

# BROOMLINK



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1999

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Page**

**SPECIAL FEATURES**

Christmas Party . . . . . Page 4  
 It's a Date! . . . . . Page 5  
 Congratulations and Well Done. . . . . Page 5  
 Attention Cactus and Succulent Members. . . . . Page 5  
 Plants for Sale . . . . . Page 5  
 "Brom Link" . . . . . Page 6  
 January/February 2000 Issue of Bromlink. . . . . Page 6  
 President's Annual Report . . . . . Page 7  
 Secretary's Annual Report. . . . . Page 8  
 Bus Trips . . . . . Page 17

**REGULAR FEATURES**

Office Bearers . . . . . Page 1  
 Meeting Dates And Venue. . . . . Page 2  
 Dates for Your Diary . . . . . Page 2  
 President's Report for September and October 1999 . . . . . Page 3  
 Solution to September/October Puzzle . . . . . Page 8  
 Under the Mango Tree . . . . . Page 9  
 !! Congratulations !! . . . . . Page 17  
 Signing the Attendance Book . . . . . Page 18  
 Suggestion Box . . . . . Page 18  
 Olwen in the Garden . . . . . Page 18  
 Find - A - Word . . . . . Page 19  
 Plant Roster. . . . . Page 20  
 Tea Roster. . . . . Page 20  
 Subscriptions . . . . . Page 21  
 An Address for Mail . . . . . Page 22  
 Plant of the Month . . . . . Page 22  
 To Help Our Plant Sales People . . . . . Page 22  
 Visitors to our Area . . . . . Page 23  
 Ordinary Raffle . . . . . Page 23  
 Cent Auction . . . . . Page 23  
 Lite Relief. . . . . Page 24  
 Items for Sale . . . . . Page 25

**OFFICE BEARERS**

**PATRONESS**

PRESIDENT	<b>Olwen Ferris</b> Bobby Powell (Mrs)	5591 3296
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Mary Nicholson	5572 0993
VICE PRESIDENT	Graham Besgrove	(07) 3800 5431
SECRETARY	Mary Nicholson	
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Kerri Merret	
MINUTE SECRETARY	Narelle Aizlewood	
TREASURER	Mary Nicholson	
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Phyllis King	
EDITOR	Wendy Besgrove	
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Mary Nicholson	
HOSTESSES	Tesse & Graham White, Michelle Schmidt, Richard Bond	
COMMITTEE	Phyllis King, Denise Story, Graham Bullen, Don Smith, John Catlan, Nev Ryan	
PLANT SALES	Mac McAlister	
PLANT SALES ASSISTANTS	Betty Page, Heather Barker, Jan Browett	
GOODS SALES	Denise Story	
GOODS SALES ASSISTANT	Sue Levine	
LIBRARIAN	Jeanette Henwood	
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN	Jennifer Laurie	
RAFFLES SUPERVISOR	Mick Levine	
ASSIST RAFFLE SUPERVISOR	Eddie Collas	
AUDITORS	Yong Gee Raftery & Co	
LIFE MEMBERS	Olwen Ferris, Rolly Reilly, Mary Nicholson, Graham and Wendy Besgrove, Genny Vauhkonen, John Catlan, Neville Ryan	
HONORARY MEMBERS	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.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



DATE	EVENT
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> November 1999	Annual General Meeting, General Meeting and Special Raffle
Saturday, 20 <sup>th</sup> November 1999	Field Day at Jacobs Well
Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December 1999	Christmas Party
January 2000	No Meeting
Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2000	General Meeting
Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2000	General Meeting and Cent Auction

### 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 SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1999

At our October meeting we had a good attendance, a few apologies, but everyone looking forward to the afternoon on their favourite subject, Bromeliads. We had a great surprise with Pauline Tonner giving us a very informative talk on frogs, which of course love Bromeliads to hang around and live in. You could have heard a pin drop when Mrs Toad decided to shed some extra fluid in a hurry ... on taking fright. Pauline and John had gone out and caught the frogs and toad just for the talk and they all came in their special travelling boxes. Thank you Pauline. I am sure we could learn a lot more.

