



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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[www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au](http://www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au)

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – MAR, 2020

### 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:

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY:

TREASURER:

COMMITTEE:

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

CAROLE DAVIS	6658 1354
PAM WARBURTON	0409 660465
BRUCE HALL	6658 9891
LEONIE EVERITT	6651 8117
NEIL McDONALD,	0414 342978
BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695834
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### 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](mailto: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 [www.tinoneeorchids.com](http://www.tinoneeorchids.com)

#### 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. [www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au](http://www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au) 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, 211 Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour.

#### BRUCE HALL

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

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### **1. CALENDAR**

- 28-29 Feb QLD International Orchid Show, Beenleigh  
5 Mar Workshop – Measuring pH plus repotting a Sarcocylus and plant draw  
2 Apr April Meeting – Member Presentations 1.  
25-26 Apr 2020 Autumn Show  
7 May May Meeting – Member Presentations 2  
9-10 May Coffs Agricultural Show Display  
4 June June Meeting – Dick Cooper ‘Hardcanes’  
2 July July Meeting – Hans Schiabile ‘Dendrochilums’  
11 July Tinonee Open Day – Bus/Car Pool  
6 Aug August Meeting – Doug Binns ‘Orchids and Broms of Mexico’  
3 Sept September Meeting – Neutrog Company  
12-13 Sept Spring Show  
15 Oct Plant Auction  
5 Nov AGM – Dick Cooper ‘Birds’  
3 Dec Awards Night - Dinner at Shearwater

### **2. AGENDA FOR MARCH GENERAL MEETING**

Welcome, Apologies

Judges: Barbara Pearce and Paige Sinclair

Minutes of February meeting – as printed in newsletter

February Committee Meeting –as printed in newsletter

Inwards Correspondence

1. BCU Statements
- 2.

Sponsor’s Spot – CFS Travel

Table Talk – TBA

Growing Competition Results for Dendrobium

Popular Vote

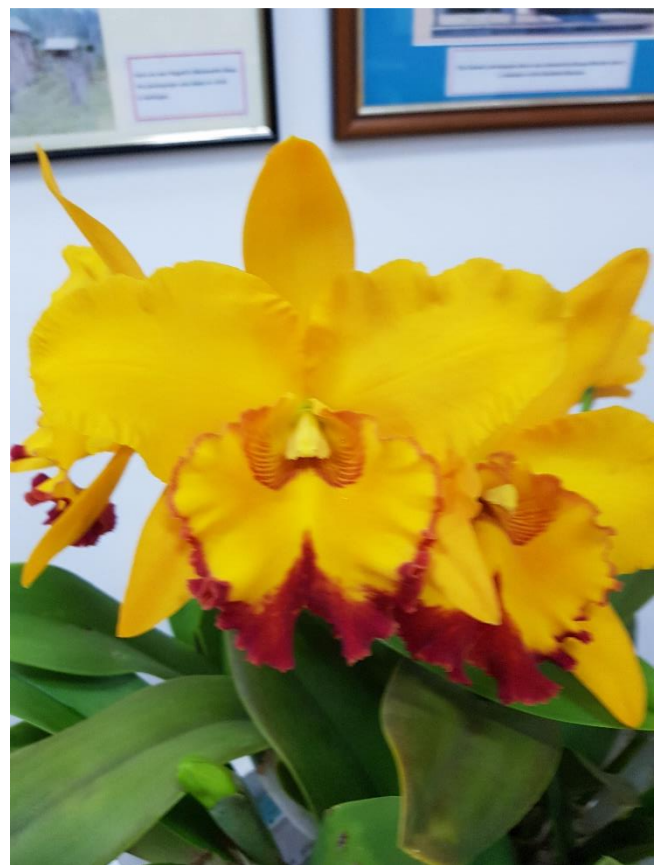
Raffle

2020 Growing Plant Competition – Plant Draw

Repotting a Sarcocylus

Presentation – Bob Southwell. ‘pH and your Orchids’  
Sample Testing for pH

Supper



**Popular Vote at a recent meeting of NVOS**  
- **Blc. Shinfong ‘Golden Jewel’**

### **3. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING** **AT NCR BOTANIC GARDENS – 6<sup>TH</sup> FEB, 2020**

**Judges:** Dick Cooper & Helena Axelsson.

**1. Welcome:** Carole Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting. She made reference to the minute silence that was observed for our late President at the December meeting at Shearwater.

