

# **COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY**

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www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

# **COFFS ORCHID NEWS – JUNE 2019**

# **GENERAL MEETING & ORCHID COMPETITION**

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

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

# 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 <a href="https://www.tinoneeorchids.com">www.tinoneeorchids.com</a>

# **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.

#### SHEARWATER RESTAURANT

Brekkie and Modern Australian dishes in a light, upscale locale with outdoor tables and lovely views over Coffs Creek. 321 Harbour Drive. <a href="www.shearwaterreastaurant.com.au">www.shearwaterreastaurant.com.au</a> or 6651 6063

# **LUDO'S OLD WARES**

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

# **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.

#### **BRUCE HALL**

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

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#### 1. CALENDAR

6 Jun Neville Anderson – Pollination to maturity

29 Jun Alan Merriman talk in Woolgoolga

4 Jul Brian Heath – a couple of ways to deflask

13 Jul Tinonee Orchids Open Day

1 Aug Plant auction

5 Sep Rhonda Smith – Dendrochilums, how I do it

7/9 Sep 2019 Spring Show

17 Oct Photography – Ian Warburton.

7 Nov AGM. Steve McGrane 10 Nov Woolgoolga Workshop

5 Dec Christmas dinner and awards

#### 2. JUNE MEETING.

Our guest speaker will be Neville Anderson and he will talk on 'Orchids from pollination to maturity'. Neville is a well-known orchid grower, President of Woolgoolga Orchid Society and always delivers a fantastic talk. The meeting commences at 7.30pm.

Brian Heath will be our Guest Speaker on 4<sup>th</sup> July. Brian is a well-known Grafton Orchid Grower and works at Rosella Orchids in South Grafton. Brian will talk about different ways of de-flasking and caring for young orchids. He will also have some plants for sale before and after the meeting. If you want him to bring any special plants or hardware (pots, etc) from Rosella then contact him prior to the July Meeting.

# 3. AGENDA for JUNE MEETING

Judges - Peter Baker, Neil McDonald

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors

Minutes of May meeting – as printed in newsletter

Committee Meeting - newsletter

**Inwards Correspondence** 

- 1. BCU Statements
- 2. Tinonee Orchids Invitation
- 3

Financial Report – as presented in newsletter

Table talk -

Sponsor's Spot

Library

Popular vote, raffle

**General Business** 

- 1. Alan Merriman Q&A
- 2. Tinonee Open day
- 3. Venue for Christmas Dinner, etc in 2019?

#### 4. MINUTES of MAY GENERAL MEETING

Ed welcomed all to the May meeting. He thanked all who were involved in our Autumn Show, and Dick Cooper was presented with his trophy for Grand Champion of our Show.

Ed spoke about Tinonee Orchids as one of our main sponsors, and hoped that we as members supported them in return.

**Apologies:** John Sidebottom, Hazel Earnshaw, Jean & Lena Altaweel, Carole Davis, June Kinnear, & Noelene Jackson.

**Minutes of April's meeting:** Moved by Sue Williams, seconded by Betty Pittaway that the Minutes are a true and accurate record of what took place. Carried.

April's Committee Meeting: as per Newsletter.

**Inward Correspondence:** BCU statement.

**Finance:** Bruce Hall presented his report, he said that the full details of this month will be in the next Newsletter as he is waiting to finalise the expenses from the Show when he gets his new cheque book from BCU. The Report was moved by Ben Pron and seconded by Clem Murray. Carried.

**Table Talk:** Dick Cooper tabled a collection of Dendrobiums 6 hybrids and 2 species. Dick's talk appears later in the Newsletter.

#### **General Business:**

1. Popular Vote: Elinor McDonald's vibrant yellow Oncidium Sweet Sugar 'Super'.



- 2. Raffle: 1. Leonie Everitt 2. Neil McDonald, 3. Bob Southwell. 4. Ed Pearce.
- 3. 2019 Growing Competition: 1<sup>st</sup> Leonie Everitt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Williams
- Presentation of the 2018 Growing Comp. 1<sup>st</sup> Pam Warburton 20pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Williams 15pts, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Selisa King 13pts.
- 5. The Agricultural Show Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Set up of display Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of May 11am to 3pm. Location Advocate Exhibition Hall at the Showground.
- Library books were on display, and it was good to see people an active interest in what was on offer. Dick Cooper said he had a series of books by Jim Renshaw that he would donate to the Society.

