



GLASSHOUSE GOUNTRY BROMELIAD SOCIETY Inc. NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 21

September - October 2011



Congratulations and a **BIG THANK YOU** must go to Belinda and Geoff Tilton for hosting the September meeting at their Glenview home. As you can see the property was presented in immaculate order. I would envisage many hours were spent preparing it for the members to come and make themselves at home. It is a disappointment more members were not able to afford the time to attend the meeting and avail themselves of the beautiful surroundings. Such was the attendance on the day that our Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers had to be postponed until our October meeting at the Mary McKillop Centre. The people who did attend Geoff and Belinda's home were treated to a wonderful afternoon wandering the property taking in the surroundings and pondering the photographs the Tilttons displayed of theirs and their families efforts over the years to develop the property into the majestic landscaping achievement it is today. **WELL DONE GEOFF AND BELINDA**



Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society would like to thank the
State Member for Glasshouse **ANDREW POWELL M.P.** for his
assistance in the printing of this publication

A Message to Members

Hello once again.

I would just like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that this Sunday is your opportunity to stand for election or nominate one of our members for election to the committee of the club.

The election was postponed last month because we failed to have enough members attend the meeting to form a quorum. It was taken into account that it was fathers day and family commitments on such a day take priority. A proposal was put forward, that in future, all our meetings for the month of September, be held on the second Sunday of the month, thus preventing a repeat of what took place this year. This matter will be raised and voted on at the meeting on Sunday.

It is also that time of the year when our membership fees are due. I would ask you to see the newly elected treasurer after the meeting.

Please remember it is YOUR club as well as ours and whatever assistance you can provide can only help with moving it forward. There are positions on the committee still available and if you think you can provide a service to members by being on the committee please put your hand up. Being on the panel doesn't pay much. There are things required of you like time and effort, but believe me it is rewarding in a funny sort of a way.

What I am trying to say is:- We are all in this club to try and better ourselves in the understanding of the Bromeliad. None of us profess to being an expert in this field and by holding these meetings we get the chance to invite learned growers to pass on their knowledge, exchange ideas & information plus we all get to share in the fellowship of something we all have in common.

See you Sunday

Bob Watkins Editor

Management Committee Officers

President: Len Waite. **Vice President:** Bob Brereton. **Secretary:** Pat Tennant. **Treasurer:** Geoff Tilton

Committee Members

Immediate past President, Media liaison & P. R. officer Bob McLean
Newsletter Editor: Bob Watkins. **Librarian:** Vanessa Pilarski. **Raffles:** Kaye Notman.
Plant of the Month: Ann Cormack. **Trip Coordinator:** Sheryl Waite.
Catering Team: Ardie Baker & Belinda Tilton.

More of the Tilton's Property



Editorial Committee : **Bob Watkins, Pat Pennell**

Any contributions can be emailed to :- bobwatkins69@yahoo.com.au

A Day out at Caboolture



John and Jenny Catlin



Neville Ryan



Stephen Flood



A Day out at Caboolture continued.

Saturday 27th August turned out to be a day to remember in more ways than one. The day started off with the news that our tireless leader Len Waite didn't want to work at the Caboolture workshop and had conveniently made himself unavailable feigning a crook ticker and got himself carted off to Caboolture hospital. The medical fraternity had a look at his symptoms and reluctantly issued him with a medical certificate for the weekend. I'm told Sheryl was none too impressed with his performance and squared up by having him kept in hospital all weekend before arranging for him to be transported to Prince Charles hospital on the Monday where further tests were conducted. To date I'm told Len has returned home under the threat from Sheryl to behave himself or she will conduct open-heart surgery on him herself. All jokes aside it's good to see you back Mate.

After such an eventful start to the day, I attended the Caboolture Bromeliad Society workshop where guest speakers John and Jenny Catlin kept us enthralled with speeches and demonstrations on Vriesea propagation, care and identification whilst Neville Ryan continued to amaze everybody with his outstanding knowledge of Tillandsias. Stephen Flood rounded the day off for us all with his in depth speech regarding how to assess water quality and the ways water quality affects your soil and garden. Then there were the plant sales, raffles, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea to work your way through.