There seemed to be so much to get through. Mary spoke on the display of Sarracenias. What a wonderful show as many club members had not seen them before, especially out in flower. I do know there are a few of our folk who do grow these unusual plants. Many people do not realise that several of our Bromeliads are classed as carnivorous plants. Genny enlightened us to some of the special and unusual Bromeliads on the sales table, that we may not have know about. John Catlan spoke of plants on the Bromeliads display. Unfortunately we did not have time for Kathleen Henderson's talk on cactus and succulents which she said she would give next meeting. We just ran out of time. Kathleen has a cactus and succulent nursery a Billinudgil and we welcome her as a new member to our club. We are looking forward to anything she can tell us on these wonderful plants.

Southport Park Shopping Centre - Display for October 1999: We had a very successful three days of display, with great plants, lots of sales and great compliments from customers. The centre were very glad to see us back again selling Bromeliads and a crowd of interested customers leaving with their new plants. Many of the staff working in the centre also bought and we have been asked to give another show there in mid-May 2000. The Southport Park Shopping Centre management make it very easy for us by

supplying the tablecloths, chairs and they also advertise that we will be having a display two weeks before we get there. Thank you to all those who helped with selling, you did a fine job and to those who helped with the many plants - keep potting up, you're doing good. Also, a special thanks to John Catlan, Genny, Nev and John Bolger who I called on for extra plants.

We will be having our next show at Tweed Heads City mid-February 2000. So start potting now!!

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## CHRISTMAS PARTY

There will be no meeting in December, just a social day. But there will be plant sales, raffles, silent auction, show & tell and the suggestion box.

For the day, please bring along:

1. A gift to the value of \$3.00 wrapped and marked His, Hers or Suitable for Either.
2. A plant for the gift exchange.
3. A plate of goodies for the table.



Don't forget each person has to bring along **a gift and a plant** and to **sign** the book. Your name will be drawn like the Lucky Door Prize and if you are not in the book, you do not get the prize.

No alcohol is allowed.

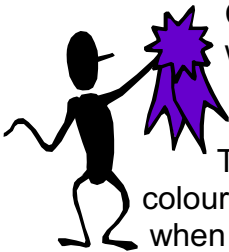


## IT'S A DATE!

Don't forget Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 1999. There will be a field day at John Catlan and Genny Vauhkonen's at 17 Pelican Parade, Jacobs Well. We will meet there from 10.30 am. Please bring along your lunch and mug, hat and a chair. And don't forget the **Aeroguard**. A good time is guaranteed.

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## CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE



Congratulations to Graham and Tessie White on winning the first prize in the Gold Coast Council Small Garden Competition.

The garden was stunning. There was just so much colour in the plants. I don't know how they managed it when everyone else was saying that with all the rain and overcast weather, their plants were mainly green.

Well done both of you.

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## ATTENTION CACTUS AND SUCCULENT MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome Kathaleen Henderson from Kathallan Cactus as a new member. Kathaleen will be giving talks on the plants as well as having plants for sale at most of our meetings.

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## PLANTS FOR SALE

Irene Small has some lovely plants for sale. Please give Irene a ring before you go to see her. The number is 5535 7748. Irene lives at Burleigh Heads.

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## “BROM LINK”

Ian Gordon

Hi! I was introduced to the world of Bromeliads via a trading table set up in Southport Park Shopping Centre. I guess it was a few months back now. There we were, Jill and I with a shopping trolley that had a mind of its own and wanting to go this way and that, when we bumped into this trading table. It was a table covered with these magnificent plants displaying a multitude of colours and tended by a bunch of pleasant ladies.

A Bromeliad? Why not, one or two will be just fine. One lady started talking about different varieties and mentioned the “Succulent and Bromeliad Society”. I thought to myself, “Who needs this, one plant is the same as another. I’ll just bung it in the ground and that’s it. Sounds too easy.”

