



**Office Bearers  
Contact Details**

**President:**

John Casey  
jdc49@westnet.com.au  
Phone: 4125 5809  
Mobile: 0409 932 997

**Vice President:**

Godfrey Loughran  
sueloughran1@bigpond.com  
Mobile: 0416 783 773

**Secretary:**

Sue Loughran  
sueloughran1@bigpond.com  
Mobile: 0414 757 162

**Treasurer:**

Janine Blaber  
janineblaber@gmail.com  
Mobile: 0413 571 620

**Editor:**

John Casey  
jdc49@westnet.com.au  
Phone: 4125 5809  
Mobile: 0409 932 997

**Purchasing Officer:**

Maxine O'Shea  
Phone: 41245128

**Committee Members:**

John Hoffmann  
Narelle Hoffmann  
Maxine O'Shea  
Burnice Fluerty

**Life Members**

Debbie & Hans Kruger  
Narelle & John Hoffmann

Hello All

Well no doubt by now you're all suffering from cabin fever like me, and it doesn't look like ending any time soon. The latest scientific and medical advice is that until they come up with an effective vaccine, ending the lockdown could cause a worse outbreak than we now have, so I'm not holding my breath.

If there is a bright side to it all it's the fact that most of us have plenty of work to do in our gardens and lots of time to do it, and as the nurseries are classed as an essential service getting supplies isn't too much of a hassle.

Probably the best news we've had club wise since we last met is that our application for a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Committee was approved, and we were given the full \$6,698.63 to buy all the equipment we'd asked for. After waiting nearly six months I was beginning to think we weren't successful, but sometimes it pays to have a bit more patience.

As you'll see from the Diary Dates April and May's meetings, as well as the May Monster Sale, have been cancelled, and at this stage June is looking doubtful as well, but you'll be kept informed as we go along, and the committee will be guided by what the experts tell us.

For those who go to the Queensland Garden Expo at Nambour in July, at this stage their website says it's still on, but is subject to the Covid-19 laws. As other shows later in the year have already been cancelled, including the Ekka, I would be very surprised if it goes ahead, which is unfortunate because it's an excellent chance to see what's new in the world of Bromeliads.

Over the last couple of years there have been many reclassifications of certain Bromeliads into different genus, and this has caused some (or a lot of) confusion. Here's an explanation that may explain how these changes come about.

**LUMPERS VS. SPLITTERS** (Or why are there all the name changes that we have seen lately?)

(From a dictionary) "Taxonomists are biologists who determine the scientific names of organisms and then group organisms into a hierarchy into an orderly system. In taxonomy, there are two tendencies about how to classify living things: By their differences or by their similarities.

A "Lumper" is a taxonomist who groups by similar traits, assuming that differences are not as important as similarities. They place organisms which share a few major characteristics in the same group. When two named species are discovered to be of the same species, the older species name is usually retained, and the newer species name dropped, a process called synonymization or convivially, as lumping.

A 'Splitter' is a taxonomist who takes precise definitions, and creates new categories to classify organism on the basis of the smallest known difference, so every small difference is considered sufficient to create a new separate group. Dividing a taxon into multiple, often new, taxa is called splitting. For example in the family Cactaceae 'lumpers' recognize 30-50 genera and about 1000 species, 'splitters' judge right to consider 200 genera and over 2000 species."

Charles Darwin is thought to have originated these terms in 1857.

The rush of new names we have seen lately (Cryptanthus was suddenly broken into 4 genera for example) means that splitters seem to currently be in charge of the Bromeliad world. Even a major tool for classifying plants, such as DNA, may not solve this basic classification tendency difference.

(Reprinted from "Pup Talk" August 2019 Saddleback Bromeliad Society U.S.A.)



