

## Platycerium bifurcatum – one of the world’s oldest houseplants?

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Always check the small-print should be a curator’s mantra – and it was the case in point here. A tiny note on the label of a specimen gave rise to a rather delightful discovery. The specimen is of a frond of the stagshorn fern, a common houseplant in the UK, and the note recorded that the living plant had been transferred to the Royal Horticultural Society’s garden at Wisley from the RHS’s previous garden at Chiswick when it was closing (1903/1904). Cared for by generations of horticulturists the actual plant, a supercentenarian, is still alive and wowing audiences in its home in the Glasshouse.

