



# ***BROMELETTER***

***THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF  
THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY  
OF AUSTRALIA INC.***

***bromeliad.org.au***



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**Vol 57 No 4- July/August 2019.**



*Photo by Ian Hook*

**July 13 - Meeting - speaker: Community Gardens**

**AUGUST 10 - MINI SHOW Sat 9 – 3**

**Talks by PETER TRISTRAM**

**Federation Pavilion Castle Hill Showgrounds**

**Please bring a box for your purchases**

**Material for Bromeletter - address to: [editor@bromeliad.org.au](mailto:editor@bromeliad.org.au)**

**All other correspondence to:**

**The Secretary, Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc.,  
P.O. Box 340, RYDE NSW 2112.**

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### COMMITTEE 2019

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Member	John Noonan	02 9627 5704

### BROMELIAD SOCIETIES AFFILIATED WITH THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

- Bromeliad Society of Victoria.  
The Secretary, P.O. Box 101, Darling. Vic. 3145
- Caboolture & Districts Brom. Society Inc.,  
The Secretary, P.O. Box 748, Caboolture Qld. 4510.
- Cairns Bromeliad Society Inc .  
The Secretary, P.O. Box 28, Cairns. Qld. 4870
- Gold Coast Succulent & Brom. Society  
The Secretary, P.O. Box 452, Helensvale Plaza Qld. 4212.
- The Hunter Bromeliad Society Inc.,  
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- Townsville Bromeliad Study Group,  
C/- Barb Davies, 5 Sharp St, MT LOUISA. Qld 4814.
- NT Bromeliad Society Inc  
C/- Ross Hutton, PO Box 36283, Winnellie. NT 0821
- Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society Inc  
C/- Sue Loughran, [sueloughran1@bigpond.com](mailto:sueloughran1@bigpond.com)

*Photo Front Cover  
Portea Peteropolitana var  
extensa, Alma Park Zoo,  
Brisbane. Ian Hook*

### Life Members:

**Grace Goode O.A.M**  
**Ruby Ryde**  
**Bill Morris**  
**Ron Farrugia**  
**Graham McFarlane**  
**Ian Hook**

### OFFICE BEARERS

Book Sales & Librarian	Ian Hook
Member Secretary & Purchasing Officer	Kerry McNicol
Catering	Helga Nitschke; Volunteers
Raffle Sales	Peter Fitzgerald
Plants, Pots, Labels etc Sales	Ron Farrugia
Plant of the Month / Show Registrar	Terence Davis
Show Co-ordinator/s	Ian Hook / Terence Davis
Show Display	Joy Clark
Publicity Officer	Di Tulloch

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Alan Mathew gave the following details

#### **Operating Account to April 1, 2019:**

Opening cash at bank	\$ 9 483.64
Income:	911.91
Expenses	<u>2 208.41</u>

#### **Bank Statement as at April 30, 2019:**

**\$ 8 157.14**

#### **Operating Account to May 1 2019**

Opening cash at bank	\$ 8 157.14
Income:	20 485.18
Expenses	<u>12 882.36</u>

#### **Closing cash at bank May 31, 2019**

**\$ 15 759.96**

### WEBSITES

Bromeliads in Australia <http://bromeliad.org.au>

Encyc of Bromeliads <http://encyclopedia.florapix.nl/>

BSI Cultivar Register <http://registry.bsi.org/>

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies <http://fcb.org/>

Bromeliario Imperialis <http://imperialia.com.br/>

*Facebook users: search for the group 'Planet Bromeliad' & associated 'Planets & Moons' sub-groups for Bromeliad Enthusiasts.*



# REMINDER

*Don't forget  
a mug*



**July 13th - Speaker, 'Community Gardens'**

**10th AUGUST MINI -SHOW** Sat 9 -3.Federation Pavilion

TALKS & RAFFLES 10.30, 12.00, 1.30 (approx.)

