

Bermuda Shorts Edition

Registration for the New Caledonia Biennial is open! Here is *Basselinia pancheri* in Rivière Bleue, a site that we will be visiting in New Caledonia. Photo courtesy of Don Hodel.



Please enjoy this short Newsletter while your editor prepares for extensive palm related travel (see Parting Shot).

Bermuda — text & photos by Andrew Street

Bermuda is a 35 million year old speck of volcanically created, coral capped land, out in the near middle of the Atlantic Ocean. I was invited early this year to assess the palms on the island. Bermuda has one endemic *Sabal* and a very rich history, dating back to, at least, the early 1500s.

Once I reached the small archipelago, two things struck me about the British territory: first, the sheer beauty of this miniature Eden, and second was how friendly and kind everyone was with each other! Also top speed on the Island 35 kmh.

Due to the small size, Bermuda's ecosystem is potentially very fragile. There are strict measures in place to keep further plant material off the island. With that in mind, it was very important to identify any unique palms on the island, document them, and attempt to further propagate so the species is not lost to Bermuda. My work will continue, early next year, but already, seeds of the lone *Sabal minor* on the island, have been taken and sown. Fingers crossed!

A remaining native stand of native *Sabal bermudana*.



Fossilized palm trunks fronting gorgeous blue water.



Below: Palms line the cutout driveway to the governor's mansion.



Rare red emergent leaf of *Dictyosperma album*.



Save the Species 2023 Launches Next Month



EARTH AMBULANCE created by American artist Helène Aylon in the 1980s. Rain forests and palm habitats are in great peril. The International Palm Society's mission includes conservation. Please be on the lookout for a new "Save the Species" campaign next month.

Maui Update

We have all read about the recent fires which devastated the region of Lāhainā on the Hawaiian Island of Maui. I'm proud to announce that IPS Directors Mary Lock, Dr. Bill Baker and many others are spearheading an effort repopulate the denuded landscape with native *Pritchardia* palms. This farsighted program is being developed by The Merwin Conservancy (which welcomed the IPS during the sold-out 2022 Hawaiian Islands biennial). The project dovetails nicely with a recently found letter by Mr. Merwin expressing his desire "to grow more of the genus (*Pritchardia*) from wild seed," written thirty-four years ago!

One-time donations can be made via the link below:

[The Merwin Conservancy](#)

Returning to school means stocking up on new books. Dr. William Baker and colleagues have announced pre-publication details of their highly anticipated book: *Palms of New Guinea*. Included is an exclusive discount offer for the members of the International Palm Society. *Palms of New Guinea* will be printed in small quantities, so please consider ordering your copy soon.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER

for members of The International Palm Society

Receive 20% discount when you pre-order *Palms of New Guinea**



Palms of New Guinea

By William J. Baker

Anders S. Barfod

Rodrigo Cámara-Leret

John L. Dowe

Charlie D. Heatubun

Peter Petoe

Jessica H. Turner

Scott Zona

John Dransfield
and Lucy T. Smith

Kew Publishing, 2024

est. 800 pp, 246 x 189 mm

ISBN 978 1 84246 810 4

eISBN 978 1 84246 811 1

Palms of New Guinea is the first comprehensive account of these immensely important plants on the world's largest tropical island, covering their taxonomy, identification, conservation status and much more.

Featuring over 650 photographs, 250 detailed maps and illustrations by botanical artist Lucy T. Smith.

Written by nine leading scientific experts, this is an essential companion for anyone studying or growing palms from the New Guinea region.

*Pre-order *Palms of New Guinea* from the Kew online shop shop.kew.org for the special price of £64 (RRP £80) using code **PALM**.

Postage free on orders to the UK, charges apply for postage outside of the UK. Offer valid until 1 December 2023.

Royal
Botanic
Gardens **Kew**

Affiliate Update

The Palm Society of Southern California Visits the Sherman Library & Gardens

The Palm Society Of Southern California held their annual banquet at the Sherman Library & Gardens gardens in beautiful Corona del Mar, California. This garden was founded by Arnold Haskell (born in Indiana in 1895) and named for his mentor, Moses Hazeltine Sherman. Mr. Haskell purchased a “charming little fired adobe house” (now serving as the research library) in the 1950s, and added adjoining real estate until he acquired the entire block by 1967. He continuously landscaped the property with rare plants; and his dream of establishing an educational foundation reached fruition by 1966.

The grounds and greenhouses have many splendid palms including *Rhopalostylis baueri* (please see photo below). This particular plant was sourced from IPS Vice President Jeffrey Brusseau’s garden (Ed. note: very fitting since he and Christine were married here) and planted by the PSSC.

During the sold out event attendees enjoyed a catered lunch followed by slideshows of Madagascar, the Seychelles, and a review of the palms of the 2016 Borneo/Singapore biennial. The grand finale was a terrific plant auction where several record prices were made including one for *Chrysalidocarpus basilongus*.

IPS past president Leland Lai at the garden entrance. Leland and Gilles Pierson have spent two years organizing the upcoming 2024 New Caledonia biennial.





Jeffrey Brusseau with the *Rhopalostylis baueri* he donated.

Butia odorata.

Following Page: *Caryota obtusa*.





Palms In Art

Believe it or not, our gregarious society of palm-nuts have myriad of interests beyond horticulture. Many explore other hobbies (e.g., scuba diving, golf, birding, collecting shells) when traveling to exotic locales with the IPS. And I'm sure New Caledonia will be no different.

Here are some notable paintings containing palm trees, enjoyed by your editor during the London midterm.

David Hockney "A bigger Splash" (1967) at Tate Britain. Perhaps the artist's interpretation of *Washingtonia robusta* but with pinnate leaves?



Paul Gauguin "Te Rerioa (The Dream)" (1897) at the Courtauld Gallery. Almost certainly *Cocos nucifera*.



Mohammed Sami "Refugee Camp" (2022) at The Camden Art Center. Likely *Phoenix dactylifera*?



Upcoming Travel with the IPS

Please consider becoming an IPS benefactor to be invited to future small group premium travel. Benefactor rates will increase from \$2500 to \$5000 effective January 1, 2024.

The International Palm Society 33rd Biennial: NEW CALEDONIA
September 22 through September 30, 2024

With over 100 people registered (in just 15 days), we expect this biennial to sell out. So please consider registering soon.



New IPS Benefactor

We are happy to welcome the following new IPS Benefactor:

Horace Hobbs, Florida



Parting Shot

I'm off to the Indian Ocean for the **sold out** IPS mini-biennial. I'm super excited to join this guy (Jeff Marcus) and view this palm (*Acanthophoenix roussei*) in habitat in La Réunion!