#### 5. DICK COOPER'S TABLE TALK

These selected 6 hybrids & 2 species are all Dendrobiums. The species are Australian - both are *Den.bigibbum* and are the connecting element here all the hybrids have *bigibbum* in their genes. *Den.bigibbum* occurs naturally in the Australian bush in 3 distinct populations. A 4th population is found on 1 east Indonesian island.

Since its' discovery in 1852, bigibbum has had a long and confused taxonomic history. From 1852 until the 1970s, there was on-gong debate whether different populations were separate species or varieties of one species, or whether the correct name was D. bigibbum, D. phalaenopsis, D. lithocola or D. schroderianum. The 1st 3 were all supposedly found in Australia. In 1978, our Steve Clemesha proposed that D. phalaenopsis and D. lithocola were actually varieties of Den. bigibbum; and that different varieties of bigibbum existed as different populations. Each population had distinct separating features and Steve named the Indonesian form D. bigibbum var. laratensis, referring to Indonesian island of Larat where it only occurred. However, debate continued. Then in 2011 Peter Adams published a DNA study of all the Australian Dendrobiums (and some Asian ones) and largely agreed with Steve. His study has since been accepted by the RHS and The World Plant Index now shows 4 populations of D. bigibbum, i.e. variety bigibbum, var. superbum, var. compactum and var. schroderianum (Steve's var. laratensis).

Some people refer to *D. bigibbum* as the **Cooktown Orchid**. That name really only applies to 1 *bigibbum* variety - the form found near Cooktown. In the mid-1980s, the Queensland Govt asked their Chief Botanist to identify which orchid was the real Q'land State flower. The Chief Botanist proclaimed that *D. phalaenopsis* was the Cooktown Orchid. Needless to say, Steve disagreed, told him so and said the correct name was *D. bigibbum* variety *superbum*. Google the Q'ld Govt State Flower site and it now accepts Steve's advice.

A name for *bigibbum* generally is the **Pink** (or Mauve) **Butterfly Orchid**. There's also a **White Butterfly Orchid**, called *Dendrobium affine* which is quite similar.

Taxonomists have placed *D. bigibbum* and affine in a Dendrobium section known as Phalaenanthe - which is Greek for butterfly or moth. Similarly, the Phalaenopsis are called Moth Orchids.

Most growers know that many related orchid species interbreed and that most hybrids today have complex parentage. This applies to *D. bigibbum* which readily interbreeds with related dendrobiums. For example, **D. Enobi Purple** was created using 8 different species, including *bigibbum*.



Dick and Barbara Cooper with their Grand Champion ribbon for one of these orchids at our April Show.

Hybrids like *Den.* Yvonne are called <u>Phalananthe Dendrobiums</u> reflecting their relationship with *bigibbum*. Other hybrids, with parentage that includes antelope-type orchids (known as <u>Spathulata</u> or Ceretobium types) like this *D.* Bucko <u>'Beckitt'</u> and **D.** Woon Leng are called <u>Intermediate Dendrobiums</u>.

Such hybrids can have between 75% and 95% *D. bigibbum* in their genetic makeup. Some look like a *Den bigibbum* on steroids (as does *D.* **Yvonne** = 75.5% *D. bigibbum*); other, smaller Phalananthe Dendrobiums may look just like D. *bigibbum* e.g., **D. Enobi Purple** (86.27%). Intermediates like **Bucko 'Beckitt** (have 50%) and Woon Leng (21%).

I also grow <u>Australian Native hybrids</u> that have *D. bigibbum* in their genes - examples include **D. Warringah** (50%); **D. Anne's Rainbow Surprise** (13%) and **D. Stunning** 12.74%.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

*D. bigibbum* and most of its hybrids grown and thrive in a monsoonal climate. Broadly speaking, bush *D. bigibbums* prefer a warm to hot climate and late summer rainfall. After the flowers finish, in May, they want to remain dry. I hang my plants in my shade house or the glasshouse (if short on shade house hanging space) to provide the best light and good air movement. I don't water them again until

the new growths appear in the Spring. The Phalananthe hybrids need warmth here through winter (mine are heated on winter nights to keep them above 15 degrees C.) The cooler-growing native hybrids accept a wider temperature range so they are grown in my shade house.