**PETER TRISTRAM** will supply many plants as well as

give three short information sessions

***BRING A BOX FOR YOUR PURCHASES***

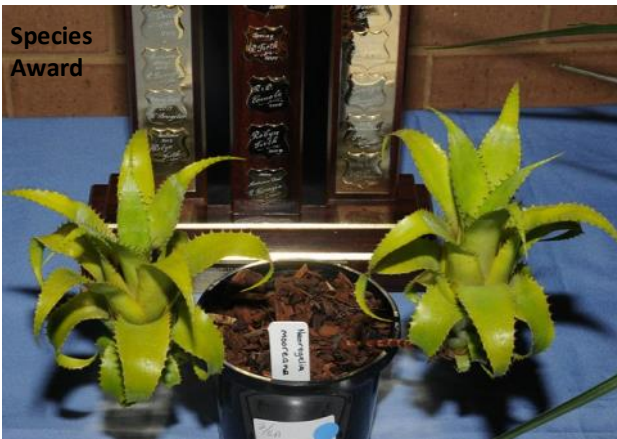
# Autumn Show May 2019



Grand Champion



Reserve Champion



Species Award

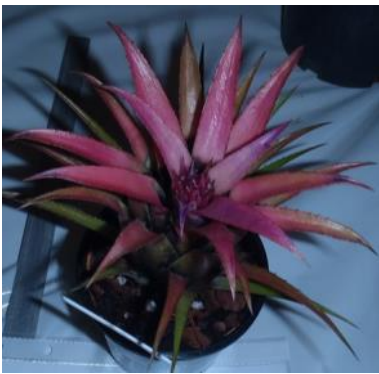


Novice Champion



Cert. of Commendation

From top left, clockwise:  
*Tillandsia tectorum* - Carolyn Bunnell  
*Tillandsia 'Tropifloraa'*- Harold Kuan  
*Quesnelia 'Tim Plowman'*- Sari Kilpinen-Hughes  
 Part of 'Wall Display' - Joy Clark  
*Neoregelia mooreana* - Kerry McNicol



Clockwise from top left: Ae. 'Fatso' (1st prize);  
Ae. 'Fatso' (3rd prize);  
Bill. 'Pink Champagne';  
Bill. 'Kip';  
Bill. 'Golden Joy';  
Ae. 'Xavante'; Bill. 'Moon Tiger'; Bill. 'Bubblz'

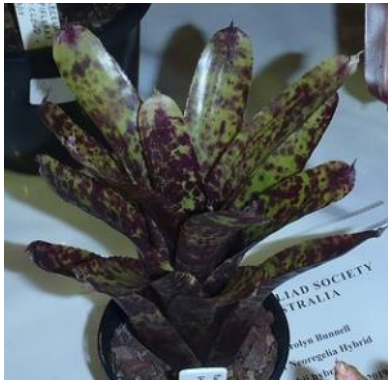


Clockwise from top left:  
*Bill. 'Deliciosa'*;  
*Crypt. Bivittatus*;  
*Neo. mooreana*  
*Neo. 'Marie'*  
*Neo. 'Shamrock'*  
*Neo. guttata*



*Crypt'*  
 Marian Oppenheimer



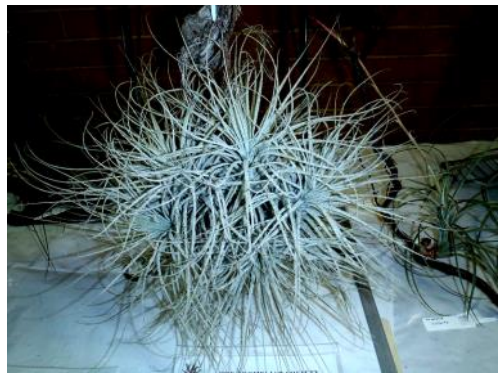


Clockwise from top left:

*Neo* 'Aurora'; *Tillandsia duratii* var *saxitilus*; *Neo*. 'Bullis' Margaret';  
*Neo*. 'Big O'; *Canistropsis seidelii*  
 var *welteri*;

*Nid*. 'Ruby Lee' variegated;  
*Canistropsis billbergiodes* 'Tutti  
 Frutti';  
*Neo*. *smithii* hybrid.

