



COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

COFFS ORCHID NEWS – NOV 2018

GENERAL MEETING & ORCHID COMPETITION

1st THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7.00 for 7.30 PM, UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED, at NORTH COAST REGIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS, HARDACRE STREET, COFFS HARBOUR.

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	ED PEARCE	0418 519908
<u>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	CAROLE DAVIS	6658 1354
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	PAM WARBURTON	0409 660465
<u>TREASURER:</u>	BRUCE HALL	6658 9891
<u>EDITOR:</u>	ED PEARCE	0418 519908

SPONSORS

YELLOW BRICK ROAD – WEALTH MANAGEMENT

YBR offers a range of services such as home loans, financial advice, insurance, superannuation, cash and investments. Please contact Tim Klingbiel for advice. Shop 82 in City Square, Coffs Harbour Or call on 6653 7407, or tim.klingbiel@ybr.com.au

CFS TRAVEL

See Julie Larkey at CFS Travel, shop 27A in the plaza (opp Big W) Personalised service for all your travel needs. 6652 6555 or julie@cfstravel.com.au

LUDO'S OLD WARES

Buying and selling antiques, old wares and collectibles. Deceased estates. Ulmarra. 0402 044601

TINONEE ORCHIDS

Tinonee Orchids carries a wide variety of orchids and orchid growing supplies – coconut, pots, etc. They provide quick delivery of orders. 6553 1012 or www.tinoneeorchids.com

COFFS COAST MOTORS

For Mazda and Honda vehicles, also second-hand vehicles, and ALL your servicing needs. Do your shopping while your car is serviced. 6652 3122, 41 Grafton St., Coffs Harbour.

COFFS HARBOUR PRODUCE

Coffs Harbour Produce is at 26 June Street in Coffs. They carry a good range of fertilisers, insecticides and fungicides for orchids, as well as general garden needs. 6652 2599.

BRUCE HALL

Bruce provides the raffle items which are a major fundraiser at our shows.

SHEARWATER RESTAURANT

Brekkie and Modern Australian dishes in a light, upscale locale with outdoor tables and lovely views over Coffs Creek. 321 Harbour Drive. www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au or 6651 6063

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1. CALENDAR

- 1 Nov AGM – Ian Warburton – Photography
11 Nov Woolgoolga Workshop
6 Dec Christmas dinner at Shearwater.
7 Feb First meeting of 2019
7 Mar March Meeting
4 Apr April meeting
26/28 Apr 2019 Autumn Show

2. NOVEMBER MEETING.

Always wondered what you need to do to take an awesome orchid photo? Can you improve photos taken with your phone camera? Ian Warburton will have the answers for you at the November monthly meeting.

Ian will talk on Photographing Orchids, etc and will have visual and practical demonstrations to explain what is involved.

3. AGENDA for 2018 AGM

WELCOME to members and visitors

MINUTES of 2017 AGM – as printed in this newsletter

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – as printed in this newsletter

FINANCIAL REPORT – distributed at meeting

1. Moved that annual subscription remain the same in 2017 as for this year, i.e. \$5 for juniors, \$10, and \$15 for couples.

ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS – Returning Officer Ron Cowling takes the chair.

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee – 3 members.

Meeting closed

4. MINUTES of 2017 AGM

Apologies: Dick Cooper, Judy Cowling, Gloria & David Small

Welcome from the President – Edward Pearce

Visitor: Neville Anderson, Guest Speaker: Ian Corbett

Minutes of the 2016 AGM – moved and seconded by Ben and Sue



What do you have in flower? Brassia Rex produces big sprays of the large spidery Brassia flowers.

Bruce – Finance report:

1. Bruce explained the Finance report and explained the structure and activities of the society's finances
2. Income – \$18,133.42; expenditure, \$15,651; profit \$2482.41
3. There are some outstanding matters to be paid next year
4. Reconciliation – 50c out

5. Error in accounts fixed with the bank and all square and correct
6. Detailed expenses are listed in the accounts and monthly reports in the Newsletter
7. Any Questions?

Finance report moved by Betty and seconded by Trevor

Formal motion

1. Annual subscription to be the same as previously; \$5.00 juniors, \$10 seniors, \$15 couples
Treasurer moved, Cathy seconded.

Election of Office Bearers

Meeting handed to returning officer Ron Cowling who announced the results:

President	Edward Pearce
Vice President	Carole Davis
Secretary	Annie Houston
Treasurer	Bruce Hall
Committee	Pam Warburton, Bob Southwell, Neil McDonald

Annual meeting closed 7.45pm



Dendrobium thysiflorum flowers later in the year

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I think we can look on 2018 as a good year for the society. We've had our regular monthly meetings with a variety of interesting speakers covering a variety of topics. We've had a bus trip to Tinonee Orchids for their open day and we had an open house at Helen and Doug Seiver's home to see how Helen grows such lovely orchids.

