

SOCIETY FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS (OLD. REGION) INC.

CAIRNS BRANCH NEWSLETTER

No 155, FEB/MARCH 1996.

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NEXT MEETING- THE EDUCATION CENTRE, Greenslopes St. Edge Hill. (Opposite Centenary Lakes).

The first meeting of the year will be held on the third Tuesday of the Month, 19th March at 7.45pm. (Open 7.30pm for Library exchange etc.).

GUEST SPEAKER: (commencing 8pm) This month guest speaker spot will be replaced by two workshops.

Our first workshop will be centred around the new legislation regarding the propagation and sale of restricted plants. Please read the attached brochure from the DEH as well as the article published in your latest Queensland Bulletin.

Do these articles raise some butts, what happens, what ifs, whys and wherefores,

Good!!!! Now please write your questions down (because despite your best intentions you will forget them) and bring them along to the meeting where further discussion will result in more questions. We will then formalise these and forward them to DEH for written replies.

The second workshop is designed to help our newer members learn some commonly used botanical terms (as used by our excursion leaders) and will be centred around living examples of these features.

If you have noticed any unusual features on plants or just want to know the difference between crenate and serrate etc, bring in some leaves, flowers and fruits for our experts to name. A hand lens may prove helpful.

THE AGM IS ALSO THIS MONTH.. NO NEED TO PANIC - MOST POSITIONS ARE ALREADY ORGANISED ALTHOUGH ALWAYS OPEN FOR NOMINATIONS ON THE DAY.

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Rob Jago	552266
Vice Chairman	Rob Hinxman	568250
Secretary	Debbie Yee	316103
Treasurer	Mary Gandini	542190
Newsletter Editor	Dusty Bennett	541448
Librarian & Book Sales	Val Clarke/Francis Boyd	554817
Publicity/Guests	Helen Moody	362882
Displays Co-ordinator	Grahame Magarry	316103
Tuckerologist	Des Boorman	452777

EXCURSION: 17th. MARCH (SUNDAY) HERBERTON/WATSONVILLE/IRVINGBANK

MEET 10AM: TINPANIKAN CREEK, HERBERTON.

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

Anton Van Der Schans (Landscape Architect of Site Plan) was well prepared with some slides of the Cairns Casino's Conservatory.

Anton explained how this needed to be an advanced project of 12 months. Plants needed to be well established prior to use.

With many native plants used, the conservatory enhances the spectacular views of the inlet and out to sea. The project had to take into account the size and weight of everything used. The rocks (artificially constructed), the soil (depth and makeup), some areas 30cm deep and up to 1.5 mts. limiting the trees, height of mature specimens etc. all needed advanced consideration. Nevertheless, a lovely waterfall, set amongst ferns and creepers make for a natural looking environment.

Using tropical rainforest plants from around the world the Restaurant and Stage decking were well suited to the atmosphere. Cycads, Bromelads, Costus, Tapeinocheilos and an interesting Philadendron cultivar (made from exposure to radiation). Some rare (exotic) Licualas, with large leafed Nth. Qld. Davidsonia pruriens, Licuala ramsayi all performed well having been transplanted, also doing well a 4mtr. heigh Lepidozamia hopei.

The conservatory boasting a waterfall and creek, makes a comfortable home for Tassells and various Heliconia family. Lipstick and Date Palms are well used as wind -breaks as the gardens are open on three sides to the elements with the dome having a shade factor of 50%.

Nth. Queensland fish and plants in the water area has helped to convince a sunbird to fly in and nest.

Anton says they are still working on Anzac Park area which adjoins the casino

THE CONSERVATORY IS OPEN FOR WALK THROUGH VIEWING FROM 11am TO 4pm - AND WELL WORTH MAKING THE EFFORT

General Business and correspondence proceeded, with Cairns Show Assoc. requesting our support - we agreed to participate once again including \$30 prize money. Members agreed to some changes in Native Plant Section of Competition.

CAFNEC - summary of proposed Wet Tropics Plan.

SGAP QLD. RECIION notified proposed Qld. "Native Conservation Act." information workshop on Mon 26th Feb.

Some members will attend.

Cairns City Council apologised for not inviting Club to the presentation of the Garden Competition.

ASGAP Indigenous Orchid Study Group Newsletter was received together with questionnaire and request for membership. Don stated hands on members were needed.

Members agreed to membership and subscription for '96 to Cairns Education Center.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Financial statement sent to Qld. Region by Mary.

GONDWANA PROJECT - SGAP still waiting to assist David Warmington with this project. Plant collection and signs being discussed. Both thoughts will be difficult to achieve with restrictions on plant collection and inhibitive cost of signs. Further discussion needed.

Trinity Bay/Woree High School - Hort. training for students and Sgap to provide advice on recreating the shoreline of Trinity Bay as it was 200 years ago.

Fire & Cassowary management on Mt. Whitfield. Sgap to collect botanical specimens.

Meeting closed with usual discussions including the Banksia oblongifolia, B. plagiocarpa and Haemodorum coccineum flower specimens.

An informative meeting enjoyed by more than 21 members and guests.

FLOWERING THIS MONTH - FEBRUARY

Banksia integrifolia, B. oblongifolia, B. plagiocarpa

Gardenia scabrella

Grevillea dryandrii (red & pink)

Haemodorum coccineum

Phaleria Clerodendron

Xanthostemon chrysanthus

Tapeinocheilos ananaise

Syzygium oleosum