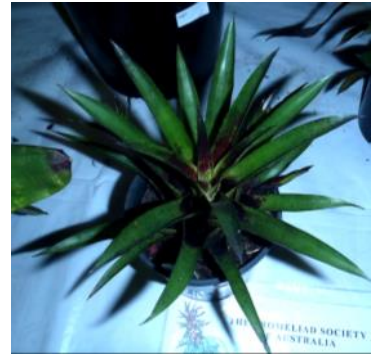




Clockwise from top left:  
*Till capillaris*

*Till. Tectorum*  
(2nd)  
*Vriesea 'Forrest'*

*Vriesea lubbersii*



*Neo. 'Harpo'*  
*Neo. 'Blushing Zebra'*  
*Vriesea racinae*

*Till. Tectorum*  
(3rd)







Clockwise from top left:

*Neo. 'Enchantment' variegated*

*Quesnelia 'Tim Plowman' (1st)*

*Canistrum triangulare*

*Quesnelia 'Tim Plowman' (3rd)*

*xSincoregelia 'Andromeda'*

*xNeolarium 'Something Special'*

*Deuteroconhonia brevifolia*

*Dyckia 'Red Planet'*





Clockwise from top left:  
*Sincorea ophiuroides*;

'Autumn Fantasy';  
Neo. 'Little Black'  
Neo 'Lucifer'

'For Autumn'

'Shining Light'

### Autumn Show Roundup

Once again we have had a most successful autumn Show! Thanks to the great Competition plants, wall display and sales plants, everyone was kept busy for the duration of the two days, but none of it would be possible without the tireless volunteers working both on the floor and behind the scenes! Those who helped set-up; walked the floor to help visitors; manned the sales counter; sorted and collated sales tags for payment of sellers; organized snacks, meals and general refreshments for the workers; manned the pot/book sales table and raffles; carrying boxes to customers' cars and quite a few 'incidental' jobs as were needed to be done.

*Thank You All !*

## *Quesnelia* 'Tim Plowman' & 'Rafael Oliveira'

Adapted from 'Bromeliad', Journal of the Brom Soc of NZ Jan 2014/March 2015

These plants are both *cultivars* of the species *Quesnelia marmorata*, one of the most popular early cultivated bromeliads, with its tubular shape and highly 'marmorated' or 'mottled markings'. Until around 1965 it was known as *Aechmea marmorata* until learned people decided it fitted into the genus *Quesnelia*, because of its flower.

The curly cultivar, *Quesnelia* 'Tim Plowman' was collected from the wild in the 1970s in the Rio de Janeiro state. It is differentiated solely by the recurved leaf tips of each sheath, making it a very striking feature plant, especially in a col-



ony. It is surprisingly easy to grow in filtered bright light to full morning sun year round (if your 'curls' droop, you may need to be a bit tougher, giving it more light and less water and/or fertiliser). It grows well as an epiphyte on chunky bark, scoria or rocks, where it can gain a firm foothold. A single plant potted or mounted in early spring with slow release fertiliser. This pushes the plant to send out pups in the warmer months. Once a good clump is well established, cut back on the fertiliser.

*Quesnelia* 'Rafael Oliveira' is a variegated clone of *Quesnelia* 'Tim Plowman'.

This form was wild collected in 1995 by Rafael Oliveira de Faria in Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil. This plant grows similarly to 'Tim Plowman' but a little slower due to the lesser amount of chlorophyll in the leaves.

Again, water and fertiliser should be used carefully with these *quesnelias* as too much can cause the leaves to lose their 'curl' and look washed out diminishing their marmoration.

Both of these cultivars are highly prized and sought after, but are becoming more accessible in Australia.