Join a Club? Well maybe. Clubs really aren’t for me, I’m just not the socialising type. Anyway who wants to be the dummy in the class? It seems everyone knows more about the subject than I do. Well, maybe I’ll attend one or two meetings.

That was three months back. Now Bromeliads have taken over my garden and I find myself memorising lists of names of various varieties as I wash and dry dishes. I also find myself counting down the days until the next meeting.

What’s happened to my life? It can’t be just the spring in the air.

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## **JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2000 ISSUE OF BROMLINK**

As you may know, we do not hold a January meeting. For this reason, your January/February issue of Bromlink will be posted to you in January to keep you up-to-date for the February meeting.



## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Bobby Powell

To make all members in any club happy, it takes a team of willing workers. Luckily, from within this club we have the best kind of members you could hope to find. This makes our society enjoyable at our meetings; the biggest complaint is that the afternoon goes too fast and it's time to go home.

The first person I wish to thank for your unstinting generosity of time and knowledge, is our Secretary, Mary Nicholson. I cannot, in a short time, praise Mary too highly and know you will all agree with me in thanking Mary from all of us. We are all aware of the condition of the Pacific Highway, so to those of you who come to the "Coast" from Brisbane to our meetings, we are glad it's you and not us. We do understand and miss you when you're not here. We thank you for the work you do at home Wendy and Graham Besgrove (magazine producers). A big thanks also to Narelle Aizlewood (Minute Secretary) and Denise Storey who helped her. To Jeanette Henwood (Librarian), to Jenny Laurie and John Catlan who also filled this space on occasions. A special thank you to Dawn Collas, our Assistant Librarian, who has been ill this year, but I am glad to say she is looking a deal better lately. Thank you to Olwen Ferris and Phyllis King for your hostessing and to Mac McAlister and his sales team - Jan Browett, Betty Page, Denise Story, Heather Barker, Robert Noble and Pat Ross; you have worked overtime. Don Smith has done an excellent job of selling the raffle tickets. John Catlan and Genny Vauhkonen, for their plants, knowledge, help, talks, advice, and giving so much of themselves; thank you. Show and Tell time Neville Ryan for all your Tillandsias and Graham Besgrove for the many interesting plants in this segment of the meetings. To the many people who help set up the meeting and clear it away later sweeping floors etc, I do appreciate everyone of you. Also, to all those who have helped in the kitchen, and everyone who helped out when asked

even if you had not been elected to do that job, THANK YOU and thank you again.

Last but not least, I would like to express my thanks to all those who supplied plants and gave their time at Southport Park Shopping Centre in May and October, the Flower Show at the Eleanora Uniting Church and the following week at Tweed Heads and District Flower Show. Thank you for making these occasions a success.

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## **SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Mary Nicholson

It has been a very busy year and the growth in the society just shows how successful. To our President, Bobby Powell, a grateful thank you for the way the society is running along so well. It is the head who takes the knocks but in this case much praise should be heaped on her shoulders. She is a tireless worker setting an example for us all to follow.

Many thanks also to the Minute Secretary, Narelle Aizlewood who has lightened my load immensely and to Denise Storey who stepped in when Narelle or myself were absent. To Graham Besgrove for handling the subscriptions so making my workload lessen once again.

I would like to thank ALL for being such a band of helpers who together make this society the success it is today.

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## **SOLUTION TO SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PUZZLE**

We need to be reminded of our start.



## UNDER THE MANGO TREE

John Catlan

The oldies have a way of getting even with their kids for all those thousands of dirty nappies and embarrassing things they were forced to contend with all those years ago. For example, some years ago we were hunting for information regarding Hal Ellis's Neoregelia hybrids so we decided to phone. Unfortunately he had passed away some years past, but we had a long chat with Mrs Ellis, she was eighty plus years at the time and sounding bright and bubbly. Genny enquiring what kept her so active, was informed that when she wanted to do something she would phone up all the children, get their opinion on what she should do, then do exactly the opposite.

