



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – MAY, 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.

**MAY MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	CAROLE DAVIS	6658 1354	
<u>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695834	
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	PAIGE SINCLAIR	0427 591901	paigesinclair@me.com
<u>TREASURER:</u>	BRUCE HALL	0447 742030	
<u>COMMITTEE:</u>	LEONIE EVERITT	0427 146149	
	NEIL McDONALD,	0414 342978	
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695834	bssouthwell@bigpond.com

### 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)

#### 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](http://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, 211 Pacific Highway, 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](http://www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au) or 6651 6053

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### **1. CALENDAR**

- 25-26 Apr 2020 Autumn Show **CANCELLED**  
7 May May Meeting – Presentations 2 **POSTPONED**  
9-10 May Coffs Agricultural Show Display **CANCELLED**  
4 June June Meeting – Dick Cooper **POSTPONED**  
2 July July Meeting – Hans Schiabe '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, Etc.  
5 Nov AGM – Dick Cooper 'Birds'  
3 Dec Awards Night - Dinner at Shearwater

### **2. EDITORIAL:**

These are unprecedented and trying times for all of us. We all have a responsibility to look after each other by following social distancing rules, thoroughly washing our hands and staying at home unless absolutely necessary. Like me, you are all probably sick of hearing what the rules are and totally sick of self or forced isolation but it seems to be the only method we have of beating Covid-19 until a safe vaccine is developed and delivered.

It is important to keep in contact with your friends and family. Phone calls, texts, emails, Facebook and other social media platforms or video conferencing through Facebook Messenger, Facetime, WhatsApp, Zoom etc. Being able to talk to your grandkids on Facetime will bring joy to you and them and keep that connection alive until it is time again for hugs and kisses.

Wave to your neighbour, you might be the only face they see today, even if it is in the distance.

On the upside, this will give you the chance to spend time with your beloved orchids. I recently read that experts reported that gardening (therefore orchids) was more effective at reducing stress than reading a book. Another study showed that working with your orchids for just thirty minutes increased self-esteem and improved your mood.

Ring your orchid friends, talk about orchids, visit Facebook and marvel at other people's orchid displays, read an orchid book and spend some time each day with your plants. Keep busy with repotting, fertilizing and talking to your plants and the isolation time will pass quickly.

**Be kind to yourself and if you live in a family or group situation then be kind to each other.**

Bob Southwell  
Newsletter Editor



**Odontocidium Everglades Elegance 'Nancy Lee'**

### **3. PRESIDENTS REPORT:**

Well, certainly times continue to change almost daily in this **COVID-19** world, and in fact time itself has taken on a new dimension – there seems to be more of it!! As I mentioned in my earlier email, our Monthly Meetings up until June have been cancelled and, at this stage, July is not looking

good but will be dependent upon decisions which are out of our control.

The Committee had a virtual meeting on Tuesday via ZOOM – that was a learning experience and worked out extremely well, even if some of the camera angles did require careful manipulation! Briefly, amongst other items, we talked about the Growing Competitions (old and new), the continuing popularity of our Facebook page, how the scheduled Speaker presentations are being organized, need for a Privacy Policy, and our **Virtual Autumn Show** – more details about this elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Importantly, we are also looking for another Committee member (as required by our Constitution) – this is not an onerous role and if you feel you would like to have more direct input into the workings of our Society, please do contact one of us for additional information.

Many of you would know that Neville Anderson recently stepped down as President of the Woolgoolga District Orchid Society. For over 30 years, he has shared his wealth of knowledge and expertise, and introduced highly successful initiatives to promote the joy of growing orchids to the wider community. During his term in office, Neville played a significant role in bringing our two Societies closer together in a spirit of co-operation and sharing resources. Thank you Neville. Congratulations to Murray Eggins who will now be taking over the reins in and we look forward to continuing our close association with WDOS.

This Newsletter is an integral part of keeping everyone informed, but don't forget there is also the Website where you can access all of our previous Newsletters, plus an extensive image gallery.

So, whilst we travel this new road, perhaps find a different rhythm, keep well, keep safe and don't forget that some people pay a lot of money to be away from it all - in isolation !!

*Carole Davis, President*

#### **4. FACEBOOK REPORT:**

In recent weeks there has been lots of activity on the CHOS Facebook page.

Paige Sinclair is our Facebook Guru and she has a number of pages up and running for member information and for you to post photos or videos of your latest orchids to flower. With no Autumn Show this year, the Facebook site provides us with the opportunity to have a Virtual Show at our fingertips. Paige recently sent every member a step by step instruction sheet on how to join Facebook and how to access the Society Facebook page.

