



# Bromelcairns



**Bimonthly Newsletter of Cairns Bromeliad Society Inc. 2018 # 6**

*P.O. Box 28 Cairns Queensland 4870 Australia*

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**Honorary Life Member - Grace Goode O.A.M.**

**Honorary Life Member - Kay Edington**

**Life Member - Lynn Hudson**

**Life Member - Robert (Bob) Hudson**

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### **Aims of the Society**

**Promote and Develop Interest in Bromeliads through Friendship**

**To Co-operate with similar Clubs throughout the World**

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**Membership Fee: \$15 Single, \$25 Family, Country Member \$25.**

**\$7.50 junior (if not in family membership)**

**Meetings start at 1.pm sharp first Saturday of the month.**

**Please bring a cup and a chair.**

**Library:** All books & magazines borrowed are to be returned in good order to the following meeting. If not on wait list, they may be rebooked.

**Plant Display/Sales:** To participate, a member must be financial and circumstances permitting, have attended at least three meetings in the past six months.

Where the society is charged a stall fee - 20% of sales are deducted for club funds.

No charge venue & meetings - 10% of sales is deducted.

All plants to be clean, free of disease, named and price tagged.

**Show Plants:** Must be the property of and in the custody of the entrant for the past three months. For Society Shows the entrant must be financial and have attended at least three meetings during the past six months.

**Pens, Plant Tags & Pots:** available at each meeting.

**If reprinting article, wholly or in part, please acknowledge Author & Newsletter.** Any article &/or Bromelcairns will be Emailed on request to [lynnie@ledanet.com.au](mailto:lynnie@ledanet.com.au)

Previous issues are on my website [www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com](http://www.bromeliadsdownunder.wordpress.com)



## Club Activities & Around the Members

**NOVEMBER:** Another happy meeting with excellent plants to colour our day. There was a lot of talk about the Christmas Party with members looking forward to the Raffle as it includes specially purchased Tillandsias and Bromeliads.

### Mini Show: Section 1- *Sincoreaea* & *Orthophytum*

1st. *Orthophytum* 'Warren Loose' - Frances Boyd

2nd. *Orthophytum saxicola* red - Lynn Hudson

3rd. *Sincoreaea albopicta* - Aaron Smythe

*Orthophytum* 'Warren Loose' - Frances Boyd

Frances has perfected growing this plant - although there are several flowering knobs, the scape is still strong. The offsets at the base are bold and there are no broken leaves.

*Orthophytum saxicola* red - I find this small plant easy to grow as long as it is watered regularly, offsets just grow on top of each other

*Sincoreaea albopicta* - this plant has outstanding colour combinations. Aaron has introduced us to many different bromeliads.



### Mini Show: Section 2 *Dyckia*, *Hechtia*, *Dueterochonia*

1st. *Dyckia* Talbot hybrid - Aaron Smythe

2nd. *Dyckia* 'Arizona' - Lynn Hudson

[No hechtia or dueterocohnia were shown]



< A really neat plant, the white 'teeth' really stand out on the dark black/brown of the leaves

Not my best dyckia growing effort in the shape and the leaves are silver and scurfy.



### 3 Popular Vote - Bromeliad

So many beautiful plants in this section, it was hard to choose but Dave's *Aechmea chantinii* 'Black' SB Clone was a real stand out. It was perfect and at its best - even in flower!



- 1st. *Aechmea chantinii* 'Black' SB Clone - Dave Weston
- 2nd. *Guzmania* 'Therese' - Marguerite Sexton
- 3rd. *Neoregelia* 'Anna 11' - Steven French



Marguerite's *Guzmania* 'Therese' perfect and flowering - the first we have seen flower up here. Marguerite said it received liquid fertiliser when she feeds her orchids.

Steven's 'Anna 11' was also fully mature, the colour amazing. I see many neoregelias with purple/brown blotch marks and it is not just up here, I have noticed them on several Facebook sites with plants grown in Oz & overseas. They do not damage the plants, they are just blotches on both the upper and lower leaves.

Other well grown entries -  
*Neoregelia* 'Valley Bling'.  
Aaron's hybrid

*Neoregelia* 'Chunky'  
grown by Steven

*xSincoregelia*  
'Galactic Warrior' - Steven



*Sincoregelia*  
'Firecracker'  
by Lynn



*Orthophytum*  
*glabrum*  
by Paul  
Venturi



## More Popular Vote plants



### Cryptanthus

- 1st. *Cryptanthus* 'Bonnie' - Lynn Hudson
- 2nd *Cryptanthus* 'Black Mood' - Dave Weston
- 3rd. *Cryptanthus* 'Black Image' - Marguerite Sexton

*Cryptanthus* 'Bonnie'



*Cryptanthus* 'Black Mood' & 'Black Image'

*Crypt.* 'Bonnie' was given to me by Greg Oldano last year. There were many very green eyes focussed on the single plant. It is quite unusual in markings and now has 4 plants.