There must be something about parents when they reach their eighties. Houseboat Ernie's Mum who lives in California USA, skips the part of consulting with her offspring. She just makes pronouncements that has the effect of running some portion of her brood ragged while they try to chase their mother down in forever widening circles. For example, she phones Ernie (he is a member who lives on the northern edge of the Gold Coast) she has been invited to be present at the handover of Macow to China, she wants Ernie to fly to USA to collect her, then take her to Macow, be her escort at the handover, bring her back to Australia for a few weeks holiday, then deliver her back to California, then Ernie can go home. Ernie's answer was, "No way Mum". "But **your** brother can't take me", Mum exclaimed, "He's too busy."

Meanwhile, back in Ernie's world he is fighting the big C, they caught it at a very early stage and hitting it with everything they have, it is knocking him about but he is winning. The compromise reached by Ernie and his Mum was that he would join her and the official delegation in Macow then bring her back to Australia and his

sister would fly out to Australia, pick up Mum and take her home. Ernie is now back in Australia and continuing his medication, minus Mum. She is busy doing the grand tour of Asia.

Humour is a strange animal seeing light at the end of the tunnel and finding it is the end of the tunnel and not another train is one of them.

Houseboat Ernie fronts up to the urinal in the local shopping centre, drops out the old fellow and proceeds to have a pee that is the colour of chocolate. What the hell has gone wrong now, and he is off to the doctor immediately. The doctor doesn't know but after the tests, it's congratulations Ernie you have Hepatitis "E". "What the F@!#\$ is Hepatitis "E"", exclaims Ernie. This is the doctor's first case of Hepatitis "E", it turns out to be endemic to a very small area in Central India. "I have never been to India!, and I don't know any Indians", then Ernie saw the light.

At the official banquet for the handing over of Macow, Ernie was seated next to the Indian Delegation. They had brought their own chef over and Ernie figured this would be a good opportunity to try authentic Indian food. So he did.



**“Soil Life”** - When you buy your Bromeliads, your bonus is a variety of potting mixes. It will not take long to realise that there are more potting mixes than Bromeliad growers. The reason is that each grower develops their mix around available ingredients and their conditions, both have a tendency to change and so the grower changes their mix. As a new grower, a time comes when you have such a variety of Bromeliads growing in different mixes that you will find your plants will grow better in a mix you develop yourself. In other words, you will be responsible for another Bromeliad mix.

“Soil life” should be the first consideration when planning a Bromeliad mix. It must last through the growing cycle (from offset, to flowering plant and until you have harvested the offsets) without the mix breaking down to a point where the air content falls below 15% for terrestrial Bromeliads and 20% for epiphytic.

When your mix has satisfactory “soil life” and it comes to repotting your Bromeliads, it’s just a matter of removing the plant from the old pot and potting on. That is centring the plant in the new container and filling in around the undisturbed rootball and growth of the plant will proceed undisturbed.

Should inspection of the rootball indicate that the mix has broken down or will not last through the next growth cycle, it will be necessary to repot. This means hosing all the old mix from the root system, removing any dead roots or old plant systems, selecting the right size container and working fresh potting mixture through the root system. A lot of extra work, but it is necessary when the potting mix lacks “soil life”.

You can make a choice from an assortment of ingredients including peat moss, pine bark (*pinus elliotii* and *pinus radiata*), hoop pine bark, gravel, perlite, polystyrene beads, peanut shells, clinker and others. The selections and combinations you find that are best for you will reflect the conditions you grow under, that is water quality and how often and how long you water, air movement, light, temperature and humidity, and most important of all what you can get your hands on and at what price. These ingredients are important as most new growers start out by using a commercial Cymbidium mix. Their second mix is the Cymbidium mix plus their own additives.

