

B.S.S.A. QUARTERLY

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The Bromeliad Society of South Australia Inc

Born 1977 and still offsetting!'

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: Len Colgan, Adam Bodzioch,

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Web site: <http://www.bromeliad.org.au>

Cultivar Register <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/bcr/index.php>

List for species names <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/bcg/taxonList.php>

<http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/brom-l/> altern site <http://imperialis.com.br/>

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Pots, Labels & Hangers - Small quantities available all meetings.

For special orders/ larger quantities call Ron Masters on 83514876



(Photo "Reflections" creative design by Cathy)

Time: 2.00pm. Second Sunday of each month. Exceptions –2021

3rd Sunday in May & September- or unless advised otherwise (see dates below). No meeting in December

VISITORS & NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

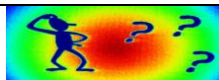


MEETING & SALES 2021 DATES SUBJECT TO COVID-19 DIRECTIONS

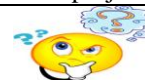
AGM: Broms in the garden & Creative display, 14/3/2021, Summer brag –any brom.26/3/2021 sales setup, 27/3/2021 Sales, 28/3/2021 Sales, 11/4/2021 Workshop: Display Tillandsia, 16/5/2021(3rd Sunday) Topic & Display Billbergia. 13/6/2021 Guest speaker (TBA) Display Pricklies, 11/7/2021 Xmas in July, Kris Kringle, 8/8/2021, Winter brag .Display Any Brom. 19/9/2021(3rd Sunday) Clones & seed batches, Display any brom in flower. 10/10/2021, Topic & Display: Aechmea. 22/10/2021 sales setup, 23/10/2021 Sales, 24/10/2021 Sales, 14/11/2021 (Break-up: No display or raffle 1200 start Committee, 130PM start main meeting, Pup/plant exchange, Special Afternoon tea – bring a plate of finger food to share, Auction

Applications for membership always welcome – Subs \$15 single \$25 Dual NOW DUE

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WHY THE CHANGE!



Over the past decades Derek & Margaret have been the Editor, Assistant Editor then Roving reporter providing the majority of content firstly in our monthly Gazettes which then changed to 3 monthly publications.

It is impossible to as they say “fill their shoes” so we now need to choose our shoes (albeit much smaller!) & walk in them as a result change is inevitable also necessary due to there being limited access to the more technical aspects of growing especially for S.A. conditions & correctly naming bromeliads.

Their knowledge, encouragement, generosity & support is unsurpassed (well known throughout Australia and indeed the bromeliad groups worldwide) and greatly appreciated. (Refer to article ‘Get to know our BSSA members page 10)

To facilitate this change a survey was circulated at our Feb meeting seeking ideas for an alternative publication name, also canvas suggestions for articles of interest to our members.

This overview has suggested the name as BSSA Quarterly (12 Yes & 1 No) BSSA magazine (10 Yes & 4 No). Various other options were not as popular.

As for content the majority of participants chose multiple options which included: Growing info: General garden hints: Interviews: Meeting info: Garden group events.

Other comments:- “Life’s a brom garden” as the title for interviews or “Member of the month” to incorporate a summary of collection, length of time growing broms, include photos of collection & favourite plant, growing tips, potting mix etc :Videos of specific beautiful gardens to show at meetings,: Information for new growers, :Committee decisions :Recycling options – plastic garden bags (Potting soil/bark etc)

These are very helpful submissions and will be where practical included however your assistance is needed in providing the relevant information.

Reminder: Have you been thinking about that article that you are going to write for our “Quarterly”?

PLEASE STOP ‘thinking’ and start DOING! Bev

NEW INITIATIVES



ADDITIONAL MONTHLY TROPHY “GIVE IT A GO”

Any member who hasn’t (seldom or rarely) entered plants for display at our monthly meetings are encouraged to bring in some of their bromeliads and share what they have achieved. Members will vote on those displayed that are relevant to the plant of the month.



ALSO

BUYING BROMELIADS



Several of our members have broms for sale at their homes which can be arranged by appointment.

There will be a Master Register along with contact detail slips on our Notice board at most meetings.

If you would like to be included on this list or wish to make contact with a seller please check board or see Bev.





