



BROMELETTER

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

bromeliad.org.au

Vol. 55 No. 2, March - April 2017.

CONTENTS

Management Details	-	-	-	2, 3, 12, 14, 18
Plant of the Month Competition, MDAC January	-	-	-	4-5
Meeting News January	-	-	-	4,6,16
2017 Events Diary & New Members	-	-	-	7
BSA 2016 Financial Report	-	-	-	8
BSA 2017 Autumn Show	-	-	-	9
Neoregelia 'Skotak's Orange Crush' Derek Butcher	-	-	-	10
Ian Hook Life Membership Award	-	-	-	11
Plant of the Month Competition, MDAC February	-	-	-	12-13
Meeting News February	-	-	-	7,11,13,16
Seed Bank	-	-	-	18
Bromeliad Crossword	-	-	-	19

Time to RENEW your MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal is due on **1st JANUARY**.
Please consider whether if you wish to receive
your Bromeletter by email (as a PDF)

Please return the enclosed renewal form to renew.
Update any details which have changed.

The Membership Renewal form can also be found
online at **www.bromeliad.org.au**



BROMELETTER is published bi-monthly at Sydney
by

The Bromeliad Society of Australia Incorporated.

**Deadlines for articles: 15th of February, April,
June, August, October and December.**

**To allow for publishing in the first week of March,
May, July, September, November and January.**

COMMITTEE

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Cairns Bromeliad Society Inc.

The Secretary, PO Box 28, Cairns Qld 4870

Gold Coast Succulent & Brom. Society

The Secretary, PO Box 452, Helensvale Plaza Qld 4212

The Hunter Bromeliad Society Inc.,

C/- Ron Brown, 59 Barton St, Mayfield NSW 2304

Townsville Bromeliad Study Group,

C/- Barb Davies, 5 Sharp St, Mt Louisa Qld 4814

Material for Bromeletter to:

editor@bromeliad.org.au

All other correspondence to:

The Secretary, Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc.

PO Box 340, RYDE NSW 2112



!!! IMPORTANT !!!

BSA MEETING TIME CHANGES

BROMELIAD SALES COMMENCE 11AM
 MEETING COMMENCES 12PM
 FEDERATION PAVIILION
 CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND

Life Members

Grace Goode O.A.M.

Ruby Ryde

Eugene Morris

Graham McFarlane

Ron Farrugia

Bill Morris

Ian Hook

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Alan Mathew gave the following details

Operating Account to 31 December 2016:

Brought Forward	\$36,784.92
Plus Income	\$ 1,055.25
Less expenses	\$ 2,130.58
Bank Statement as at 31/12/2016	\$35,709.59

Operating Account to 31 January 2017:

Brought Forward	\$35,709.59
Plus Income	\$ 2,064.92
Less expenses	\$ 184.00
Bank Statement as at 30/01/2017	\$37,590.51

WEBSITES

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

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

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

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

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

Facebook users, search for the group "Planet Bromeliad" & the associated Planets & Moon sub-groups for Bromeliad enthusiasts.

Plant of the Month Competition January 2017

(photos p.5)

Open Judge's Choice		
1st	<i>Tillandsia streptophylla</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Tillandsia didisticha</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Aventura'	Ron Farrugia
Open Members' Choice		
1st	<i>Tillandsia streptophylla</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Tillandsia didisticha</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
3rd	<i>Nidularium</i> 'Nana'	Kerry McNicol
Novice Judge's Choice		
1st	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Final Frontier'	Mark Belot
2nd	<i>Tillandsia streptophylla</i>	Elizabeth Mudriczki
3rd	<i>Tillandsia x correaei</i>	Elizabeth Mudriczki
Novice Members' Choice		
1st	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Final Frontier'	Mark Belot
2nd	<i>Tillandsia leiboldiana</i>	Bruce Munro
2nd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Noble Descent'	Elizabeth Mudriczki
3rd	<i>Tillandsia xiphioides</i>	Carole Taylor
3rd	<i>Tillandsia harrissii</i>	Carole Taylor
<i>Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition January 2017</i>		
(photos p.5)		
1st	"Al's Home & Garden"	Alan Beard
2nd	"Fireball"	Joy Clark

Meeting News January 2017

(photo p.11) continued on p.6 ...