We encourage everyone to join Facebook and enjoy the wonderful online orchid world.

Any questions or problems then contact Paige on 0427 591 901 or at [paigesinclair@me.com](mailto:paigesinclair@me.com)



#### **5. SPONSORS SPOT: Tinonee Orchids:**

You may have additional time on our hands during the Covid-19 crises and are spending some of that time working in the orchid house. You may need new labels, ties, clips, hangers, tree fern mounts or even some new plants.

Tinonee Nursery now has a new list of plants and hardware on the website [www.tinoneeorchids.com](http://www.tinoneeorchids.com) Ray is working hard filling online and mail orders. Tinonee Orchids are one of our valued sponsors and ask that you support them if you can. Ray Clement says you can use the online ordering system or email or phone your order to him (Phone : 02 6553 1012. Email: [orchids@tinoneeorchids.com](mailto:orchids@tinoneeorchids.com)).

**Ray has generously offered to give all CHOS members a 10% discount for all orders made in April and May. Please mention that you are a CHOS member to get the discount. (easier to ring or email to claim the discount).**

## **6. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

The Committee has decided to put a moratorium on the payment of CHOS membership fees until normal meetings resume.

However, we would like to encourage you to pay them now by direct deposit or by the normal postal service.

Single Membership is \$10 and Joint Membership is \$15.

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.

Please put your name in the Reference Box so we know who to credit the membership to. Alternatively, you may wish to forward a cheque or money order to The Treasurer, CHOS, PO Box 801, Coffs Harbour. 2450.

## **7. GROWING COMPETITION:**

The two Growing competitions are now on hold until normal meetings resume. You should continue to care for and fertilize both the mounted Dendrobium and the new Sarcophilus so they are healthy and point winners by the time things return to normality.

You might like to consider repotting the Sarc now conditions have cooled off slightly.

I draw your attention to the Sarcophilus Growing Comp being held on Facebook and encourage you to enrol and take part.

We still have six Sarc plants available for purchase. These are priced at \$8 each.

If you don't want to be part of the main competition then you may like to purchase a plant for your orchid collection. Each plant comes with a detailed growing guide.

Contact Bob Southwell to reserve your plant.

**If the schools are closed for too long, the parents are gonna find a vaccine before the scientists...**

## **8. 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. We will be able to make arrangements to pick up the bark and still follow social distancing rules, etc. We would prefer not to accept cash at the present time so are happy to discuss deferred payment or direct deposit into the Society bank account.

## **9. pH METER:**

The pH meter is available for borrowing by CHOS members. It comes with the required chemicals and simple instructions on how to use it.

Ring Bob Southwell to organise to borrow the instrument.



**A wonderful Phalaenopsis display. Do you think there may be more than one plant involved in this display?**

## **10. TASKS IN THE ORCHID HOUSE FOR AUTUMN AND WINTER:**

- Rake up the dead leaves and twigs on the greenhouse floor. These can harbour disease spores and reinfect your healthy plants.
- Also remove any dead leaves, flower stalks, etc, on your plants.
- Spray the greenhouse floor with a disinfectant material to help control disease and improve the hygiene in your orchid house. Use products such as Alginox (15ml/L water) or Hylan (10ml/L water) or a lime solution.
- Spray liquid lime or dolomite or spread powdered lime/dolomite on your orchids. This helps control disease and adjusts the pot pH back towards a pH of 6-7. It also provides the plants with Calcium and Magnesium.
- Dunk your mounted plants in a bucket of liquid lime or lime water to adjust the pH. Leave in the solution for a few minutes.
- Water plants regularly especially if the weather remains hot. Continue to fertilize on a weekly basis. Remember that those plants that don't have storage bulbs (Phallys, Vandas, etc) may have a greater need for water than other types with pseudobulbs which store water.
- After Anzac Day, if the weather cools off, then you need to reduce the amount of water and fertilizer you give to your monsoon plants. So Hard Canes, Soft Canes, Catasetums, etc, need a dry period over the winter months.
- Keep an eye open for pests and diseases. It is important to regularly check all your plants for the first signs of pests such as scale, mealy bugs or spider mites as well as fungal or bacterial infections. Quick treatment may prevent an outbreak.

Half of us will come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.

