



COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

COFFS ORCHID NEWS – OCT 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
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<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

INDEX

1. Calendar
2. October meeting
3. Agenda for October meeting
4. Minutes of September Meeting
5. Committee Report
6. Christmas dinner
7. AGM
8. Growing competition
9. Spring Show
10. Sales Table
11. Orchid Bark and Charcoal
12. Potting Media for Orchids

1. CALENDAR

- 11 Oct Ian Warburton – Photography
1 Nov AGM – Plant Forum
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. OCTOBER 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 October monthly meeting.

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

3. AGENDA for OCTOBER MEETING

Judges – B. Fox and J Lock

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, New member(s)?

Minutes of September meeting – as printed in newsletter

Committee Meeting – newsletter

Inwards Correspondence

1. BCU statements

Finances

Sponsor's Spot – Shearwater Restaurant

Table talk

Growing Competition

General Business

1. Christmas Dinner

Raffle, popular vote.

Plant Auction



Congratulations to Bill and Jenny Lennon for winning the Grand Champion at our show and being awarded an Award of Merit and an Australian Cultural Certificate by the judges.

4. 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).



One of the lovely Laeliinae on display at our show.

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.

5. COMMITTEE REPORT

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

6. 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 October or November meeting so Shearwater knows how many to cater for.

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.

7. AGM.

Reminder that the AGM will be held at the November meeting. Nomination forms are available and completed forms must be given to Gary Suter, our returning officer a week before the AGM.

After the AGM we will have a plant forum where people are encouraged to ask questions about plants that they might be having trouble with.

8. 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.

9. SPRING SHOW

What a great show we had. Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a success, and particular thanks to our show marshals, Carole and Bob



Grand Champion

B&J Lennon



Reserve Champion R. Thompson and M. Chedzey

Champion Specimen

B&J Lennon

Champion Native

R. Thompson and M. Chedzey

Pittaway Perpetual Trophy

P. Baker

BUC Perpetual Trophy

E. Pearce

Section A – Cymbidium

1. Standard – over 90 mm
1st P. Vandyke
2nd C. Murray
2. Intermediate 60-90 mm
1st J. Sidebottom
2nd P. Vandyke
3. Miniature – under 60 mm
1st R. Smith
2nd P. Vandyke



**Champion Cymbidium – R. Smith
Cymbidium Mem. Marvin Gaye "Royale"**

Section B – Laeliinae

1. Exhibition - 100mm and over
1st B&J Lennon
2nd H. Seiver
2. Intermediate - 60 to 100mm
1st B&J Lennon
3. Miniature - under 60 mm
1st B&J Lennon
2nd R. Smith
4. Cluster hybrid (minimum 5 flowers)
1st R&B Cooper
2nd R. Smith
5. Novelty
1st B&J Lennon
2nd R. Smith



**Champion Laeliinae – R&B Cooper
Slc. Maris Beat “Orange Magic” x self**

Section C – Phalaenopsis

1. Classic shape – mostly white over 75mm
No entry
2. Classic shape – mostly pink over 75mm
1st B. Southwell
3. Classic shape – any other colour over 75 mm
No entry
4. Phalaenopsis 50-75mm
1st B. Southwell
2nd B. Southwell
5. Phalaenopsis under 75 mm
1st R. Smith
2nd R. Smith



**Champion Phalaenopsis – B. Southwell
Phal Mount Beauty x Juihboa Coral “Kitty”**

Section D – Vandaceous

1. Over 60 mm
1st R&J Cowling
2nd B. Hall
2. Under 60 mm
1st B. Hall
2nd B. Hall

Champion Vandaceous – B. Hall

Section E – Paphiopedilum

1. Standard (Red or spotted)
1st M. Mackay
2nd M. MacKay
2. Standard (Green, yellow or white)
1st M. Mackay
2nd M. Mackay
3. Maudie and novelty type
1st M. Mackay
2nd R. Smith
4. Phragmipedium
No entry



**Champion Paphiopedilum – M. Mackay
Paph Hsing Citron x Macabre Ching Hua**

Section F – Dendrobium (not Australian native)

1. Phalaenanthe (hard cane)
no entry
2. Spatulata
1st R&B Cooper
2nd R. Smith
3. Eugananthe (soft cane) – mostly white
1st R. McKay
2nd R&J Cowling
4. Eugananthe (soft cane) – mostly pink/purple
1st R&B Cooper
2nd R&B Cooper
5. Eugananthe (soft cane) – any other colour

- 1st B&J Lennon
2nd no entry



**Champion Dendrobium – R&B Cooper
Dendrobium Pink Doll "Magic"**

Section G – Oncidiinae alliance

1. Hybrid Over 65 mm
1st R&B Cooper
2nd E. Pearce
2. Hybrid 25 – 65 mm
1st T. Bissett
2nd J. Wong
3. Hybrid under 25 mm
1st B&J Lennon
2nd R. Smith & I. Williams
4. Tolumnia
No entry

Champion Oncidiinae – B&J Lennon

Oncidium Misaki Twinkle Obry "Only You"

Section H – Australian Native (Hybrid)

