



COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

PO BOX 801, COFFS HARBOUR, NSW, 2450. E-mail coffsos@gmail.com

www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

COFFS ORCHID NEWS – APR 2019

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

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

- 4 Apr April meeting – mounting orchids workshop
26/28 Apr 2019 Autumn Show
2 May Breeding orchids, Ed Pearce
17 May Coffs Harbour Ag Show
6 Jun Neville Anderson – pollination to maturity
4 Jul Brian Heath – a couple of ways to deflask
1 Aug Plant auction
5 Sep Rhonda Smith – Dendrochilums, how I do it
7/9 Sep 2019 Spring Show
17 Oct Photography?
7 Nov AGM. Steve McGrane
10 Nov Woolgoolga Workshop
5 Dec Christmas dinner and awards

2. APRIL MEETING.

Don't forget to bring a suitable orchid mount to the April Meeting. At the conclusion of the general meeting we will hold a workshop to mount your competition plant. This will include a demonstration of the suggested procedure and issue of a worksheet outlining each step. Members will then be able to work at a table and complete the mounting task. If you do not have a suitable mount then we have a number of untreated fence palings cut into suitable sizes to act as mounts.

The Society will provide everything else that will be required on the night.

3. AGENDA for APRIL MEETING

Judges – Gary Suter, Barbara Pearce

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors

Minutes of March meeting – as printed in newsletter

Committee Meeting – newsletter

Inwards Correspondence

1. BCU Statements
- 2.

Financial Report

Table talk

Library

Popular vote, raffle

Workshop on mounting orchids.



Some prize winners at our April 2018 show.

4. MINUTES of MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Ed welcomed all to the March meeting, reminding us that we were holding a plant forum & problem-solving segment instead of a guest speaker

Apologies: David Small, John Sidebottom, Gary Suter, Ron & Judy Cowling, Bronwen Fox, Jennifer Lock.

New members: Sandy Healey & Marcia Lusted were each presented with an orchid and our information sheet, welcoming them into the Society.

Minutes of February's meeting: Moved by Ben Pron, seconded by Neil McDonald that the Minutes are a true and accurate record of what took place. Carried.

February's Committee Meeting; as per Newsletter.

Inward Correspondence: BCU statement, magazine Orchids Australia; notification of Lismore's and Hastings River 2019 Shows & a cheque from Pat Wallace.

Finance: Bruce Hall presented his report. Ben Pron asked why we didn't have as much money in the bank as this time last year. Bruce explained that there were a lot of expenses that the society generates due to the shows, rental of the hall etc. He said that unfortunately money doesn't grow on trees and it's up to the Club to generate money making schemes egg Bunnings BBQ's and selling plants at the Shows. The report was moved by Betty Pittaway and seconded by Carole Davis. Carried.

Sponsor's Spot: Ed spoke glowingly of Tinonee Orchids sponsorship and support of our Society. Ray Clement the owner was our first guest speaker of the year.

Table Talk: Ed took the floor and pointed out a stunning Cattleya whose labellum was a vivid magenta in comparison to its bright yellow petals. He picked out an Oncidium that had very pale leaves and suggested it may need a little less light or a feeding of chelates. He also pointed out a magnificent Dendrobium bigibbum owned by Helen Seiver and told us to get in touch with Ron & Craig Alexander from Harbour Orchids, the local breeders. They are usually at the Markets in town on a Thursday morning.

General Business:

1. Popular Vote: Helen Seiver's Dendrobium bigibbum was the choice of the majority of members. It was a fitting winner.



2. Raffle: 1. Sandy Healey, 2. Marcia Lusted, 3. Carole Davis.

3. Growing Competition: 1st Silesa King, 2nd Pam Warburton.

4. April Show: We still need people to fill in to sell raffle tickets in a few time slots on the roster. Please see Bob Southwell at the next meeting if you can help.

5. The Botanic Gardens will be getting in touch to let us know if the café will be open, otherwise we may be able to sell light refreshments on our Show Days.

5. PLANT FORUM

Bob Southwell started proceedings going over all the different kinds of mounts that could be used for the new growing competition starting in April. He had examples of cork, tree fern, treated wood and even a thong. Mounting will again be demonstrated next month when we pick up our competition plants.