## **Activities that are low risk of contracting Covid19**

- Watering your orchids
- Fertilising your orchids
- Repotting your orchids
- Talking to your orchids
- Looking at orchids online
- Buying orchids online
- Weeding your orchids
- Having a coffee with your orchids
- Enjoying the sun with your orchids
- Exercising around your orchids
- Pruning your orchids

**Looks like having orchids is the best prevention**

**Happy gardening 😊**



Coelogyne Janine Banks

**That moment when you're worried about the elderly and realize that you are the elderly.**



## **11. VIRTUAL AUTUMN SHOW, 2020:**

As a result of the Corona Virus Pandemic our Autumn Show has been cancelled. However, the orchids have not stopped growing and flowering so we decided to present you with an online, virtual Autumn Show.

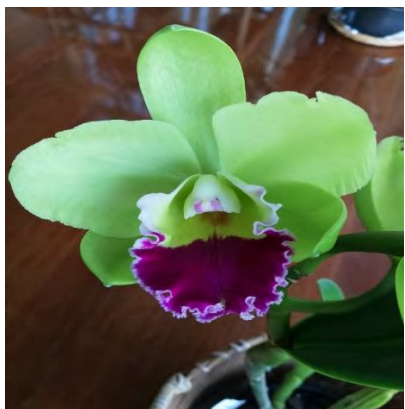
CHOS members have sent in photographs of a wide range of their flowering orchids and we present these below. It is anticipated that we will continue the Show in the June Newsletter.

### **Cymbidium:**

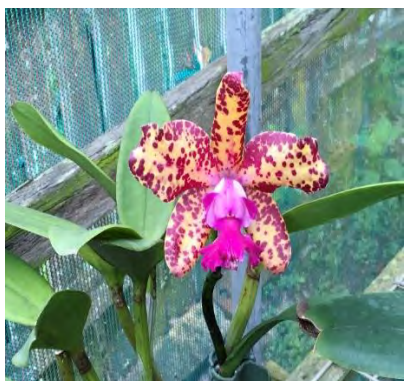


**Malcolm Ide – Cym. Enzan Shining Summer**

### **Laeliinae Alliance:**



**Sue Flanders - Blc. Greenwich**



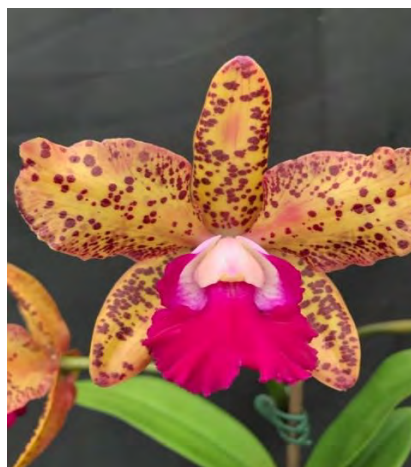
**Bill and Jenny Lennon – Slc. Precious Stones  
'True Beauty' x C. Caudbec Camela**



**Rhonda Smith  
– Blc. Howard Luck x Wailoipe**



**Rhonda Smith – Blc. Glenn Maidment  
'Southern Cross'**



**Rhonda Smith – Slc. Precious Stones  
x C. Caudebec**

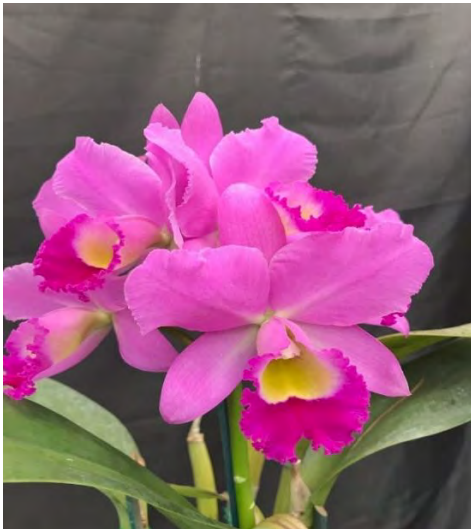
Home schooling is going well. Two students suspended for fighting and one teacher fired for drinking on the job.