## Autumn Show Results

### Pot of Aechmea

1st	'Fatsø'	Harold Kuan
2nd	'Xavante	Ian Hook
3rd	'Fatsø'	Carolyn Bunnell

### Billbergia Specimen

1st	"Pink Champagne"	Phillip La
2nd	'Kip'	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	'Golden Joy;	Phillip La

### Billbergia Colony

1st	'Moon Tiger'	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	'Bubblz'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes
3rd	'Deliciosa'	Phillip La

### Pot of Cryptanthus

1st	<i>bivittatus</i>	Ian Hook
2nd	'Marian Oppenheimer'	Helga Nitschke

### Neoregelia Species

1st	<i>mooreana</i>	Kerry McNicol
2nd	'Marie'	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	<i>guttata</i>	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes

### Miniature Neoregelia

1st	'Small Fry'	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	'Shamrock'	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	'Aurora'	Carolyn Bunnell

### Pot of Neoregelia Hybrid

1st	'Bullis' Margaret'	Kerry McNicol
2nd	'smithii hybrid	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	'Big O'	Kerry McNicol

### Nidularium / Canistropsis

1st	<i>Can. seidelii var welteri</i>	Kerry McNicol
2nd	<i>Can. Billbergiodes</i> 'Turi Fruiti'	Ian Hook
3rd	<i>Nid.</i> 'Ruby Lee' variegated	Ian Hook

### Tillandsia Specimen

1st	<i>tectorum</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	'Tropiflora'	Harold Kuan
3rd	<i>duratii var saxitilis</i>	Kerry McNicol

### Tillandsia Colony

1st	<i>capillaris</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>tectorum</i>	Werner Raff
3rd	<i>tectorum</i>	David Scott

### Vriesea

1st	'Forest'	Helga Nitschke
2nd	<i>lubbersii</i>	Ian Hook
3rd	<i>racinae</i>	Harold Kuan

### Foliage/variegated Bromeliad

1st	<i>Neo</i> 'Blushing Zebra'	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Neo.</i> 'Harpo'	Phillip La
3rd	<i>Neo.</i> 'Enchantment' variegated	Phillip La

### Pot of Other Genera

1st	<i>Ques.</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Elizabeth Mudriczki
2nd	<i>Canistrum triangulare</i>	Kerry McNicol
3rd	<i>Ques.</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Helga Nitschke
1st	<i>xSincoregelia</i> 'Andromeda'	Kerry McNicol
2nd	<i>xNeolarium</i> 'Something Special'	Ian Hook

### Terrestrial Bromeliad

1st	<i>Deuterocohonia brevifolia</i>	Elizabeth Mudriczki
2nd	<i>Sincorea ophiuroides</i>	Doug Binns
3rd	<i>Dyckia</i> 'Red Planet'	Ian Hook

### Artistic Arrangement

1st	'Autumn fantasy'	Janet Kuan
2nd	'Shining Light'	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	'for Autumn'	Christine Johnson

### Novice

1st	<i>Ques.</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes
2nd	<i>Neo.</i> 'Little Black'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes
3rd	<i>Neo.</i> 'Lucifer'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes

### Grand Champion

<i>Tillandsia tectorum</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
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### Reserve Champion

<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Tropiflora'	Harold Kuan
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### Species Award

<i>Neoregelia mooreana</i>	Kerry McNicol
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### Novice Champion

<i>Quesnelia</i> 'Tim Plowman'	Sari Kilpinen-Hughes
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### Certificate of Commendation

Venue Wall Display	Joy Clark
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**Plant of the Month Competition June 2019**

**Open Choice.**

- |     |                                  |                     |
|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1st | <i>Neoregelia 'Garnish'</i>      | Elizabeth Mudriczki |
| 2nd | <i>Tillandsia 'Erik the Red'</i> | George Hardy        |