1. Predominantly pink, mauve or purple
1st E. Pearce
2nd R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
2. Predominantly yellow, orange
1st B. Hall
2nd E. Pearce
3. Any other colour
1st R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
2nd R. Thompson and M. Chedzey

Champion Native Dendrobium Hybrid – R. Thompson and M. Chedzey

Section I – AOV hybrid

1. Sarcochilus hybrid

- 1st B&J Lennon
2nd J. Sidebottom

2. Any other variety hybrid
1st E. Pearce
3. AOV Hybrid – Coelogyne
1st E. Pearce
2nd B. Fox

Champion AOV E. Pearce Coelogyne Jannine Banks

Section J – Australian Native Species

1. Speciosum
1st R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
2nd R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
2. Kingianum
1st E. Pearce
2nd R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
3. Any other
1st P. Baker
2nd R. Thompson and M. Chedzey

Champion Native Species – R. Thompson and M. Chedzey. Dendrobium Speciosum.

Section K – Species

1. Cymbidium
1st J. Cornale
2. Laeliinae
1st R & B Cooper
2nd R & B Cooper
3. Phalaenopsis
1st B. Southwell
4. Vandaceous
1st P. Baker
2nd H. Seiver
5. Paphiopedilum
1st M. Mackay
2nd M. Mackay
6. Dendrobium - not Australian native
No entry
7. Oncidium
1st B. Hall
2nd J. Cornale
8. Coelogyne
1st E. Pearce
2nd J. Wong
9. Any other – not Australian Native
1st R. Smith and I Williams
2nd B. Hall

Champion Species – P. Baker

First Flowered Seedling

1st R. Thompson and M. Chedzey
2nd B. Hall

Section M – Novice

1st J & L Altaweel



There was a nice *Coelogyne sparsa* in our display

10. 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.

11. GROWING MEDIA for ORCHIDS

Are you confused about what material you should grow your orchids in? Here is the second part of an article written by Jim Brydie in the K Orchid Society newsletter which he has kindly allowed us to publish.

This is part 3 of this topic.

Fringe Materials - As I mentioned earlier, there are dozens of side components that experienced growers use as additives or even as major components. For example: shell grit, charcoal, fly-ash, pebbles or stones, wine corks, crumbled cork. Over the years, I have tried just about all of them as each wave of “new discovery” swept the orchid grower world. I probably still have half bags of some of the stuff stashed away

in the shed somewhere.

Many are useful, and have their place, but none are the new magic potting material that they were once thought to be. However, there is one ‘side material’ I do use in nearly every blend, and that is crumbled styrene foam. I use it in quantities from 10% to 25% in nearly every combination and I am convinced it provides a substantial positive benefit - mainly in improving drainage and air content in the pot.

However, before you rush off to smash up one of those white foam boxes you carry your plants in, or to buy a bag of bean bag balls, let me stress that there are many types of styrene foam. The boxes we all use are very dense, strong foam and unsuitable for this purpose, nor do I like bean bag balls. Their perfect roundness makes them too hard to blend with other components and they seem to have a hardened surface that repels water.

The foam I use is the softer more easily crumbled type that is often used as packing material in glassware, or electrical equipment. However, even this more easily crumbled type of foam can vary a lot. I search out the types made from ‘larger’ rather than ‘finer’ bubbles of styrene, and that can be fairly easily broken up by hand, or shredded on something like a cheese grater etc.

Electrostatic attraction is somewhat of a problem when handling styrene foam, or when smashing up blocks or sheets of styrene, but this can be managed reasonably if you do it directly into a tub of whatever bark or potting mix you are adding it to. The mix needs to be moist and you need to keep mixing the foam into the moist mix as you shred or crumble the styrene. Just take your time.

added perlite, and added styrene foam. I was very impressed with results in the first 6 months or so but after that I began to experience rots killing off some plants and others just suddenly stopping their forward progress. I am not sure why, but I think part of the problem was that the finer, peaty materials may have washed out from between the coir strands and accumulated in the bottom of the pot, creating a bog zone, which would have resulted in root decline.

At present, I have cut back my use of coco-fibre to using it as an additive to some of my specialist mixes to purposely retain a little more moisture – such as for Paphs. However, I know that many nurseries and other growers are still getting excellent results in coco-fibre dominant mixes so the problem may just be the way in which I was using it.

Member Name	Standard Cymbidium Hybrid Over 90 mm	Intermediate Cymbidium Hybrid 60-90 mm	Oncidinae Hybrids 25 to 65 mm	Vandaceous Hybrid over 60mm	Vandaceous Hybrid under 60mm	Vandaceous SPECIES	Dendrobium Nobile (softcane) Hybrid
Class	1	2	15	19	20	21	26
COOPER Dick							
DAVIS			3				3
HALL B				3	5	3	
Murray C	3						
SIDEBOTTOM		3					

Member Name	A.O.V Species Non Native	Australian Native Hybrid inc Dendrobium	Australian Native species inc Dendrobium	AOV Hybrid over 50mm	AOV Hybrid 50mm and under	AOV species 50mm and under
Class	29	30	31	34	35	37
BAKER	5		5			
COOPER Dick		3				
DAVIS		2		2		
Murray C						2
PEARCE Edward				3	3	3

Popular Vote Neil Mc Donald and Peter Baker