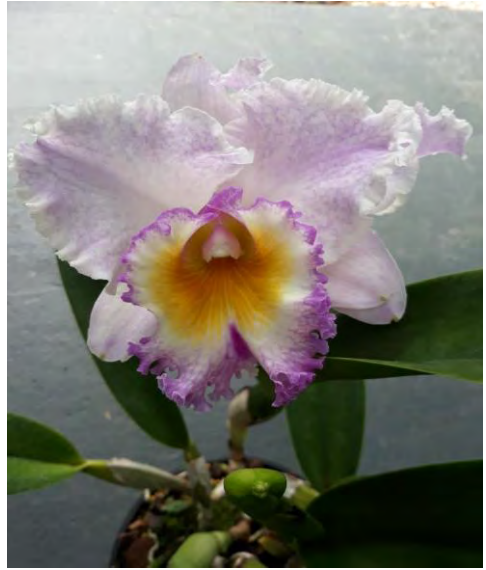
Rhonda Smith – Blc. (Nora Dyke x Blc.Toshie Aoki) x Blc. Duh’s Beauty



Malcolm Ide – Rlc. Kaye Green ‘Wobbles’



Rhonda Smith - Blc. Land of Enchantment



Malcolm Ide – Bc. Dals Monarch x Bc. Dals Choice



Rhonda Smith – Cattleya mossiae x C. forbesii

Vandaceous:



Bruce Hall – Vandaceous Hybrid – NoID



**Bill and Jenny Lennon**  
– Ascda. Suksamran Sunlight

**Dendrobiums:**



**Bruce Hall – Dendrobium bigibbum**



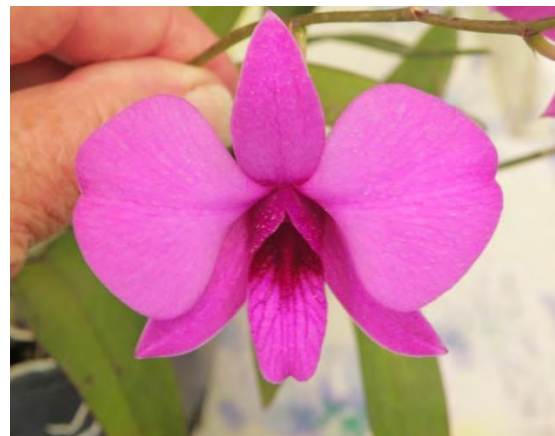
**Rhonda Smith - Ascda. Boonyarit Red**  
**'Thai Ruby'**



**Dick & Barbara Cooper – Den. Yvonne 'George'**  
**AM**



**Rhonda Smith – Ascda. Su Fun Beauty**



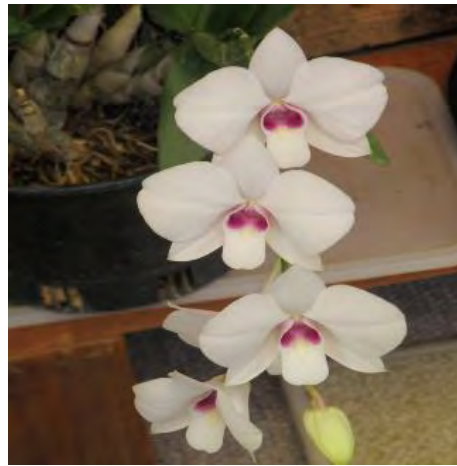
**Dick & Barbara Cooper – Den. bigibbum 'Bright Margaret' X '617 Hark'**

Home schooling: My child just said “I hope I don’t have the same teacher next year”…… I’m offended.

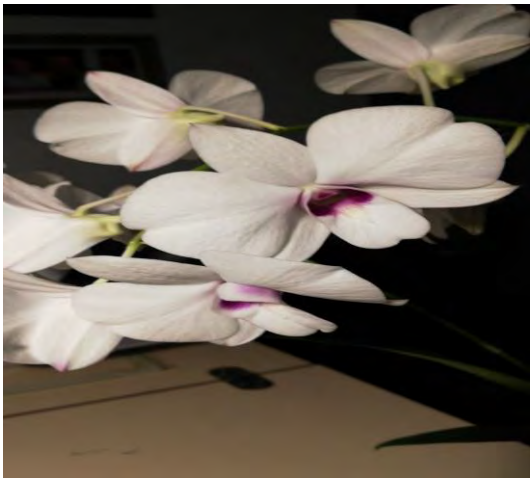




Dick and Barbara Cooper – Den. bigibbum '702'  
X 'Pale KWR'



Dick and Barbara Cooper – Dendrobium  
bigibbum 'Dark Throat'