Ian Hook presented his favourite *Vriesea*, small with velvety chocolate brown EVERYthing in the inflorescence EXCEPT the brilliant all yellow petals that pop out one or two at a time. A very bright contrast. I believe I got it first a single specimen then a large multiple pot from Joyce Thomas in March 2010 when she was getting rid of her collection. I divided and repotted them all. Joyce was a very long term member of BSA before I joined and actively collected everything new from about the 60's onwards.

Plant of the Month Competition January 2017



Tillandsia streptophylla



Tillandsia didisticha



Neoregelia 'Aventura'



Nidularium 'Nana'



Billbergia 'Final Frontier'



Tillandsia streptophylla



Tillandsia x correali



Tillandsia leiboldiana



Neoregelia 'Noble Descent'



Tillandsia harissii



Tillandsia xiphioides

Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition January 2017



"Fireball"

Meeting News January 2017 ... continued from p4....

(photo p.11)

From her memory, she called it *Vriesea* 'Patty', a small hybrid from Ken Woods (also from BSA and about the same vintage) named after his wife, and it seemed believable. (Hi Pat if you are reading this). When I noticed the leaves were concoloured (unlike Patty) I added 'Unknown 84' to label and some I may have given/sold to others in Sydney. Some of them flowered in 2012 and 'Patty' was definitely not the right name.



Vriesea 'Purple Cockatoo'

Meanwhile, Ross Little was trying to identify the same plant he got from Bob Christoffel in Sydney with the non-registered name 'Black Hawaiian'. Richard Harper, ex-president BSA, also got his stock from Bob Christoffel, but labelled *Vriesea* 'Hawaii'.

Apparently others in NSW and Qld also have it under various names. Once the confusion with David Shiigi's 'Royal Hawaiian' and the false Australian 'Royal Hawaiian' (now 'Aussie Royal Hawaiian') and 'Hawaii' and 'Black Hawaiian'.... then Ross got it registered.



Vriesea 'Black Hawaiian'

Carefully read the full story on bromeliad.org.au under *Vriesea* 'Black Hawaiian' and if your plant has similar names, looks, NO glyph markings on leaves, spent inflorescence turns quite black, stamen of finished flowers become 'dangly', then consider changing the label. It has also made it's way to WA.

Alan Beard showed members a beautiful photographic print collage of his stunning gardens (see photo p.5).

2017 EVENTS DIARY

Ian Hook's Open Day 6 Mary St Northmead	26/02/17
BSA March meeting	11/03/17
SunnyBroms Australasian Conference	30/03/17 - 02/04/17
BSA April meeting	08/04/17
Collectors Plant Fair, Clarendon	08 & 09/04/17
Bromeliad Fair, Concord NSW	29 & 30/04/17
BSA Autumn Show	13 & 14/05/17
BSA May meeting (NB: 4th Saturday)	27/05/17
BSA June meeting	10/06/17
BSA July meeting	08/07/17
BSA August meeting	12/08/17
BSA September meeting	09/09/17
BSA Spring Show	23 & 24/09/17
BSA October meeting	14/10/17
Bromeliad Fair, Concord NSW	11 & 12/11/17
BSA November meeting (NB: 3rd Saturday)	18/11/17
BSA December meeting	09/12/17

Meeting News February 2017

(photo p.11) continued on p.11 ...

Ian Hook brought along some *Aechmeas* to show members and included in his discussion a summary of Derek Butcher's Jan 2017 writing on *Aechmea* 'Forget Me Not'.

"In 1953 Mulford Foster named *Aechmea caudata* var. *variegata* and at that time he was aware that his plant was the same as that being offered for sale in Europe as either *Billbergia forgetii* or *Aechmea forgetii*. In 1979, in *Flora Neotropica*, Smith & Downs treated *Billbergia forgetiana* as a possible synonym of *Aechmea lindenii* var. *makoyana*, (The species is now known as *A. comata*.) *Aechmea comata* var. *makoyana* has already been transferred to the cultivar name of 'Makoyana' and for the same reasons we should treat *Aechmea caudata* var. *variegata* as *Aechmea* 'Forget Me Not'. It is a variegate and has origins in cultivation and is not accepted in The World Checklist of Selected Plant Families.

What I find interesting is that this was treated in synonymy with two different species. I would agree with Foster and link this variegate with *A. caudata*.

Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc

2016 FINANCIAL REPORT EXTRACT ONLY.

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

	2016	2015
REVENUE		
MEMBERSHIP FEES	\$3,040	\$4,455
SALES	\$16,614	\$11,558
OTHERS	\$4,586	\$6,466
BANK INTEREST	\$1,817	\$2,184
TOTAL REVENUE	\$26,057	\$24,663
EXPENSES		
PURCHASES	\$4,340	\$4,099
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	\$4,070	\$5,777
OTHER	\$12,871	\$9,429
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,281	\$19,305
OPERATING SURPLUS/LOSS	\$4,776	\$5,358
LOSS ON BROMSMATTA CONFERENCE	\$-	-\$13,158
SURPLUS/(LOSS) FOR YEAR	\$4,776	-\$7,800
ACCUMULATED FUNDS 1 JANUARY 2016	\$113,241	\$121,041
ACCUMULATED FUNDS 31 DECEMBER 2016	\$118,017	\$113,241
BALANCE SHEET		
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2016		
CURRENT ASSETS		
CASH ASSETS	\$36,368	\$36,288
INVENTORY	\$4,277	\$3,353
INVESTMENTS	\$74,504	\$72,701
OTHER	\$1,722	\$-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$116,871	\$112,342
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	\$1,146	\$899
OTHER	\$-	\$-
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,146	\$899
TOTAL ASSETS	\$118,017	\$113,241
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
CREDITORS AND BORROWINGS	\$-	\$-
OTHER	\$-	\$-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$-	\$-
NET ASSETS	\$118,017	\$113,241
EQUITY		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	\$118,017	\$113,241

The Bromeliad Society of Australia Inc.

Autumn Show



NEW LOCATION



Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground.

Saturday 13 May 2017 9am - 4pm

Sunday 14 May 2017 10am - 3pm

*** Free Admission ***

Ample Parking, More Show Space



Bromeliad Displays

20+ Plant Sales Tables

Competitions

Literature

Information

Tea / Coffee

Plant Raffle

Advice

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bromeliad.org.au

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Neoregelia 'Skotak's Orange Crush'

Article and photos by Derek Butcher



Neoregelia
'Skotak's Orange Crush'
as 'Freddie'
Derek Butcher

Many of you may be growing this as 'Orange Crush' which is a variegated plant with the looks of *Neoregelia caroliniae*. But then you might be growing the same plant as 'Freddie'!

The story begins in 2003 when I noticed that Deroose were selling 'Orange Crush' from their website. I captured the name and photograph for the BCR (Bromeliad Cultivar Register). I am not sure when and if it got exported to Australia but it was wide spread in Florida. One year later we obtained a plant called 'Freddie' from Garden World in Melbourne. They had imported it from the Philippines but had no detail as to parentage or origin. It was impressive so I took its photo and it was recorded in the BCR. These days, I would

assume that 'Freddie' is more widespread in Australia than 'Orange Crush'.

Now for the crunch. Chester Skotak now tells us that these are the same plant. I have always been critical of Rose growers who see nothing wrong with having different names for the same plant depending on the country it is sold from but at least this detail is recorded. There is an ICNCP (International Code for Names of Cultivated Plants) which many of the keen Bromeliad growers try to follow but it is frustrating when some of the nurseries ignore the rules. Perhaps this is because it is a voluntary system and there are no financial penalties. We know that this doubling up of names occurs. For example, Deroose with *Vriesea* 'Tawi' and *Vr.* 'Delphi'. Check these names on the BCR.



Neoregelia
'Skotak's Orange Crush'
Deroose

Why 'Skotak's Orange Crush'? Just as Botanists know you cannot have a plant with two names the same applies under the ICNCP rules which is one of the reasons why we have the BCR so you can check if you are interested. 'Orange Crush' is listed as having been used by Mulford Foster before 1980.

Remember that 'Freddie' or even 'Freddy' is now officially an illegitimate name. However, in practice the name will persist. You are warned of these sorts of instances to save you having duplicate plants with different names. Please advise the BSI Registrar if you know of similar circumstances.

Ian Hook Life Membership Award

On behalf of the Committee, we are pleased to announce the granting of an Honorary Life Membership to our long standing President, Ian Hook. This award has been unanimously agreed to by the Committee in light of Ian's many years of dedication running our Society and the promotion of Bromeliads on behalf of the Bromeliad Society of Australia.



Ian joined the Society in 2003; was Vice President to the late Ken Woods in 2006 and became President in 2007. Ian maintains the Bromeliads in Australia website <http://www.bromeliad.org.au/>

Without Ian we wouldn't have the Society we have today. We owe him heaps..

