

KABBROM

Caboolture & Districts Bromeliad Society

2015—August Issue

Committee Message—Urgent Notices

As those of you who were at the last meeting are aware, we have had to cancel the bus trip into Roma Street Parklands scheduled for our September meeting due to the low number of RSVPs, and the Laidley bus trip did go ahead despite falling short of our desired RSVP level. This has been extremely disappointing on a number of fronts—the Society members asked for a visit to Roma Street Parklands as well as bus trips for our 2015 calendar. A lot of work has gone on in the background on both of these fronts to organize a guided tour of the Parklands (a rare opportunity we were being given) as well as arranging the bus trips and the Society subsidizing the costs. Based on the response of members to both of these events, which had been requested, the Committee will be reviewing our options in organizing such events in future.

The other area we would like to encourage amongst the greater group of members is getting involved with helping at our various events that contribute to funding the Society. We have a core group of members who are also our growers and provide the plant material/products sold at our various events or organizing our BBQ fundraisers. Unfortunately, we are also falling short on volunteers outside of these core contributors. Every member of the Society reaps the rewards and benefits of the fundraising so please consider how you may be able to contribute, no matter in how small a way.

Christmas Party Information

When: **Saturday, December 5**

Where: **Caboolture Lakes Function Centre**

Time: **11:30am for 12MD Buffet Lunch Service**

Cost: **\$30 members, \$40 non-members**

Bookings and payments can be made at the next meeting with final numbers by the October meeting.

Merry Christmas



Secret Santa (optional) - gift value \$10-\$20

Lucky Door Prizes



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Combined Services Hall, 21
Hayes Street, Caboolture.

1:30pm start, 4th Saturday
of each month

Meeting Dates

DATE	ACTIVITY	PLANT OF THE MONTH
September 26	TBA "PHOTO ADDITION" "Ornament"	Rare Genus
October 24	Len Waite – Working with Dyckias "Voting for winner 2015"	Dyckia/Orthophytum/Puya/Hechtia/Pitcairnia
December 5	Christmas Party	



Study Group Meeting Dates

9am start. Remember to bring a plate to share along with your questions and plants. Contact details announced at the meeting before the study group.

Date	Host	Topic
17 September	Kayleen	Flowering Guzmania/Vriesea
15 October	Jeanette & Pat	Billbergia
19 November	Sheryl & Len	Christmas Party

A garden requires patient labour and attention. Plants do not grow merely to satisfy ambitions or to fulfill good intentions. They thrive because someone expended effort on them.

Liberty Hyde Bailey

Bunnings Sausage Sizzles

With a lack of volunteer numbers to staff the final sausage sizzles this year the decision was made at the last meeting to cancel the final two sausage sizzles for the year which will mean a loss of at least \$1000 from the Society fundraising.

Can everyone please put some thought into which day would be best for our sausage sizzles next year to maximize the ability of our members to assist. The options we are looking at are Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday



Photo Comp Winners



July—Group
Dual winners
Neo Cougar—Jeanette Robertson
Tillandsia wall—Rob Murray

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade.

Rudyard Kipling



Guest Speaker—Len Colgan, Collecting in Ecuador



Last month we were very fortunate to have Len Colgan regale us with tales about his trips through Ecuador. He gave us a brief overview of his first visit which was more around the high and dry areas of the Andes then a more detailed journey of his second trip, which was a circular trip around the outside, including what he called “Bromeliad Heaven” along a road on the way to Baeza.



One thing we all learnt was the 2 most common plants in Ecuador were *Guzmania monastachya* and *Tillandsia complanata*. The *T. complanata* it seems plays very well with others and has been the subject of an article written by Len where he talks about its promiscuous nature.

The photo journey Len took us on included trees covered in *Tillandsias* and *Guzmanias*, showed us the paddock where the *Tillandsia complanata* (*ionochroma* x *complanata*) was first discovered. We saw habitat pictures of *Racineas*, orchids and then Len introduced us to a rare beauty... a *Tillandsia complanata* hybrid. This beauty created another expeditions—that being to identify the other parent which was unknown at the time.

Len gave the group a chuckle when he retold the story about having to find a motel to stay in for the night after the roads/tracks leading to where they were meant to stay had been washed away by an avalanche which led them to an establishment where the fees were per hour rather than per night! We were also given an insight into how money can pave the way when Len shared with us the story about how the path to one of the best locations in Ecuador was closed by a road block with police in attendance to due a volcano eruption—Len’s friend handed over a cash incentive and they were allowed to pass through and experience this amazing location.

