

KABBROM

Caboolture and Districts Bromeliad Society NO 4 July / August 2013

CABOOLTURE AND DISTRICTS BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC

Postal Address: P O Box 748 Caboolture QLD 4510

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MEETING VENUE: Combined Services Club, 21 Hayes Street, Caboolture. 1:30pm start

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Over the years, we have enjoyed combined workshops and bus trips with members of our neighbouring Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society, so it was with some sadness that we learned of their recent folding. We have extended an invitation to their members, who are not already members of our Society, to join us, with free membership for the remainder of the year. Our thanks to the Glasshouse Society for their donation to us, of their library resources



George Stamatis (Alcantareas) and Barry Genn (Tillandsias) gave very interesting talks at our May and June meetings. George also encouraged members to continue to grow species plants. As natural habitats are destroyed, these species plants become extinct, unless they are grown by collectors. As a matter of interest, I checked through my own (relatively small) collection and was surprised at the number of species plants that I have. Perhaps that would be an interesting exercise for all of us – just check your own list against the full list of plants on the fcbs website.

It has been pleasing to see increasing numbers of entries in our Popular Plant competition, particularly in the Novice section, where often, the table is over-flowing. Well done to you all, and thank you for bringing in your beautifully grown plants for all to see.

I hope you have all begun preparations for our 'Bromeliad and Foliage Frenzy' on 5th and 6th October. As well as your bromeliads and other foliage plants, you will be able to sell your craft items. This is our first venture of this kind, and your support and participation will ensure it is a success.

Cheers
Jeanette

MEETING DATES FOR 2013

August	24	Michael Grange	
September	28	John & Genny Catlan	Variegated Plants
October	26	Narelle Aizlewood	Mini Show
November	23	Christmas Party	

Study Group Meeting Dates 9am start

August	20	Jadwiga Pakowski	5433 0667
September	18	TBA	

REMINDER: SINGAPORE TRIP PLANNING 12pm July 27 at the Hall before the meeting.

STUDY GROUP



In June I arranged the attendees for the photo shoot! They are a right bunch. We had a great time at Beryl and Barrie's home. It was lovely to see the changes to the garden. They are certainly doing a wonderful job at updating their garden. Barrie has been entering our novice section at the meetings and doing very well! Again we held a lively discussion on mixes and medications. At our meeting in August we have decided to have one of our panel discussions focussing on pesticides.



The July study group was at Kayleens. Such a beautifully maintained garden and bush house. Both Dale and Kayleen have been busy and there were striking changes to the garden. Members were seen scoffing down fresh peas as walked around the grounds and carrying pumpkins down the driveway when they left.



Deanna brought along an interesting plant. Here are the top and side views. It is a *Cryptanthus bivittatus* and the plant is happy with all the pups struggling to the top of the flask. She has not treated the plant with any special fertilisers or fungus treatment.





Kayleen provided a *Vriesea guttata* for repotting. Len as per usual was more than equal to the task. He requested a knife, unpotted the plant, looked and felt all around the top of the mix, found a natural break and halved the plant. He was then able to deal with the 2 sections individually. The mother plant still had a viable leaf and was maintaining an offset even though her original offsets had all strong offsets of their own. Members all took home a piece if they desired as Kayleen had a plant that was even more daunting in her bush house which she was prepared to tackle later.



MEMBER NEWS

May guest speaker George Stamatis on *Alcantareas*.

George started growing in South Africa, came to Australia and studied botany and is now a very informative person on bromeliads with a very strong interest in *Alcantarea*.

George separated his talk into 2 sections. The first section dealt with the scientific characteristics of *Alcantarea*. He explained the difference from *Vriesea* and talked about the large recurved petals and the often fragrant flowers with their protruding pistil and anthers. He noted the difference of the seeds. The *Alcantarea* have a bigger coarser seed, as the seeds are designed to drop from cliffs. The plants are large – over 1 foot in diameter, with tall and branched inflorescences with multiple spikes. The hair pups (adventitious pups) usually appear before flowering, some will pup in the rosettes, some are monocarpic. *Alcantarea imperialis* is monocarpic (can only be grown from seed), and many of the *imperialis* crosses may be monocarpic too. There are estimated to be around 250 species and there is great diversity within the species. *Alcantarea nahoumii* has 2 forms – large and small, *Alcantarea odorata* has many different clones with the Bullis clone being particularly good.

The second section dealt with the growing conditions. *Alcantarea* cannot tolerate frost but cold is OK. They need seasonal changes to initiate blooming. This seasonal change can be either temperature change or rainfall change. They will often stack if grown close to the Equator. They require as much light as possible with *geniculata*, *regina* and *odorata* requiring a bit more shade. Soft water is best as there are less minerals. Do not let the tank and leaf axils dry out. Feed with osmacote initially and sparingly after that. Do not feed after the initial

growth spurts. Let them become chunky and hardy and colourful. Initial heavy feeding of variegated Alcantarea gives good colour and form. Propagate by seeds or offsets. Keep lightly shaded and humid.



June guest speaker Barry Genn on Tillandsias. Barry Genn grows his Tillandsias in Queensland and is a Tillnut! He brought in a box full of Tillandsias to show us.