NB: Name changes make it difficult for lesser mortals (non-taxonomists) and can confuse growers because breeders have been forced to use different names for the same orchid at different times. In the case of *D. bigibbum* the result is that unless there is definite proof as to the bush origins of a plant, no-one really knows what variety was used?

For Judges, the solution is to simply treat them all as part of a Dendrobium bigibbum complex.

# The **Dendrobium bigibbum populations** -

- \* Den. bigibbum variety bigibbum occurs at low altitudes on the Cape York Peninsula (Pascoe R. to tip), Torres Strait islands and southern Papua New Guinea. Generally, favours high light situations in a hot monsoonal climate with a dry winter. Grows in tree branches, shrubs and rocks in dry open rainforest near coast, sometimes over saltwater. Pseudobulbs can reach 1.2 metres though usually 40 60 cm. Inflorescences can carry up to 20 flowers but usually 3-8, measuring 3 to 5.5 cm wide that usually display a white spot in the lip.
- \* Den. bigibbum variety superbum (formerly D. phalaenopsis) found in the southern parts of Cape York Peninsula (Mount Molloy to Pascoe River, north Queensland. Found in dry vine thicket scrubs or mangroves and rocky areas, often near or over water. Favours a hot humid exposed situation, monsoonal late summer rainfall and dry winters. Habitat is open forests and dry scrubs often near beaches. Grows on trees or rocks. Pseudobulbs are similar to var. bigibbum but are often longer and stouter. Inflorescences may have multiple racemes carrying 2-15 flowers, measuring 5 to 8 cm wide that are not as reflexed as var. bigibbum and lack the white spot on the lip.
- \* Den. bigibbum variety compactum is limited to exposed situations in the near coastal wet tropics area between the Barron and Mossman Rivers, Queensland. It grows mainly on rocks (and some rainforest trees) at an altitude of 250m. The area receives a little winter rain but remains much drier in winter and spring. Pseudobulbs are often only 10 to

15cm tall, never exceeding 30 cm and 1 to 1.7 cm thick. Inflorescence is shorter, carrying up to 13 flowers per raceme of 4-7 cm width.

\* Den. bigibbum variety schroederianum recorded only from Larat Island, in the Tanimbar group, SW of Irian Jaya. Grows on limestone cliffs and on trees just above sea level in a hot monsoonal climate.

Pseudobulbs are long and slender up to 1 metre and about 1cm thick. Inflorescences are long and arching, carrying up to 30 flowers which may be 4 to 7 cm wide. Colour ranges from deep purple to white and bicoloured flowers of purple and white occur. Most flowers have dark pinkish striations on a paler pink background. Hence the name earlier name striaenopsis.

# 6. ALAN MERRIMAN TALK, Q&A

Alan Merriman will address WOS and CHOS members on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> June at the Woolgoolga Community Centre, Boundary Street, Woolgoolga (next to CEX Bowling Club). The informal meeting will commence at 2pm (and should finish by 4pm). Members are requested to bring a plate for afternoon tea.

Alan is a well-known orchid grower and considered highly knowledgeable in the areas of orchid nutrition (and fertilizers) and disease and pest identification and control. Ray Clement has described him as 'The Guru' of these areas and the 'Go To man' if they have a problem in the nursery

Alan will be happy to discuss any orchid problems you may have and suggest some solutions. Bring along your problem plants or diseased leaves (in a plastic bag), etc.

Hope to see you there.



A lovely Vanda at our April show

# 7. TINONEE ORCHIDS OPEN DAY.

Our annual trip to Tinonee Nursery (near Taree) will take place on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2019. This year we are not able to travel by bus and plan on organising a car-pool. Full details at the June Meeting and we will seek expressions of interest from our members. Tinonee has a great range of orchids and hardware for sale.

There will also be some excellent guest speakers

- David Banks
- Scott Barrie
- Sam Cowie
- John Roberts
- Michael Harrison

We will meet in the car park at the Botanic Gardens at 7.45 and organise cars, etc from there.

#### 8. **GROWING COMPETITION**

The results of the 2018-19 competition has been finalised and prizes were presented to the winners at the May monthly meeting.

- 1st Pam Warburton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Williams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Selisa King

Don't forget to bring your mounted *Dendrobium* for judging at the June meeting. Plants should be benched by 7.15pm.