I use 1/7 by volume in my mix which works out to 13.3% but I sieve my other ingredients and remove all particles below 1mm in diameter and I water often. What I am trying to achieve is a potting mix which has “soil life”. Peat moss is very light but will hold large

quantities of water, it has no toxic properties but will hold onto fertiliser which together with its water content is readily available to the Bromeliads. I would recommend that a good Bromeliad potting mix contains 10% by volume of peat moss. Fluff the peat moss by hand, don't use a mulcher as it will grind the peat moss too fine, if your source of peat is compacted bales. Use a brown peat moss as the darker peat moss is too fine and should be restricted to a garden situation.

Where you are foliage feeding all the time the peat moss content diminishes in importance but because I use Nutricote, I find it is a benefit as a carrier. The basic commercial Bromeliad mix in our area is 25mm (1") *p. radiata* bark and as a substitute for peatmoss add 5% *p. radiata* and 5% hoop bark fines.

An amateur grower has advantages over a commercial grower, they do not have to cost their labour and experiments but also they do not need truck loads of potting mix. They can blend into their own mix exotic ingredients such as charcoal, quinkan gravel, pumicestone, pine cones, leather dust, ground cork, styrene foam, macadamia shells and no doubt there are growers who have come up with other ingredients.

When talking to other growers, ask and discuss your own and their problems. You will advance your knowledge and growing technique. In the end your Bromeliads will judge your potting mix. You will have to observe their reaction.



Our President's front garden is landscaped in Bromeliads and prior to its last big revamp all was not well. It was at the stage of its life where sections needed the magic touch. The tree in the front yard is bigger than the house and literally full of Bromeliads with all their dead leaves hanging down. Diplomatic Genny comments on the problem.

No worries for Bobby. She has Roger, King of the Bromeliads, swinging through the gum tree by his hairy knuckles removing old leaves, retying plants, trimming and adding. Next job, dig out the Dyckias and rearrange them. We are back home and on the phone, Bobby says, "I can't hear, there's a big backhoe going past". You can hear Roger in the background, "It's come to shift the Dyckias". The wishful dreams of youth.



**Polystyrene** is the material found in bean bags and styro boxes, it is inert, has no water holding capacity but dramatically improves aeration. If you are mixing it into your soil mix, use beads 6mm or less in diameter, wet the beads first, mix with a small portion of your mix then mix into the batch of potting soil. You will find it is the best way to blend polystyrene. When the plant is potted, pick off any top bits and throw back into the potting mix.

If you are using this material as drainage in the bottom of containers, pieces 10mm or bigger are best. I hate polystyrene but the plants love it and it's cheap.



When we have our field day at the Kings Coffee Plantation, you will love Hamish. He is King of the Rock and knows it.



**Pine Cones.** The pine cones of *pinus radiata* and their look alikes can be transformed into an ingredient of a Bromeliad potting mix. Collect the mature old cones from the ground and store in a dry place until the cones are dry and fully expanded. I use a Rover muncher with a Briggs and Stratton 5hp motor. I repeat the cones

must be totally dry and fully expanded. Feed them into the machine as fast as the machine can handle them.



Charlie, our bus driver, a member in the north of the Gold Coast, I see quite often and he has been fighting the good fight against the big “C”. His problem was a lump in the throat and he is winning. It’s 2½ years now since the operation and its all clear so far but he has a problem swallowing because of scar tissue. Last week a lump developed on the neck and he hit the doctors surgery on the run. “Congratulations Charlie you have shingles, your immune system is down but because we caught it under three days, the cure will be immediate”, and it was.



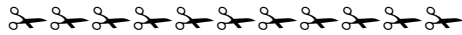
**Clinker.** Coal ash is initially alkaline pH8/pH9. As the sulphides decompose it will become acidic pH5.5. The sulphides of the clinker is an ongoing buffer against the constant watering by alkaline water. The council water is treated to make it alkaline or it will rust out the council’s water pipes.

I take the coal ash and by sieving I remove all particles smaller than 1mm. This leaves the clinker, and it is the clinker I use in potting mix. The fine particles I use as fill and levelling of pathways. I allow the ash to half dry out and it is then very easy to sieve. It does not break down. As it is derived from organic material via coal, it is loaded with trace elements.