Tillandsia grows well on Callistemon and Melaleuca. Barry finds that the roots grow into the wood and the seeds are hard to remove so he prefers coconut fibre..Pine rots away too quickly.

The plants can be attached using many products such as Chux, thin strips of stocking
Plants that clump well from seedlings are *stricta*, *dura*, *duratii*, *sprengeliana*. *cacticola*, *butzii*, *tenuifolia*, *bulbosa*.

Viable seed looks brown and fluffy when the pod is open. If green and fluffy the seed is not ready. If black and smelly the seed is rotten.

For cold tender plants put a solid cover over them at night.



Different seed raising methods.

Barry is known for growing his Tillandsias inside and outside his bush houses. I found some photos on www.bromeliadsdownunder.com/wp-content/.../Bromelcairns20121.pdf

POPULAR PLANT COMPETITION 2013

May

NOVICE

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1st. <i>Vriesea</i> 'Megan' | Lorraine Rolley | Judges Choice |
| 2nd. <i>Tillandsia gardneri</i> | Barrie Brown | |
| 3rd. Basket of Mixed Bromeliads | Denise Storey | |

INTERMEDIATE

- | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| 1st. <i>Tillandsia butzii</i> mez | Carol Button | Judges Choice |
| 2nd. <i>Dyckia</i> 'Emperor' | Ron Murray | |
| 3rd. <i>Tillandsia recurvifolia</i> x <i>aeranthos</i> | Carol Button | |

ADVANCED

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|
| 1st. <i>Vriesea</i> 'Kilauea' x 'Red Chestnut' | Sheryl Waite | Judges Choice |
| 2nd. <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Dream Baby' | Jeanette Robertson | |
| 3rd. <i>Vriesea</i> 'You Beaut' | Sheryl Waite | |
| 3rd. <i>Vriesea</i> 'Royalty Begins' | Len Waite | |
| 3rd. <i>Vriesea</i> 'Bianca' hybrid | Len Waite | |



Vriesea 'Megan'



Tillandsia butzii mez



Vriesea 'Kilauea' x 'Red Chestnut'

June

NOVICE

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1st <i>Vriesea</i> 'Galaxy' | Lorraine Rolley | Judges Choice |
| 2nd <i>Vriesea</i> 'Jeannie' | Kayleen Courtney | |
| 2nd <i>Neoregelia</i> mini | Barrie Brown | |

INTERMEDIATE no entries

ADVANCED

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1st <i>Tillandsia fasciculata</i> | Len Waite | Judges Choice |
| 2nd <i>Neoregelia</i> mini 'Zoe' | Len Waite | |
| 3rd <i>Cryptanthus</i> 'It' | Jeanette Robertson | |



Vriesea 'Galaxy'



Vriesea 'Jeannie'



Tillandsia fasciculata



Neoregelia mini 'Zoe'

BROMMOMENTS



Michael Grange bought along 2 Alcantareas from his collection. Wow! The one he is holding is an unknown. The seed was collected by Bruce Dunstan on one of his trips and the magnificent flower is now to be investigated as they try to track down its parentage. The other is a magnificent specimen as well.



Close ups of the 2 plants. The last 2 photos are the inflorescence that will be investigated.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2013

May winner

Barbara Murray

Aechmea weilbachii pendula



June winners

Kayleen Courtney *Tillandsia stricta*



Barbara Murray *unknown*

WHAT'S ON IN 2013

September 8	BSQ Judging School Olive Branch
September 14 & 15	BSQ Autumn Show Brisbane Table Tennis Centre
October 5 & 6	CDBS Bromeliad and Foliage Frenzy Minimbah State School Cnr Walkers Road & Minimbah Drive Morayfield
October 12 & 13	Wavell Heights Extravaganza
October 27	BSQ Billbergia Day Newmarket State School
November 6 – 15	Singapore Trip

2015

April 16-19	BROMSMATTA 18 th Australasian Bromeliad Conference Parramatta New South Wales Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Australia
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Our society has posted our Club News on the website of the Bromeliad Australia. Other clubs are also listed there and have posted their newsletters as well. There is also a photo index which is growing every month and well worth bookmarking.

Check it out at www.bromeliad.org.au via the front page, Clubs, Caboolture or the direct link is <http://www.bromeliad.org.au/news/CBS.htm>

OFFICERS

President	Jeanette Robertson	5495 2497
Vice President	Kayleen Courtney	3886 9521
Secretary	Lyn Trail	5429 0487
Treasurer	Rob Murray	3888 2637
Membership Secretary	Lorraine Rolley	3285 2743
Editor	Barbara Murray	3888 2637
Plant Stewards	Len Waite, Ron Murray	5496 7795
Fund Raising	Sheryl Waite	5496 7795

STEWARDS

Catering	Deanna Robertson
Hall Set Up	Pat Robertson, John Pullin
Librarian	Beryl Brown
Official Laminator	Cris Perry
Plant Sales	Sue & Ron Murray
Popular Vote	Barrie Brown



Queensland Organics donate a bag of Organic Xtra and ECO88 for our raffle every month.

Please consider their products when purchasing for your needs. These products are among the first to be chosen each month.