Palm Beach, but could not find it. After driving up and down 13th Avenue a couple of times we asked a pedestrian for directions and had success in 11th Avenue. The rest is history.

NIDULARIUM BILLBERGIOIDES

Derek Butcher

I had a few phone calls the other night from interstate including one from Graham Besgrove who wondered whether I knew of him. When I mentioned that he was the chap who tried to keep John Catlan in order, we got on like a house on fire. What had happened to *Nidularium billbergioides* v. *citrinum*? When I said it had disappeared some 20 years ago the line went dead for a while.

The problem lies with horticulturalists (an erudite term for gardeners) and botanists. Horticulturalists love colour variations and add adjectives like purpureum, rubrum, variegatum etc to plant names. This is just not allowed unless you are prepared to describe the variation in LATIN!! which is why I prefer to use Aussie names like Blue, Ginger, Chalky, etc.

Nidularium billbergioides has more of these Latin adjectives than any other species I can think of which shows it is a very variable plant but I haven't read many Latin descriptions. In 1979, Smith and Downs in their monograph Bromelioideae dropped all the varieties because it was impossible to distinguish the colour variations in this species.

So we can get the plant with primary bracts that are coloured yellow, apricot (see Olive Trevor's price list), orange, brownish-red, wine, purple or burgundy depending on your taste. The purplish ones seems to come in two plant sizes - small and large and the yellow one seems the only one that can have variegated leaves.

Nature has produced many variations for us AND THAT'S NOT ALL because humans (male and female) have played at being Stud Master and done their own tickling. Some undoubtedly would have been within the naturally produced forms of the species but some no doubt would have another species as parent.

I have been lead to believe that Robert and Melissa Dillings of Byron Bay were hybridizing with *Nidularium billbergioides* a number of years ago but am unaware of the outcome. Perhaps some found their way to Olive Trevor's. Whatever, things seem to be happening in northern NSW and SE Queensland which are making even John Catlan excited. Apparently, Mike Symmons acquired direct from the Dilling family a plant that is almost the yellow bracted form of *Nidularium billbergioides* but has the elongated look of *Nidularium seidelii*. Now this does seem worth finding out more about as I am constantly seeking new names for my Hybrid Checklist. Regrettably hybridists can be shy when it comes to allocating names to some outstanding plants.

How many variations are there in these *Nidularium billbergioides* types?

Perhaps I can start by saying there is just one officially recognised form call *Nidularium billbergioides forma azureum*. This has RED primary bracts and BLUE petals AND is in Australia. Even with these, what I believe to be major differences it does not even reach varietal status.

So I am seeking volunteers, even one would do, from your area who would be prepared to grow on the many forms of this plant and to suggest some solution as to names. I am sure your Editor would be pleased with the input and we would be seeing some order in the chaos. If you can't volunteer, you can still help by sending your "different" *Nidularium billbergioides* to the chief volunteer to grow on and compare.

Why don't I get involved? Well, all the forms of *Nidularium billbergioides* sulk in Adelaide winters and by the time they have revived, winter is here again!!

SPECIES INFORMATION

Graham Besgrove

Quite a few months ago, we received a letter from Diana Hughes asking some very interesting questions about species and would probably be of interest and use to new growers. These answers are very general but may clarify some issues.

1. How can an amateur grower recognise a species plant as opposed to a hybrid?

Usually the more unusual the name, the chances are that it is a species. For example, *Neoregelia pauciflora*, *Aechmea gamosepala*, *Billbergia rosea*, *Tillandsia fasciculata* are all names of species. Most of the time they seem to be Latinised as opposed to a hybrid name. Examples of some hybrids are *Neoregelia* Lamberts Pride, *Aechmea* Fosters Freckles, *Billbergia* Curly Top, *Tillandsia* First Born.

2. Have species plants changed their habit in any way in the years of cultivation they have enjoyed?

In my experience of seeing species over the years, I could possibly say not really. These plants adjust to their new environments. It may mean you won't get as much colour in some of them because of altitude or climate etc. but they will pretty much be the same cultivated as those found in their natural habitat.

3. How about a list of species in popular genera.

This could be a rather large list. I will work on this and supply copies to whoever wants one. It may take some time though, so bear with me.

