



# FRASER COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 Issue 05

May 2022

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## **MAY GENERAL MEETING : 28 MAY 2022**

May Monthly General Meeting : Dundowran Hall.

Guest Speakers : David and Kathryn Fraser

Plant of the Month voting, plant sales, library, etc. will commence at 12:30pm followed by the meeting at 1 pm.

Come along with a flowering plant, a problem plant or a plant to be identified for 'Show, Tell & Ask'.

A society member may be able to help!!!

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## **CONTENT OF NEWSLETTER**

- Committee Updates
- Plant of the Month - April 2022
- Feature Story :  
Caring for Tillandsia Clumps
- Books in our Library
- Our April Meeting
- New Australian Bromeliad Cultivars
- 2022 Meetings and Event information

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following members for May :



Joan Donnison,  
Burnice Fluerty,  
Narelle Hoffman,  
Hans Kruger, and  
Stewart McDonald.

## ***IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR CLUB MEMBER'S ACTION AND INFORMATION :***

### **❖ Sausage Sizzle Bunnings**

This was a successful fundraising event even though numbers were down due to the event being held on Mother's Day. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped out throughout the day.

### **❖ BROMS in the BAY 2022**

Don't miss out on this wonderful event ... there are still seats available if you haven't booked yet.

A request to those who have already registered, payment is required to confirm your place at the Conference.

### **❖ Plant of the Month**

The May monthly meeting is Neoregelia - "Mini - Under 250mm" and Tillandsia - "Mounted".

### **❖ Show, Tell and Ask!**

Bring along your favourite plant and share its success with the other members.

***Share it with others to see, learn and enjoy.***

### **❖ Suggestion Box**

As discussed at last month's meeting, a suggestion box will be placed on the servery bench near the kitchen for members ideas, 'suggestions' or issues you may not wish to bring up in the General Meeting.

### **❖ Raffle Prizes**

It has been noted that there is a general drop off in the quality of raffle prizes being brought in as prizes. It should be something gardening related particularly bromeliad that you would take home if it was your ticket that was drawn.

### **❖ Monster Sale**

It was decided at the April Management meeting that we would hold the 2022 Monster Sale at the Senior Citizen's Hall as per booking. This was discussed further at the May meeting and agreed that this will stand.

Also discussed was the need for a strategic look at the what we need for future sales, ie. hall requirements; an Autumn and a Spring sale; 1 day vs 2 days; security; financial requirements; etc. Les has been tasked with preparing a proposal to take this forward so the membership all have an input into an agreed direction for 2023 and beyond.

Any Member interested in either being part of the team or who have ideas, suggestions or other input relevant to this strategic plan, please contact Les on [tintenters@bigpond.com](mailto:tintenters@bigpond.com) with details.

# PLANT OF THE MONTH - APRIL 2022



## NEOREGELIA - MAXI

<b>First:</b> ←	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Sandy' [N.R.]	Stu McDonald ( 7 votes )
<b>Second:</b>	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Julia'	Ian Fluerty ( 5 votes )
<b>Third:</b>	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Mum's Tiger'	Goff Loughran ( 4 votes )



## PATTERN LEAF VRIESEA

<b>First:</b> ←	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Eldorado'	Stan Walkely ( 10 votes )
<b>Second:</b>	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Birchwood Black Velvet' [N.R.]	Nigel Thomson ( 6 votes )
<b>Third:</b>	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Abigail Jean'	Goff Loughran ( 4 votes )
<b>Third:</b>	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Eureka'	John & Narelle Hoffmann ( 4 votes )
<b>Third:</b>	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Pink Goddess'	Nigel Thomson ( 4 votes )



## FLOWERING BROMELIADS

<b>First:</b> ←	<i>Vriesea</i> 'Lady Love'	Nigel Thomson ( 14 votes )
<b>Second:</b>	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Mia' [N.R.]	Goff Loughran ( 6 votes )
	<i>Guzmania</i> 'Marish' [N.R.]	Goff Loughran ( 6 votes )



## TILLANDSIA - POTTED

<b>First:</b> ←	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Samantha'	Maxine O'Shea ( 13 votes )
<b>Second:</b>	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Roy's Pride'	Nigel Thomson ( 6 votes )
<b>Third:</b>	<i>Tillandsia jalisco monticola</i>	Goff Loughran ( 3 votes )