Meeting News February 2017 ... continued from p7.... continued on p.13 ...

... From my observations, this sporting to variegation of this variable species seems to have occurred on other occasions over the past 50 years, not only with different variegations but width of leaf."



Aechmea '**Forget Me Not**' was Aechmea caudata var. variegata

Plant of the Month Competition February 2017



Tillandsia crocata



Tillandsia tectorum



Neoregelia 'Aventura'



Neoregelia 'Heat Wave'

Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition February 2017



"Some Like It Hot"

MEETING VENUE AND TIME 12:00 pm SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

11 March & 8 April -
News, Sales, Raffle, Competitions.

AT THE FEDERATION PAVILION
CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND

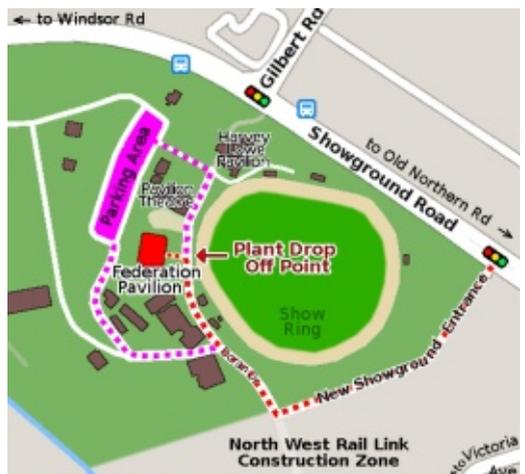
GPS: -33.725349, 150.984731

Android:

<https://goo.gl/maps/AGoFoMXA1M12>

Apple: [http://maps.apple.com/?q=-](http://maps.apple.com/?q=-33.725349,150.984731)

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Plant of the Month Competition February 2017

(photos p.12)

Open Judge's Choice

1st	<i>Tillandsia crocata</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Tillandsia tectorum</i>	Ron Farrugia
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Aventura'	Ron Farrugia

Open Members' Choice

1st	<i>Tillandsia crocata</i>	Carolyn Bunnell
2nd	<i>Tillandsia tectorum</i>	Ron Farrugia
3rd	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Heat Wave'	Ron Farrugia

Margaret Draddy Artistic Competition February 2017

(photos p.12)

1st	"Some Like It Hot"	Christine Johnson
-----	--------------------	-------------------

Meeting News February 2017 ... continued from p7....

continued on p.16 ...

Aechmea Forget Me Not was *Aechmea caudata* var. *variegata*

Note - A long lasting "Sculpture" plant. Only a few leaves, but up to 1m. Degree of variegation varies and also the sport has happened more than once giving variegates of different pattern and leaf width.

Aechmea caudata **vs** *Aechmea organensis*

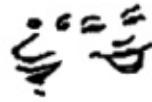
How do you tell the difference ?

One test USED to be - blue petals = *organensis*, yellow = *caudata* (with one blue variety exception!). *Organensis* also seems to have a more purple shade to the leaf base, but can vary with culture. But - both species are highly variable and even seem to overlap. it's arguable they are just one species, or maybe many different species depending on whether you are a splitter or lumper. It is now accepted there are 3 forms of *organensis*. Small, medium, and large. Medium size - has been named *Aechmea* 'Coral Beauty'. Small size - has been given name *Aechmea* 'Graceful'.

I have updated the web with all the new (DNA) genera names. These plants are still listed under both names with a note.



MEET SOME NEW FACES



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

Patricia Miller, Andrew Flower, Paul & Mary Brady.

If you would like to become a member please see Membership Application below.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION renewal is due 1st January for membership year January to December.

Annual Membership: **Australia A\$25,**
 Asia/Pacific Zone A\$40,
 Rest of the World A\$45.

New Memberships required to pay a \$5 joining fee, plus Annual Membership. (Those joining after 1st October are covered for the following year.)

Note: Unfinancial members must add \$5 rejoining fee when re-applying for membership. Members will become unfinancial if renewals have not been received by the end of our Autumn Show.

MAIL ORDER PAYMENTS BY MASTERCARD / VISA.

Members using Mastercard or Visa mail order facility should provide the following details, printed clearly in block letters, on a separate sheet of paper: (*Subject to A\$10.00 minimum.*)

- * Name and address of MEMBER.
- * Type of card (e.g. Visa, Mastercard)
- * CARDHOLDER name 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.