4. Do species live longer than hybrids or throw more pups?

Species will live just as long as hybrids so long as you give them the same care you give the others. As for more pups, specie Neoregelias seem to give fewer, Tillandsias do not seem to have any differing patterns as a good proportion of available Tillandsias are species anyway. Most genera have differences in the amount of pups - unless you work the old mums of course!

5. Is *Neoregelia carolinae* v *tricolor* a species? Are there any other variegated species plants?

A double barrel question! Don't you just love these. To the first part, yes it is a species. As regards the second part of the question, yes there are other variegated species. I am preparing a list of this also that will be available to anyone who is interested.

I hope this helps. As I have said, this is just a general view of the questions. I could go on for hours but space is limited. If there are other people who can supply more information, please do. I get nervous every time I answer these.

Happy brain picking!

TILLANDSIA JUCUNDA

Derek Butcher

It is difficult to tell the difference between *Tillandsia jucunda* and *Tillandsia ixiooides*, in fact they are listed next to each other in Smith and Downs, numbers 172 and 173. However, if you have them flowering at the same time it is easy to tell them apart because *Tillandsia jucunda* has the paler yellow flowers, is scented, and the floral bracts are pinkish instead of grey papery. If you want to look further, all the sepals on *Tillandsia jucunda* are virtually free.



In 1992 I was “induced” to purchase a *Tillandsia ixiooides* var *occidentalis* in the USA because I was assured that this was the old name for Rauh’s *Tillandsia jucunda* v *viridiflora*. Perhaps I should have known better because at the time I know that *Tillandsia xiphioides* v *tafiensis* had blue petals and could be found in habitat, in Germany and in Australia. Only the white flowered form was for sale in the USA because they didn’t know where the proper blue-flowered one could be found. Anyway in 1994 my *Tillandsia ixiooides* v *occidentalis* flowered with beautiful yellow flowers as it should but not according to the sales spiel! In the meantime I obtained a *Tillandsia jucunda* v *viridiflora* from Germany and await green flowers.

A couple of years ago, Keith Bradtberg in South Australia told me he had a blue flowered *Tillandsia jucunda* which meant he had to give me an offset! The original plant had come from Rolly Reilly and no doubt was seed raised. My offset has just flowered and yes, the petals are the palest of blue which came out the purest of white in a photograph! I have dissected it and it agrees with the description of a *Tillandsia jucunda* except petal colour and my wife, Margaret, says it has a scent. (Remember human females are more reliable in this regard than human males.)

Now, I know you purists are going to say “Hybrid” but Mark Dimmitt from Tucson, Arizona USA who does lots of *Tillandsia* hybrids did mention to me that he believed *Tillandsia jucunda* was itself a hybrid.

So I am hedging my bets by calling the plant *Tillandsia jucunda* cv Blue Rinse. Why am I telling you this? Well, Rolly Reilly does come from your neck of the woods and there could be other Blue Rinses around. Mind you he may also have produced a red petalled form and then we would have all the colours and I wouldn't be behind the black ball.



UNDER THE MANGO TREE

John Catlan

Australians have never celebrated Australia Day in the fashion the Yanks seem to celebrate Thanksgiving but each year the celebrations are starting to have a more Australia flavour, not just, you beaut another public holiday. then again, having a barbecue, going fishing with the boys, taking the kids to the beach, going for a drive is maybe our way of enjoying what Australia is all about.

When God knocked off one night
Said He
This earth's a rotten failure
How to improve?
Let me see”
Next day He made
Australia

H.R. Croll

That reminds me of an old joke. A builder, an electrician and a lawyer were sitting in a pub discussing the oldest profession when the builder said “You know us builders are in fact the oldest profession. When the Lord created the world we were in charge of that job.” “Hold on a minute”, said the electrician, “First up the Lord said, ‘Let there be light’, we were

responsible for that”. The lawyer looked at them and said, “Your both wrong, in the beginning there was chaos, and who do you think was responsible for that”.