**2. Apologies:** Noelene Jackson, Hazel Earnshaw, Stefica Jones, Jennifer Lock, Malcolm Ide, & Ben Pron.

3. **Visitors:** Alanah Anderson.

4. **New members:** No new members.

5. **Minutes of December's meeting:** Moved by Bob Southwell, seconded by Neil McDonald that the Minutes are a true and accurate record of what took place. Carried.

6. **January's Committee Meeting:** as per Newsletter.

7. **Inward Correspondence:**

1. BCU Statements (6).

2. Magazines, Australian Orchid Review (Oct/Nov '19 & Dec/Jan '20) & Orchids Australia (Dec '19 & Feb '20)

3. Membership payment. (Keith & Rita Swanson)

4. Show dates for Manning River O/S. 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> June '20 & 27 & 28<sup>th</sup> Aug '20.

5. Show dates for Hastings River O/S. 3<sup>rd</sup> May '20 & 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. '20.

6. Email to Pam Warburton from Paige Sinclair.

**Outgoing Correspondence:**

Email to Paige Sinclair from Pam Warburton.



Neil McDonald's *Oncidium Sweet Sugar 'Super'* was the Popular Vote at the CHOS February Meeting.

8. **Finance:**

1. Bruce's Report is in the Newsletter, covering the period Oct to Jan.

Bruce moved that it be accepted, Barbara Pearce seconded the motion. Carried.

9. **Sponsor's Spot:** Tinonee Orchids. It was only fitting to feature Tinonee as Ray Clement was our Guest Speaker. Ray sells a huge variety of orchids at his nursery and all the supplies to ensure healthy growth.

11. **Popular Vote:** Congratulations Neil McDonald with his *Oncidium 'Sweet Sugar'*.

12. **Raffle:** 1. Bruce Hall 2. Gary Suter. 3. Di Blay 4. Bob Southwell.

13. **Growing Plant Comp:** 1st. Ann Deans. 2<sup>nd</sup> Leonie Everitt.

14. **General Business:**

1. Service Awards. Hearty congratulations to Trevor Bissett 10 years, Clem Murray 10 years, Ron and Judy Cowling 20 years, Barbara Pearce 20 years, Betty Pittaway 25 years, and Peter Baker 35 years.

15. **Table talk:** Ray Clement kindly did the Table Talk for us. He was immediately drawn to Neil's beautiful *Oncidium* and said he must be doing something right as it was a lot better than last year.

He went onto talk about the Taiwanese hold on the *Phalaenopsis* market and that excellent plants can be bought at Big W and Bunnings.

Two *Dendrochilums* were benched and Ray said they were in excellent condition despite the hot weather and the drought.

**Guest speakers Ray Clement on "Orchids of WA".**

Ray's opening sentence was "It has been the worst orchid growing summer I have ever experienced". The high temperatures low humidity and lack of rainfall has had a direct impact on all orchid growers, and the plants have really suffered.

Ray has been on many excursions to WA to see their unique orchids in the wild. All SW West Australian orchids are ground orchids or terrestrials. They grow nowhere else in the world and are protected species, under no circumstances can they be touched or removed. The fines are enormous!!

They thrive in the true Mediterranean climate moist winters and dry warm summers, flowering in Spring.

Back burning in their habitat is carefully conducted around their growing cycles, it never occurs during their pollinating or reproductive stages.

Unlike other parts of the world they are known by their common names rather than their botanical names. Ray's pictorial talk featured the following orchids.

Donkey Orchid – *Diuris corymbosa/ decremента/ magnifica/ porrifolia/ tinctorial*. Big colour variations amongst them.

Sun Orchid – *Thelymitra antennifera/ villosa* (multi flowered)/ *pulchervima* (Queen of Sheba – very colourful)/ *speciose*.

Spider Orchids – *Caladenia chapmanii* (very big 30cm)/ *perangusta* (tall)/ *filifera* (tall).

Zebra Orchids – *Caladenia radialis/ cairnsiana*.

Hammer Orchid – *Caladenia Barbarossa*.

Duck Orchid – *Paracaleana granitica*. (Rare).

Fairy Orchid – *Caladenia latifolia*.

Rabbit Orchid – *Leptoceras menziesii*.

Onion Orchid – *Prasohyllum gracile*.

Ray's favourite orchid is *Caladenia flava*, a bold yellow flower with red spots or stripes and 70-80mm across.

