



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – NOVEMBER, 2020

### GENERAL MEETING & ORCHID COMPETITION

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

### NOVEMBER MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	CAROLE DAVIS	026658 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	
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	NEIL McDONALD	0414 342978	
	JUDITH WHITING	0438 187028	
<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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## CALENDAR

- 5 Nov AGM – **Cancelled**
- 3 Dec Christmas Meeting - Dinner at Shearwater
- 11 Dec Possible trip to Rosella, Grafton. TBC
- 4 Feb, 2021- Monthly Meeting (We live in hope!)  
(We have booked the Botanic Gardens Room)



*Miltoniopsis* Breathless Brilliant (Paige Sinclair)

## 2. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Hello once again.

WOW thank you to everyone who participated in our *Virtual Spring Show* - what an excellent collection of nearly 150 plants in all shapes and

sizes. There are so many very good growers in our Society, and well done to all the Section winners. I understand that in some cases the voting was very close indeed. Then, of course, congratulations to the *Grand Champion* – Rhonda Smith’s *Dendrobium Issy’s Gem*, an exquisite flower, and *Reserve Champion* – Paige Sinclair’s *Apropyllum spicatum*, with its eye-popping colour. Let’s keep our fingers crossed that our Autumn Show in April is able to take place in the real world rather than in the COVID impacted virtual one.

As mentioned previously, our November meeting will be a non-event but in December we will get together at Shearwater Restaurant (one of our Sponsors) for our Annual Awards and then dinner. A flyer has already been circulated and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible on 3 December.

The video of the 1995 Orchid Festival held in Coffs Harbour has now been converted to a USB and a disc so if anyone would like to have a look at it, please let me know as it forms part of the Library catalogue. I will need to view it again as my list of all the Societies who participated seems to have disappeared into an increasingly familiar virtual world!!

More congratulations, this time to the winners of the *What’s In Bloom* Raffle - a gesture of appreciation to everyone who supported this Facebook group and the interaction which has resulted – believe it or not, even on an international scale!!

Results of the Advisors’ Program Survey have been completed and those who offered assistance for a particular genus have been contacted to confirm their availability. A great initiative to support our members. We are also looking for more *advisors* to give us some input for activities to celebrate our 50th Anniversary next year! At this stage a tentative booking has been made at Opal Cove for 16 October 2021 for a lunch with Guest Speakers, etc. Obviously, a bit more to do yet but it is a start.

Finally, on a sad note one of our long-time members – Ken Green - died recently, and we would like to send our condolences to Dulcie and other members of the family. Ken was very supportive of our Society and actively engaged in all aspects of our Shows.

*Carole Davis*  
*President*



An east coast native *Cymbidium* – *Cym. madidum*

### **3. FACEBOOK REPORT: (Paige Sinclair)**

#### **What's in Bloom Facebook Page**

The Facebook Virtual Spring Show was a great success. There were nearly 150 posts from members. Included in this newsletter is a full page with photos of the Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and all of the Section Winners. Congratulations to everyone who posted.

Just because the show is over, you can still post photos of your pretty orchids in bloom on the 'What's in Bloom' Facebook page. Your Committee is working on a new Facebook Competition and we will let you know in the near future how that will work. But it will have something to do with 'People's Choice Photo'. The rules are still being developed, stay tuned.

Over the past seven months, everyone who has posted a photo in the 'What's in Bloom' Facebook page has gone into a draw to win a plant. If you asked someone else to post photos for you, your

name was used, not the person posting. At the last Committee meeting, your Committee took turns drawing the names of the winners over the last 7 months. The following are the winners – congratulations:

March – Kathy Cowling;  
April – Helen Seiver;  
May – Bob Southwell ;  
June – Paige Sinclair;  
July – Helena Axelsson;  
August – Val and Harold Magor;  
September – Ron and Judy Cowling.

#### **Sarcochilus Growing Comp – Facebook**

The fun Facebook 'Sarcochilus Growing Competition' had nine members post in this comp. Better still, some of the plants had spikes and some even had flowers! This month there was a tie between plant number 23 and plant number 30, therefore each plant was awarded three points.

Congratulations to both plants – they both had the same number of likes, comments and views at the end of the seven days. Plant number #26 is still the lead-plant for the October 2020 period, well done to the owner of plant #26!

