



# GLASSHOUSE GOUNTRY BROMELIAD SOCIETY Inc. NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 5 ISSUE 27

August - September 2012

Our August meeting was held at the Maleny Botanic Gardens where our group spent the afternoon wandering the pathways and enjoying their surroundings before partaking in afternoon tea in the rotunda.

Most members agreed whilst the establishment is still being developed it was a pleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon and it will be interesting to revisit the gardens at a later date when they have had time to fully develop.



**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



October 2012

Hello everyone,

The October meeting was held at Ardie and Lou Baker's beautiful garden. It was disappointing that so many members were unable to attend. The members who did, enjoyed the various areas of Ardie and Lou's garden and to see the lovely colours and aspects of bromeliad growing that this garden affords. Thanks to Bob Watkins for showing us how to split bromeliads including the prickly Dyckias. With a bit of help from me we were able to give all of the pups away.

As you will see in this newsletter, a motion will be put at the November meeting to repeal all of the by-laws and to add instead some guidance notes. The by-laws have been amended several times in the past few years but with no writing up of any of the amended versions. The reason for the repeal of the by-laws is to make our society operate more easily with less rules and regulations.

Have fun with your bromeliads,

Pat

President



## ***Norm Bailey. Gone but not forgotten.***

On behalf of the Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society I would like to pass our condolences on to the family and friends of Norm who passed away recently after a short illness with cancer, Norm was a founding member of the club and spent many years as our president before he moved to northern New South Wales

One fond memory I have of Norm is when I first became a member I asked him a couple of times for the name of a particular bromeliad. Not being a stickler for names, his usual reply was either "Biting Bastard" or "Pink Tips." I learnt very quickly to research it myself or ask one of the other members but it didn't stop me from asking just to get a laugh.

REST IN PEACE old mate. *Editor*

### Management Committee Officers

**President:** Pat Pennell **Vice President:** Len Waite. **Secretary:** Keith Pennell. **Treasurer:** Ardie Baker  
**Newsletter Editor:** Bob Watkins

### Committee Members

**Immediate Past President:** Karen Binstead. **Media liaison, P. R. Officer** Bob Watkins & Bob McLean  
**Librarian:** James Drake. **Raffles:** Kaye Notman. **Plant of the Month Organiser:** Margaret McLean.  
**Guest Speaker & Trip Coordinator:** To Be Announced. **Catering:** Belinda Tilton. **Plant Steward:** Len Waite

# Our September Meeting

September saw our annual general meeting take place at the Mary MacKillop Centre. All committee positions were declared vacant and Patricia Pennell was elected unopposed as President after Karen Binstead indicated before the meeting that she would not be renominating for the position.

Len Waite was voted into the position of Vice President

Ardie Baker was returned to the position of Treasurer.

The position of Secretary was not filled at the meeting and Margaret McLean offered to fill the role on a temporary basis until someone volunteered to fill the role. Keith Pennell accepted the position at a later date.

Bob Watkins was returned the position of Newsletter Editor unopposed and also adopted the roles of Media liaison and P. R. Officer to be assisted and schooled by Bob McLean where needed.

Karen Binstead now fills the role of Immediate Past President

James Drake remains our Librarian. Kaye Notman again volunteered to run the raffles. Belinda Tilton put her hand up to organise the catering and Margaret McLean became our Plant of the Month Steward. Len Waite volunteered to fill the Plant Steward vacancy  
The positions of Trip Coordinator & Guest Speaker Organiser remain vacant.

Because there was not a nomination for the position of Plant Sales Supervisor it was decided by the Executive the role would be done on a rotational roster at each meeting.

To the people that have retired from the committee for varying reasons, THANK YOU for your guidance, time and dedication whilst fulfilling your role.

To the new members of the committee, Welcome.

To the people that have been re-elected, we're glad you are still here.