I have always been interested in the odd ways Australians have earned a bob and the following story was told by Uncle G.F. In our family you have a lot of honorary cousins, aunts and uncles and G.F. Young (he was G.F. to everyone and at this stage I can't recall his Christian names) was an honorary uncle. Auntie Edna after she gave up raising a family, farming and school teaching all at the same time, went to look after G.F. in about 1950 and that is the way he became linked to the family and an honorary uncle. He would have been in his 78 year in 1950.

G.F. was hitching a ride on a very, very long slow freight train. It's job was to kick off along the way empty wheat wagons to be refilled. They stopped for lunch at a place that consisted of a railway post, a hut and a massive chook run, a bloke of middle age came up to the Guard's van, handed up a case of eggs and at the same time said, “For Mary”. The Guard replied, “OK Ike, but hurry up”. Ike bolted towards the chook run, flung open all the gates and like a white cloud literally hundreds of leghorns descended on the empty wheat wagons while Ike using a broom swept the spilled wheat out of the wagons onto the ground as fast as he could. In about half an hour the whistle blew, the wagons moved and the leghorns exuded in a cloud from within and underneath the wagons.

Ike joined us in the van, explaining this had been going on for about six months and the chooks had suffered no injuries so far. As the train picked up speed, he dropped off the step and Ike and the white leghorns faded into the distance. Looking at the economics of the situation Ike had free feed, free egg delivery, no Egg Board and no running around. I would guess he was doing quite well, thank you.

Enjoy Australia Day.
ooooOOOOoooo

The removal of off-shoots, pups or suckers (they are just different names for the same thing) from Broms is a very easy task. In most instances Broms are stoloniferous, which means they grow on the end of a runner and on *Neoregelia* Fireball this is very obvious but there are a lot of plants where this stoloniferous trait is not obvious but is there just the same. When removing the pups the easiest way is with secateurs by-pass type or a 200mm to 300mm long stanley saw. With big Aechmeas, I find a pair of tree loppers by-pass type the best. The long handles keep your hands and arms away from the plants and give better leverage.

When you start into Vrieseas and Guzmanias there are stoloniferous varieties but you will come across plants where the pups are hard up against mother, for these you need a knife. I use a 200mm total length kitchen knife with a rounded tip and only half of the tip is sharp. You will become proficient at removing pups with very little practice. By holding the knife vertical and wriggling the knife downwards in a crowbar-like motion, not a saw, between mother and the pup, when you are certain that the knife has reached the spot where the pup joins mother, change the angle of the knife from vertical to about 20° from vertical and gently cut through the very small stolon. The crowbar motion will help to lever the pup away from mother and settle the knife in the right position to remove the pup.

The most common problem you will come across is from mothers planted too deep in the potting mix. The main cause of this is taking pups off when too large and then having to pot them very deep in the mix in an effort to stop them falling over. If the plant has been potted too deep you will have to de-pot the plant, remove the pups and re-pot at a sensible level. If you have problems holding pups or plants upright, use a couple of river washed stones against the plant. When the plant becomes stable, the stones can be removed.

The next type of pup that makes everyone stop and begin to think are those plants that, after flowering, the pup emerges from the centre of the plant such as *Vriesea spendens*, *Vriesea elata*, *Vriesea zamorensis*, *Guzmania*

sanguinea, etc and for those people who obtained *Mezobromelia pleiosticha* from Peter Tristram you can look forward to this plant doing the same thing. When the pup is a third to half the size of mother (and its not coming into flower) it is time to be removed. It is not easy to judge the pups size because its growth blends in very well with mother. Draw an imaginary straight line through the centre of the scape (stem of the flower) and the centre of the pup and at 90° slit one side of the foliage of the mother plant until you find where the pup joins. Then using your customised knife exactly the same as with other pups, remove the pup. This leaves the foliage of the plant intact so it can manufacture food for the crop of pups that you will get. A good healthy plant of *Vriesea elata* will produce over six pups.

ooooOOOOoooo

Now Louis likes his native wine
An Otto likes his beer;
The Pommy goes for half and half
Because it gives him cheer

While Angus likes his whiskey neat
And Paddy likes his tot;
The Aussie has no drink at all
He likes the bloody lot!