We had very successful shows in Autumn and Spring with a large number of beautiful plants on display. It's pleasing to see that our shows are well supported by growers so we can have a large display of lots of orchids. Of particular note this year was the judges' decision to make five special awards recognising the quality of some of these orchids.

We have also gained some new members and we welcome them to our society. Sadly, we have also lost some members with several people passing away through the year. I would like to mention that two life members in Steve Clemesha and Sandy Anderson died during the year. Both had terms as president and served the society in several capacities.

I would again like to commend the committee on their efforts and wish everyone well for Christmas (already??) and the new year. May all your orchids thrive!

6. AGENDA for NOVEMBER MEETING

Judges – Barbara Pearce, Helen Seiver

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors.

Minutes of September meeting – as printed in newsletter

Committee Meeting – newsletter

Inwards Correspondence

1. BCU statements
2. Australian Orchid Review

Finances

Sponsor's Spot – Shearwater Restaurant

Table talk

Growing Competition

General Business

1. Christmas Dinner

Raffle, popular vote.

7. MINUTES of SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Ed welcomed all to the September meeting.

Apologies: Stefica Jones; Silesa King & Leonie Everett

Visitors: Reg & Thalia from Adelaide.

A minute silence was observed for the passing of two life members of our Society, Sandy Anderson and Steve Clemesha.

Minutes of August's meeting: Moved by Sue Williams, seconded by John Sidebottom that the Minutes are a true and accurate record of what took place. Carried.

Inward Correspondence: BCU statement, and magazine Orchids Australia.

Sponsor's Spot: Ed encouraged us to support Shearwater at The Promenade, as they support our Society.

Table Talk: Ed drew our attention to Clem Murray's Coelogyne, and the Cymbidiums and a Swamp orchid.

Growing Competition: 1st Pam Warburton, 2nd Trevor Bissett.

General Business:

1. Our Spring Show – Ed encouraged us all to bring as many plants as we could to give the public a true display of what we grow. The committee was asked to come early to help set up the benches before people started bringing in their orchids. Someone asked if we were allowing the sale of Australia native orchids on the Sales Table. Ed has been in contact with The OSNSW to try and get a final decision on this topic and until we are told differently we will continue to sell Australian Natives.
2. Raffle: 1 – Ben Pron, 2 – Trevor Bissett, 3 - Carole Davis.

Popular Vote – There was a tie this month between Neil McDonald's Vanda & Peter Baker's Dendrobium tetragonum (a rare yellow/green colour).

Guest Speaker.

Bruce Hall was this month's speaker and his topic was "The Cultivation of Vanda's and Aeridinae." Bruce's main points were –

- There are roughly 65 species that mainly come from the subtropics of Asia. Australia has 1 species.
- The main points judges look for are **Colour** - should be strong, bright and even; all colours are treated equal. **Shape** - a perfect circle would be the ultimate shape, the petals flat and the flower well

filled in. **Size** - does matter. Large isn't necessarily best as there may be fewer blooms on the spike. 60% of the flowers should be open. **Habit & arrangement** – straight and strong. **Substance and texture.**

- Common problems – Colours not clear and blurring. Short peduncles (stems)
- Diseases – scale and fungus (spray with Mancozeb or Rose spray.)
- Vandas are warm growing plants, look to Nature for their perfect habitat. Rocks, trees. Temps between 12 and 31 degrees Celsius. Keep moist but not wet. Grow in baskets with a coarse bark and repot between 2 – 5 yrs. Use half strength fertilizer in growing season.

The meeting finished at 8.40 pm and a light supper followed.



There are also some Coelogynes in flower. I have a couple of plants of Coelogyne nitida in flower. It has a very striking lip.

8. COMMITTEE REPORT

We had our committee meeting at Shearwater on 11th September and on 16th October. We had a thorough review of our Spring Show and also discussed arrangements for our AGM and the Christmas Dinner in December.

We also discussed the problem with the booking for our October meeting and had a look at the new donations box which has been built for us.

9. JEAN WONG

Some members would already know this but I'm sorry to report that Jean Wong passed away on 5th October. Jean was enjoying a holiday in Caloundra when she passed away. We pass on our sympathies to her

husband Neville, her son-in-law Bob Southwell and daughter-in-law Di Blay

10. CHRISTMAS DINNER

This year our December meeting will be a dinner at Shearwater on the Promenade on Thursday, 6th December. We ask people to arrive by 6 pm so we can order our meals before we have our awards, etc. We had a most enjoyable evening there last year so we're looking forward to the evening. We ask people to sign up at the November meeting so Shearwater knows how many to cater for.

If you will not be at our November meeting but would like to attend the Christmas dinner please let Secretary or President know.

You are invited to bring one plant along for the display and there will be an award for best orchid. People will order from the Shearwater menu.

11. GROWING COMPETITION

We are only just half way in this competition so it is still wide open. Remember young Cattleyas need plenty of light and regular growth fertilizer (higher Nitrogen content) as we start the Spring growing period.

