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Narelle Hoffmann
Maxine O'Shea
Nigel Thomson
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Hi everyone.

Wow, what a meeting we had in March, with Rebekah Trevor from The Olive Branch in Brisbane giving a talk on a selection of fantastic yet to be released Neos, as well as telling us about the history of the nursery and her grandparents involvement in the import and breeding of Bromeliads in the early days. Unfortunately she kept a sharp eye on the plants she brought along and we couldn't spirit any away, but no doubt our "Wish Lists" got a bit bigger. Denis also showed us more of his wonderful Tillandsias, with his "Carminea Dennis" in particular a real standout. Special thanks to Ian and Burnice for hosting the meeting. Touring their shade-houses was as always a delight.

At this months meeting Nigel Thomson will be giving a talk on pollinating, something you may have thought about but never been game to try. If you have grown something from seed why not bring it along and let us all see what you've achieved.

Change Of Venue

Unfortunately Janine had an accident and hurt her knee on the second day of their holiday in Thailand so she and Giles are unable to be our hosts this month. Burnice and Ian have once again agreed to hold the meeting at their house, so see you all there.

BUS TRIP

Yes it's happening on the 19th of May, with stops organised at Ray and Del Gough's, Jenny and Greg Menzies, Bundaberg Wholesale Palms And Plants and Val Honeywood's. The cost is only \$20 a person, so a very cheap day out. There are still some seats available, so if you haven't got your names down as yet please see Sue. This is a chance to visit some wonderful gardens and see how others grow their plants. We will be stopping at the RSL for lunch. Because of space under the bus, as usual there will be a limit of two crates per person for your plants.

At the June meeting we will be holding our yearly BBQ lunch, and to enable catering to be properly organised it would be appreciated if you could advise Sue if you will be attending. We'd hate to be a few snags short and have someone miss out!!

The committee have decided that while everyone is welcome to come to the Christmas luncheon, to be eligible for a subsidised meal you must have attended at least three meetings during the year.

A special welcome to our new members Jenny and Greg Menzies from Bundaberg. Great to have you join us.

March Mugshots



PLANT OF THE MONTH RESULTS FOR MARCH

A Single Billbergia

Open – Judge’s Choice – Rebekah Trevor

1. Coonarr Beadle Joy – Val Honeywood
2. Apocalypse – Ian Fluerty
3. Obi-Wan – Val Honeywood

Member’s Choice

1. Coonarr Beadle Joy – Val Honeywood
2. Big Pinkie x Pretty In Pink – Val Honeywood
3. Apocalypse – Ian Fluerty
Coonarr Green Dream – John Casey

Novice – Judge’s Choice – Rebekah Trevor

1. Talbot Sweet Cherry – Sue McDonald

Member’s Choice

1. Talbot Sweet Cherry – Sue McDonald

Plant Of The Month For April

Any genera other than Aechmea, Billbergia, Neoregelia, Tillandsia or Vriesea
(Some suggestions are Cryptanthus, Dyckia, Guzmania, Hohenbergia, Orthophytum, Quesnelia and Sincoregelia, but there are no doubt others you can think of)

DIARY DATES FOR 2018

BYO chair, coffee mug, plants you need help with, sales plants, plant of the month entries, and raffle donations to our meetings
Please note – meetings are on the fourth Saturday of the month, which may not always be the last Saturday.

April 28 th	Ian & Burnice Fluerty 12/16 Arkarra Court Dundowran
May 19 th	Bus trip to Bundaberg
June 23 rd	John & Narelle Hoffmann 287 John Street Maryborough
July 28 th	David & Lorraine Ward 9 Hanover Drive Urraween
August 25 th	Botanical Gardens Urangan – Sausage Sizzle and Clean-up
September 22 nd	Carmel & Bruce Hodgins 25 Ramsay Court Dundathu
October 27 th	Ron & Elizabeth Southern 60 Serenity Drive Tinana

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS FOR APRIL

Ken Achille
Sandra Johnson
Goff Loughran
Max Marskell
Meg Pailthorpe
Karen Thomson

NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

We are always trying to come up with new topics for the monthly meetings, and would really like your input to let us know what you are interested in. Would you like to give a talk on a particular aspect of the wonderful world of Broms that especially appeals to you? Do you have some that are maybe a bit different and quirky that you'd love to show off, or others that you're having problems with? Remember it's your club, and with your help it can only get bigger and better.