Julie Reports for Jan 2021

The first meeting of 2021 was well attended despite outside temperatures soaring towards a maximum of 37 degrees. Adam provided an informative presentation on the topic of 'Intergenerics' which included the tongue-tying new names we must become familiar with in this category. Adam had previously given a presentation on Bi-generics at our Society's National Bromeliad Conference in 2009 and noted that what was then (as just one example), xNeophytum 'Galactic Warrior', is now xSincoregelia 'Galactic Warrior'. Parentage is not listed but, according to the Bromeliads in Australia* website, it is a sport of 'Ralph Davis' - parentage Orthophytum (now Sincoraea) *navioides* x Neoregelia 'Meyendorffii'.



xSincoregelia 'Firecracker'

A smaller version on display, xSincoregelia 'Firecracker', also has Sincoraea *navioides* as one of the parents

Most popular plant of the month

The plant with the greatest number of stars awarded for the most popular intergeneric was the well grown and aptly named xNeomea 'Shooting Star' displayed by Ron and Bev and with the (thankfully) straightforward parentage of Neoregelia *johannis* and Aechmea *recurvata* var. *benrathii*.



xNeomea 'Shooting Star'

Coming a close second was Cathy's group of xBiltanthus 'Red Burst' mounted on a large log. This was previously xCryptbergia 'Red Burst' – but why the seed and pollen parent is now in reverse order only became apparent when coming across an old article of Derek's. This can be found by following the link in the Bromeliads in Australia website which (stay with me!) says 'under ICBN (International Code of Botanical Nomenclature) Rules, the first validly-published new bigeneric genus name must be accepted'. It was found that 'Biltanthus' had been around since 1947 but seemingly didn't come to the attention of the BSI until 'Derek the Hybrid Detective' became interested.

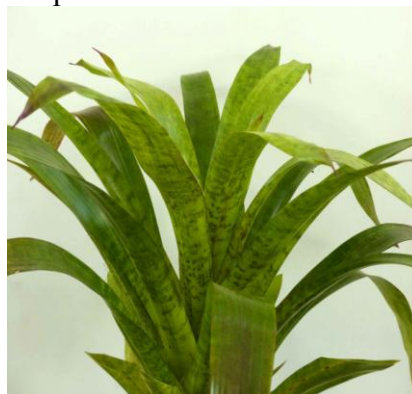


xBiltanthus 'Red Burst'

There were two xVriesgoudaea 'Supernatural' plants with one differing slightly in that it had a suggestion of albo-marginate leaves and was thought to be a sport of the true 'Supernatural'.



xVriesgoudaea 'Supernatural'



xVriesgoudaea 'Supernatural'

Kallam and Bill led the discussion on some of the general plants on display with Sarka's recently flowered *Canistrum triangulare* attracting compliments. Some *Tillandsia*'s of interest were *T. deppeana* and *T. cajamarcensis*, both large plants, and both in flower. Also in flower were two pots of *Guzmania monostachia* and an *Aechmea tessmannii*. The Bromeliads in Australia website (well worth a look, especially for *Tillandsia* growers) notes *T. cajamarcensis*, collected by Mick Romanowski, was at one time diagnosed as *TV. Harmsiana* and 'is still in some collections in Australia under this name'.

It had once again been a very worthwhile afternoon with a wide range of interesting plants on the tables to prompt discussion and information sharing amongst members. * bromeliads.org.au



Canistrum triangulare



Aechmea tessmannii



T. cajamarcensis



T. deppeana

STORM DAMAGE

I lost a tree...a very large Cedar tree, I have 3 large gum trees as well. The Cedar shaded most of the eastern side of the house including the back of the driveway, the back of my house and garage, the fishpond and across the path to the western side where it shaded a garden area planted with ferns. In most of these areas I had Bromeliads planted in the ground as well as in pots among the ferns. Also several large clumping Broms in pots along the garden/drive all loving the dappled shade. Quite a lot of billbergias and Achmeas growing in the ground, or should I say the leaf mulch from all of the trees...we all know about climate change/global warming but how much do we really think about it...Amazonian rainforest for mines...Asian forests for palm oil...Californian bushfires and then there's all that we lost last year...all of it horrible! I think a lot more about it now...the back of my house is in full sun making my family room so hot I don't go in there when the sun is on it. The fish pond is in full sun and instead of a top up once every 7-10days it is now 3 times a week and the fish are sheltering under the the lily pads. The fern garden that was shaded is now full of brown crispy dead ferns. The Bromeliads...most of them are gone, either crushed when the S.E.S. came to make the house safe or burnt...no I couldn't move them as it was too dangerous to go anywhere near them. I am forever watering what is left...and this has been a cool summer. I now have to rethink my planting...full sun instead of cool shade...all because... I lost a tree.