Collected by Stan Wakefield

ooooOOOOoooo

When bacteria starts to build up in the cup of a Bromeliad their metabolic byproduct, Exoenzyme, may start to digest the soft new growth of the Brom. This will show up as the new growth starting to disintegrate and leaving cotton-like threads hanging onto the end of the disintegrated leaf. These are the veins within the leaf which were too tough to digest. This decomposition of plant material is accompanied by an obnoxious rotten

smell similar to old flower vase water (which is caused by the same thing). Thoroughly wash out the cup of the plant, let it dry out very briefly, remove any rotten material and fill the cup with fresh water. This may be sufficient to solve the problem but for added precaution, instead of filling the cup with fresh water, drench the plant with a prepared solution suitable for the control of *Phytophthora* sp.

If your plant is suffering from the fungus *Phytophthora*, the smell is just not obnoxious its akin to stuffing a dead rat up your nose (because of the volume of damage caused by the bacteria). There is a difference in degree and once you have smelt it, it is unmistakable. In pineapples, *Phytophthora* is called crown rot and in a field of pineapples will spread downhill as *Phytophthora* will spread through water as it flows downhill. Washing out a plant that has *Phytophthora* will be of no practical use. As a matter of fact it can be very hazardous because if any drips of water fall onto other plants, they will be contaminated.

Phytophthora will spread through water. If you study photographs of American and European nurseries, you will notice everything is on benches or at the least concrete. This is not just for convenience of handling plants but also cleanliness and air movement.

Because *Phytophthora* runs in water, if you use black plastic and it gets into the water on the black plastic it will spread. Weedmat is more practical than black plastic as it does not promote pools of water as much as black plastic. If you have black plastic and cover it with sand or sawdust, the black plastic will still hold pools of water and it will spread through the sand and sawdust. You can spread *Phytophthora* on your feet when walking through contaminated areas.

Often winter will start off *Phytophthora* and it will show up very late winter or early spring and you will have a tendency to blame your losses on cold damage. Fair enough, you are partly right. The cold probably damaged the plant but *Phytophthora* finished it off.

Some of the photos of the nurseries will show them using besser blocks 200mm or 8" to support the wire benches. They lay one block on its side with another standing on its end. This is because it gives the bench the minimum height of 600mm or 24" to avoid splashes contaminating plants, but this is a minimum height.

For those who want to know, *Phytophthora Parasitica* causes heart rot in pineapples and is frequently associated with growing the plants under alkaline conditions but is not limited to these conditions and is really a minor problem compared to *Phytophthora Cinnamoni* which spreads under wetter conditions and will attack large and small plants alike.

ooooOOOOoooo

Australian born
Australian bred
Long in the legs
Short in the head

ooooOOOOoooo

We have some interesting seed available this month. *Pitcairnia heterophylla*, to forms - white and orange. *Heterophylla* means with different leaves. Around the base of a plant is a ball of spines about 120mm across, then out of the centre of this grows grass-like leaves about 600mm long. This is a deciduous plant and suitable for growing in a 100-150mm pots. The first information I found on this plant advised to keep it on the dry side during winter and in the first few years I grew these plants I did. But I have grown lax and now I don't worry about it but I grow them in an open mix and I haven't lost any yet.

Heterophylla flowers in spring before the leaves appears, sets seed by it's self and the seed can be collected the following spring. Its a must in your collection.

ooooOOOOoooo

God willing, you will hear from us next issue.

Men should marry as there are a lot of things that go wrong you can't blame on politicians.

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, Ann Roach, Gloria Morrow, Edna Thomas
MARCH	Patricia Zimmerman, Graeme Bullen, Neville Ryan, Mike Levine
APRIL	Jum Daniels, Audry 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 Irene Small, Betty Page, Jeanette Henwood, Athol Nicholson, Mary Nicholson, Gloria Morrow, Peter Ludowici, Nell Baldwin, Gil Dumble.

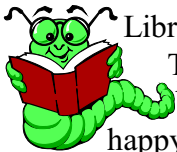


Welcome to Paul Spooner.

OLWEN IN THE GARDEN

When she retired from the Bromeliad Display Garden at Paradise Point, Olwen Ferris wrote a book on her life with plants. This is now in print. If anyone would like to buy a copy at \$15.00 each, please see or contact Olwen.

