



Society for Growing Australian Plants (Queensland Region) Inc.

Cairns Branch
PO Box 199
Earlville Qld 4870

Newsletter No. 96
February 2010

Society Office Bearers

Chairperson	Tony Roberts	40 551 292
Vice Chairperson	Mary Gandini	40 542 190
Secretary	Ing Toh	40 310 551
Treasurer	Robert Jago	40 552 266

Membership Subscriptions- Qld Region- Renewal \$35.00, New Members \$40, each additional member of household \$2.00 **Student** - \$30.00, **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

Dates to remember

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

NEXT MEETING Saturday 20th February. Meet at Deadman's Gully Environmental Reserve, Clifton Beach at 1200. See below for details.

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

Townsville Branch

General Meeting Wednesday 10th February 2010 at the Community Centre – Annandale Shopping Centre The guest speaker will be John Dowe who will present his new book 'Australian Palms – Biogeography, Ecology and Systematics'.

The February outing will take place on Sunday the 14th of February, destination TBA. Please contact John Elliot: jw-elliott@aapt.net.au for more information (after 10Feb10).

February Excursion

In keeping with the suggestions made at the close of 2009, we are going local. We will meet at Deadman's Gully Environmental Reserve, Clifton Beach (see map below) then transfer to the start of the Clifton to Palm Cove walking trail. We will walk to Palm Cove and back along a paved path that meanders through manicured parks, revegetated areas and native scrub. During a recce trip along the path last weekend a

crocodile was spotted sunning itself on a fallen tree in Sweet Creek.

Don't forget to bring a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and more than likely an umbrella. We will have lunch/meeting prior to commencement of the walk at Deadman's Gully Environmental Reserve if there are any tables available or at the park at the start of the path. (at the end of Osterland St)

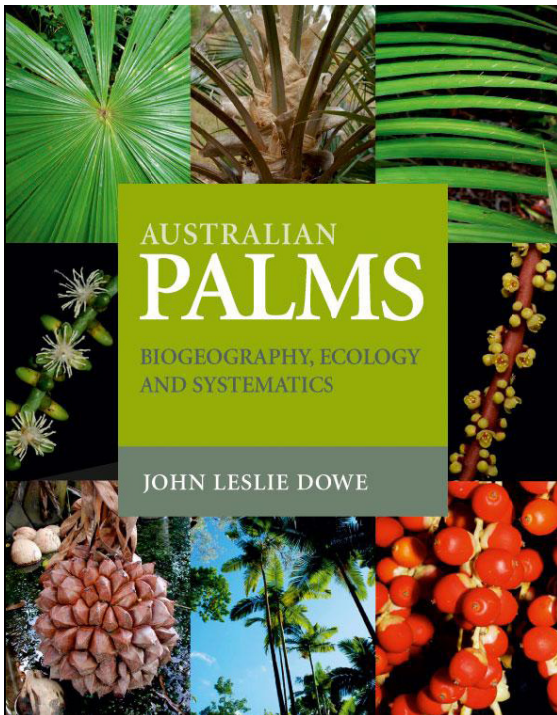


November 09 Outing

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we visited Saltwater Creek to investigate the mangrove removal project. Attached below are a couple of photos of the result of that project.



Book Review



Description (from CSIRO web site)

Australian Palms offers an updated and thorough systematic and taxonomic treatment of the Australian palm flora, covering 60 species in 21 genera. Of these, 54 species occur in continental Australia and six species on the off-shore territories of Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island and Christmas Island.

Incorporating recent advances in biogeographic and phylogenetic research, *Australian Palms* provides a comprehensive introduction to the palm family *Arecaceae*, with reviews of botanical history, biogeography, phylogeny, ecology and conservation. Thorough descriptions of genera and species include notes on ecology and typification, and keys and distribution maps assist with field recognition. Colour photographs of habit, leaf, flowers, fruit and unique diagnostic characters also feature for each species.

This work is the culmination of over 20 years of research into Australian palms, including extensive field-work and examination of herbarium specimens in Australia, South-East Asia, Europe and the USA.

WWW site of interest

The Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) hosts a very informative website:

<http://www.derm.qld.gov.au>

On the website is a section that should be of particular importance and use to botanists, both professional and amateur. It is called **Wildlife Online** accessed at:

http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/wildlife-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife_online/

Links on this web page allows users to generate plant, species lists for areas within Queensland. The lists are derived from the Queensland Herbarium Collection Records (HERBRECS)

. Despite the power of this application, it is quite simple to use. Either;

- select an area from one of the drop down menus,
- designate an area using lat-long information or
- select the lat-long of a point and the distance from it.

Species lists are emailed within minutes. The application is also able to generate species lists for animals.

Note

Andrew has stood down as Newsletter Editor and consequently I have taken on the position, at least until the AGM in March. If you have anything that you would like included in the newsletter, please email me at:

travelling_botanist@yahoo.com.au