Penny Seekamp



Hint: Nov 85 from BSNZ 1985 Bulletin

Many of the older collectors have found this hint excellent so we pass it on to the newer members and hope they have success with it.

If you have a small offset that doesn't seem able to root in any kind of medium, choose a *Neoregelia* mature plant and pop that pup into the centre so that the base of it is just touching the water in the plant. In a very short time roots will appear and you can plant it.



NB: I'm not old, just had toooo many birthdays!!

A FAIRY TALE OF A BROMEL ROMANCE (by Dawn Holdcroft taken from Bromletter Nov/Dec1983)

'Nalli' met 'Bert' at the 'Royal Wine' tasting evening and 'Rubens' viewing. They fell in love and he gave her a 'Platinum' ring with a 'Little Gem' set in it. They later married, having 'Catherine Willson', 'Muriel Waterman', 'Elvinia Slosson', 'Charles Webb', 'Clyde Wasley' and 'Theodore L. Mead' to name a few witness to the happy event. Off to 'Santa Barbara' they went for their honeymoon, to 'frolic' in the 'Magic Light' and enjoy 'Green Ice' and 'Cherry Sundae', followed by 'Café au Lait' and to sit in the 'Sunset' with 'Happy Thoughts'.

BSSA 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS
ALL POSITIONS WERE DECLARED VACANT: PETER NELSON CONVENER
EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT : Adam Bodzioch VICE PRESIDENT: Keith Bradtberg

SECRETARY: Bev Masters ASSISTANT SECRETARY: To be nominated by Committee

TREASURER: Annette Bellman ASSISTANT TREASURER: To be nominated by Committee

AUDITOR: TBA

COMMITTEE:

Penny Seekamp, Sue Skrabei , Jeff Hollinshead, Pam Nelson, Jessie Schinella, Betty Nayda, & Marie Dalitz (New)

All Executive & Committee nominations were accepted.

POSTAL CLERK: Bev Masters

LIBRARIAN: Penny Seekamp,

AFTERNOON TEA ORGANISER: Bev Masters

AFTERNOON TEA HELPERS: helpers on the day

RAFFLE TABLES COORDINATOR: Bill Treloar

DOOR TICKETS: Peter Nelson /helpers on the day

RAFFLE TICKETS: Peter Nelson/helpers on the day

HOST: Bill Treloar,

POTS & LABELS: Ron Masters

NAME TAG MAKER: Ron and Bev Masters

GAZETTE: Roving reporter: Julie

EDITORS: Bev Masters

FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATOR'S: Adam Bodzioch, Ian Cook, Kallam Sharman, Betty Nayda

Exercise query: Is jumping to conclusions, skipping breakfast & running a bath sufficient exercise.?



Julie Reports on Feb meeting

Members of some organisations stay well away from an Annual General Meeting for fear of being persuaded to take on extra tasks. Not so at our club because we have a ready, willing, and very able committee who are mostly prepared to be re-elected with only the occasional tweak to fill a gap. As we have come to expect, this AGM went quickly and smoothly ahead of a full agenda for the afternoon.



'Creative Display' topic of the month. 'Mother'

We were again treated to one of Cathy Robinson's masterpieces winning the 'Creative Display' topic of the month. 'Mother' was based on a stump of dead rosemary bush and 'child' another found piece of wood. On these bases the forms grew with sphagnum moss and various Bromeliads including a couple of Chester Skotak variegated hybrids resulting in imaginative and well-proportioned pieces.

A new initiative at this meeting was to award a 'Have a Go' trophy to a club member who had not previously won a popular choice award. This was won by Betty Nayda with a gold framed Bromeliad 'picture' created with mini Neoregelias which, with the longevity of the piece in mind, were inserted into pockets of soil tucked into wooden mounts.



'Picture' created with mini Neoregelias

The more traditional form of displaying bromeliads, and Tillandsias in particular, was represented with Tillandsias mounted on wood of various shapes and sizes. It appears we have many members with an artistic flair who enjoy creating something that reflects their individual talents and we all enjoy seeing the results. Of the few general plants on display, Adam's *T. tectorum* giant form from Ecuador, grown in a medium of bark with a little added fertiliser was particularly impressive.

A pot of the large carcharodon type *Neoregelia*, 'Samford Dark Tiger' was another attractive plant on display. *T. 'Curly Slim'* was interesting because it had apparently been growing upside down (who knew).