#### **4. CHOS VISIT TO ROSELLA ORCHIDS, SOUTH GRAFTON ON FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> DEC, 2020**

**We have been invited to visit Rosella and this provides an opportunity to buy some quality plants and hardware. There is a limit of 15 members and Covid-19 rules will apply at the nursery. The plan is to car pool (within Covid-19 limits) and spend the morning at the nursery. Full details closer to the event. If you are interested in attending then please contact Judith Whiting on 0438 187 028 or email [judithwhiting338@yahoo.com.au](mailto:judithwhiting338@yahoo.com.au).**



Plant No#	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
30	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	5
38	0	2	2	2	0	2	0	8
25	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	8
37	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	10
39	0	0	0	3	4	2	2	11
27	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	12
40	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
23	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	15
24	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	16
5	2	2	2	3	2	4	2	17
26	4	4	2	3	2	2	2	19
	14	18	20	23	20	22	20	137

Reminder if you need help joining or posting on Facebook Paige Sinclair is available to assist, contact her via telephone 0427 59 1901 and she will either help you over the phone or visit you in person. The next window to post your Sarcophilus plant is the first 7 days of each month. Just a reminder, there are prizes for this fun group, so get posting.



Silesa King's *Cattleya intermedia* var. *alba*

**5. SPONSORS SPOT: Ludo's Oldwares, Ulmarra.**

Ludo's Oldwares is your go to place for all antiques and collectables. It is located in Ulmarra on the Big River Way (was the old Pacific Highway). They are open from 9am to 4pm each Wed through to Sunday. They buy and sell everything from old wares and collectables to clothing, boots and vinyl records. Ludo tells me he is still active in buying from the Coffs Harbour area and is currently looking for old rusty

treasures, railroad memorabilia, petrol station signs, old oil bottles, farmyard items such as axes and other tools, military medals, badges, knives, uniforms and any old Aussie silver coins. If you think you may have an item that may interest Ludo then give him a call on 02 6644 4080 or his mobile 0402 044 601 or email him on [ludogayko@gmail.com](mailto:ludogayko@gmail.com).

If you are driving through Ulmarra then call into the shop at 21C Big River Way and tell him you are a member of CHOS.

Support Ludo as he supports us.

**6. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

The deadline for payment of 2020 membership fees is 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2020. Thanks to those who have recently paid. If you think we have made a mistake as you have paid your fees for this year then please contact the Society asap. Members who are unfinancial after the 5<sup>th</sup> November will be removed from the membership register and the newsletter mailing list.



Rhonda Smith's hybrid *Dendrobium* Mousmee

**7. BARK SALES:**

Repotting will be continuing with most growers. The Society can provide you with quality potting bark at a reasonable price and we now stock four different grades:

- \* Classic – 6 to 9 mm
- \* Power - 9 to 12 mm
- \* Power Plus – 12 to 18 mm

\* Super – 18 to 25 mm

These 40L bags sell for \$27 each.

If you need supplies of bark then please contact Bob Southwell on 0417 695 834 or email to [bssouthwell@bigpond.com](mailto:bssouthwell@bigpond.com). You can organise to pick up or Bob may be able to deliver to your house. There are only limited supplies of the small and largest sizes so get in early if you need these new sizes.



Rhonda Smith's *Cattleya Dorothy Warne 'Favourite'*

## 8. ORCHID PROFILE: COELOGYNE

Coelogyne's are sympodial orchids (have pseudobulbs) which originate from Asia with around 200 species being recorded. They range from India through SE Asia, SW China, the Philippines, Indonesia and New Guinea through to the Pacific. About 80 species are in cultivation and many can be found in orchid collections. I would be surprised if any of our members did not have at least one Coelogyne in their collection. There is great variation within the Coelogyne genus. Flower size varies, there can be single flowers or a spike of multiple flowers which can be erect or cascade down and some flowers are long lasting while others only show their faces for a short time. Many flowers are perfumed, with some being very heady with their aroma. White is the most common flower colour but yellow, brown, orange, salmon, red, green and almost

blue- black segments and markings are present in some species.

They grow naturally in a variety of habitats and climatic conditions. Some species are hot, tropical orchids, others prefer warm conditions and some grow better in lower temperatures. Most Coelogyne's are either warm or cool growers with temperature variations within each type. Many grow at high altitudes among mountain cloud forests and therefore like cool temperatures with high humidity. You will, therefore, need to select plants that can tolerate your growing conditions or provide heating, etc, for them to grow and flower.



*Coel. lawrenciana*

*Coel. Kirribilii* Hubert Dixson

The general growing requirements for Coelogyne are as follows:

1. Water: Require regular watering over summer (perhaps twice per week) and less in winter. Many are used to heavy monsoonal rains in summer but a drier period in winter. Pots should drain between watering but not dry out completely – they don't like to be waterlogged but they like it to be moist. In winter you should reduce the amount of water but not to the point where the leaf tips turn brown or the pseudobulbs shrivel. The medium needs to drain quickly so there is adequate air supply around the root system. It is important to maintain the humidity (minimum 70%) around the leaves especially in the heat of summer. Therefore, use of water filled gravel trays, misting systems or wetting the greenhouse floor and other methods,



all help to maintain humidity around the plants. Air flow around the plants is also important. Providing fans will assist as well as providing adequate spacing between plants so they are not overcrowded.