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Sunday 9 a.m. - 12 midday

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For more information please contact:

Garry Flemming – 0265539868 / 0413178884

Peter Tristram – ptristra@bigpond.net.au

Meeting News January 2017 ...continued from pp4,6....

Mark Betlot told us about a *Vriesea fosteriana* hybrid, which he obtained a few years ago from Jan & Jon Townsend. It was a seedling and he grew it on. It looked the same as most other *Vriesea fosteriana* hybrids, (green with glyphs on the leaves) even in the early stage of the first spike. However the spike began to colour and flowered along a single spike. Mark saw the definite variation from a normal *fosteriana* and kept the plant.



The second generation is now in flower, leaves are the same, green, glyphed, arching habit, however the spike is a now multi-bract coloured spike (see photo right). He is really glad he kept the plant and now will very likely talk further with Jan & Jon.

Meeting News February 2017 ...continued from p13....

... Another example of our concept of what a genera looks like - This was originally described as a *Hohenbergia cyathiformis*, then became *Canistrum cyathiforme* about time came to Australia (Sydney). I got this from Bert Plembach BSA 1st specialist in giant broms. Now called *Wittrockia cyathiformis*.



Wittrockia cyathiformis

When broms quite rare in Australia (pre-60's, pre-internet photos) there were many wrongly named species & hybrids and even



'Touch of Brown'

misguided attempts to re-create hybrid crosses. This was a Show-and-Tell by Margerie McNammara about 15 years ago. Supposed to be an *Aechmea distichantha* but she described it as "a bit odd" in shape and has white petals not blue. It is not the "forma albiflora" which has all white inflorescence. Ron Farrugia (then BSA President) coined the name 'Touch of Brown' for leaf colour but still not registered.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

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LITERATURE for Sale

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

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>AUTHOR</i>	<i>PRICE</i>
Growing Bromeliads - 3rd. Ed.	BSA	\$10.00
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.	Lynn Hudson	\$10.00

Mail Order delivery charges please contact: librarian@bromeliad.org.au



Seed Bank

Thanks go to all those who have donated seed.

Seeds cost 50¢ per packet for Members & Seed Bank supporters
(plus postage) or \$1 per packet (plus postage)

For Seed Bank enquiries contact Terry Davis 0439 343 809.

For the full list please go to bromeliad.org.au

<i>Alcantarea</i> 'Devine Plum' F2	25/09/16	Alan Beard
<i>Alcantarea glaziouana</i>	01/07/16	Sharn Taylor
<i>Vriesea gigantea</i>	17/11/16	Werner Raff
<i>Tillandsia schiedeana</i> minor	01/11/16	Kerry McNicol
<i>Dyckia platyphylla</i>	10/12/16	Laurie Treanor
<i>Tillandsia juncifolia</i>	21/12/16	Peter Henssler
<i>Tillandsia fasciculata</i> 'Don Hobbs'	21/12/16	Peter Henssler
<i>Racinaea fraseri</i>	30/12/16	Eileen Killingley

OFFICE-BEARERS

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

Bromeliad Crossword



Across

- 1 Black dots indicating scale on bromeliads
- 5 Natural liking or attraction to someone or something
- 9 Sleep-inducing
- 10 Flat
- 11 Element with atomic number 76
- 12 Genus containing edible plants
- 14 Author of first monograph devoted to bromeliads, 1857
- 15 Eminent Australian bromeliad hybridizer (2 words, 5+5 letters)
- 17 What we collect!
- 20 A trichome on bromeliads
- 21 Self-centredness
- 23 Church ministers
- 25 Discover by studying
- 26 Eagerly, in an industrious and effective way
- 27 Genus mainly from Ecuador
- 28 Part of bromeliad flower

Down

- 2 Genus from Andes Mountains
- 3 Genus from Brasil
- 4 Dinner table layout
- 5 Popular silver vase, urn plant (2 words, 7+8 letters)
- 6 "Bent like a scythe", as in leaves of *T. aernanthos*
- 7 Genus from northern South America countries
- 8 Widespread popular genus
- 13 Genus mainly from Brasil
- 16 Genus endemic to Chile
- 18 Genus endemic to Brasil
- 19 Leaf-like structures protecting bromeliad flower stems
- 22 Person from Baghdad
- 24 Colour of petals of *T. aernanthos*