Neoregelia, 'Samford Dark Tiger'

In answer to previous requests for information about growing Bromeliads in the garden, Bev gave a Power Point demonstration which encouraged discussion of soil types, protection from the weather etc, in conjunction with photos of some member's successful garden plantings. Helpful hints were readily shared by those members.

Linked to that, Sue spoke about (and displayed) some of the hardy mini *Neoregelias* she is acclimatising in readiness for planting in full sun. This is essential preparation along with an awareness of individual garden environments and micro climates which also play a big part in the success or otherwise of 'full sun' growing in South Australia.



Broms Growing in the Garden – Dave and Julie

These are planted in sandy soil under established deciduous trees where dappled shade provides protection against our fierce summer sun and then good light during winter. The downside is leaf litter which is flushed or flicked out once the fall is over.

The soil is light/sandy and, for the Broms, there is fierce competition with the roots of the trees so a little compost and fertiliser is added when planting them out. (Light bulb moment – this is probably yummy for the trees too adding to root competition!)



The Bromeliads do remarkably well with little attention apart from some watering with the sprinkler in summer and in general do better than those grown in pots. Some leaves at the outer edges of the plot may display slight scorching during extremely hot weather when they are hit with late afternoon sun. Hardy *Aechmeas*, such as *pineliana* and the small *recurvata ortgiesii* and 'Suave', along with a *Neoregelia*'s 'Macho' and 'Monstrosus' get full morning sun with no ill effect. It should be noted that this garden bed is surrounded by lawn which lowers the temperature in summer.

It will be clear from the photo that this is not a 'show' area, more of a set and forget space to put the overflow Broms or old mothers who usually produce more pups once settled.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR



- ✓ Festival of Flowers 24/4/2021 & 25/4/2021 (see article page 9)
- ✓ Clare Autumn Festival 17/4/2021(workshops) & 18/4/2021(Sales)
- ✓ Masters builders & Home show. Showgrounds 30/4/2021-2/5/2021
- ✓ Enfield Horticultural Soc Autumn show 8/5/2021 (12-4PM) 9/5/2021 (10AM-4PM)
- ✓ GCA Rally "Remarkable Renmark" on the 2/10/2021 & 3/10/2021
- ✓ BSSA Sales extravaganza 23/10/2021 & 24/10/2021

'My Father was a Queenslander' by Lee

My Father was a Queenslander, (the person, not the house!!) As teenagers we went to visit relatives in Brisbane and it was my great joy to explore the hinterland parks such as Lamington Plateau, Mt Tamborine as well as a local swimming centre brimming with giant staghorns, palms, ferns and other epiphytes. I was hooked then as now, on anything epiphytic. I built a shade house in our Seacliff backyard and collected fallen branches to which I attached elks and stags, ferns, and the like. BUT in those days' bromeliads were not to be seen. I was a founding member of the Bonsai society and when I got my first car, I'd spend the weekends going around to various nurseries in search of abandoned pot bound trees to turn into bonsai. One day I discovered a nursery on Marion Rd with glasshouses, one of which had quite a few bromeliads; and of course, I had to have some. The owner was very miserable and would not sell, saying how rare they were.

Eventually I did get a few, mostly Bilbergias and Aechmeas (caudata I think). In 1975 I purchased a large block of land on the edge of the Sturt Gorge Recreation Park which was treeless as it had been a grazing farmland. That was the time when Australian native plants were all the rage, so I planted 'small' eucalyptus (some of which are now massive!!!!) and by the time I built the house and not having a shade house, I put my plants into various shady spots. As the trees grew and a friend gave us his big collection of potted palms which I planted out as an understory, the beginnings of a rainforest-like environment was evolving. We soon added tree ferns, stags and elks, orchids, and anything we could find in the Classified columns of Saturday's Advertiser. As a Christmas present one year an elderly friend gave us a dozen or so bromeliads the like of which I had never seen. Somehow, she found out about and got herself to Derek and Margaret's and chose a stunning selection. As the 'forest' had now developed, I put them into the ground by leaving some in buried pots and others scraping a hole in the very heavy 'soil' and backfilling with brom mix. I was always careful to make the hole 'slope' so that excess water would drain away and not sit in the clay soil basin. They did so well that I joined the Bromeliad Society and as you all know I purchased as many as I could carry. The upshot is that we don't have a greenhouse and as the garden itself was looking great and having various microclimates, (if its 45C on the road at the top of the block, it drops to about 32 once you step into the driveway – don't mention the water bill), the bromeliads are in the main, flourishing.