Neil McDonald - Den. bigibbum



Dick and Barbara Cooper  
– Dendrobium Grace Robson #1

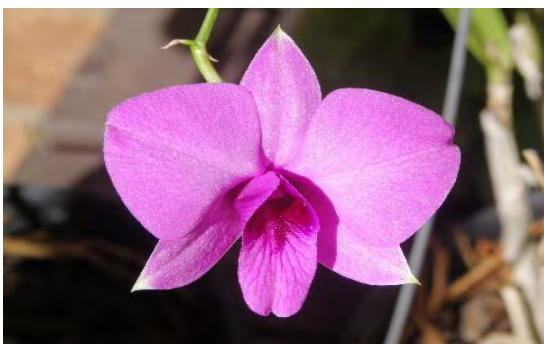
Phalaenopsis:



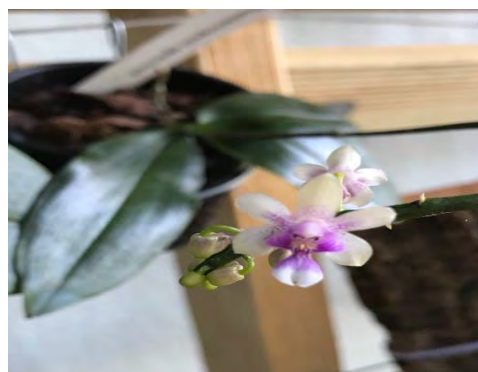
John Sidebottom – Dendrobium Hybrid



Helena Axelsson -Phalaenopsis N01D



Dick and Barbara Cooper – Den. bigibbum  
Palmerston x #17



Helena Axelsson – Phalaenopsis deliciosa



Helena Axelsson – Phalaenopsis NOLD



Neil McDonald – Brassia gireoudiana

**Oncidium Alliance:**



Helena Axelsson – Oncidium NOLD

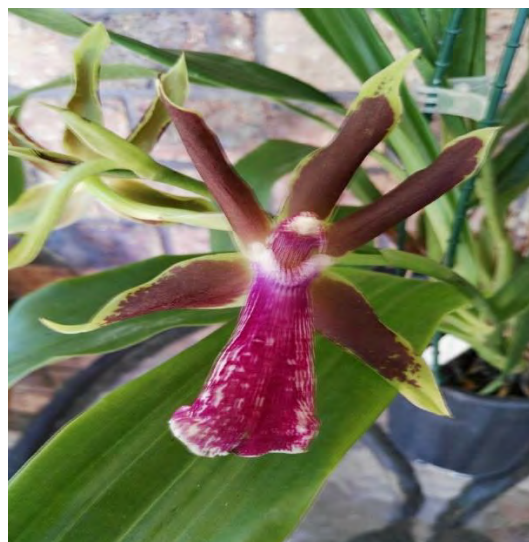


John Sidebottom – Degarmoara Olympia 'Jacqui'



Rhonda Smith – Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani'

**ANY OTHER VARIETY:**



Bruce Hall – Galeopetalum (Giant x Artur Elle) 'Old Port'



Bill and Jenny Lennon – Miltonia moreliana  
Sonja x GeyslerInd 4N

Better six feet apart than six feet under!

I'm so excited – it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?



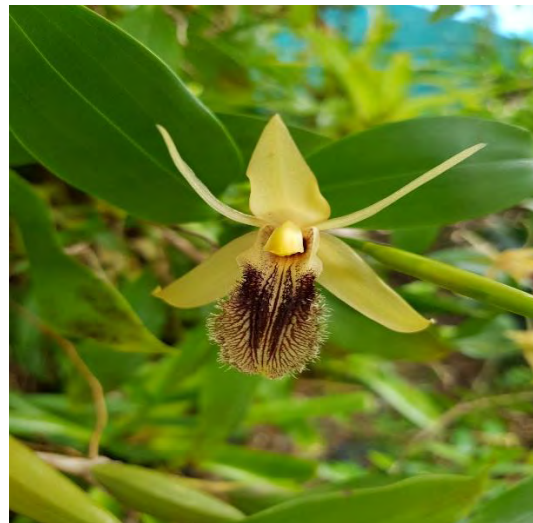
Malcolm Ide – *Bulbophyllum lepidum*  
X *Bulb. masterianum*