Bruce Hall took the floor and a discussion on the different growing conditions we can "manufacture" in our shade and glass houses. With the huge variety of orchids that we grow in the Society we need to be mindful and creative. Ideally, we should group orchids with similar requirements of light and water. Catasetums like plenty of water and fertiliser (some growers use waterwells). Bulbophyllums have similar needs along with Phragmipediums. Humidity is good with these even in winter.

Bruce also raised the topic of keikis, a vegetative offshoot or plantlet often seen on Dendrobiums. They seem to appear when the plant fails to flower, so food and light maybe an issue, or watering at the wrong time of year.

There was quite a discussion on when to water and why – as many different reasons as people, as each member's growing conditions are unique. Some people were watering every day, others every 2-3 days. Some were soaking the pots, some misting for anything up to 10 minutes twice a day in hot weather.

Marcia brought in some of her collection with various problems. Some had a mottling of "greens" on their leaves, which could have been due to light conditions, watering or a fungal disease.

One of Marcia's orchids had a rotting area on a back bulb. The gurus agreed that cutting it off and applying cinnamon or wettable sulphur should ensure the infection doesn't spread.

Bob continued the talk presenting a number of products to help with these problems. Bob

concentrated on hygiene of the plants and growing areas. Here is a list of the products he has sourced and what they help with.

ALGINOX – A disinfectant to improve hygiene, available at Woolworths.

MICROSIL - A foliar that contains silica for cell strength online at batphone.com.au.

MICRO-DOL Liquid dolomite, calcium and magnesium. NB do not use at the same time as your all-purpose fertilizers as the elements will combine and precipitate out.

HY-SAN Bio-disinfectant for fungal and bacterial infections.

CINNAMON - Sri Lankan is the best, from the health food shop in Little St Coffs Harbour. Use on all orchid problems Neville Anderson swears by it.

A lot to try and take in but we hope the information helps all the members with their plants.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm and a light supper followed.

6. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Please note that the annual memberships were due at the February meeting. The fees are the same as for 2018, i.e. \$5 for a junior membership, \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family (New members who paid towards the end of last year don't need to pay for 2018). Please pay Bruce Hall as soon as possible.

Members may wish to pay their subscriptions directly into our account, or by Netbank. The BSB for our account is 533000, account number 60050. This is a BCU account in the name of Coffs Harbour Orchid Society.

7. AUTUMN SHOW

The Autumn Show will be held over two days on Saturday 27th April and Sunday, 28th April in the usual venue at the Coffs Botanic Gardens. We will be setting up the Display Area from 1pm on Friday 26th April. The Committee would appreciate assistance on the Friday afternoon.

A Show Roster has been drawn up for help with selling raffle tickets, plant sales, supervision of the orchid display and a number of other activities which make the Show a success. A copy of the Show Roster is attached to this newsletter. Please check it to see when you will be required to assist.

Benching of Orchids will take place on Friday 26th April from 3pm to 6pm and a further period from 6.30am to 7.30am on Saturday morning. Two preparation tables

will be available outside the Display Room so plants can be prepared for exhibition. Please remove any travelling stakes and support wires and make sure the plant is properly labelled and has the Show Registration Number attached. Please place your plant on the Receiving Table inside the Display Room. The Show Marshalls will place the plant in the correct position for judging. Exhibitors are asked not to place their plants directly on the show bench unless directed by a Show Marshal.

Judging of the Show will take place from 8am on Saturday and the Show will open to the public from 10am.

A Plant Sales Table will operate during the Show and members can bring their sale plants in on Friday afternoon or early Saturday. Sales tags will be available at the April Meeting.

The Autumn Show Schedule will be emailed to all members early in April.

8. GROWING COMPETITION

The final judging will take place at the April Meeting and prizes will be presented at the May Meeting. Check your competition plants to see if any are developing a spike and if so, bring it along to the meeting.

9. NEW GROWING COMPETITION

The 2019-2020 Growing Competition plant will be *Dendrobium* Rutherford Starburst 'Tinonee'. Plants can be ordered from Bruce or Pam at \$10. Only one plant per member. The plant draw will take place at the April Monthly Meeting.

This year we have decided that all plants entered in the competition must be in a mounted format. This could be using a piece of cork, a tree fern block, an old thong, a piece of fence paling, etc. Do not use treated timber.



In order to help members mount their plant we will hold a plant mounting workshop during the April meeting. You will need to pay for your plant plus bring a suitable mount along to the meeting. The Society will supply everything else that will be needed to mount the plant along with a worksheet describing the procedure.