Yours truly had a huge lump come up on his neck. It was like pumping up a balloon. To the doctors, “Congratulations a blocked saliva gland. It will go away”, and it did.





**Pine Bark.** If the only bark you can lay your hands on is fresh, fill 20 litre drums, then fill with water plus add a complete soluble fertiliser plus Thrive with a high nitrogen. Fresh pine bark will absorb and use up extra nitrogen. It can be left soaking until the day before you use it. Tip into a large pot, let it drain for a few hours and it's ready for use. It may not be a perfect system but is better than fresh bark.



John Bolger (a member who lives in the south west of the Gold Coast) and I were just finalising our discussion where we had solved the problems of the world when he said, "It's a pity that all the old growers with interesting and varied plant collections are gone, when we want to have a look for something new or find out something they're dead and we have no one to turn to".

I think we both realised at the same time that we are now the old fellows, and that if there are not interesting collections or knowledge dispensed, we have only ourselves to blame.



The better half of the Bolger mob is Pauline and she gave a talk at the last meeting on frogs. It was very well illustrated and we had a live toad used for demonstrations. As I'm going deaf, I sit up the back and watch the reaction of the members to the talks.

This talk would have been up there with the best. The members attention was captured, no discussion amongst themselves, just a comment or two to their neighbours. What gave the talk that magic touch was the rapt attention given to every work by a young lad called Simon, who was sitting dead centre in the front row. His

mother sat behind him and the look on his face as he turned around to speak to his mother was a joy to watch.

I am sure as far as Simon is concerned, Pauline is world famous.



The month prior to the last we had a talk on the endangered Richmond Bird Wing Butterfly which isn't found locally anymore because they are all dead. Julie Short gave the talk. It was well illustrated and a class act by someone who knows their subject. It's a pity Simon missed this one. She too would have been world famous, although she is world famous in Modanville.



It's the end of another "Under the Mango Tree" and, God willing, you will hear from us next month.

An old Chinese adage:

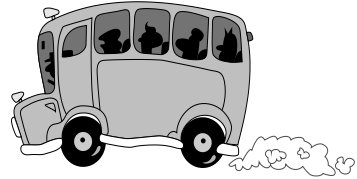
*Happiness is to have much money, many friends, an adoring wife, lovely children and occasionally to see your neighbour fall off the roof.*

## BUS TRIPS

Mary Nicholson

I have been asked many times about bus trips and at long last in my spare time, I have now, thanks to Athol, been able to arrange some.

The facts are: a large bus with 40 people is a lot cheaper and more comfortable than a small 21 seater.



You, the members, will make the decision. You can bring along your partners and friends to help make up the numbers.

There are a lot of different places we can go to. Please use the Suggestion Box if there is some place you would like to go. We would like to be able to have a 12-month schedule done for the January/February Bromlink if you decide that you think it is a good idea.

The date, I suggest, to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month.

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## !! CONGRATULATIONS !!

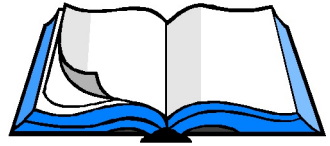
Happy Birthday to Judy Borthistle, Sue Levine, Ann Post, Olwen Ferris, Margaret Parkinson, Neville Ryan, Mike Levine, Michelle Schmidt, Paul Schacht and Wendy Besgrove.



Welcome to Marion Cooper, Kathaleen Henderson, Rob and Ann Pont, and Les and Julie Short.

## SIGNING THE ATTENDANCE BOOK

This is to ask everyone who attends the meetings to please sign the Attendance Book. If you don't sign the Attendance Book, then you will miss out on a Lucky Door Prize. Even visitors should sign the book as they also have an opportunity to win a prize.



Please make sure you sign the book.

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## SUGGESTION BOX

This box is to be used by the members to ask questions which will be answered at the next meeting or made into an article for the Bromlink. If everyone wrote a piece - short or long - about how they were hooked on to Bromeliads and placed it in this box, you would be helping our Bromlink continue to appeal to you. Or a piece on your favourite Bromeliad or some tip that works for you and you would like to pass on to your fellow growers. This will be of help to others too.