The end of the photo journey showed up pictures of *Heliconias* and *Aechmeas* as we saw a photo of a tree which had 5 different species growing amongst it. One of these was a *Tillandsia fendleri* with red leaves. Len attempted to bring some of these stunning specimens back home however the *fendleri* didn’t even last 24 hours after being gassed at quarantine and the *Racineas*, although they survived the quarantine gassing, died after flowering.

The final stunning beauty Len shared with us was one of the rarest—*T. fendleri* x *T. complanata*.... It was a beauty to behold.



Len talking about how high up some of the plants were during his trip through Ecuador.

Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized.

Allan Armitage



What Else Is On in 2015

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| September 19-20 | Toowoomba & Districts Bromeliad Show in conjunction with Carnival of Flowers |
| October 3-4 | CDBS Foliage Frenzy (Saturday 8am-4pm, Sunday 8am-1pm) |
| November 28 | Grange View Gardens Open Day, 9am-3pm |
| December 5 | Christmas Party |

August Study Group



August's study group was held at Ron & Sue's house with the focus being on Orthophytum & Dyckias. Sue cooked up a storm which the group enjoyed during their morning of shared learning and wandering through the Murray's wonderful property.



I grow plants for many reasons: to please my eye or to please my soul, to challenge the elements or to challenge my patience, for novelty or for nostalgia, but mostly for the joy in seeing them grow.

David Hobson

August Feature Plant—Billbergia



Talbot Evita

Len Waite walked the group through some information around how he grows his Billbergias including growing them under 50% shade cloth and how he gives the plants extra fertilizer when he wants extra pup growth. He then showed the group some of his collection.

Ron also spoke to the group about his *Vriesea elata* that he had brought in.



Talbot Darth Vader



Talbot Kolan Spirit





Laidley Bus Trip

Despite the ‘weatherman’ predicting doom and gloom for the day of our bus trip, we all boarded the bus with clear skies above and a spring in our steps eager to start our day out.

Our first stop was at Anne’s place in Glenore Grove where we were treated to a range of plants for sale and some delicious morning tea.

From here we travelled on to Barrileen Country Garden. Eileen gave us a demonstration on repotting Cliveas and spoke to us about their care and maintenance before we went and chose some beautiful Cliveas for our own gardens.

Our next stop was the Queensland National Hotel for a scrumptious lunch—I guarantee none of us walked out feeling hungry!



The final destination was Wayval Views where, despite the sprinkling of rain that decided to grace us with its presence, the group meandered through the wonderful grounds of this property admiring the work that Wayne and Valerie have put into transforming the bare landscape they started with into an award winning one.



After what was a wonderful day out, we headed towards home (I think there was even a few naps taken on the ride home)

Thanks so much to Sheryl for organizing a wonderful day out and to those members who supported and joined us on the trip.



Popular Vote Winners—August



NOVICE

Barrie Brown—Tillandsia bulbosa



INTERMEDIATE

Sue Murray—Tillandsia straminea



ADVANCED

Carol Button—Tillandsia Hydes
Silver

Committee Contact Details

OFFICERS

President	Jeanette Robertson	5495 2497
Vice President	Eaon Rolley	3285 2743
Secretary	Michael Grange	0427 428 793
Treasurer	Rob Murray	3888 2637
Membership Secretary	Lorraine Rolley	3285 2743
Editor	Jules Grange	0488 000 452
Plant Stewards	Ron Murray	5446 0230
	Len Waite	5496 7795
Fundraising	Sheryl Waite	5496 7795

STEWARDS

Catering	Jude Pullin
Hall Set-Up	Pat Robertson
Librarian	Sue Murray
Official Laminator	Cris Perry
Plant Sales	Kayleen Courtney & Carol Button
Popular Vote	Barrie Brown & Pat Pennell

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>

Frenzy Notices

Some final reminders ahead of our Frenzy next month:

- ⇒ Familiarize yourselves with the rules around selling;
- ⇒ You need to have attended 5 meetings including October '14 to qualify to sell;
- ⇒ Make sure all pots have tags as well as stickers'
- ⇒ HELP NEEDED: please consider giving some time if you are not selling plants/products at the Frenzy. We need volunteers to help in the following areas—kitchen, raffle sales, sales table and information table.

Any time you can give to support the Society is greatly appreciated.

Public Notices

- ❖ Gardening Australia have recently done some filming at Barry Kable's home. We will advise the date of broadcast once it is confirmed.

Trees and plants always look like the people they live with, somehow.

Zora Neale Hurston

Queensland Organics donate a bag of Organic Xtra and ECO88 for our raffle every month. Please consider their products when purchasing for your needs.