Malcolm Ide – *Galeandra lucastris*



Malcolm Ide – *Paph. spicerianum*



Bob Southwell - *Coelogyne ovalis*



Bob Southwell – *Coelogyne* Janine Banks

**Brain Transplant:** In the hospital where a family member lay gravely ill the relatives gathered in the waiting room. The doctor came in looking tired and sombre. "I'm afraid I'm the bearer of bad news", he said as he surveyed the worried faces." The only hope left for your loved one at this time is a brain transplant. Insurance will cover the procedure, but you will have to pay for the brain. The family sat silent as they absorbed the news. After a time, someone asked 'How much will a brain cost? The doctor quickly responded. "\$5000 for a male brain, \$200 for a female brain". The moment turned awkward. Some of the men had to 'try' to not smile, avoiding eye contact with the women. A man, unable to control his curiosity, finally blurted out the question everyone wanted to ask, "Why is the male brain so much more than the female brain?" The doctor smiled at the childish innocence and explained to the entire group, "It's just standard pricing procedure. We have to price the female brains a lot lower because they've been used."

More Virtual Show photos

in the June Newsletter

## Orchid Light Requirements\*

Light level	Low-medium	Medium	Medium-high
Foot-candles	1000-1500	1500-3000	3000-4500
Lux	10,000-16,000	17,000-30,000	32,000-50,000
Shadow cast (hold your hand above the surface so it casts a shadow)	Indistinct border	Soft border	Distinct border
Approx shade cloth%	70-80%+	50-60%	30-40%
		Ansellia Miltonia (winter) Bulbophyllum Oncidium Oncostele (were Colmonara)	Cattleya (winter) Oncidium (winter) Cymbidium up to 6000fc Dockrillia (now Dendrobium) Hard Cane Dendrobium Vanda Epidendrum Laelia Soft cane Dendrobium (winter) or near full sun Bletilla Phragmipedium Coelogyne (winter) Tolumnia Catasetum
	Phalaenopsis		
	Paphiopedilum	Soft Cane Dendrobium (summer)	
	Masdevallia	Coelogyne (summer)	
	Sarcochilus (summer)	Brassavola	
	Odontoglossum	Brassia	
	Stanhopea	Calanthe	
	Miltonia (sum)	Encyclia Cattleya (summer) Phragmipedium besseae** Sarcochilus (winter) Zygopetalum (summer)	

Lycaste

Zygopetalum (winter)

\*These Guide Lines are based on American Orchid Society guidelines and guideline from the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society. These are suggestions only and to be used as an approximate guide for the Coffs Harbour area. Remember that the intensity of sunlight (lux) varies with season and latitude.

\*\* *Phragmipedium besseae* and *P. schlimii* hybrids require lower light than other Phrags

### General comments

Light requirements will vary with temperature and with genotypes. The above table is a general guide only. Some species fall into more than one category. The duration they are exposed to light and air temperature is also important.

High light encourages flowering, low light encourages development of keikis (vegetative shoots) and very dark green leaves.

Plants will tolerate higher light levels if there is good airflow and high humidity.

Plants may need to be gradually introduced to higher light levels depending on where they were originally grown.

To convert foot-candles to lux multiply by 10.76

Some species need higher light levels in winter to promote flowering.

Phone/Computer Apps are available which measure the light intensity. Some seem to be more accurate than others but could be a useful guide to determining what the light levels are at your place.

**COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)**

**TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 19 March 2020 to 10 April 2020.**

**DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 10/4/2020.**

	Receipt	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Cheque</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
00/1	M/Ships	\$ 40.00		
00/7	Newsletter		309	\$21.00
00/8	Executive Exp.		310	\$201.00
01/3	Sundry Income	\$ 2,032.99		
03/2	Autumn show		308	\$120.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 2,072.99</b>		<b>\$342.00</b>
	<b>DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>\$1,730.99</b>		

Refer Receipt Book  
 Printing Copy Centre  
 PO Box rental  
 See Note  
 Print Prize Cards

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

Opening Bank Balance 18/3/2020	\$6,640.50
Rec for above period	\$2,072.99
	<u>\$8,713.49</u>
S/T	<u>\$201.00</u>
<b>DEDUCT</b> Exp for above period	\$401.40
Pre. u/presented cheques	Chq 306,302
S/T	<u>\$602.40</u>
	\$8,111.09
<b>Balance of income and expenditure</b>	<b><u>\$8,111.09</u></b>

Refer BCU Statement @ 07/04/2020.

The following chqs have not been presented: Chq 304,305,308,309 totalling some \$304.00.

The following Accts to be paid: Hall hire. Newsletter print.

**NOTE:** Reference 01/3 The sum of \$2,032.99 is a result of BVOS creating operation as a orchid society late last year, this is our allocation from their financial assets.

**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  
 11/4/2020.