He finished off his talk with a montage of native wildflowers from the area.

A very interesting talk.

The meeting finished at 8.40pm followed by supper.



**WA Cowslip Orchid. *Caladenia flava***

#### **4. COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Committee met at Shearwater on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2020.

The following items were discussed:

Bunnings BBQ for 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Update of CHOS Monthly Program – this includes two Member Presentation Sessions at the April and May Meetings. Dick and Barbara Cooper have donated a trophy in memory of Edward Pearce. This will be awarded for the Best Species grown by a CHOS Member at the Autumn Show. It is hoped the trophy will be available for presentation at this year's Autumn Show.

The Role of the Membership Manager (Leonie Everitt in 2020) has been formalised with a detailed list of duties and procedures.

There has been a change of date for this years Spring show. As it clashed with Nambucca Valley OS in early September it has been moved to the following weekend. It will now be held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September.

The position of President is still vacant.

The Committee would appreciate any nominations to fill this position. Please let one of the Committee know if you are willing to take on this role for 2020 or if you can suggest a possible candidate.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter our Secretary, Pam Warburton, is moving to Woolgoolga and has decided to give up the

position. Paige Sinclair has agreed to take up Pam's Secretary position once Pam departs. The Committee will formally appoint Paige to the Secretary role in the near future. Until then Paige has agreed to attend Committee meetings as an observer. We sincerely thank Paige for accepting this position on the Committee.

## **5. MARCH MEETING:**

The next General meeting will be held at the Coffs Botanic Gardens on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March.

During the meeting we will conduct the draw for the new Growing Competition Plant – a yellow flowered hybrid *Sarcochilus*.

A growing guide will be issued and a discussion and demonstration of potting your new Sarc.

Bob Southwell will have a brief pictorial presentation of 'pH and Your Orchids'. He will also outline how to calibrate and use the Society's pH meter. Members are asked to bring along some samples for testing at the end of the meeting.

(See below for how to collect a testing sample)

The pH meter will be available for members to borrow each month, take home and test their own orchids and water supplies. You will be able to borrow the meter through the Librarian, Carole Davis. An instruction sheet will be enclosed with the meter. It is requested that the borrowed meter be returned at the next monthly meeting.

### **Below: WA Queen of Sheeba Orchid**



**The CHOS Hanna pH Meter**

### **COLLECTING A SAMPLE FOR TESTING WITH THE HANNA pH METER**

This pH meter only works in an aqueous (water) solution. The easiest way to obtain a sample is by using 'The Flow Through Method'.

Pour a sample of water through the potting mix in a potted orchid. Collect this filtrate as it drains through the potting mix.

Test this sample with the pH meter.

For the pH Workshop at the March Meeting you could bring the following labelled samples for testing:

- (a) Your town tap water.
- (b) Your tank water or other water source.
- (c) Filtrate from orchids using 'the flow through method'.

**Please make sure the sample container is well washed so there is no contamination of the sample you wish to test. Label the sample container.**

## **6. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

**Membership fees for 2020 are due now and must be paid by the April Monthly Meeting.**

Single Membership is \$10 and Joint Membership is \$15. Bruce Hall will be happy to accept your membership fee at the March meeting if you have not already paid.

Members may wish to pay directly into our bank account. The BSB is 533000 and account number is 60050. This is a BCU account in the name of Coffs Harbour Orchid Society.

## **7. SUCCESSFUL BUNNINGS FUND RAISING BBQ:**

The Society had a very successful fund raising day at Bunnings. A profit of \$1,413.11 was raised during the day. The sun was out and so were the crowds of shoppers. Thanks to all those members who took part.

## **8. GROWING COMPETITION**

Don't forget to bring your mounted plant along for judging at the March Meeting. This competition will finish at the April meeting so you only have two more opportunities to gain those valuable points.

Prizes for this competition will be presented at the May Monthly Meeting.

The Committee has decided to present a new challenge in 2020 by selecting a hybrid clone of a Sarcophilus and starting this competition in March, 2020. This plant can be either potted or mounted. We will have a potting demonstration at the March meeting. These plants may be smaller than the usual competition plant size so they will offer a greater challenge to members. Plants will be issued at the March meeting.

Ray Clement from Tinonee orchids has arranged for these to come from Scott Barrie, who owns Barrita Orchids and specialises in breeding hybrid Sarcophilus. Scott has selected a hybrid Sarc with a yellow flower and is a vigorous grower. We will provide details of the make up of this hybrid cross and a growing guide at the March meeting.