The environments range widely in that there are some deep shade spots with Guzmania and other 'soft leaved' broms and in the sunnier spots the giant Alcantareas, Bilbergias, and Neoregelias flourish. Of all the broms I think amongst my favorites are patterned leaved Vrieseas which I had understood to be fragile and demanding. We do have a lathe roof stretching from the car port on a higher level to the house under which ferns and shade lovers grow, and I put the vrieseas there in quite deep shade and they are looking excellent. Some years ago, I did put several vrieseas into the much more open garden and they are getting almost full sun for a few hours each summer afternoon (the block looks north with hills to the east and west) and they are particularly strong, happy and with very clean foliage and high colour.



In the winter most of the forest understory gets a good exposure to full sun but in summer it's dappled shade from gum trees with some spots getting unscreened rays directly. There are some larger growing Neos in full sun all day and last summer (but not this) some leaf / colour fading occurred, but the Alcantareas love it. We also have 2 large fishponds with many waterfalls running down the hill and with large landscape rocks around. There were pockets of dreadful soil between rocks, so we put in some small stoloniferous neos and they are now climbing over bare rocks in full sun. I guess the waterfalls nearby are contributing to their survival as I always seem to forget to water them.

We do have Tillandsias hanging from palm trunks although the birds steal any 'Spanish Moss'. Many years ago, we planted some tough tree ferns which grew magnificently, reaching about 3 M in height. About 3 years ago I could not keep them thriving due, I am sure, to atmospheric and sub soil drying. I even ran automatic drippers up the trunks to no avail. I had intentions of attaching some broms to the trunks. We have left the dead trunks (using them as guideposts to back the car down the steep drive) but I will not be attaching any to the trunks now in this era of climate change. Watering is a bit hit and miss. I usually put a 'rain wave' type sprinkler on and move it around the garden and this seems to work really well. We have had very few losses. Of course, when we were up in Cairns, I could not resist trying a couple known to be cold intolerant..... and you know the rest.

The upshot is that we love the broms in a ‘forest’ setting and rarely take pups off except for Christmas pup exchange, occasional raffle table, and moving plants to new areas. We do have our ‘best’ broms in pots to give them a bit more TLC but I have to say showing or displaying is not my thing at all. I guess the garden is pretty much full until I succumb to yet another

Woodcroft garden group presentation

We enjoyed doing a presentation to the Woodcroft garden group recently which was arranged at short notice as it was their 1st meeting back after a lengthy covid break. There were about 25 in attendance that appeared to benefit from the PowerPoint presentation that included growing info & many photos of bromeliads grown here in SA.

Ron did a brief demonstration on dividing a neo and Bev on a group of Tillandsia as the usual workshop is not practical at this stage do to restrictions.

There were many questions and Betty explained the double potting technique they so successfully use in their garden.

We are appreciate the support from Betty & John, definitely the extra hands made lighter work. *Bev*



A view of the display (Photo: Betty)



Julie reports March

March 2021 BSSA Meeting

Originally the idea of introducing Summer and Winter ‘brags’ was to highlight those plants which had survived the extremes of South Australian conditions during those seasons. This year gardeners generally have been lucky with a summer of the occasional heat spike but with no extended heat-waves – ideal for our collections as was apparent from the healthy display plants.

‘Most popular plant’



Neoregelia ‘Voodoo Doll’

Betty and John won the trophy for the most popular plant with *Neoregelia* ‘Voodoo Doll’, a deeply coloured plant with good conformation. A check on the BCR shows that *N.* ‘Voodoo Doll’ is registered as a Grant Groves hybrid but the picture doesn’t really match the one grown by some of us here in SA.

‘Have a Go’ winner

Narelle’s ‘Have a Go’ winner, *Neoregelia* ‘Lorena Lector’, had all the cultural attributes required of this Bromeliad and for those who would like a refresher the parents are *Neoregelia* ‘Lorena’ x ‘Hannibal Lector’. A positive aspect of our club is the willingness of members to become involved in discussions led by Adam.



Neoregelia ‘Lorena Lector’

One plant that raised a query was labelled *Hohenbergia membranostrobilis* with that name jogging some memories. The following is reprinted from Derek's article in the BSSA 2017 Gazette Vol.41 No1*

Talking of labels how long would take you to write *Hohenbergia membranostrobilis* with correct spelling and then to find out it is the wrong name! It has a pretty flower but is not easy to grow which was why I was surprised to see it growing in Adelaide.

I first came across the name in 1995 growing in Queensland but it did not agree with the description. 12 years later I got a clue from Germany and its correct name is *Aechmea disjuncta*. It does pay to persevere!