Marry someone who says things like:

- I'm proud of you
- You're perfect just as you are
- You can do it
- I don't know where this extra plant came from, but it fits in so well & could do with some extra friends



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS FOR APRIL

Goff Loughran  
Max Marskell  
Meg Pailthorpe  
Karen Thomson  
Helen Safstron

### 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.

April 25th	Cancelled
May 16th – 17th	Monster Sale – Cancelled
May 23rd	Cancelled
June 27th	Narelle & John Hoffmann 287 John Street Maryborough (TBA)
July 25th	Lorraine & David Ward 9 Hanover Drive Urraween (TBA)
August 22nd	Venue TBA
September 26th	Giles & Janine Blaber 20 Manchester Court Dundowran
October 24th	Elizabeth & Ron Southern 60 Serenity Drive Tinana
Oct 31st - Nov 1st	Monster Sale – Senior Citizens Centre Tavistock Street Torquay
November 28th	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)	\$3.00 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 running short and need to purchase items it would be appreciated if you could ring Maxine on 41245128 to possibly make arrangements to pick them up from her home. This will be subject of course to the isolation laws.

Goff has potting mix for sale at \$8 for a 30 litre bag, and if you ring him on 0416783773 you can also possibly make arrangements to get some from him.

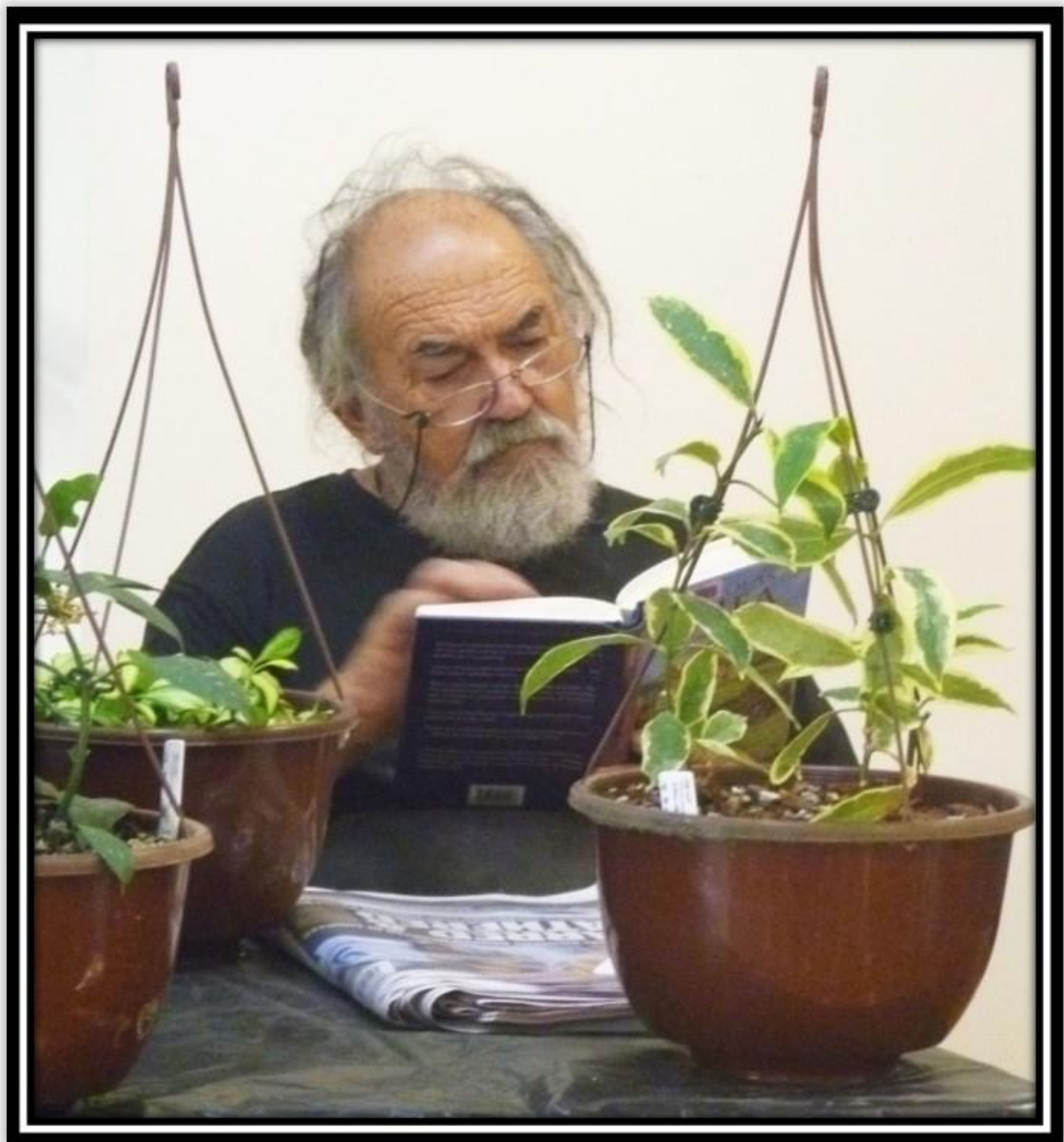
**Library: All books and magazines borrowed are to be returned in good order to the following meeting. If they aren't on a wait list, they may be rebooked.**