# 9. COMMITTEE MEETING

We held a committee meeting at Shearwater on 7<sup>th</sup> May. We covered –

- Start of new growing competition
- Survey? Reminder to members that we would like some suggestions about where we should hold our Christmas Dinner/Awards meeting.
- Review of show and suggestions for improvements
- Preparations for Ag Show
- Advice from OSNSW re selling native plants.

# 10. AUTUMN SHOW

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way with our Autumn Show. Many people helped out to make it such a success. We had an excellent display of plants and there were lots of plants on the sales bench.

We benched 146 plants from 20 growers – judges commented on the quality of the plants – and there were lots of visitors

The Steve Clemesha Trophy again went to Bill and Jenny Lennon, this time for their excellent Vanda.



### 11. SHOW RESULTS



Grand Champion - Dendrobium Dal's Dazzler "BK" R&B Cooper



Reserve Champion – Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann Buckleberry - B Bright



Champion Specimen Gomesa M. Mackay

# Section A - Cymbidium

- 90mm and over
   No entry
- 2. 60 to 90mm No entry
- Less than 60mm
   1<sup>st</sup> P. VanDyke

#### Section B - Laeliinae

- 1. 100mm and over
  - 1st B&J Lennon
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Ballard
- 2. A. 60 mm to 100mm purple
  - 1<sup>st</sup>
- H. Seiver
- 2<sup>nd</sup> H. Seiver
- 3. Under 60 mm
  - 1st B&J Lennon
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Ballard
- 4. Cluster hybrid
  - 1<sup>st</sup> H. Seiver
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Mackay
- 5. Novelty
  - 1<sup>st</sup> R. Smith
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Smith



Champion Laeliinae – Rlc. Village Chief "North" - H. Seiver

# Section C - Phalaenopsis

No entry

#### Section D - Vandaceous

- 1. Over 60 mm
  - 1<sup>st</sup> B&J Lennon
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Pittaway
- 2. 60mm and under
  - 1<sup>st</sup> B. Pittaway
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Pittaway

# Champion Vandaceous B&J Lennon

# Section E - Paphiopedilum

- 1. Standard
  - 1<sup>st</sup> M. Mackay
- 2. Novelty
  - 1st N. McDonald
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Blay
- 3. Multifloral No entry
- 4. Phragmipedium
  - 1st B. Bright
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Bright



Champion Paphiopedilum N. McDonald

# Section F – Dendrobium (not native)

1. A. Hard cane over 50 mm

1<sup>st</sup> R&B Cooper 2<sup>nd</sup> R&B Cooper

2. Hard cane under 50 mm

1<sup>st</sup> R. Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> R&B Cooper

3. Spatulata

1<sup>st</sup> P. Baker

2<sup>nd</sup> R&B Cooper

4. Intermediate

1<sup>st</sup> B. Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> R&J Cowling

# Champion Dendrobium R&B Cooper

#### Section G - Oncidiinae alliance

1. Hybrid over 65 mm

1<sup>st</sup> J. Sidebottom

2<sup>nd</sup> R&J Cowling

2. Hybrid 25 – 65 mm

1<sup>st</sup> P. Warburton

2<sup>nd</sup> R. Smith

3. Hybrid under 25 mm

1<sup>st</sup> B&J Lennon

2<sup>nd</sup> R. Smith

4. Tolumnia

1<sup>st</sup> R. Smith



Champion Oncidium – Oncidium Heaven Scent.
P. Warburton

# Section H - Australian Native Hybrid

1. Dendrobium

1st R&B Cooper

2<sup>nd</sup> P. Baker

#### Champion Australian Native R&B Cooper

# Section I - AOV hybrid

1. Any Other Variety Hybrid over 50 mm

1<sup>st</sup> E. Pearce

2<sup>nd</sup> E. Pearce

2. Any other variety hybrid under 50 mm

1<sup>st</sup> E. Pearce

3. Bulbophyllum

1<sup>st</sup> B. Bright

# Champion AOV Hybrid B. Bright

# Section J - Species

- Cymbidium No entry
- 2. Laeliinae

1<sup>st</sup> D. Ballard

2<sup>nd</sup> R. Smith

3. Phalaenopsis

1<sup>st</sup> B. Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> J. Sidebottom