So Mike, you now have a user-friendly name to write on your label!

The lovely pot of multiple *Neoregelia* 'Sam Smith' brought in by Sue prompted a Q & A session on the merits of different shade-cloth depending on the needs of different genera. Both beautiful form and vibrant colour were the result of growing this pot hard in high light under 70% beige shade-cloth.



Neoregelia 'Sam Smith'



Aechmea correia-araujo



Vriesea erythrodactylon

Aechmea correia-araujo made a re-appearance after some years – it was a popular plant 10-15 years ago and it is easy to see why. A striking plant, particularly the black and green banding, which is again in general plant 'fashion'.

Vriesea erythrodactylon, is worth a mention not only because of its impressive flower spike but also because a few members thought it differed from the *Vr. erythrodactylon* some had grown in the past. This was said to be the 'true' one and that is confirmed by a check on the FCBS website.

Good to see the delicate little *Catopsis morreniana* in spike too. Unusually, no-one brought in mounted Tillandsias to this meeting. Saving them for our Show in a fortnight perhaps.

* Past Gazettes found in the Bromeliad Society of SA website

Festival of Flowers

Festival of Flowers

St Paul's College
792 Grand Junction Road Gilles Plains

Sat April 24th 10am-4pm
Sun April 25th noon-4pm

African Violets- Ferns
Bromeliads- Fuschias
Begonias - Geraniums
Cacti & Succulents
Cottage Plants - Salvia
Carnivorous Plants - Orchids

\$3.00 Entry Fee

PLANT SALES & SUPPLIES
POTTING DEMONSTRATIONS
MONSTER KAFFLE
DEVONSHIRE LEA
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

This event is held on the 24th (10AM-3PM) and 25th (noon – 3PM) of April at St Paul's College, 792 Grand Junction Road, Gilles Plains and planning is well underway within Covid safe requirements . Mark the date in your diary as our members are needed to make the event successful.

Apart from plant sales there are many jobs for which you can volunteer – selling raffle tickets at the entrance foyer, helping in the kitchen, assisting wherever needed and importantly selling bromeliads and giving growing advice then on Sunday packing up and cleaning at the end of the show.

There will be a Roster at the March & April meetings also the Festival of Flowers volunteer badge will be available at our April meeting .This must be worn when setting up, during the event & when cleaning up.

Please wear your BSSA name badge as well.

If you are unable to spare time to volunteer do come & enjoy the 'festival of flowers' Thank you in anticipation of you support. Bev

FOOD FOR THOUGHT,

Age is strictly a case of mind over matter, if you don't mind it doesn't matter!



Derek and Margaret are our original members, joining at the first General Meeting of the BSSA on 3/4/77 and playing an active part in the club in various roles. Both have led discussion on topics of the day, presented illustrated talks, and generously participated in all aspects of club activities.

Derek began giving talks at meetings in November 1977 when he spoke on 'pronunciations'. Other topics to follow included plant husbandry, tillandsias, nomenclature, a report on the first National Conference, genera distinction, plant names etc., always 'with a little good humour with intelligent discussion'. He was also a speaker at Australasian conferences such as the 2003 NZ conference where he spoke on the role of the Bromeliad Cultivar Register, and the World Bromeliad Conference/s in 1992 (Australian hybrids) and 1996 at Orlando and Brisbane in 1993. Derek was elected treasurer 1981, then Secretary from 1982 – 2010, combining these duties with that of editor of the Gazette, writing not only for this newsletter but contributing many articles for interstate and overseas club's magazines. * see also list of publications

Margaret joined him at the 'top' desk as assistant secretary from 1996 to 2010 after giving valuable service on the committee (from 1989), note-taking at meetings for the 'roving reporter', judging at shows and providing members and the public with a reliable source of information regarding plant culture and identification, particularly *Neoregelias*, *Billbergias*, and *Vrieseas*.

The Butcher's garden was open to other members on organised club visits - a popular event during the 1980's - and to Gardening Australia for a 'tillandsia tour' (1991).

Harry Luther honoured Derek by naming *Puya butcheriana* after him – the first bromeliad species to be named after an Australian - and in 2012 he received the Wally Berg Award for Excellence in recognition of his expertise in the taxonomy of bromeliads in general and the cultivation of tillandsias in particular.

Both were invited to the Singapore Botanic Gardens in 2001 to help in correctly identifying and labelling a large shipment of Bromeliads from America that had been donated to the gardens.