When you joined the club you were allocated a sellers number, and if you are selling plants it must be displayed on a yellow tag (available from Roger), so that Sue and Stewart know who to give the money from the sales to at the end of the day. Tags from sold plants will also be returned to you at the same time. If you don't know your number please ask the committee. If you are selling for the first time and don't have any tags there will be some available at the sale table to get you started.

Please remember that all sales start at 1.00 pm and finish at afternoon tea, plants travel much better in boxes or recyclable bags than plastic bags, and you can borrow books from our library for one month. If the book you want isn't available, please ask Rosie to put your name on the waiting list. If you can't return your books when they are due, please phone her on 4124 8658.

The monthly raffles are our main fundraiser for the year and it's great to see so many prizes donated by members. Remember that they don't have to be plants, but could be items to help in the garden or with potting and displaying your favourite Broms or anything else you think members will like. The only rule of thumb is would you be happy to win it.

OUR PRICE LIST EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2018

125MM SQUAT POTS	\$2.90 for 10
140MM SQUAT POTS	\$3.75 for 10
165MM POTS	\$3.00 for 5
200MM POTS	\$3.50 for 5
HANGERS (4 PRONG)	\$3.00 for 10
SMALL WHITE LABELS	\$1.25 for 25
LARGE WHITE LABELS	\$2.00 for 25
YELLOW SALES LABELS	\$6.00 for 100
LABELLING PENCILS	\$3.60 each
CELLOPHANE SLEEVES FOR PUPS OR POTS	\$3.65 for pack of 50 (both sizes)
POTTING MIX	\$8.00 per bag
FERTILISER	\$2.75 for 500 grams

To make things easier for Roger, if you want to buy anything could you please phone him on 41290444 before the meeting day so he can have your items ready. That way sales will run a lot smoother and quicker.

BOTANIC GARDENS DAY 2018

We have been invited to once again take part in this excellent day at the gardens in Elizabeth Street Urangan. Last year we had a stall and it generated quite a bit of interest, both in Bromeliads and our society as a whole.

It's a great day to see the gardens at their best, and look through the Orchid House. Unfortunately it coincides with some of the committee being away at another event, and we need some members to put their hands up to help man our stall and also sell some of your own plants if you choose. We have a couple of volunteers, but need at least two or three more to enable members to have a spell during the day. We also need people to bring along plants for display.

If you can help out please give your name to Sue at this months meeting so we have time to let them know if we will be having a stall or not.



BOTANIC GARDENS DAY

With over 75 Botanic Gardens, Arboreta and Gardens taking part in 2017 we're expecting 2018 to be bigger and better.
Sunday, 27 May, 2018. Put it on your calendar!

Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens
8.30am to set-up
Open at 9am -2pm

The Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens and Orchid House team would like to invite your community gardening group to join us here at the Botanic gardens with a stall to promote your group and have an opportunity to sell some plants.

There will be no entry fee charged, all we ask is for each stall to donate a lucky door prize to add to the fun. We will have a volunteer food tent with morning tea, lunch and refreshments for sale. The profits from this will be donated one of the stall organizations and will be drawn out at the end of the day.

- Lucky Door Prizes
- Bush Tucker, CEP Nursery, Orchid Nursery & Botanic Garden Tours
 - Orchid Potting and Bush Tucker Demo's
 - Children's activities

We will be promoting this event through media and are planning for it to be better than ever.

RSVP to book a stall by May 1
Vicky Riley
Team Leader Horticulture
Development & Community