LIBRARY BOOKS



Library books are available on loan for one (1) month only. There are a wide range of books on succulents and bromeliads available for loan and Jeanette would be very happy to help you select an interesting book or folder of journals from other societies to read during the month. Please remember to return your selection the following month so someone else can enjoy it as much as you did.

MONTHLY PLANT TALKS

FEBRUARY	Olwen Ferris Bobby Powel Mary Nicholson	Growing Dyckias Landscaping with Bromeliads Bromeliads on Rocks
MARCH	Genny Vauhkonen Monica Bailey John Catlan	pH in Culture of Bromeliads Basic Guzmania Culture The Big Aechmeas

TEA ROSTER

FEBRUAR Y	Dawn Collas, Nev Ryan, Gloria Morrow, Denise Story
MARCH	Patricia Zimmerman, Graeme Bullen, Neil Ross, Jo Ketelaars
APRIL	Sue Levine, Betty Page, Bill Bishop, Heather Barker

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:

FEBRUARY	Cryptanthus
MARCH	Foliage Vrieseas
APRIL	Tillandsias

FIND - A - WORD

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

AECHMEAS are one of the BETTER known FAMILY of BROMELIADS. Many of them are colourful and UNUSUAL but most are easy to grow. Those with PENDULOUS FLOWER STEM look lovely GROWN in trees. If YOU have a difficult SPOT where you don't WANT any TRAFFIC there are some LOVELY TALL PRICKLY ones for there. Some well known ones are CAUDATA, FASCIATA, FOSTERS FAVORITE, FULGENS, GAMOSEPALA, ORLANDIANA, ROYAL WINE, RECURVATA, GRACILIS, NUDICAULIS, RAMOSA, BERT, CHANTINI, COELESTIS, RAKETE.

FIND - A - WORD SOLUTION

Solution for November/December puzzle:

Nidulariums can be spotted - striped - green.

SEEDY CAPERS

The following seeds are available:

Alcantarea edmundoi

Alcantarea geniculata

Guzmania spectabilis

Pitcairnia atrorubens

Pitcairnia heterophylla - White

Pitcairnia heterophylla - Orange

Pitcairnia carinata

Puya mirabilis

Tillandsia bulbosa

Tillandsia ionantha

Seeds are 50¢ per packet. When placing your order, please also enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Send all orders to:

Mrs Bobby Powel
7 Coolibah Street
SOUTHPORT Q 4215

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions were due at the October meeting. If you have not paid, you are currently unfinancial. Please pay as soon as possible to stay financial.

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:

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

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.

WHO AM I?



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

AN ADDRESS FOR MAIL

If you would like to get in touch with the Society by mail, please address your correspondence to:

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



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 it a good continuous raffle.

CENT AUCTION

It is wonderful how much fun can be had by our Cent Auction every March and September. Remember to bring in some plants that can be placed in the groups for the auction. The money raised goes to help build up of our Library.

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

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.

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	Regular:	10 for 35c	100 for \$3.50
	Larger:	5c each	10 for 50c

PENCILS \$2.20 each

PHOSTROGEN 625g - \$18.00

PLANT LADDERS 25c

PLANT HANGERS 25c

SALES STICKERS 5¢ each or 10 for 50¢

SOCIETY BADGES \$3.00 each
Available from the Treasurer,
Diana Hughes

BOOKS

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

"Growing Bromeliads" - \$12.00

"Bromeliads for Modern Living" - \$8.50

"Bromeliads - A Guide to the Beautiful Neoregelias" - \$20.00

The objects of the Society shall be:

- (a) To stimulate interest in the conservation, and to promote the culture and development of succulents and bromeliads
- (b) To acquire and disseminate information regarding these plants, and to encourage their production and propagation.
- (c) To ban totally from our collection any such plants which become noxious.
- (d) To enlighten members and the public on the dangers of cultivating certain noxious species.
- (e) To give exhibitions, arrange field days, and other events, and to make such publications as are deemed desirable.
- (f) To associate, affiliate or otherwise joint or connect ourselves with similar bodies or societies.
- (g) To make seeds and plants available to members under the control of the Society.
- (h) To foster family membership and members.