Over the years Derek has freely given of his time and expertise by collating and sharing a huge amount of bromeliaceae data electronically. Derek has also Compiled 'The Amateur Guide to the Greyish Leaved Tillandsioideae' (1991) Now in WWW Bromeliad Society Website <http://botu07.bio.uu.nl/brom-1/> 'Key to the Genera of Bromeliaceae' printed in the May/Jun 2000 issue of the BSI Journal. Now in WWW Bromeliad Web site, Articles on the internet <http://www.bromeliad.org.au/> under the title 'The Hybrid detective' from 2005. Glossary of Terms . Now in WWW Bromeliad Society Website. 'Bromeliaceae and its Eight Sub-Families' Now in WWW Bromeliad Society Website. 'Diaphoranthema Tillandsias' – listing on fcbs but not updated. Checklist of Australian Bromeliad Hybrids' 1983. 5th edition and last 1997. 'New Bromeliad Taxon List' in conjunction with Eric Gouda. Maintains the most comprehensive list of Bromeliad genera names, changes and synonyms on the Bromeliario Imperialis website <http://imperialis.com.br/> . Involved in submitting descriptions and photographs of approx. 250 bromeliads for inclusion in the ABC Gardening Book 'Flora' in 2003.2000 appointed to the position of Cultivar Registrar for the Bromeliad Society International Helped put the BCR on the fcbs.org website. An international authority on the complexities of plant ID Derek has been involved in the authentication and promotion of true species, particularly *Neoregelias*. One of the principal writers of the BSSA booklet 'Bromeliad Culture in SA' 2008 Honorary Trustee of Bromeliad Society International . Produced a Booklet on Names and synonyms with Jeannie Hall (out of print but now on WWW web site.

Update

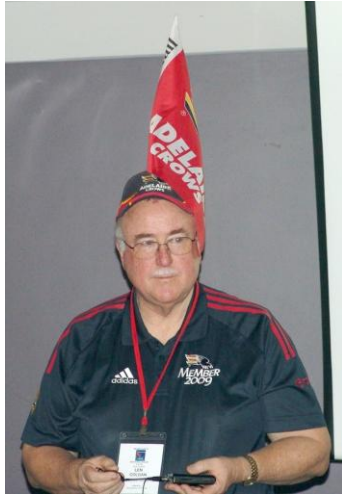
Since Derek and Margaret stepped down from their previously active involvement in the club we have missed them along with their wealth of knowledge that was generously shared over many years.

Both are adept at recognising older species and cultivars that have continued to be grown to the present time although on occasion came with misspelt, incorrect, or missing labels which needed some detective work to correct. Derek and Margaret worked together in compiling articles on the plants under discussion at meetings, and provided members with accepted sources of information to answer the many questions that invariably arose. Regarding Tillandsias in particular, Derek's expertise in this field meant that many growers of the genera sought his opinion on correct identification. Rarely was a quick answer forthcoming – rather the suggestion to 'Key it out' which meant consulting his 'Key to the Genera of Bromeliaceae' and 'Glossary of Bromeliaceae terms'. Most will remember being told that a search resulting in a successful ID would result in a 'warm fuzzy feeling'! Perhaps it did, but it was also clear that much was learned by this process which was, of course, the object of the exercise.

Get to know our BSSA members cont:

Len Colgan -Life Member 2011

(Copied from “The History of Bromeliad Society of South Australia 1977 – 2017”



Len at conference

President 1988 - 2010

1984 donated several plants to the society

June 1985 spoke on grey leafed tillandsias – informative – brought in a large number of the plants in his collection.

March 1986 – on committee

May '86 attended the World Bromeliad Conference in New Orleans, later gave talk at our club meeting

May 1986 talk and video on specific plants in Grace Goode's garden.

April 1988 talk and slides on his trip from Cusco to Salta, South America

1992 Orlando Conference and talk/slides at our club meeting

1993 Trip to Bolivia

Talk in 1996 re: broms seen on recent trip to Europe.

1998 talk on visit to England, Belgium, Germany and California earlier that year

1999 talk on his trip to Europe in July and meetings with Lotte Hromadnik, Renate Ehlers, Walter Til, Eric Gouda etc.

2002 talk on trip to Germany to acquire tillandsias

2004 Trip to Bolivia and later talk to club.

Chief Organiser and Master of Ceremonies at 'Bromadelaide 2009'

Spoke on 'Tillandsias of Bolivia' at the Darwin 16th Australasian Bromeliad Conference 2011 following his visits to Bolivia in 1993 and 2004.