## OTHER GENERA

<b>First:</b> ←	<i>Sincoraea amoena</i>	Nigel Thomson ( 10 votes )
<b>Second:</b>	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Sandra' [N.R.]	Ian Fluerty ( 7 votes )
	<i>Alcantarea</i> 'White Star'	Goff Loughran ( 7 votes )

**May meeting** : Neoregelia is "Under 250 mm", and Tillandsia is "Mounted"

## FEATURE STORY ...

### INTRODUCTION :

Our feature story this month is by Ken Colgan and first published in *Bromeletter*, the Journal of the Bromeliad Society of Australia, July/August 2000. It was re-published in *Pup Talk* - the newsletter for The Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society, October 2020

It is a very relevant topic given the long very heavy wet season we have just experienced ...

## CARING FOR TILLANDSIA CLUMPS

By Ken Colgan

(Reprinted from *Bromeletter*, Journal of the Bromeliad Society of Australia, July/August 2000, Vol. 38 No. 4.)

This could be subtitled: "Do what I say, not what I did!"

In the common parlance of Tillandsia taxonomists, there are the "lumpers" and the "splitters." By these terms it is meant to distinguish those who always look for similarities between two plants under investigation (hoping to prove they are the same species or subspecies or linked rarities) from those who always look for differences in the belief or hope that one of them is new. However, in a different context, the language of mere collectors like myself involves the "clumpers" and the "dividers."

The first term commonly is used to distinguish those Tillandsia (and other genera) collectors who prefer to have their plants form large clumps rather than dividing them up on a regular basis. Those who have inspected my collection will definitely agree that I am a "clumper."

However, there are inherent risks in such an approach.

At the Bromeliads X Conference in Cairns, Andrew Flower quipped about written and verbal comments I frequently make concerning Tillandsia propagation. When asked what are the most important aspects in success - fully growing mounted Tillandsias, I always respond with the following five necessities:

Good fresh air movement,

Good light,

Good fresh air movement,

Regular watering,

Good fresh air movement.



I am not sure his presentation debunked that list. Anyway, there are a number of species that I encourage to form large clumps. These include the common *T. aeranthis*, *T. bergeri* (photo), *T. stricta*, *T. tenuifolia*, *T. jucunda*, *T. ixioides*, *T. ionantha*, *T. crocata*, *T. paleacea*, *T. juncea*, *T. recurvifolia*, (including var. *suhsecundifolia*), *T. magnusiana*, *T. x floribunda*, etc. These are invariably attached to natural cork bark and hung from mesh inside shade cloth covered frames.

However, in one situation - Tillandsias are hung from both sides of common shade cloth support and it is here that problems have arisen. At the end of the last wet winter, the back one third of many large Tillandsia clumps in this situation was found to be dead. I had to remove large dead sections of *T. aeranthis*, *T. bergeri*, *T. stricta*, etc. Although one of the above necessities, namely regular watering, had been available, it proved to be adverse if good light and, most importantly, good fresh air movement, were missing. Clearly, all of the plants at the back part of the clumps, facing the shade cloth with plants on the other side were deprived of natural light and air rotted. No such problems existed for individual plants or sparsely growing specimens.



What should we do to avoid this?

Assuming you still wish to create large Tillandsia clumps, I recommend:

1. Before the wet season arrives, carefully remove old plants and leaves, especially near the center of the clump.
2. Place the clump in a situation that maximizes the light and air movement from all directions. For example, a spectacular large clump of *T. aeranthos* with numerous flower spikes was brought into a recent Society meeting. It was held in a well-accreted wicker basket and hung clear from side encumbrances.
3. Attempt to mount the clumps on something like gnarled holey roots, thereby allowing all of the necessities (air, water, light) good access to the plants.

In the future. All of my clumps will be prepared for the wet season.