**Judge's & Members'**

**Novice**

**Judge's Choice**

- |     |                             |              |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1st | <i>Cryptanthus bahianus</i> | Ian Hook     |
| 2nd | <i>Neoregelia 'Garnish'</i> | Pamela Munro |
| 3rd | <i>Tillandsia crocata</i>   |              |
|     | 'Rutschman's Orange'        | Julie Evans  |

**Novice**

**Members' Choice**

- |     |                             |              |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1st | <i>Tillandsia crocata</i>   |              |
|     | 'Rutschman's Orange'        | Julie Evans  |
| 2nd | <i>Neoregelia 'Garnish'</i> | Pamela Munro |
| 3rd | <i>Cryptanthus bahianus</i> | Ian Hook     |



**Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition**

- |     |         |                 |
|-----|---------|-----------------|
| 1st | 'Wests' | Carolyn Bunnell |
|-----|---------|-----------------|



Top: *Neo.* 'Garnish' Open  
 Middle: *Till.* 'Erik the Red;  
 Below: *Neo.* 'Garnish' Novice  
 Below left: *Till.* 'Rutschman's Orange'  
 Middle Left: *Cryptanthus bahianus*  
 Far left: 'Wests' Carolyn Bunnell



June meeting hosted a talk about **Lesser Known Genera** by the President Ian Hook

One of those genera was **PORTEA** (Ref: *Bromeliaceae Vol LII 2018*)

Most collections in Australia have at least one species of *Portea* and many have more. There are eight species in the genus (*Taxon list 2018*), four or five can be found relatively easily throughout Australia.

The genus is indigenous along the Atlantic coast of Brazil. First plants were discovered as early as 1826, but it wasn't till 1856 K.Kock, named the genus.

*Portea* mainly grow terrestrially in full sun on rocks or sandy formations along the coast (in habitat). They tend to be robust, medium to large size with broad stiff leaves with **large sharp spines**. In Australia they prefer a well-lit to part shade position rather than full sun. Higher humidity keeps them in good condition.

*Portea alatisepala* grows well in shade or filtered sun-developing a red tinge in more sun. The hot pink inflorescence stands erect above the plant with displaying its blue flower petals.



*Portea kermesina* originally classified as an Aechmea. This plant is somewhat cold-sensitive and needs dappled light. A medium sized plant with leaves forming a loose open rosette. The inflorescence is club-shaped with vivid carmine bracts and light blue flowers.

*Portea nana* (below) is the smallest of the genus closely related to *P. kermesina* differing in its stoloniferous habit and smaller size. It comes from a mountainous region 500-600m, growing higher in the tallest branches and subject to dense fog. Leaves are yellow/green with spines along the edges.

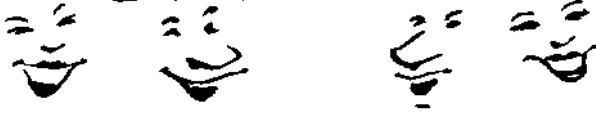


*Portea peteropolitiana var extensa*: first collected as a large clump growing on roots in a mangrove swamp. Similar to *P. peteropolitiana* (not shown), it has longer more open inflorescence, growing to a metre with narrow pale yellowish, green leaves. These leaves are less rigid with smaller spines than other *Portea*. The spectacular inflorescence adds a meter to the plant, giving a changing display from petals to berries for at least 9-12 months.



Ian Hook

# Meet some new faces!



We continue to attract new members into the Society and would like to welcome our most recent enthusiasts:

## Gabriella Ruzek and Destry Sloane

If you would like to become a Member, please see details below.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION:** Renewal is due **1st January** for membership year January to December.

<b>Annual Membership (Single/Family):</b>	<b>Australia</b>	<b>A\$25</b>
<b>Overseas Membership:</b>	<b>Asia/Pacific Zone</b>	<b>A\$40.</b>
	<b>Rest of the World</b>	<b>A\$45.</b>

New Membership requires a \$5 joining fee, plus Annual Subscription. (Those joining after our spring Show are covered for the following year.)