4. Vandaceous

1<sup>st</sup> N. McDonald

2<sup>nd</sup> R. Smith

5. Paphiopedilum

1<sup>st</sup> M. Mackay

2<sup>nd</sup> M. Mackay

6. Dendrobium not native

No entry

7. Oncidium Alliance

1st B&J Lennon

2<sup>nd</sup> M. Mackay

8. Australian native – not Dendrobium

No entry

9. Australian native Dendrobium

1st R&B Cooper

2<sup>nd</sup> R&B Cooper

10. Bulbophyllum

1<sup>st</sup> C. Davis

2<sup>nd</sup> S. Williams

11. Any other species – not Australian native

1<sup>st</sup> B. Bright

2<sup>nd</sup> S. Williams

# Champion Species B. Bright

# Section K - First Flowered Seedling

1<sup>st</sup> B. Hall

Section L - Novice

1<sup>st</sup> P. Warburton

2<sup>nd</sup> P. Warburton

# 12. COFFS HARBOUR AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Thanks to everyone who helped out with our display at the Agricultural Show on the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> May. Woolgoolga and Coffs Harbour Societies put together an impressive display of a variety of orchids which was appreciated by the visitors to the show pavilion.



Special thanks to Carole Davis who coordinates and organises this event.

Member Name	Laeliinae Exhibition Hybrid over 100mm	Laeliinae Intermediate Hybrid 60 to 100mm	Laeliinae Cluster Hybrid (min 5 flowers)	Laeliinae Novelty Hybrid spotted flower non exhibition	Laeliinae Species	Novelty Paph & allied Hybrids	Oncidiinae Hybrids over 65 mm	Oncidinae Hybrids Oncidinae Hybrids Vandaceous Hybrid over 65 mm 25 to 65 mm over 60mm	Vandaceous Hybrid over 60mm	Vandaceous SPECIES
Class	5	9	8	6	10	12	14	15	19	21
Blay Di						2				
COOPER Dick		2					3			
McDonald Neil						3		8		3
<b>PEARCE Edward</b>				8					3	
SEIVER Helen	3	3	2	2						
SOUTHWELL Bob					8			7		
S-R-KING	2									

gu				3				
Popular Vote								
AOV species over 50mm	98					8		
AOV Hybrid over 50mm	34				2			
Australian Native species inc Dendrobium	31	9						
Australian Native Hybrid inc Dendrobium	98	9						
Dendrobium AOV A.O.V Species Non Hybrid Non Native	29						5	
Dendrobium AOV Hybrid Non Native	28	7	8					
Dendrobium Hardcane Hybrid Non Native	27	3	2					
Phalaenopsis Hybrid Over 75mm	22		8					
Member Name	Class	COOPER Dick	HALL Bruce	McDonald Neil	PEARCE Edward	SEIVER Helen	S-R-KING	

# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS) TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 22 April 2019 to 23 May 2019 DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 24/5/2019.

EXPEND	Refer Receipt Book	Monthly Meet.	\$ 40.00	\$ 157.00 Print. Pepperprint	Sales tags to WOS/Don.	Bark Sales	Refer Bank Stat.	Refer Bank Stat.	\$3,757.60 Refer separate report.	\$ 31.44 Growing Plant Comp/w/shop.	\$ 3,986.04										Refer BCU Statement @ 24/05/2019.
Cheque									Various												
INCOME	\$ 35.00	\$ 75.00			\$ 134.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 12.89	\$ 194.46	\$ 5,308.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 6,194.35	\$ 2,208.31		\$ 5,632.65	\$ 6,194.35	\$ 11,827.00	\$ 3,944.84	· \$	\$ 3,944.84	\$ 7,882.16	\$ 7,882.16
Receipt	00/1 M/Ships	00/2 Raffle	00/3 Hall Hire	00/8 Executive Exp.		01/2 Sales			03/2 Autumn Show		TOTALS	DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD	Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.	Opening Bank Balance 22/4/2019	Rec for above period	S/T	<b>DEDUCT</b> Exp for above period	Pre. u/presented cheques	S/T		Balance of income and expenditure

The following cheques 757 and 801 totalling \$129.20 have not been presented.

The following Accts to be paid: Nil at this date.

# NOTES:

CHOS has a sum of \$10,000.00 invested as a FTD with all interest erned rolled into the daily account.

HALL. B.G.

Hon. Treasurer 27/05/2019.