Don't forget to bring your plant for judging to the next meeting.

12. ORCHID BARK

The Society has bags of high quality Orchid bark in two common sizes – 9 to 12mm and 12 to 18mm. Bags are priced at \$25 per 40 litre bag. Contact Bob Southwell (0417 695 834) for pick up or delivery at the next meeting.

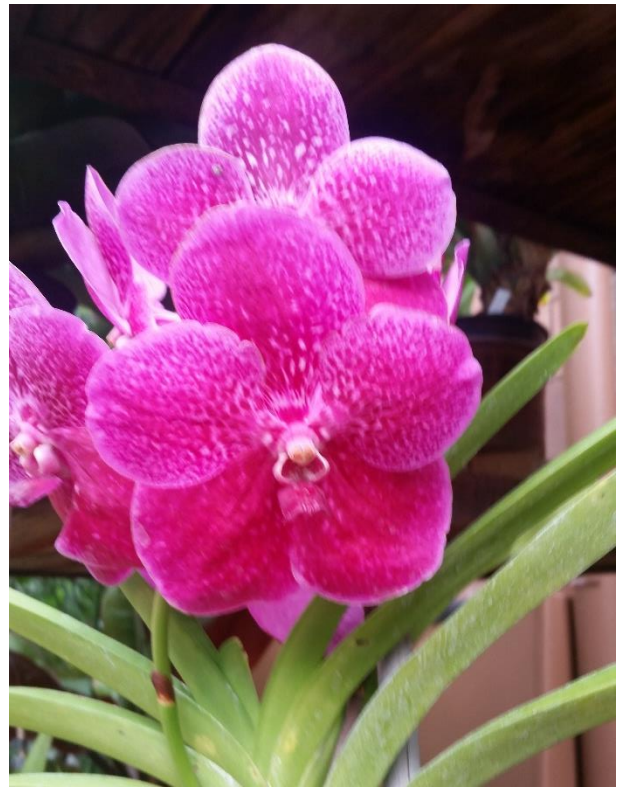
13. ORCHIDS AROUND THE WORLD

From mid-September to early October Judy and I visited friends in Minnesota, USA where we lived for a year when we had a teacher exchange

The state flower of Minnesota is, surprisingly, an orchid. After the snow melts this *Cypripedium reginae* – showy lady slipper – develops and flowers by about the middle of June. There some of these growing across the road from where we lived.



While in Minneapolis we went to the Arboretum, like Botanic Gardens where there was a wide variety of plants suited to cold – very cold – climates. But in the heated glasshouse there were several orchids.



There were several nice Vandas

14. EARLY ORCHID COLLECTORS: THE LOBBS

William and Thomas Lobb were born in Cornwall and began their horticultural training on the Cornish estate of Sir Charles Lemon, whose name is perpetuated by the well-known orchid, *Coelogyne cristata* 'Lemoniana'. Then in the 1830s they both sought employment in Veitch's nursery, which by then had established a branch in Exeter, and was destined soon to become (for a time) the largest nursery in Britain (and the rest of the world).



Coelogyne cristata 'Lemoniana'

In 1840 William Lobb was sent to South America to collect cold-tolerant plants, thus becoming the first in a long line of collectors sent abroad by Veitch's nursery over the next 60 years. His first major introduction to European horticulture was *Araucaria araucana*, the monkey puzzle tree. Sales of its seeds and seedlings alone were sufficient to pay Veitch's expenses for the expedition, thus persuading him to send more collectors abroad. William Lobb introduced many other plants on this and subsequent trips but few were orchids. His greatest claim to fame was probably the discovery of Calveras Grove in the Sierra Nevada of California, a group of 80 or 90 giant sequoia trees (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) measuring 250—320 feet tall and 10-20 feet in diameter. Over 150 years later, Calveras Grove is still a major tourist attraction, and giant sequoia trees can now be found growing in temperate countries all around the world, although none are yet as large as those growing wild in California.

Meanwhile, William's brother Thomas was sent by Veitch to collect tropical and sub-tropical plants, orchids and tropical pitcher plants (*Nepenthes* spp.) in various Asian countries. A succession of trips took him to Singapore, Malaya, Burma, Java, the Philippines and India. Some of the orchids that Thomas Lobb introduced to cultivation for the first time include *Dendrobium infundibulum*, *Vanda coerulea*, *Aerides fieldingii* (syn. *A. rosea*) and *Paphiopedilum villosum*. The loss of a leg resulted in his premature retirement in 1860. His name is perpetuated by the widely grown *Bulbophyllum lobbii*. BM

15. MY COELOGYNE BREEDING

Some people know that I'm breeding Coelogyne. It takes patience because the time from pollination to flowering takes about 7 years. My most advanced plants are nearly 3 years along this path.

This photo shows trays of the 4 hybrids that I have de-flasked so far. I have a couple of other seed pods being flaked and several other pods developing.



Exciting times!