Note: Un-financial members must add \$5 rejoining fee when re-applying for membership.

Members will become 'un-financial' if renewals have not been received by the end of our Autumn Show.

### MAIL ORDER PAYMENTS BY MASTERCARD/VISA.

(Subject to A\$10.00 minimum.)

Members using Mastercard or Visa mail order facility should provide the following details, printed clearly in block letters, on a separate sheet of paper:

- Name and address of **MEMBER**.
- **TYPE** of card (Visa, Mastercard)
- **CARDHOLDER** name details, as shown on card.
- Mastercard/Visa **number** and **expiry date**.
- **CARDHOLDER** signature (essential).
- Payment details (membership renewal, book purchase, postage, etc.) with \$A amounts for each item.
- A 3% surcharge for this service will be made.

The subject of Quilling was mentioned at our June meeting, below is an article which may help

## Quilling by Jerry Raack

reprinted from: BSI Journal - 1982 V32(6)

What's that, your bromeliad is growing up looking like a soda straw? It is probably the victim of what is commonly known as "quilling". Quilling is the cementing of the leaves together causing the plant to be very tubular in shape. It is generally caused by lack of good moisture while the plant is in an active growing period. I have found through my years of growing that certain genera are more susceptible to quilling than others. These genera are *Vriesea* and *Guzmania*. Rarely do Aechmeas quill, although I have had *A. racinae* var. *tubiformis* and *A. 'Foster's Favorite'* quill. Within the genus *Vriesea*, certain hybrids and species are notoriously consistent in quilling. Among these are *V. × morreniana*, *V. ensiformis*, and unfortunately *Vriesea 'Viminalis Rex' × V. hieroglyphica*, which is a superb hybrid with nicely banded foliage and a fantastic, long lasting, branched, blood red inflorescence with, of course, yellow flowers. Within the genus *Guzmania*, the most likely to quill are *G. Feurn*, *G. Fantasia*, and occasionally *G. Exodus*. In addition other species of *Guzmania* and *Vriesea* will quill if grown very dry. Besides dry conditions, some plants, both species and hybrids, are more susceptible because the leaves secrete a very sugary, sticky substance which, if not washed off regularly and thoroughly, causes the leaves to cement together. To prevent quilling then, one must maintain high humidity, or, quite regularly flush the plant with water to thoroughly wash it off. There is no better way to do this than in a long, hard summer rain, but that is not possible in the winter in the northern states. Therefore taking a plant to the shower with you may sound silly, but an equivalent bathing procedure is very beneficial. Bathing a bromeliad? Maybe it sounds crazy but it works not only to prevent quilling, but cures it. If you have a plant which has already quilled, take a mild liquid detergent or soap and put several drops into the tight center and fill with water to overflowing. Let this mixture remain for a half hour, then add more water to overflowing. This procedure should produce lots of suds. The soapy water will dissolve the hardened glue substance, and then with the gentle use of a flat but blunt object, such as a plant marker, the leaves may be loosened from the outer-most to the inner-most. Make sure after loosening the leaves that all traces of soap are flushed off the leaves with lots of water. This procedure leaves the plant clean and free to continue to grow by absorption of nutrients through, not only the roots, but the leaves as well. If you have quilling problems, or encounter them in the future, try my prevention and cure. It works!



photo by Ross Little



# Happy 102nd Birthday Grace Goode OAM



Photo from *J Brom SocVol* 66(4), 2016

Grace was born 23rd July 1917, at Nambour and has resided in and around the mid Queensland region most of her life. She always had a love of gardening, and by 1970 had discovered her love for bromeliad. Her mother gave her a plant later identified as *Billbergia pyramidalis var concolor*, when well into her 50's. She says her only regret is not discovering them earlier! She is most renowned for her hybridization of genera such as *Aechmea*, *Billbergia*, *Cryptanthus*, *Neoregelia* and *Vriesea*.