### Tillandsias

- 1st. *Tillandsia edithae* - Marguerite Sexton
- 2nd. *Tillandsia chiapensis* - Paul Venturi
- 3rd. *Tillandsia tenuifolia* dk fm. Lynn Hudson

Marguerite's *T. edithae* was very healthy, in spike but not yet in flower, the colours appearing soft and delicate.



*Tillandsia chiapensis*. What a beauty and it will get more beautiful as the flower bracts turn frosted pink! Well done Paul.

*Tillandsia tenuifolia* dk fm





Dave showed *capitata x fasciculata* twins

Nalda a very well grown *streptophylla*

Lynn a flowering *tectorum* with offsets forming.

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### Aaron's Handbag

At the meeting Aaron showed us his 'working in the greenhouse' bag of tricks. He said it was frustrating to get there and see a flower blooming that he intended intended to cross-pollinate and not having the tools with him.

His handbag has lots of pockets large & small that accomodate his tools. There is a pair of scissors, secateurs, a very sharp narrow bladed knife, a brush, a

screwdriver, a biro, a marking pen, a whole pocket of name tags and many zip ties. These are not only the prettiest of his handbag items, they are the really important ones - Aaron said he has colour coded the genera for convenience.

A member asked if he took it to the greenhouse every time. He replied it was so easy to just hang it on his shoulder and it kept him from not only being frustrated but also from making mistakes.

[That bit got me -> it is a shoulder bag, not a handbag! Apologies Mr. President.]

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An arrow can only be shot by pulling it backwards. So when life is dragging you back with difficulties, it means that it is going to launch you into something great. So just focus and keep aiming.

## Our Sale Day



Megan from Nuleaf suggested we had a bromeliad sale at their shop. Members agreed so we arrived with lots of lovely plants that we set out along the front of their shop.

Bob had set out the society signs to attract people who had not seen or heard our advertising. It was a perfect weather day, almost like we booked it. The 'usuals' arrived first to add to their collections and from then on it was a steady stream. Great to see Chris Young who was visiting Nuleaf for supplies. Some Nuleaf customers could not believe their eyes - maybe they thought we were having a sit in! We promoted our society and encouraged a few to join us. Thank You Megan for inviting us and getting up early for us. Yes we will do it again.

**Next SALE is at Cairns Botanic Gardens Sunday 2nd December. Gates will be open early for set up. If you do not have plants for sale you can still help & promote our society.**



### Your Show Day



After the frustrations of having our annual Bromeliad Show at the Cairns Show we have decided to have it at Cominos House in June with 'Bloomin Broms'. We are considering having it in two sections - June for Tillandsioideae and September for Bromelioideae and will have it sorted in our 2019 Programme which will be handed out on 2nd February at our AGM. Please feel free to discuss anything about this change as it does affect all of us.



### Your Society Committee



At the AGM in February all committee positions become vacant and nominations are called. Please consider assisting in the official running of your society. To offer to assist another member in their duties could be a real godsend to that officer. It is all unpaid voluntary work and sometimes the load can become too heavy.

We do not expect any member to feel they are alone - you are part of a very special group, if you need help please do not be afraid to ask. Sometimes we can be too busy to notice another person is too busy and not coping. Many hands make light work and sharing is the essence of friendship.

We are happy to hear new ideas on all aspects of our society. Any changes to our Programme will be happily considered by your committee but would need to be lodged before mid January. Change is usually growth, change is good.



# 2018 - the year that was very strange



I have tried to do this page & have lost all contents 5 times. It's weird This time I heard someone say "Just do it! There are things we cannot change". He had a big beautiful smile. It was hard for each of us to say goodbye to Brendan. He was larger than life, kindhearted, happy, generous and caring. He never said a bad word about anyone - okay, so he shook his head in disbelief sometimes - usually then he would bust laughing! We met and shared time with a really lovely person - that was the Gift. By his example he will always be with us. Bren was our 'Ruby'



**It isn't what we write, it isn't what we say  
It is how we feel deep inside as we think of You today**

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**Bloomin Broms 1 day** was excellent so we will do that again & incorporate our Show in it rather than go to the Showgrounds in July

**FB Page** Our Facebook site has been well followed and Bloomin Broms attendees from outside Cairns appreciated the ready information

**New members** - this year again we have a Junior -

**Blake Gunton** who likes tillandsias a real lot!



We also have **Tony Lawless, Leanne Turbit,** and **Kim Coppin.**

We hope you enjoy learning about your our favourite plants with us.

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**"Mr Billbergia" Don Beadle** left us on 31st October 2018. Don was always larger than life, a terrible tease, he could spin yarns with a straight earnest face and finally you would not know what was fact and what wasn't - and you didn't care as he was a master storyteller. Don could also hybridise beautiful billbergias. He saw no reason that they should be green, hence we have quality plants like Billbergia 'Hallelujah'. On one of our trips Don was selling his pottery pots, I bought some & brought them back to Oz as hand luggage. Last Saturday I picked up the pot of Orthophytum saxicola & said "Come on Don you can come to the meeting today". I had just arrived and unpacked when Aaron said 'I saw on Facebook that Don Beadle died'.

