



GLASSHOUSE GOUNTRY
BROMELIAD SOCIETY Inc.
NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 22

November – December 2011



Merry Christmas and



A Happy New Year

Well it has been an interesting year for the club with all that has happened.

To everybody that opened their homes and gardens for us to hold our monthly meetings, Thank you for the time and effort you put into making us feel at home.

To everyone that have been and are currently on our working committee, Thank you too.

There are also a number of members who don't seek a title but work quietly behind the scenes to get all the little ongoing tasks done and kept upto date, we haven't forgotten your efforts.

When we reflect on the past year, the number of things that the Glass House Bromeliad Society members have been involved in is quite astounding. Bus Trips, Open Gardens, The Sustainability and Garden Expo at Beerwah and our monthly meetings at the Mary McKillop Centre have all made the year roll along quite fast.

I would also like to thank the guest speakers that have visited our little gatherings each month and helped us to further our understanding of the beautiful, colourful and sometimes mysterious bromeliad family.

Please enjoy the festive season with your friends and families. Endeavour not to eat or drink too much and I hope Santa is kind to you all.

See You All in February at Ardie and Lou Baker's

Just to let everybody know Len Waite has had his surgery and is home recuperating. He and Sheryl send their thanks to everybody for their kind wishes and hope to catch up with you all at the Christmas party.



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

Presidents Message



My, hasn't this year gone fast. Christmas will nearly be with us.

The club has had a few problems this year but we all look forward to a bigger and brighter 2012. Guest speakers will be interesting and we will be listening to member's comments and concerns.

Please encourage old members and new friends to come along to our meetings and enjoy fellowship, our outings to member's gardens and other club garden Expos.

Our Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 4th December at the Landsborough Hotel. Time 12 for 12.30pm start. Cost will be \$16 per person (pay on the day), and buy your own drinks. The club will be providing the three lucky door prizes, so make sure that you get your ticket when you register on arrival. Please let Margaret McLean know that you are coming and any special dietary needs.

Thank you to those members who have offered their services this year. We cannot do this without your help. Please remember that we are all volunteers and we do our best.

Our first meeting in 2012 will be on Sunday 5th February at Ardie and Lou's Baker's home. There will be a Board meeting at 1pm followed by a Member meeting at 2pm. Don't forget Pup Swaps, Plant Sales, Plant of the Month and something for the raffle.

On behalf of David and myself, I would like to wish you and your families all the best this Christmas and if travelling, please be safe.

Karen Binstead

President 2011 - 2012

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

Management Committee Officers

President: Karen Binstead **Vice President:** Mark Pearce. **Secretary:** Margaret McLean. **Treasurer:** Ardie Baker

Committee Members

Immediate Past President Len Waite. **Media liaison & P. R. Officer** Bob McLean
Newsletter Editor: Bob Watkins. **Librarian:** James Drake. **Raffles:** Kaye Notman.
Plant of the Month: Ann Cormack. **Trip Coordinator:** Sheryl Waite. Pat Pennell (interim)
Catering Team: Ardie Baker & Belinda Tilton.

Plant of the Month-October

ADVANCED

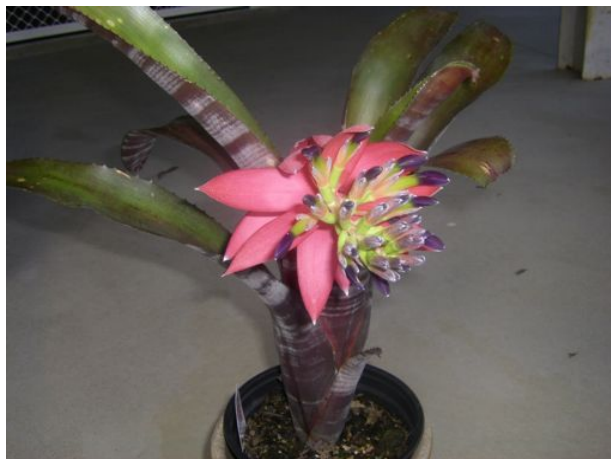


1ST Margaret McLean's Vriesea Red Chestnut



2nd Bob McLean's Vriesea Kiwi Cream

NOVICE



1ST Bob Watkins' Billbergia Muriel Waterman



2nd Pat Pennell's Vriesea Speckles



3rd Ann Cormack's Neoregelia Remember Me

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

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

Plant of the Month- November

ADVANCED



1st Bob McLean's Vriesea Pyjamas



2nd Lou Baker's Neoregelia Amazing Grace

NOVICE



1st Vanessa Palarski's
Tillandsia deppera sp



2nd Ardie Baker's Neoregelia Proud Beauty



3rd Pat Pennell's Vriesea Fenestralis

Broms By Bob



When you drive around our beautiful Glasshouse Country you can see fields of Bromeliad *Ananas cosmosus* more commonly known as Pineapples.

This plant was discovered by the Spanish explorers being cultivated by the Indian population on the island of Guadaloupe in the West Indies. Columbus brought the plant back to the Spanish Court where it soon became very popular. From there it rapidly spread throughout the more tropical parts of the world during the early sixteenth century.

The pineapple now has numerous hybrids that have been produced to suit the market needs. The more ornamental bromeliad *Ananas* also has several hybrid plants with the photos telling their own story.

This little variety, often called *Ananas nanus*, is sometimes available as plants, but can also be purchased from florists who use the cute little pineapples in flower arrangements. The top of these can be grown on, like the commercial variety.

The foliage of the *Ananas* is what I call a very angry plant with its long strappy leaves edged with sharp spines 5 to 10 mm long.

They are not a friendly plant to work with, but do have a place if you require a secure perimeter for your property. The hooklike barbs will dig in and break off. The very showy fruit will provide a powerful feature in your garden.



- 1 Flower/fruit at five weeks after flower set
- 2 Plants in mass fruit set at two weeks
- 3 Fruit set with flowers at three weeks
- 4 Small purple flowers progress up the fruit flowers & last two days. Fruit at four weeks.



To get in touch phone: Margaret McLean on 54969601 or Bob Watkins on 0418 782 538

What's On When



Ho Ho Ho

**Don't forget our Christmas Party
at the Landsborough Hotel
on Sunday 4th December 2011 at
12.00.midday for 12.30. sitdown**

Menu: Main Course: Crumbed fish, chips & salad **OR** Roast pork & turkey with veggies.
Dessert: Cheesecake.

Cost: \$18 per head payable to Ardie on the day before lunch.

No Secret Santa or raffle this year just come along and enjoy the fun.

3 Lucky Door Prizes.

Please help to set the mood and dress to suit the festive season

The Hotel will be decorating the tables with chrissy decorations



**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.