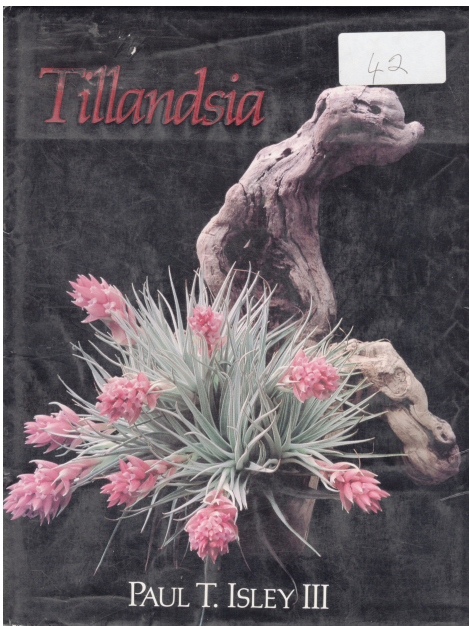
**Ken Colgan**

## **BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY ...**

### **Tillandsia**

#### ***The World's Most Unusual Air Plants***

by Paul Isley III (1987)



This book, *Tillandsia* a representative cross section of this fascinating genus of 'air plants'.

It combines brilliant colour photographs, botanical, cultural and historical information to impress the most knowledgeable collector. Some 60 species and sub-species are discussed in detail. There are also photographs of 32 blooming species and a dozen other bromeliads.

The chapters in Paul's book cover a range of topics including background information about the plant, their physical characteristics, blooms and advice on how to care for this type of plant. For the more serious collector, it gives a wide perspective of the historical development of *Tillandsia*, botanical nomenclature, taxonomy, together with its evolution and biology.

One interesting section focuses on the fuzzy appendages (foliar trichomes) that cover the leaves. This is supported by 120 electron microscope photographs.

If you enjoy the *Tillandsia* species and want to learn more about them, this book is one of the most comprehensive books available to the general public.

### **Borrowers please note :**

All books & magazines borrowed from the Library are to be returned in good order to the following meeting, if not on the wait-list, they may be re-borrowed.



## AT OUR APRIL MEETING ...



*Thanks again to Nigel for his brilliant narrative on the various Plant of the month entries.*



*Show N Tell discussion.*



*Plant of the Month entries - Pattern Leafed Vrieseas*



*Plant of the Month entries - Neoregelias & Tillandsias*





## NEW CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS ...

The following table is a list of new cultivars registered by an Australian grower or by an Australian collector on a growers behalf since the last FCBSI newsletter.

Photograph	Cultivar Name	Hybridist	State
	Seed Parent X Pollen Parent	BCR No.	
	<b>xPortemea "Crazy Cat"</b> <i>Aechmea blanchetiana</i> (green form) X <i>Portea petropolitana</i> var <i>extensa</i>	<b>Paterson, Grant</b> BCR_17065	QLD
	<b>Billbergia "Sweet Memory"</b> Cedar Rust X Spun Sugar	<b>Przetocki, Vic</b> BCR_17070	WA
	<b>Billbergia "Raving Beauty"</b> Ravenous X Domingos Martins	<b>Przetocki, Vic</b> BCR_17075	WA
	<b>Billbergia "Star Fantasy"</b> Spun Sugar X Xmas Cheer	<b>Przetocki, Vic</b> BCR_17076	WA
	<b>Billbergia "Xmas Melody"</b> Xmas Cheer X Domingos Martins	<b>Przetocki, Vic</b> BCR_17085	WA
	<b>Neoregelia "Toffee Love"</b> Sharkicelli X Lime and Lava	<b>Tristram, Peter</b> BCR_17162	NSW
	<b>Neoregelia "Toffee Verde"</b> Shark Noodles X Lime and Lava	<b>Tristram, Peter</b> BCR_17163	NSW
	<b>Neoregelia "Toffee Cable"</b> Shark Noodles X Lime and Lava	<b>Tristram, Peter</b> BCR_17166	NSW
	<b>Neoregelia "Mum's Cauldera"</b> (Eva X Skotak's Tiger) X Cauldera	<b>Tristram, Peter</b> BCR_17167	NSW
	<b>Billbergia "Charlie And Sue"</b> Bill's Giant X Domingos Martins	<b>Aizlewood, Greg</b> BCR_17169	QLD
	<b>Neoregelia "Cheryl's Thunder Down Under"</b> Gladiator X Gladiator	<b>Peterson, Sharon / Basic, Cheryl*</b> BCR_17176	USA

Data and photographs courtesy of the Bromeliad Cultivar Register (BCR)