Grace travelled to conferences all over the world and became a very well known hybridist. She was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the 2004 Australia Day awards, in recognition of her work with Bromeliads.

Grace was also a very accomplished rug maker, generously donating them to societies and conferences for fund raising. In 2015, Bromsmatta was lucky enough to have had a rug of Cooktown Orchids for auction at our conference.

**Thankyou & *Happy Birthday* from all bromeliad enthusiasts around Australia!**



**LITERATURE for Sale**

<http://www.bromeliad.org.au/Contacts/BSALibrarian.htm>

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>PRICE</b>
Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden	Andrew Steens	\$20.00
Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual (Rev. ed. 2007)	BSI	\$ 6.00
Bromeliad Hybrids 1: Neoregelias	Margaret Paterson	\$25.00
Bromeliads Under the Mango Tree	John Catlan	\$10.00
Bromeliad Cultivation Notes	Lyn Hudson	\$10.00
<b>Growing Bromeliads – 3rd Ed. by BSA IS BACK!</b>		
	(member price)	\$20.00

**SEED BANK**

**Thanks go to all those who have donated seed.**

Seeds cost 50¢ per packet for Members and Seed Bank supporters (plus postage) or \$1 per packet (plus postage) for all other enquiries:

Enquiries for seeds should be directed to

**Terry Davis**

**(02) 9636 6114 or 0439 343 809**

Below is the list of **some** of the **most recently** added seed to our Seed Bank. For a full list please go to [bromeliad.org.au](http://bromeliad.org.au)

<i>Puya mirabilis</i>	24.07.18	Ross Hutton
<i>T. pruinosa</i>	26.11.18	Chris Larson/Bob Hudson
<i>T. fasciculata</i> type (less than 30cm)	02.12.18	Kerry McNicol
<i>T. fasciculata</i> (pink multi-spike)	04.12.18	Jan Townsend
<i>Racinae fraseri</i>	18.02.19	Eileen Killingly
<i>Till jucunda</i>	04.19	Ian Hook

Seed has been moving quickly, especially the more recent additions.

**SO if you have seed to donate please send it in or bring it to our next meeting.**

**What's ON**

- 13th July** - **BSA Meeting** - Federation Pavilion 'Community Gardens'  
**Hunter Region Botanic Gardens** Orchid Fair 10.00a.m.
- 28th July** - **Hills District Orchids** - Open Day Windsor Road Northmead
- 10th August** - **BSA Mini-Show** - Plants and talks from **Peter Tristram**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Sales will be **suspended** during Information sessions and raffles at approx., 10.30, 12.00 and 1.30
- 14th September** - **BSA Meeting** - George Bell Pavilion
- 12th October** - **BSA Meeting** - George Bell Pavilion



## *Mini Bromeliad Fair*

10th August - Federation Pavilion

Castle Hill Showgrounds

Normal meeting suspended, Sales interspersed by  
talks on bromeliads by  
Peter Tristram

**Free entry – and bring a box**

There will be normal member sales and hourly raffle prizes as well as Peter's plants, which include rare and unusual Tillandsias, colourful Neos and spectacular Vrieseas.  
Tea and coffee available.

### ***COLLECTORS' CORNER***

**BROMELIADS** – a large colourful range of Bromeliads, both species and hybrids of many genera. Includes a very large range of Tillandsias. A mail order list of Tillandsias is available upon request.

We also specialize in orchids, cacti, succulents, hoyas, bonsai and carnivorous plants, PLUS gems, fossils, natural history, books and much MORE!



810 Springvale Rd., Braeside  
VIC 3195

PH: 03 9798 5845, FAX: 03 9706 3339

E-MAIL: [sales@collectorscorner.com.au](mailto:sales@collectorscorner.com.au)

WEBSITE: [www.collectorscorner.com.au](http://www.collectorscorner.com.au)

Open 9am-5pm 7 days a week.

### **M. J. PATERSON**

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