If you don't wish to mount the plant and only want to add it to your collection then that is fine. However, plants in pots will not be accepted in the Growing Competition.

If you will be absent from the April meeting then you can mount your plant in your own time at home. The first judging of the mounted plants will be from the May Monthly Meeting.

Late News: Only nine plants left. Let Bob know if you want to reserve one.

10. COMMITTEE MEETING

We held a committee meeting at Shearwater on 12th March. We covered –

- Planning for April Show
- Annual subscriptions and membership
- New growing competition
- Library
- Agricultural Show in May.
- Orchid Society shirts.

11. LIBRARY

Did you know that we have a Library for the use of all our members?? It has recently been overhauled, and the Catalogue has been updated, but there are still a lot of old (ancient?) books which we feel should be replaced so are asking what sort of things would you be interested in borrowing. We subscribe to *Orchids Australia* which are always available, and they go back about nine years. Once older than this, we usually offer them to members as giveaways.

We have a number of books which are more academic but certainly of interest for those wanting to drill down their understanding of orchid culture and history. Our Catalogue also covers orchids grown in countries other than Australia, exotic species, the good old *How To* in all its variations with information for all sorts of genera on potting mix, types of shade houses, watering, divisions, pests and diseases – you name it, someone has an opinion!! However, lots of information and some great photos to inspire you. We also have Pocket Guides and, more specifically, texts on *Cattleya*, *Cymbidiums*, *Dendrobiums*, *Lycaste*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis* and *Vandas*. Sometimes you have to squeeze between the chairs to have a look at our collection but it may be worth the effort!

In the meantime, our Treasurer has indicated that he may be prepared to open the War Chest so funds are available for new Library acquisitions, but we need your help. Are you happy with the *General* section which covers a mixture of plants OR would you like more specific texts on your favourite orchid, other than those already available??? For the next meeting, perhaps you would hand in a note with your THREE favourites – for example *Dendrobiums*, *Brassia*, *Paphs*, *Oncidiums*, *Vandas*, *Cattleyas*, *Species*, *Cymbids*, *Coelogyne*, etc, etc. – so many. We all have preferences, mine is pendulous and yellow - personal rather than scientific!! Once these preferences are collated, we can ascertain the gaps in our Library and look around for books to fill the void. In the meantime, please feel free to poke around the shelves (all TWO of them).

Don't forget to let us know on what you would like more information – book wise or verbal via presentations at our meetings.



2018 Show.

C.H.O.S. AUTUMN SHOW ROSTER 2019

FRIDAY 26TH APRIL

SET UP: (From 1pm) Bronwen Fox, Bruce Hall, Ed Pearce, Pam Warburton, Carole Davis, Neil McDonald, Bernie and Carol Axford, Leonie Everitt, Bob Southwell, June Kinnear, Di Blay.
Any other members are welcome to assist.

BENCHING: 3PM to 6PM

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL

Show Marshalls: Bob Southwell and Carole Davis **Floor Assistant:** Di Blay
Plant Registrar/Show Recorder: Bronwen Fox & Pam Warburton **Catering:** Sue Williams
Sale Plants: Out 6.30am Neil McDonald **Raffle Organisation:** Bruce Hall
Outside Organisation: Edward Pearce and Neil McDonald
Benching: 6.30am to 7.30am
Judging: From 8am. Only essential personnel in Show Room

	RAFFLE	SALES	SHOW ROOM	COMMITTEE
9 - 11	Gloria Small Carole Axford	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Gary Suter Bob Southwell	Carole Davis
11 - 1	Sue Williams Rose McKay	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Betty Pittaway Pam Warburton	Bob Southwell
1 - 3	June Kinnear Leonie Everitt	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Lina Altaweel Jean Altaweel	Bruce Hall
3 - 5	Leonie Everitt Trevor Bissett	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Eleanor McDonald Neil McDonald	Edward Pearce

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL

9 - 11	Pam Warburton Sue Williams	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Brenda Mayled Betty Pittaway	Bob Southwell
11 - 1	Silesa King Jennifer Lock	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Leonie Everitt Ron Cowling	Bruce Hall
1 - 3	Judy Cowling Sue Williams	Barbara Pearce Val Magor	Jenny Lennon Bill Lennon	Pam Warburton

PRESENTATION 3PM. PACK UP FROM 3.30PM
ASSISTANCE IN CLEANING UP WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY THE COMMITTEE