Authority on tillandsias (*T. colganii* named by Renate Ehlers after Len.) but also on wide ranging technical aspects of bromeliad genera. His career as Mathematics Professor meant he was confident in speaking and explaining the most complicated of subjects and was known for his amusing antidotes.

1996 and 2001 – club visits to Len's garden

Adam Bodzioch-Life Member 2014



Adam with certificate

Adam has been a member of the Bromeliad Society of South Australia for over 30 years and served as Vice President for 20 years before being elected President in 2011, a position he still holds today. He was conferred Life Membership in 2014 in recognition of his contributions to the Society.

He has provided presentations to numerous Australasian Conferences on a variety of topics. He was appointed International Director (Australia) to Bromeliad Society International in 2012 and served as a member of the Board for 9 years and was elected as the Inaugural Chair, Australasian Bromeliad Council in 2015.

Adam became infatuated with bromeliads after a short interest in cacti. In fact, Adam saw his first bromeliads when intending to look at the Cactus Society's display at the Royal Adelaide Show in the mid 1980's. Right next to that display was one set up by the Bromeliad Society of South Australia and it was here that Adam became hooked on bromeliads. It wasn't long before he was building his collection of bromeliads starting with an *Aechmea fasciata*.

Not only were the various shapes, colours and forms compelling to him but they offered the opportunity to try something challenging in getting the bromeliads to grow successfully in Adelaide's trying conditions. His embracing of challenging roles and tasks while holding senior positions in the South Australia Public Service was consistent with his work ethic. In particular, he held very senior positions in the Courts Administration Authority (including as Registrar of the Supreme Court), and in the Dept of the Premier and Cabinet.

Adam has always maintained that his interest in bromeliads provided him with a mechanism to 'switch off' from the pressures of work. These wonderful plants never argued with him and allowed him to re-charge his batteries when necessary.

Adam has collected plants from most genera and has switched his preferences from time to time. Currently, he is most in to *Neoregelias*, patterned *Vrieseas* and *Tillandsias* although he still admires the beautiful *Guzmanias*.

Get to know our BSSA members cont:

Bill Treloar- Life member 2016

(Copied from "The History of Bromeliad Society of South Australia 1977 – 2017")



Adam congratulating Bill

Treasurer 2002 - 2011

Garden visit April 1991, bus trip to Bute 1997 and 2 during more recent years.

By 1996 involved in assisting at club functions – librarian, raffle tickets etc

Makes the approximately 260 km return trip from Bute to the meetings. Describes the difficulties in growing broms in harsher climate than the Adelaide plains

Treasurer, librarian, auctioneer, raffle prize sorter, registrar of judges, speaker on display plants – many times stepping in at short notice.

Generous with knowledge, seeds, plants and encouragement. Set up a Bromeliad Nursery at Bute, Gives talks on bromeliads to local plant groups and is the founder of the York Peninsula Study Group.

BSSA LIBRARY

To those members who wish to borrow books from the library and are not quite sure what to do, here's how! Make sure that you have a card with your name on it, new cards are in the box at the back. Please keep in alphabetical order. Select your book and take the tag from the pocket in the book. The pockets are located either on the cover or just inside the cover of the book.

A few of the periodicals have the pocket inside the back cover. When you return the book just take the tag out of your card and put it back into the book and the book back into the library.

Enjoy & see Penny with any queries etc. *Bev*



Thank you & all the best

Rose & Jack having moved into a retirement unit which has very limited garden space decided that they will not continue their membership after nearly 10 years.

Their happy disposition brightened our meetings especially Jack stirring our President keeping him on his toes (so to speak).

Thank you for your enthusiasm and support over the years, your bromaholic friends wish you both all the very best. *Bev*



A past snippet

23/7/2004 BSSA Secretary and minute Secretary put forward the case that Tills grow well in South Australia, someone did remark that if people can look like their pets why shouldn't they look like their plants especially T. usneoides

Hans & Derek's photo taken in Peter Hall's garden during a garden visit.



Research project plants –bring in again April meeting

There were a range of plants in this project that were bought in for January 2020 meeting and discussed by the members nurturing them sharing the different growing conditions etc. Please bring them in again including pups and share the 'ups & down' during the contrasting seasons as its well over the 12 month update. *Bev*

Next BSSA Quarterly-April, May & June 21

In our next issue there will be the overview of the March sales extravaganza weekend, the winners of the BSSA Annual Trophies, 'Get to know our BSSA members' cont: & bromaholic news etc. *Bev*