These plants will be priced at \$8 each and there is a limit of only forty (40) plants. This means you may miss out if you don't place your order and pay your money at the March meeting. Pam will be collecting money for these plants. The plant draw will take place during the March meeting. Order of the draw will be based on the order in which members have paid their money. Already half of the plants have been sold so don't forget to bring your money to the March meeting. If you wish to reserve a plant then contact Bob Southwell before the March meeting.



**A colourful Cattleya Orchid at NVOS.**

## **9. BARK SUPPLIES:**

The Society has a good supply of Orchiata NZ Bark in two sizes – 9 to 12 mm and 12 to 18mm. Bags are priced at \$25 each. The Society does not make a profit in selling the bark but we wish to ensure that all members have access to a quality bark product that will improve the culture of their orchid collection.

Ring or message Bob Southwell (0417 695 834) if you need bark supplies.

## **10 MAJOR ORCHID SHOWS/FAIRS DURING 2020:**

There are many major orchid fairs/shows along the East Coast of Australia. Members from CHOS regularly visit these Orchid Fairs for essential

## **12. HONEYBEE SAFETY:**

hardware supplies plus being able to purchase the newest plants from breeding programs in Australia and Overseas.

They also provide an opportunity for contact with experienced growers and vendors in the Aussie orchid world.

Shows being held in 2020 within a reasonable travel distance from Coffs Harbour include the following:

28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2020: QLD International Orchid Fair, Beenleigh. QLD. Held at the Beenleigh Showground at Beenleigh on the northern end of the Gold Coast.

27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020: Mingara Orchid Fair and Show. Held at the Mingara Recreation Club at Tumbi Umbi (NSW Central Coast).

31<sup>st</sup> Oct – 1<sup>st</sup> Nov: Tweed Heads Orchid Fair and Show.

If you Google these events you will get all the details as well as links for accommodation, directions, vendors, etc.

2021 Australian Orchid Conference:

(The last AOC Conference was held in Windsor NSW)

This will be held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 in South East Queensland at Logan (Will be much warmer than Windsor).

Called 'For The Love Of Orchids' it should be a must on the orchid calendar and only a short distance from Coffs Harbour. Again, you can Google the conference website for details and registration forms. Many CHOS members are already planning to attend.

## **11. CHANGES TO 2020 MONTHLY POINTS SCORE:**

From February, flowering plants benched at the monthly meetings will be judged in each category to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Points allotted will be as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place (Blue dot) – 3 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Red/Orange dot) – 2 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Green dot) – 1 point.

Care needs to be taken when using chemical sprays so that no harm is done to the honeybee population.

This is especially important when spraying outside the orchid house. Most orchid houses are designed to keep out unwanted visitors such as dendrobium beetles, leaf eating ladybeetles, grasshopper, etc.

We should be able to spray in the orchid house and not cause any damage to the bee population. However, if spraying orchids and other plants outside the enclosed greenhouse then care should be taken to select chemicals which are not toxic to either the European Honeybee or Australian Natives Bees.

Please read the instructions carefully and don't use chemicals that harm bees as they are important in our ecosystems as well as producers of honey.

Chemicals such as Confidor and Conguard are toxic and should not be used outside the greenhouse. Many chemicals belong to a group called Neonicotinoids – derived from Nicotine. These chemicals can appear in flower pollen and nectar and slowly kill bees.

If in doubt then check the label or Google the chemicals Data Sheet.



**A spectacular photo taken from the train as it enters Grafton. Nothing to do with orchids but a great photo.**

### **13. A SIMPLE TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE FOR YOUR ORCHIDS:**

**The following could be helpful in solving a problem you may have. It may be that more than one solution is needed to solve the problem. It may not solve the problem but it may point you in the right direction.**

Observation: Plants look weak, leaves dull, lower leaves fall off.

Answer: *Lack of water. (Water more often)*

Observation: Leaves dark green and luxurious.

Answer: *Far too shady.(Move to a higher light area)*

Observation: Leaves yellowish.

Answer: *Too much sun. (Provide less light)*

Observation: Tips of leaves black.

Answer: *Roots cold from water. (Change of mix may help)*

Observation: Foliage blackens, black spots or blotches.

Answer: *Over watering/ fungus or bacterial infection (Use fungicide/cinnamon/ Less water/ Replace mix)*

Observation: Roots risen to surface of pot.