(If reprinting an article, wholly or in part, please acknowledge the author and newsletter.)

# Around The Gardens

Some beautiful Neos for your enjoyment.





Vale John Catlan

It is with great sadness that we advise of his passing on Friday 10 April 2020.

John was a pioneer in bromeliad growing and hybridising in Australia, and he was also a collector of highly unusual plants generally. His horticultural knowledge was huge and he was more than happy to share that knowledge with others.

John was also a founding and life member of the Gold Coast Succulent and Bromeliad Society, where he donated his time and knowledge extensively.

A true Aussie character who possessed a tremendous sense of humour and who loved telling a yarn or seven.

## Lockdown Laughs

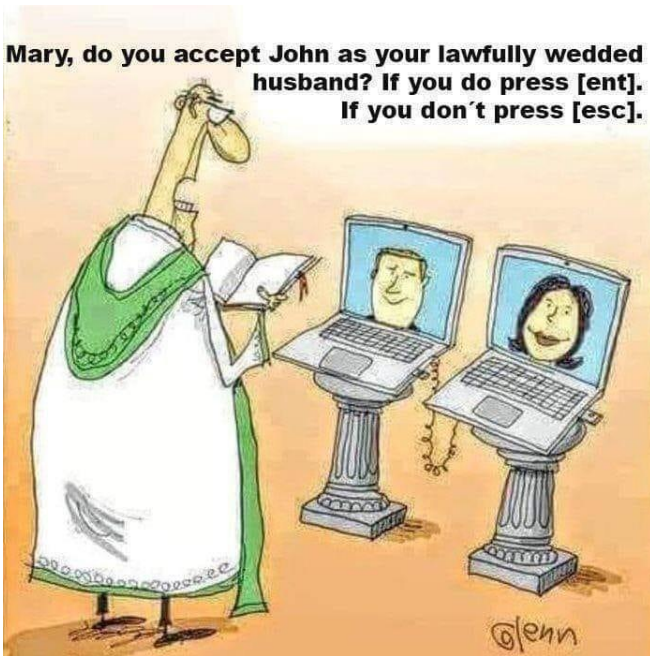
As there's not much to put in the newsletter this month here's a few things to hopefully brighten your day.



15 days containment I'M FINE  
THANK YOU

13:20





**GONNA ASK MY MOM IF THAT OFFER TO SLAP ME INTO NEXT YEAR IS STILL ON THE TABLE**

**DUE TO MY ISOLATION. I FINISHED 3 BOOKS YESTERDAY. AND BELIEVE ME. THAT'S A LOT OF COLOURING.**



"The balance is better, but I still don't like the grip. Let me try another one."