## DIARY DATES FOR 2022 ...

### FCBSI Monthly Meetings:

Date	Event / Guest Speaker	Venue / Location
May 28	Monthly Meeting Guest Speakers : David and Kathryn Fraser	Dundowran Hall
June 25	<b>BBQ Lunch</b> incorporating Monthly Meeting and Charity Raffle	Narelle & John Hoffman 287 John St, Maryborough
July 23	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
August 20 *	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
September 17 *	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
October 22	Monthly Meeting	Dundowran Hall
November 26	<b>Christmas Party</b>	Kondari Hotel - Urangan

### Events:

June 8/12	World Bromeliad Conference 2022	Sarasota, Florida, USA
August 27/28	BROMS in the BAY 2022 Bromeliad Conference & Sale	Kondari Resort - Hervey Bay
September 23/24/ 25	Hervey Bay Orchid Show	Xavier College - Eli Waters
September 24/25	BSQ Spring Show & Sale	Genesis College - Bray Park
November 5/6	FCBSI Monster Sale 2022	Senior Citizens Centre Tottness Street, Scarness
March 23/26 (2023)	Kiwi Broms - 2022 21st Australasian Bromeliad Conference	Waipuna Hotel Auckland - New Zealand

### Note:

Unless notified otherwise, monthly meetings are on the **fourth** Saturday of the month.

Please BYO mug, plants you need help with, sales plants, Plant Of The Month entries, and raffle donations to our meetings.

\* Please note, meeting dates marked with an asterisk have been moved from the regular fourth Saturday of the month.

### Plant Sales @ Monthly Meetings

Plant sales commence at 12.30pm and pause when the monthly meeting starts (usually 1.00pm), then recommence during afternoon tea. Please remember that all sales finish at afternoon tea.

Plants travel much better in boxes or recyclable bags than plastic bags



## **BROMELIAD SUPPLIES ...**

**Please note the Society has new Stock Sales co-ordinators and contact details from 01 March 2022.**

The current **FCBSI PRICE LIST** as of 16-March-2022 is published below.

Item	Unit	Price per Unit	Status / Comment
SQUAT POTS, 125mm	( 10 pk )	\$3.60	<i>In stock</i>
SQUAT POTS, 140mm	( 10 pk )	\$4.60	<i>Nil stock</i>
SQUAT POTS, 165mm	( 5 pk )	\$3.00	<i>In stock</i>
SQUAT POTS, 200mm	( 5 pk )	\$3.50	<i>In stock</i>
HANGERS (4 PRONG)	( 10 pk )	\$4.10	<i>In stock</i>
LABELS, LARGE, WHITE	( 25 pk )	\$1.50	<i>In stock</i>
LABELS, SMALL, WHITE	( 25 pk )	\$1.25	<i>In stock</i>
LABELS, LARGE, YELLOW	( 25 pk )	\$1.50	<i>( For use on sale plants. )</i>
LABELS, SMALL, YELLOW	( 25 pk )	\$1.25	<i>( For use on sale plants. )</i>
LABELLING PENCILS	( each )	\$3.60	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 140mm	( 10 pk )	\$2.90	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 170mm	( 10 pk )	\$3.40	<i>In stock</i>
PAPER SLEEVES, 200mm	( 10 pk )	\$3.90	<i>In stock</i>
FERTILISER	( 500gm )	\$3.10	<i>In stock</i>

If you are running short and need something, it would be appreciated if you could contact Jan or Les on 0419 799 483 or email [tintenters@bigpond.com](mailto:tintenters@bigpond.com) to let them know in advance so they can have your order ready for you at the next meeting, or to make arrangements to pick your order up from their home ( 3 Lancaster Circuit, Urraween ) prior to the meeting.

### **FCBSI PRICE LIST ( as of 16 March 2022 )**

**NOTE ...** Prices may vary when new stock is ordered.

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

### Editor's Note ...

The Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society Inc. gives permission to all bromeliad societies to reprint articles in their journals provided proper acknowledgment is given to the original author and the FCBS Inc. Newsletter.

Opinions expressed in the publication are those of the individual contributors and may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Fraser Coast Bromeliad Society Inc. or of the Editor.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the information in their articles.

## What Happened???

This page was for your article, but I guess you forgot to send it!

***BROMS IN THE BAY ... THERE ARE STILL SEATS AVAILABLE. BOOK NOW***



For further information and registration forms, please contact :  
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email : [sueloughran1@bigpond.com](mailto:sueloughran1@bigpond.com)