All I could say was "nooo". He was a bit shocked as he had not thought I would know Don. There must be some laughter & yarn telling going on up there!!





**2006 attendees** - Andrew Flower, Derek Butcher, Greg Aizlewood, Peter Tristram, Len Colgan, Olive & Len Trevor, Cheryl Basic, Chris Larson, Brent Cadd, Maurice Kellett, Bob Hudson, Alan Phythian. [A lot of history and knowledge in that group!]

\* Chris Larson of Victoria was the original organiser and driving force of Tillnuts events, the first being in 2000. Due to family commitments Chris has handed over to Brent Cadd who has been Chris' right hand throughout. At the beginning Brent named it Tillandsia Participation Event. Each attendee gives a short presentation on his favourite or most troubling tillandsia topic. Over the years there have always been between 10 & 15 attendees. Over all these years they have forged good friendships and communication lines while nutting out problems together. Well done Chris & Brent.

**2018 attendees** - Peter Tristram, Sturt Gibb, Brent Cadd, Bob Hudson, Chris Larson, Terry Davis, Mark Supple, Justin Lee, Don Van Cooten, Pam Butler .

(Too bad they were facing into the sun!) They have not changed much - MUCH!





2018 POPULAR VOTE, CAIRNS & MINI SHOW RESULTS



Popular Vote

NOVICE Bromeliad - Bromeliads & Logs Trophy

Cryptanthus - Grace Goode Silver Ingot Trophy

Tillandsia - Bromeliads & Logs Trophy

[The above Trophies not awarded as no novice member had three entries during the year]

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OPEN Bromeliad - 2002 WBC Florida Sundial Trophy - Steven French

Cryptanthus - Grace Goode Trophy - Lynn Hudson

Tillandsia - Bob Hudson Trophy - Marguerite Sexton

Most Points 2018 - Bob Hudson Trophy - Dave Weston

Congratulations to each of you who get to dust a Trophy for a year.

Remember your peers voted you The Best.

Total Points - Society + Cairns Show

Dave Weston 38+59=97, Lynn Hudson 59+33=92,

Marguerite Sexton 34+19=53, Steven French 27+7=34, Kelly Knight 6+15=21,

Bob Hudson 12+72=19, Frances Boyd 14+3=17, Darryl Lister 15+0=15,

Aaron Smythe 9+3=12, Paul Venturi 11+0=11, Nalda Wilson 8+2=10,

Brendan Leishman 8.

Congratulations to each member who 'had a go' & entered plants

Each Entrant is a Winner. Well Done each of you.

Points allotted in Popular Vote, Mini Shows & Cairns Show are

3 points for first, 2 for second and 1 for third = 6 total. Ties are shared as fractions



**2018**  
Champion Bromeliad  
*Tillandsia ehlersiana*  
grown by  
Marguerite Sexton  
Well done Marg,  
wot a beauty!



\* A bookseller conducting a market survey asked a woman -  
"Which book has helped you most in your life?"

The woman replied - "My husband's cheque book !!"

\* Why are many coin collection jar banks shaped like pigs?

\* Long ago, dishes and cookware in Europe were made of dense orange clay called 'pygg'. When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as 'pygg banks.' When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a container that resembled a pig. And it caught on!

\* Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfil obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

\* Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

\* One day Artie Fadden was passing an Ingham Pub and an old friend Luigi exited with a dressed duck under his arm. "Where did you get that bird Luigi?" "I get him inside there."

"Where? In the Bar or in the Kitchen?" "Yes, inna da Bar."

"How did you get it?" "Da bloke in there sella da ticket for 2 bob. I getta tickit with number, the bloke spinna da wheel and she stop at same number as me tickit." "Well" says Artie, "don't you know that's illegal!!!"

"Whata you say, Mr. Fadden? She's an eagle?" And with that he threw his prize into the gutter shouting, "The Basta in there say she's a Duck."

[Please excuse any apparent spelling irregularities. They are in place for effect, just as told by Artie Fadden, about his old Italian friend]





Don't miss out on a Blessing because it isn't packaged the way you expected.

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Nothing just happens or just gets done,  
Someone has to make it happen or do it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa, I do not want much for Christmas,  
I just want the person reading this to be happy,  
as friends are the fruitcake of Life -  
some nutty, some soaked in alcohol, some sweet -  
but mix them together and they are My Friends

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*Wishing Each of You & Yours a Safe & Happy Christmastime  
& really Great Growing, Busy, Healthy & Happy Year for 2019*





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\*fertilisers \*fungicides \*herbicides \*spraying equipment  
\*plastic pots \*orchid & squat pots \*planter bags \*plant tags  
\*potting mix \*perlite \*vermiculite \*charcoal \*orchid bark  
\*shade cloth \*poly films \*weed control mat



Everything for growing gardens

## Hudson's Bromeliads Down Under

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