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Maxine O'Shea  
Nigel Thomson

**Life Members**

Debbie & Hans Kruger  
Narelle & John Hoffmann

Hi once again

Here we are at the start of another year, and your committee have been hard at work over the break lining up guest speakers to keep you informed and entertained, as well as looking at the possibility of two bus trips.

As you'll see from the Diary Dates we will be revisiting some members gardens, as well as seeing a new one in April. We will also be having a BBQ at the Botanical Gardens in Urangan in May, and it's been arranged that the newly refurbished Orchid House will be opened for us.

As with the start of any year membership fees are now due once again. They are still \$15 for a family or \$10 for single, and can either be paid at the meeting or online to the Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society BSB 645646 A/C 104552107. If you're paying online don't forget to put your name in the reference section so Janine knows who's paid. If you joined us after October 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 you're membership covers this year as well.

Next month is, of course, our Annual General Meeting, and the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and four Committee Members are open for nominations. If you would like to get more involved with the running of your club, nomination forms will be available at this meeting and must be returned to the Secretary no later than February 1<sup>st</sup>.

You will all have received the details of the new structure for Plant Of The Month, and hopefully this year we'll see more members entering their plants.

## New Member

We are pleased to welcome Vickie Martignoni from Maryborough who joined us in December. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings in 2020.

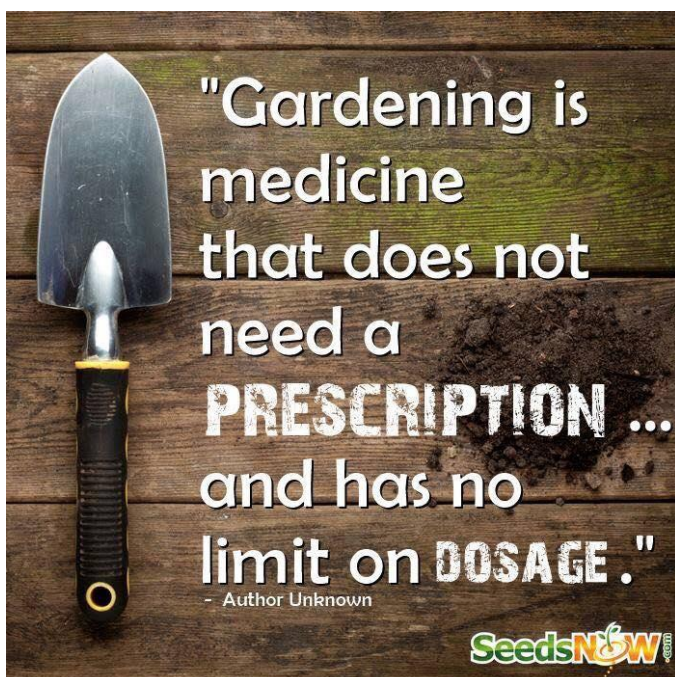
## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS FOR JANUARY

Ian Fluerty  
Sue Loughran  
Irene Lippross  
Trish Magee

## DIARY DATES FOR 2020

**BYO chair, mug, plants you need help with, sales plants, Plant Of The Month entries, and raffle donations to our meetings. Please note – unless notified otherwise meetings are on the fourth Saturday of the month, which may not always be the last Saturday.**

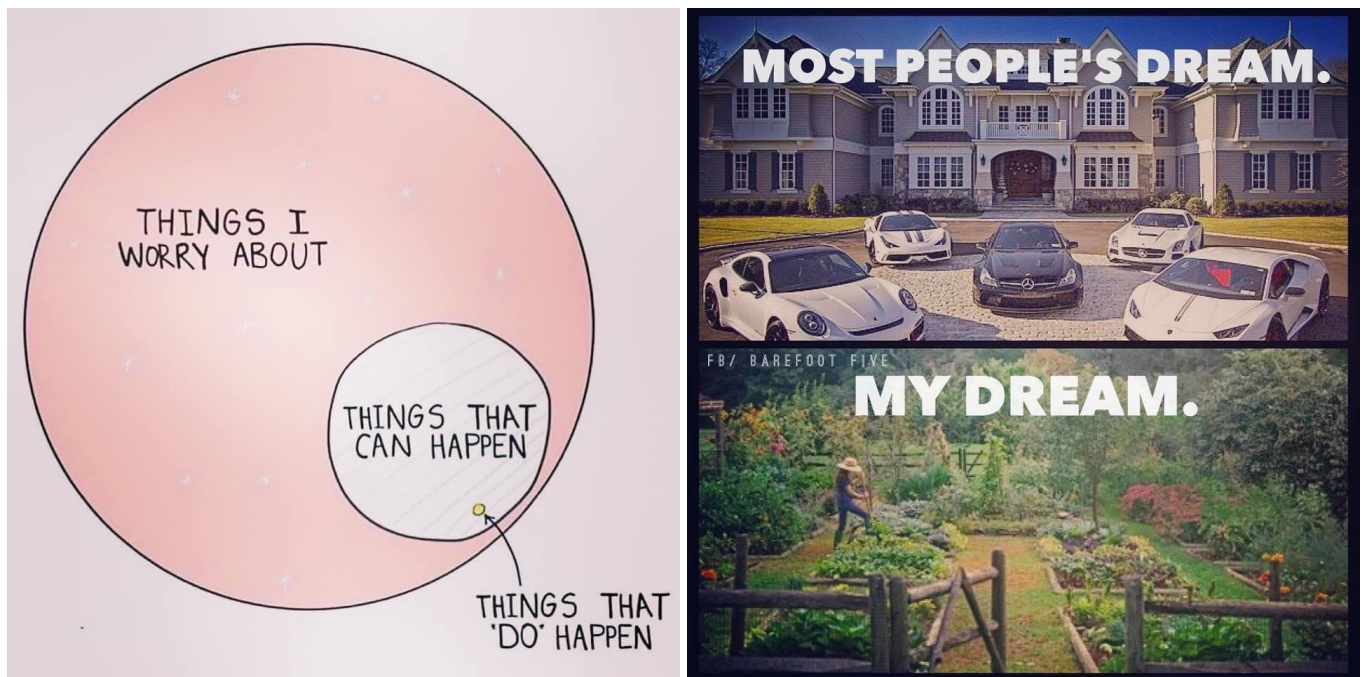
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sue & Stewart McDonald 8 Sempfs Road Dundowran
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sue & John Casey 24 Southerden Street Torquay - <b>AGM</b>
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Burnice & Ian Fluerty 12/16 Arkarra Court Dundowran
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sue & John Parker 26 Kernovske Court Yengarie
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Botanical Gardens Elizabeth Street Urangan
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Narelle & John Hoffmann 287 John Street Maryborough
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	Lorraine & David Ward 9 Hanover Drive Urraween
August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Possible Bus Trip – Destination TBA
September 26 <sup>th</sup>	Giles & Janine Blaber 20 Manchester Court Dundowran
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth & Ron Southern 60 Serenity Drive Tinana
October 31 <sup>st</sup> - November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Monster Sale
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Breakup