# Advanced Plant of the Month - September



1st: Sheryl Waite's Tillandsia Deppeana



2nd: Len Waite's Neoregelia Yang

## Bromeliad Photograph of the Month - September



Margaret Watkins' Aechmea Bert

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

Any contributions can be emailed to :- [bobwatkins69@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bobwatkins69@yahoo.com.au)

# Novice Plant of the Month - September

1st: Bob Watkins' Neoregelia Tom Menthellos

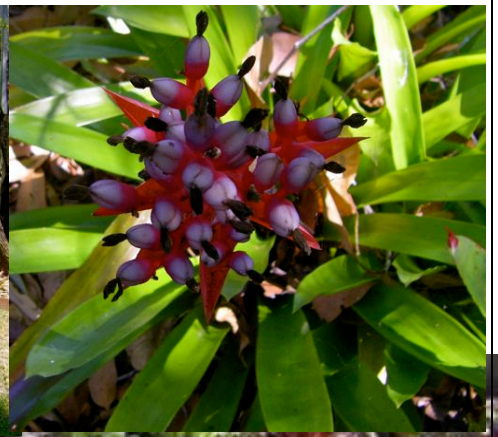


2nd: Pat Pennell's Vriesea Tiger Tim

## Back to the Baker's

Lou and Ardie Baker were our gracious hosts for the October meeting and once again provided members with an outstanding environment to share an afternoon of fellowship. Whilst the number of members that attended were down, a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Thank you both. The pictures below go someway toward showing the dedication you bestow on your surrounds



GLASSHOUSE COUNTRY BROMELIAD SOCIETY Inc.

### **BY-LAWS - GUIDANCE NOTES**

#### **Proposal:**

To repeal the existing By-Laws and issue a set of Guidance Notes.

#### **Reason:**

In October 2006 a collection of By-Laws was enacted. These By-Laws covered items such as the administration of the society, finance, displays, competition and shows, tips for displaying plants, trips and library. Some of these items are still relevant to the operation and enjoyment of membership but some are not relevant anymore and some even stifle our ways of conducting ourselves. Over the past few years some attempts have been made to amend the by-laws and according to the minutes of previous meetings some of the changes have been voted upon. There is no record of any re-typing of the by-laws to bring them up to date. Some of the current bylaws contradict the Rules [which are based on the government's model rules] and are therefore invalid. The proposition is therefore to repeal all of the current and amended by-laws and in their place, provide a set of guidance notes that can be reviewed and changed at any future time by the management committee or the members at a general meeting.

#### **Guidance Notes:**

The draft of the proposed guidance notes follow, and are divided into the headings of administration, meetings, and library. These guidance notes can be added to or amended by the management committee or at the request of members at a general meeting.

#### **Administration:**

- The management committee will comprise the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Newsletter Editor. Each member of the management committee must be members of the society.
- Annual membership fees are set at \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Fees are due by the date of the annual general meeting. If a member has not paid their membership fees by the end of the year their membership will cease.

#### **General Meetings:**

- General meetings [except the annual general meetings] will have a minimal amount of business in its agenda. Business will be handled by the Management Committee and the President will give a brief report on the previous meeting of the management committee.
- Where possible a "popular plant" competition will be held at each general meeting. The competition will have two sections for advanced and novice members with a maximum of two plants per member. First, second and third places will be awarded at each competition with three, two and one point respectively. The member having the highest total of points in each section will be awarded a prize at the end of each year. The member who wins the annual novice competition will automatically be in the advanced section in the following year.
- Member's plant sales may take place and will attract a 10% commission to the society. The bromeliad plants must be clean and free of disease. This requirement will also apply to the "popular plant" competitions.

#### **Library:**

- The library is an important and valuable part of the society and members are encouraged to use it by borrowing books, newsletters etc. These books, newsletters etc are available at meetings held in the Mary McKillop Centre and must be returned by the next meeting at the Centre.

*To get in touch phone:* Keith Pennell on 54387375 or Bob Watkins on 0418 782 538

## Advanced Plant of the Month - October



1st: Lou Baker's Neoregelia Jaws

## Novice Plant of the Month - October



1st: Ardie Baker's Neoregelia Pink Shadow

# What's On When

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012** Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Inc.  
monthly meeting.

