



# Society for Growing Australian Plants (Queensland Region) Inc.

Cairns Branch  
PO Box 199  
Earlville Qld 4870

Newsletter No. 106  
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## Society Office Bearers

<b>Chairperson</b>	Tony Roberts	40 551 292
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	Mary Gandini	40 542 190
<b>Secretary</b>	David Warmington	40 443 398
<b>Treasurer</b>	Robert Jago	40 552 266

**Membership Subscriptions- Qld Region-** Renewal \$30.00, New Members \$35, each additional member of household \$2.00 **Student** - Renewal \$20 New Members \$25.00, **Cairns Branch Fees** - \$10.00 Full Year

To access our Library for the loan of publications, please contact David Warmington  
Newsletter Editor: Tony Roberts [travelling\\_botanist@yahoo.com.au](mailto:travelling_botanist@yahoo.com.au)

## Dates to remember

**Cairns Branch Meetings and Excursions – third Saturday of each month.**

### NEXT MEETING AND EXCURSION

**16 Feb 2011 Ivan Evans Walk.**

**Tablelands Branch Excursion**– Sunday following the meeting on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Any queries please contact Chris Jaminon 4095 2882 or [hjaminon@bigpond.com](mailto:hjaminon@bigpond.com)

### **Townsville Branch**

**General Meeting** Please contact John Elliot: [jw-elliott@aapt.net.au](mailto:jw-elliott@aapt.net.au) for more information

MERRY CHRISTMAS



HAPPY NEW YEAR

from your committee

## February

The Ivan Evans Walk is located in Bayview Heights and meanders between Ellen Close and Toogood Road, a distance of just over 1km. Further details will be published in the next Newsletter.

# October Excursion Report

By Robin Smith

This boardwalk exists to allow people who come to Kuranda by car to access the viewing area of the Barron Falls. The viewing platform is on Railway Property. The boardwalk allows gentle access over two creeks a railway cutting and a railway line. It is perhaps 200 - 300 metres long and passes through a planted section of recovering rainforest, an area of rainforest adjacent to the creeks and then through a casuarina forest down to the railway itself. The soil is variable with a lot of heavy red volcanic soil. The second creek you cross via the boardwalk is Rainbow Creek and the first one is an unnamed tributary of Rainbow Creek.

The altitude of the boardwalk is about 310 – 330 m above sea level. The area is interesting as the botany changes radically within a few metres.

Even though much of the area is on the side of a hill it is well blessed with ferns. Where the walkway crosses the creeks we find ourselves close to the upper story of the rainforest. So we found plenty of tree ferns, terrestrial ferns and epiphytes.

*Lygodium reticulatum* which is common around Kuranda was common at this site. It appears with a great variety of pinnae shapes varying from reinform to narrowly triangular.

Tree ferns were more common than one might have expected. As usual there were *Cyathea rebecca* and *Cyathea cooperi* which are common in the Kuranda area. However it was a good surprise to see some *Cyathea woollsiana* beside the tributary to Rainbow Creek.

A surprising thing was *Microsorium punctatum* high up in a tree. This is usually found as a lithophyte.

Also among the epiphytes there were both *Asplenium nidus* and *Asplenium australasicum* one above the other on a tree beside the board walk. Both could be easily reached to feel the positioning of the keel.

## Adiantaceae.

- *Adiantum hispidulum*,

## Aspidiaceae

- *Tectaria confluens*.

## Aspleniaceae

- *Asplenium australasicum*,
- *Asplenium nidus*,

## Blechnaceae

- *Blechnum cartilagineum*,
- *Doodia media*,

## Cyatheaceae

- *Cyathea cooperi*,
- *Cyathea rebecca*,
- *Cyathea woollsiana*,

## Davalliaceae

- *Davallia pyxidata*,

## Gleicheniaceae

- *Dicranopteris linearis*,

## Hemionitidaceae

- *Pityrogramma calomelanos*,\*\*

## Lycopodiaceae

- *Lycopodiella cernua*,

## Marattiaceae

- *Marattia oreades*,

## Nephrolepidaceae

- *Nephrolepis cordifolia*\*,
- *Nephrolepis hirsutula*,
- *Nephrolepis oblitterata*,

## Polypodiaceae

- *Belvisia mucronata*,
- *Colysis ampla*,
- *Drynaria rigidula*,
- *Microsorium punctatum*,
- *Platyserium hillii*,
- *Pyrrosia longifolia*,
- *Pyrrosia rupestris*,

## Schizaeaceae

- *Lygodium reticulatum*,

## Taenitidaceae

- *Taenitis pinnata*,

## Thelypteridaceae

- *Christella dentata*,
- *Christella parasitica*,
- *Christella subpubescens*,

\**Nephrolepis cordifolia* in this situation was probably planted. It is a native to this area and the tablelands generally. However when it is planted in a garden it tends to take over and behave like a weed. When it occurs in nature it is well behaved like any other native fern.

\*\*This is an introduced exotic species. Most gardens have it. However it crops up here and there in the bush - often miles from civilisation. However it is not a pest as you only occasionally find one or two isolated plants.

†29 species.

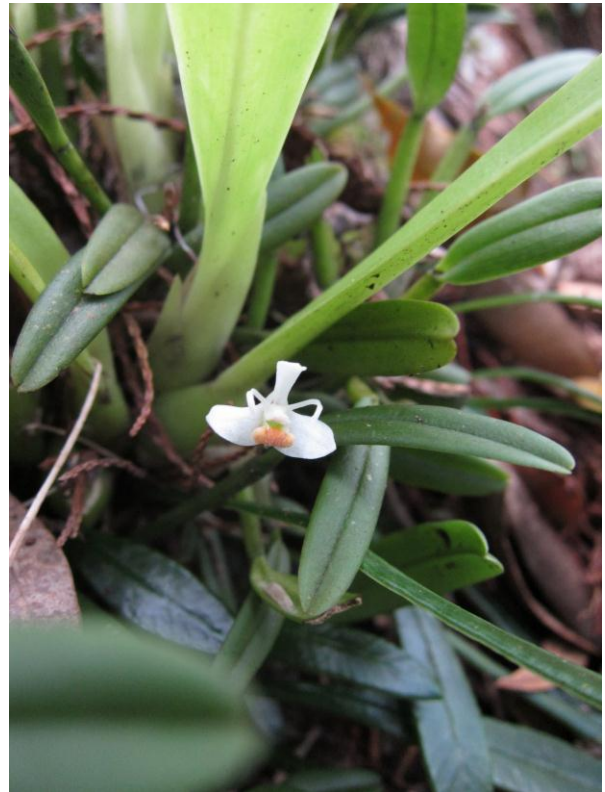
## Mt Windsor Orchids

A couple of Cairns Sgappers were invited to Mt Windsor for a day of Elaeocarpaceae catching. Members will be pleased to hear that three of the more obscure species were trapped on the day satisfying the aim of the outing.

Of course the plant search was not restricted to quandongs. Several other flowering specimens were found that might excite the orchid buffs amongst us. Any ideas on the identity of the following?



*Bulbophyllum evasum* / *Kaurorchis evasa* ?



*Bulbophyllum taylora* / *Cadetia taylora* ?



Earth Star – Mt Windsor