**OUR PRICE LIST EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2020**

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)	\$5.50 for 10
SMALL WHITE LABELS	\$1.50 for 25
LARGE WHITE LABELS	\$2.00 for 25
YELLOW SALES LABELS	\$6.00 for 100
LABELLING PENCILS	\$3.60 each
FERTILISER	\$2.75 for 500 grams

If you are going to purchase items it would be appreciated if you could ring Maxine on 41245128 prior to the meeting so she can have your order ready on the day. If you discover you need them just prior to the meeting don't worry, there will still be plenty available. Goff has potting mix for sale at \$8 for a 30 litre bag, and if you ring him on 0416783773 prior to the meeting he will have it there for you.



Just a reminder that Plant Of The Month Classes are

- Neoregelia
- Pattern Leaf Vriesea
- Tillandsia
- Flowering Bromeliad – Aechmea, Billbergia & Guzmania
- Other Genera

The winner of each class will be decided by Popular Vote only, with no more Judge's Vote, so it's even more important that you cast your votes for the plants you like the best. Points will be the same as before, with 3, 2 and 1 awarded in each class.

## **Over Potted?**

By Kathy Dorr is reprinted in part from the December 1983 newsletter of the Study Group of Northern California.

Since time beginning, we have been told that Bromeliads don't need anything larger than a four inch pot. Did anyone ever ask the bromeliads their opinion? For the past several years (since I started growing on poles and six inch or larger pots work better for this), I have been asking the viewpoint of the plants concerning this and find they don't necessarily agree with this conclusion.

When listening to the judges in action, it is not uncommon to hear the remark "that plant is over potted," but I seldom hear the remark "that plant is under potted!" It may be time for ALL to take notice, particularly in regard to some genera.

Probably the most vital of these are the members of the Pitcairnioideae group. It has been my experience that the Dyckias, Hechtias, Puyas, Pitcairnias, Deuterocohnias, and Ochagavias prefer lots of foot room. Their first preference is to be grown in the ground where they can let the "corset stays" out to the extreme and enjoy themselves. If this is not to be their good fortune, then their next choice is LARGE (according to size: 1,2,5,10,15 gallon) pots – not little four inch pots. The questions are often asked why these plants have brown tips and brown leaves and aren't doing as well as expected? The size of the pot could well answer these questions in a majority of cases, along with the growing conditions. This doesn't mean they won't grow in the small pots, flower and offset, but if you want the plants to be their happiest and show their maximum beauty, they need plenty of root space. Dyckias, even when small, can completely fill a gallon size pot with roots.

An example of this – I planted two *Dyckia platyphylla* plants of equal size and age: one in a four inch pot and the other in an eight inch pot. This was about two years ago. The one in the four inch pot has grown very little and has not produced an offset as yet. The one planted in the eight inch pot has grown beautifully and produced one offset that is equal in size to the original plant as well as five smaller ones. When this plant was shown last year, the comment from the judges was "that plant is over potted." [Accredited bromeliad judges now recognize that these plants should be displayed in larger pots. – Ed.] Another example is two *Dyckia fosteriana* plants potted in the same manner. The one in the four inch pot has two offsets and has stayed quite small in comparison to the plant potted in the large pot. The one in the larger pot has a minimum of six plants and possibly more, entirely filling the pot. When I turned the pot up and took the plant out, the entire pot was filled with roots and obviously needed repotting in a larger pot. The four inch pot was also filled with roots and there was little soil remaining. The ends of some of the leaves of the plant were brown and these plants did not have the lush look of the plants grown in the larger container.

(Reprinted with permission from Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society U.S.A. Pup Talk January 2020)