Mary McKillop Centre Beerwah- Peachester Rd. Beerwah 2.00.pm.

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 8-4 & 4<sup>th</sup> November 9-3** *Bromeliad Bonanza* Brisbane Table Tennis Centre 86 Green Terrace Windsor.  
Entry \$4

## **Bromeliad Society of Victoria Inc. Annual Bromeliad Show 2012**

**Saturday 10 November 2012 – 9:00am to 5:00pm Sunday 11 November 2012 – 9:00am to 4:00pm**

**Phoenix Park Community Centre Rob Roy Road Chadstone Victoria Melway map ref: 69 D2**

**Spectacular display of Bromeliads. Demonstrations on removing bromeliad offsets, dividing clumps and mounting bromeliad plants. Huge range of Bromeliad plants for sale**

**Admission \$3 For further information Contact Bruce Lee 9726 6126**



- **Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society Christmas Party**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2012 at 12.00 noon

@ the Glasshouse Mountains Look Out.



More details will be made available at the November meeting.

A form will be available at the November meeting on which members are asked to indicate if they will be attending and what plate of food they can provide for the festivities. Whilst the occasion will be b.y.o. drinks the Club will provide prawns and meat for the function



*Contributors to this issue: Bob McLean. Bob Watkins*

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The bromeliads in the garden at this time of the year have such a wide range of flowering plants. Vriesea are mainly epiphytes and occur in moist, shaded conditions in nature. They usually occur in environments similar to those prevailing in the moist subtropics. Vrieseas have "tanks" formed by their central leaves. These tanks store water that helps the plant to meet their moisture requirements. Many Vrieseas are grown for their inflorescences rather than their foliage. These are categorised as green-leaved Vrieseas (These group is best grown in 115 to 140 mm containers).

Those grown primarily for their attractively marked leaves are often described as foliage Vriesea (These plants are best grown in 140 to 200 mm containers). These *Vrieseas* are mainly epiphytes, so good drainage is essential. These plants require an open mixture, which drains freely and dries out quickly. Avoid any materials that decomposes quickly; this can affect good drainage and thereby damage delicate root growth.

Generally, Vriesea are medium-sized plants. However, they can vary in size from about 150mm diameter. They have smooth- usually soft and flexible, foliage that is relatively firm and in shades of green from very light They can be spotted, blotched or



The spike of the inflorescence flowers. It is mostly erect, but semi-pendant types. The green, purple, red, or yellow and months.

to approximately 1.5 meters in edged, green leaves, which are although a few species have less pliable. The leaves can come to extremely dark, almost black. barred.

has green, yellow, or white some species have pendant or brilliantly coloured bracts are retain their colour for many

One of the most difficult things for growers when you start off, you will collect plant from all sorts of places with or without a name. As you become addicted to collecting bromeliads and you need to know the name of the species and this is when the detective work can really start. This can be a challenge as we have found with the plant displayed. The closest plant we can find to this is *Vriesea firecracker*, (pictured above) but it was too attractive a specimen not to share with you. The spike have been out for about four weeks & the flowers have started to open, the display will be in full bloom in about another two weeks and will be on display until well after Christmas.

The Glasshouse Country Bromeliad Society is now a contributor to Bromeliad Society of Australia web site, [www.bromeliad.org.au](http://www.bromeliad.org.au) you can visit the Club News tab to view the regular newsletters from around the country. You can also visit the Photo Index, where you can look at the Genera and then go to the Species to view plant photos. You can now do your own research while enjoying the beauty of these plants.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at Mary MacKillop Centre 160 Peachester Rd Beerwah on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 2.00 pm. Please bring a your own cup for afternoon tea, everything else will be provided.

For more information contact

President Pat Pennell: 5438 7375

Secretary Keith Pennell: 5438 7375



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

