



East London Bromeliad Society

South Africa

Established: 25 July 2009

Constitution:

Our aim is to promote and encourage awareness and interest in Bromeliads in East London and all of South Africa.

Our objectives are:

- To spend time with people who share our fascination with the world of bromeliads, this includes tillandsias (airplants).
- To learn more about bromeliads and their requirements in order to grow them successfully.
- To share successes and problems with growing and collecting bromeliads.
- To try to identify unnamed plants.
- To hold monthly meetings.
- To have a 'brag' table at the monthly meetings where members can display their bromeliads.
- To have a 'problem' table at the monthly meetings where members can display their unhappy bromeliads and get advice from fellow members.
- To share knowledge and learn together.
- Topics for presentation or discussion at meetings will cater for the beginner, the super passionate and everyone else in between.
- To visit bromeliad growers and collectors gardens.
- To swap or sell bromeliads to fellow members and the public.
- Member Plant sales after the conclusion of the meeting. Each member is responsible for dealing with their own sales.
- To be affiliated to the BSI (Bromeliad Society International). To qualify as a member society we need a minimum of 5 of our members to join the BSI, then as a Society we are also required to join. This goal was achieved in January 2012. Individual BSI membership can be applied for through membership@bsi.org or you can contact Lyn Wegner, brommiesfa@telkomsa.net
- We have books and international journals/newsletters on flash stick available in our library, which may be borrowed for a month or longer, if the item is not required by another member.
- To correspond/network with country members via eg. e-mail, Facebook, telephone or plan a visit.
- To hold a year end social function.
- To hold an annual Bromeliad Show, Promotion or Open Day.
- To issue no less than 10 newsletters a year. This will only be distributed to all members via email. We are unable to print and post the newsletter due to the cost involved. The library will have hard copies and digital copies (on Flash Drive) available to members.
- To swap journals with other societies via email. Digital copies will be available in our library.
- All input is welcome ie. suggestions, criticisms, comments etc.
- We welcome all visitors to meetings, both local and out of towners. After attending three meetings they are expected to join the society.
- Monthly Raffles and Lucky Draws:
 - We will have a monthly Raffle Draw which is open to members only.
 - As of 2016 we will have 8 raffle winners per meeting, 4 local member winners and 4 country member winners.
 - Raffle tickets will be R5 whenever possible.
 - There will be Lucky Draws at the meeting and can be won only by people present at a meeting.
 - We welcome donated plants for Raffles and Lucky Draws.
 - Members are welcome to submit their bromeliads into the Raffle Draw selection and if chosen will be paid for their plant/s.
 - Raffle tickets at R5 each may be purchased in advance. Any amount of R5 tickets can be purchased. The society will pay for the postage costs for country raffle winners. We have a gift voucher option or R100 cash if preferred.

- Our annual membership fees are as follows: R120 per family / household and R60 per scholar. The secretary will send out reminders to members when fees are due, if no response after 3 months, they will be removed as a member and will no longer receive the newsletters.
- Fees are used for the following:
 - Stationery (paper, postage expenses, printer cartridge, laminations etc)
 - To purchase Raffle and Lucky Draw plants (donated plants for this purpose are gratefully accepted).
 - Small gifts for eg: an outside speaker, or for the host/hostess of gardens we visit.
 - To contribute towards an annual social function.
 - Postage costs for raffle plants won by country members.
 - Venue fee should we require a larger venue for our meetings.
 - To purchase books for our library.
 - Hold a draw to sponsor one lucky member to win a year's BSI subscription.
- It is not the society's intention to accumulate excessive funds.
- Should the society cease to exist, the remaining funds will be distributed on a pro rata basis amongst the current members at that time.
- Our financial statements can be viewed on request. Members will be e-mailed an annual statement before the AGM held every year in July.
- Committee meeting minutes can be viewed on request.
- Members will receive updated membership lists regularly which include all members contact details.
- There is a tea duty roster. There will be three people allocated per meeting to cater for tea. Members will be required to do the following:
 - Supply 2 plates of eats (sweet or savoury).
 - Put out tea cups, plates etc. before the meeting, serve tea, wash dishes, clean up and pack away afterwards, assist the host where necessary. All this applies to the guys as well when they are on tea duty.
- We will meet on the last Sunday of each month, January – November, at 14.00h at various locations around East London.
- Monthly Meeting format:
 - Welcome to all members and visitors.
 - Apologies.
 - Matters arising from the previous meeting.
 - Presentation or discussion, practical demonstration or workshop eg. discussion of a genus (variety) eg. Neoregelia or mounting of broms etc.
 - Questions and hopefully answers arising from the above.
 - Show and Tell (Brag or problem bromeliads presented by members)
 - Any other comments or questions.
 - A Lucky draw followed by Country raffle winners and finally Local raffle winners.
 - Tea and Refreshments.
 - Library Open
 - Member plant Sales
 - Payments to the Treasurer
- A committee meeting will be held once a month.
- Committee Portfolios: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Librarian, Raffle Draw Co-ordinator, Catering Co-ordinator, Events Co-ordinators
- A re-election of portfolio holders will be done annually at the AGM held in July.
- Committee members are elected for a two year term in office but may be re-elected once the two years are over.
- Conflict within the society, a complaint or negative interaction by a member/s will be discreetly addressed by a member of the committee.

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For further details about ELBS please contact:

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