Answer: *Over watering (Repot/Less water)*

Observation: Poor root development/ stunted growth.

Answer: *Lack of Phosphorus. (Use fertilizer high in P)*

Observation: Stunted growth, pale leaves, loss of leaves.

Answer: *Lack of Nitrogen. (Fertilizer more frequently/ higher N fertilizer but care needed here – don't overdo it)*

Observation: Excessive growth, deep green leaves, less flowers.

Answer: *Excessive Nitrogen. (Change fertilizer type or reduce rate))*

Observation: Leaves dull green, leaves twist, shoots die back.

Answer: *Lack of Potash.( Use fertilizer higher in K)*

Observation: Young leaves don't form properly.

Answer: *Lack of Calcium (Use Calcium Nitrate)*

Observation: Buds fall before they open. Foliage is yellow.

Answer: *Lack of Magnesium. (Use Epsom Salts)*



**Gary and Bruce, the Sausage Kings, at Bunnings Fund Raiser.**



**COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)**

**TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 20 January 2020 to 19 February 2020.**

**DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 19/2/2020.**

	Receipt		Cheque		
		<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
00/1	Memberships	\$ 330.00			
00/2	Raffle	\$ 91.00			Monthly Meet, Feb.
00/2	Raffle		545	\$330.00	Purchase Raffle Plants
00/7	Newsletter		544	\$14.70	Printing.
00/8	Executive Income	\$ 29.97			Refund from orchid mag.
00/8	Executive Expenditure		543	\$42.30	Christmas Dinner/Decorations P. Warburton
01/2	Sales	\$ 175.00			Bark Sales
05/1	Promotions	\$ 122.00			Growing plant
06/1	Bunnings BBQ	\$ 2,317.40			Total income
06/2	Bunnings BBQ		547	\$150.00	Float
06/2	Bunnings BBQ		548,549	\$472.65	Food/sundry B. Southwell
06/2	Bunnings BBQ		550	\$191.60	Drinks/sundry Hall B.G.
06/2	Bunnings BBQ		546	\$90.00	Food/onions
06/1	Sponsorships	\$ 100.00			Timonee orchids
07/2	Societies Assets	\$ 50.00			Sale of old computer
		<b><u>\$3,215.37</u></b>		<b><u>\$1,291.25</u></b>	

**TOTALS**

**DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD** \$1,924.12

**Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.**

Opening Bank Balance 20/1/2020		<u>\$4,492.95</u>
Rec for above period		\$3,215.37
	S/T	<u>\$7,708.32</u>
DEDUCT	Exp for above period	\$207.00
	Pre. u/presented cheques	\$35.47
		Chq 820.
	S/T	<u>\$242.47</u>
<b>Balance of income and expenditure</b>		<b><u>\$7,465.85</u></b>

Refer BCU Statement @ 18/02/2020.

The following chqs have not been presented:

537 for \$47.00, 545 for \$330.00 and various chqs for expenses for the Bunnings BBQ. Approx \$755.00 total.

The following Accts to be paid:

PO BOX approx \$205 and OSNSW Insurance cost unknown.

The following monies on hand to be banked, \$15.00 Memberships.

**NOTES:**

CHOS has a sum of \$10,000.00 invested as a FTD with all interest earned rolled into the daily account and is shown in the appropriate trading statements.

HALL, B.G.  
Hon. Treasurer  
19/2/2020.

CHOS MONTHLY COMP RESULTS FEB 2020.xlsxFebruary

Member Name	Laelinae Cluster Hybrid (min 5 flowers)	Laelinae Novelty Hybrid spotted flower non exhibition	Novelty Paph & allied hybrids	Oncidinae Hybrids 25 to 65 mm	Oncidinae Hybrids under 25mm	Phalaenopsis Hybrid Over 75mm	Dendrobium Hardcane Hybrid Non Native	Dendrobium AOV Hybrid Non Native	AOV Hybrid 50mm and under	AOV species 50mm and under	Popular Vote	TOTAL Count
Class	8	9	12	15	16	22	27	28	35	37	42	
Axelsson/Dean						3						3
Deans A									1			1
BAKER									3			3
Bright W			3									3
COOPER Dick	3	3		2	3		3	5				19
McDonald	1			3							3	7
PEARCE B		2										2
SEIVER H	2									3		5
Warburtan P				1								1
Whiting J									2			2
<b>Total Class count</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>46</b>