Thank you to the Caboolture club for providing us with the opportunity to attend your workshop. I certainly came away with a bagful of newfound knowledge, some of which I have already adopted. To the members who couldn't or didn't bother to attend, You'll never know what you missed. Three (sorry Jenny) 4, walking encyclopaedias regarding bromeliads available for everyone to query and learn from in the one place at the one time. FANTASTIC.



John Catlin
sharing a joke

Contributors to this issue: Bob Watkins, Bob McLean, Pat Pennell

To get in touch phone: Pat Tennant on 54941761 or Bob Watkins on 0418 782 538

Printed with the kind assistance of Andrew Powell M. P. STATE MEMBER FOR GLASSHOUSE

What's On When



We need YOU this Sunday

2nd October 2011. at 2.00. pm.

For our Annual General Meeting

Mary McKillop Centre.
Peachester – Beerwah Rd.
Beerwah

Sat 15th October 8.00.am.- 3.00 pm. and Sun 16th October 9.00. – 2.00 pm. **BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA**

Buy direct from the growers. Wavell Heights Community Hall 175 Edinburgh Castle Road, Wavell Heights, Brisbane. SPRING SALE 2011. 500+ Varieties for sale. New releases. All display plants for sale.

Refreshments and lunch by Chermshire Guides. FREE ADMISSION.

For more information phone Nigel on 5485 3800.

AUCKLAND 2013 BROMELIAD CONFERENCE. Auckland New Zealand. Friday March 15th - Monday March

18th 2013. Register your interest now by emailing us at coolbroms@bsnz.org- just type in ' send us cool broms info' and we'll make sure you get all the latest conference news and all the 'early bird ' offers. The 'Cool Broms' bromeliad conference is being organised by the Bromeliad Society of New Zealand Inc. Auckland New Zealand.

Conference Convenor: Peter Waters, 22 Half Moon Rise, Half Moon Bay, Auckland 2012, New Zealand.

Email waterspj@ihug.co.nz

Unfortunately, due to Len Waite's ongoing health problems he has been unable to submit his contribution " LEN" S TIMELY TIPS " to this edition of our newsletter. I would ask everyone to keep him and Sheryl in your thoughts during this difficult period and should your beliefs allow you to, please take the time to say a little prayer for them both. *Thank You*



**Potting mix is still available in 25L bags for \$4.00.
Contact Lou and Ardie Baker on 54948426**



DISCLAIMER: This bi-monthly newsletter is intended to provide general information only for the members of the Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Inc. The producers and contributors will not be responsible for any loss or damage to property or injury to persons regarding the information provided.

Broms By Bob



We talked about Bromeliad Vriesea previously and I would like to visit the Vriesea genus again, this time looking at the Foliage Vriesea. The cultivar “Red Chestnut” has been bred from the Vriesea *fosteriana* which is a truly magnificent plant which is a native of the state of Espirito Santo in Brazil, and amazingly for a plant as dynamic as this, was only discovered in 1940. The native habitat is around 1000 m above sea level, which explains their relative toughness. One of the numerous hybrids which has been made from these plants, includes the cultivar ‘Red Chestnut’ pictured. This superb plant has much redder banding than the rest of the species.

Vrieseas grow under various light conditions but moderate light would be the best for most species available for cultivation. This together with good air circulation, are necessary to grow these plants successfully. It is believed that air movement with Vriesea cannot be overemphasised as the secret to growing healthy plants.

This photo shows a family of species grown for their this plant population is far shade, light and airflow has for these plants. In order to simple method outlined in indication of shadow and



bromeliads with Vrieseas of various foliage and their flower. The density of from acceptable although the balance of provided a very suitable environment determine the amount of light, the the next paragraph will at least give an light.

Hold your hand about 30 cm above the surface you have selected to position the plants and see what shadow is produced. This should be done on a bright, sunny day at about noon.

Bright Light will produce a very well defined shadow showing a clean outline of your hand.

Moderate Light produces a good shadow but with fizzy or hazy outline.

Low Light will produce an indistinct shadow and possibly no outline at all.

We will continue to expand on the growing conditions for this genus next time.

Bob McLean



Vriesea “Red Chestnut” grown in full sun



Vriesea “Red Chestnut” grown in shade