## 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.

## FIND - A - WORD

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

MANY PLANTS ORIGINATE in TROPICAL LANDS but the BROMELIAD is PERHAPS the MOST EXOTIC. The LEAVES, in their ROSETTE SHAPE, FORM a NATURAL VASE for CATCHING and HOLDING RAIN WATER. These plants LOOK just as they should as JUNGLE INHABITANTS. Their APPEARANCE BECOMES EVEN more FASCINATING when the FLOWERS APPEAR, GENERALLY SURROUNDED by BRACTS of INCREDIBLE COLOURS.

Find the **CAPITALISED** and UNDERLINED words.

## 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>NOVEMBER</b>	Phyllis Cameron, Paul Filewood, Lorraine Miletic, Patricia Perratt
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Heather Barker, Mary Nicholson, Mike Levine, Gloria Morrow
<b>MARCH</b>	Denise Storey, Nev Ryan, Bobby Powell, John Bolger

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.



## TEA ROSTER



Members who are asked to help on the Tea Roster have been asking what it entails.

You just have to see that the cups and saucers are all set up and the tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits are all out. If there are not enough cups and saucers, please see Mary. You will find out how many people are at the meeting by the register at the front door.

At the Tea/Coffee Break, help in the kitchen to see that everyone has been attended to, then help to clear the kitchen afterwards. You are only on the roster one day each year. We, the members, could not do without your assistance. It is a very necessary, thirst quenching break when so much else is being done.

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	Tessie White, Sue Burbury, Eunice Jenkins, Carol Gaskin
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Judy Norton, Gloria Morrow, Jennifer Laurie, Margot Murphy
<b>MARCH</b>	Helena Gibbs, Jenny O'Brien, Melva Morrison, Audrey Muir

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### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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

Family - \$8.00

Single - \$6.00

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

## AN ADDRESS FOR MAIL

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

Mrs Mary Nicholson  
Secretary  
Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society Inc  
55 Dawn Parade  
MIAMI Q 4220



## 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>	Not often seen Bromeliads and/or Succulents
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Cryptanthus
<b>MARCH</b>	Foliage Vrieseas

## TO HELP OUR PLANT SALES PEOPLE

From the April 1999 meeting, all must be set up and ready before the Plant Sales begin at **1.00 pm**. This is to allow the Sales people who help Mac to be better prepared for the rush. Thank you very much for your help in this matter.



## 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.



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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 it a good continuous raffle.

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## CENT AUCTION

It is wonderful how much fun can be had at our Cent Auction every March, June 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 our Library.

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

## LITE RELIEF

**Ms Wendy Besgrove  
Editor  
Bromlink  
55 Dawn Parade  
Miami 4220**

**Dear Wendy**

**In reference to the excellent article in your missive by the honourable Senator from Puteus Jacobeus, Giacomo Catlanus, I would like to point out that Caesar Augustus did not achieve more days in his month than Julius Gaius Caesar.**

**Furthermore, Senator Catlanus did not point out that our togas and bracts will fade more quickly in AD than BC.**

**All in good time,**

**Giuseppe Aesculepius**



Moo-shoe pork

## ITEMS FOR SALE

### PLEASE NOTE

**POTS** 105 mm squat pot 20c ] Limited supplies of pots are  
125 mm 25c ] available for sale at the  
140 mm 30c ] meetings. If you require large  
165 mm 45c ] quantities of pots, please  
200 mm 65c ] phone Bobby Powell and she  
will bring them to the meeting  
for you.

**NUTRICOTE** 500g \$2.50

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

**PENCILS** \$2.20 each

**PLANT LADDERS** 25c

**PLANT HANGERS** 25c

**SALES STICKERS** 5¢ each or 10 for 50¢

**SOCIETY BADGES** \$3.00 each  
Available from the Treasurer

**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" -  
Out of stock.

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.