2. **Fertilizer:** Use fertilizer higher in Nitrogen for young plants and then change to fertilizer with a higher amount of Potassium and Phosphorus to encourage flowering. Add a small amount of fertilizer regularly (weekly or fortnightly) especially over the summer period. Some growers add a small amount (1 teaspoon) of slow release fertilizer twice a year to the surface of the pot.



**Coelogyne Edward Pearce**

3. **Potting Media:** The media needs to provide water, air and support to the plant. Plants can be mounted on tree fern or cork, etc, but usually there is difficulty in keeping the plants moist enough so most growers use pot culture. The common potting medium is 70% pine bark (such as NZ Orchiata), with Perlite (20%) and Charcoal (10%) added. Other growers have had success with coconut chip (holds more water) or sphagnum moss (ideal for young seedlings). Those Coelogyne's that have cascading flower spikes are best placed in a hanging pot or basket so that the flowers are better displayed and not damaged.

3. **Light:** Do not grow in direct sunlight or the plants will become sunburnt. Grow best in intermediate light levels of 17,000 to 30,000 Lux (1500 to 3000 Footcandles)

so 50% shade cloth will be ideal. They can tolerate higher light levels in winter.

4. **Temperature:** In general terms Coelogyne's grow best in a temperature range from 10 degrees C to 29 degrees C (21 – 24 C is ideal in summer daytime). The majority of Coelogyne orchids are cooler growers. However, the temperature tolerance will vary with each species depending on where the plant originates. Cooler night time temperatures are required for initiation of flower production.

**Coelogyne pandurata**



5. **Repotting:** Usually required every two years. If in doubt, then tip the plant out of the pot and inspect the roots and the mix. If the roots are smelly, rotting or the mix is breaking down then the plant needs repotting. Water well after repotting.

## 9. **JOKE TIME**

**(a) Bloke at a horse race whispers to Paddy next to him, "Do you want the winner of the next race?"**

**Paddy replies "No tanks, oi've only got a small yard."**

**(b) Paddy and Mick found 3 hand grenades and decided to take them to the police station.**

**Mick "What if one explodes before we get there?"**

**Paddy: "We'll lie and say we only found two!"**

*(c) A coach load of paddies on a mystery tour decided to run a sweepstake to guess where they were going..... the driver won £52!*

*(d) Paddy finds a sandwich with two wires stickin out of it.*

*He phones the police and says "Bejusus I've just found a sandwich dat looks like a bomb."*

*The operator asks, "is it tickin?"*

*Paddy says "No, oi tink it's beef"*

*(e) Joe says to Paddy: "Close your curtains the next time you're making love to your wife.*

*The whole street was watching and laughing at you yesterday."*

*Paddy says: "Well the joke's on them because I wasn't even at home yesterday."*

*(f) Mick walks into Paddy's barn and catches him dancing naked in front of a tractor.*

*Mick says, "Oi Paddy, what ya doing?"*

*Paddy says, "Well me and Mary haven't been getting on in the bedroom lately & the therapist recommended I do something sexy to a tractor."*

*(g) The Irish have solved their own fuel problems.*

*They imported 50 million tonnes of sand from the Arabs and they're going to drill for their own oil...*

*(h) Paddy says to Mick - I'm ready for a holiday, only this year I'm going to do it a bit different.*

*3 years ago I went to Spain and Mary got pregnant.*

*2 years ago I went to Italy and Mary got pregnant.*

*Last year I went to Majorca and Mary got pregnant."*

*Mick asks - So what are you going to do this year?."*

*Paddy replies, - I'll take her with me!"*

*(i) Paddy says to Mick, "Christmas is on a Friday this year"*

*Mick says "Let's hope it's not the 13th."*

*(j) Paddy's in the bathroom and Murphy shouts to him. "Did you find the shampoo?"*

*Paddy says, "Oi did, but it's for dry hair and I've just wet mine."*

**INVITE FOR ALL CHOS MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE NEXT WOOLGOOLGA DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING ON SAT. 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2020.**

*Held at Woolgoolga Sports Ground in Centenary Drive (near the High School) and starting at 2pm.*

*Rotating Demonstrations in small groups. Raffle with great prizes - \$1 per ticket. Bring the correct money as no change available.*

*Bring your own chair.*

*All CHOS members are very welcome to take part. No afternoon tea provided but if you wish you can bring your own. It will be a great get-together. Hope to see a lot of Coff's members make the effort to attend and join our Woolgoolga friends.*



**Miltoniopsis Up Country Puna 'Kea 'au Starr' (P. Sinclair)**



## 10. SOCIETY JOTTINGS:

\* Try and make it to the WDOS meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October. If CHOS members are interested then perhaps we could hold something similar on Saturday afternoon at the Coffs Gardens as an additional activity in December or January just so we can all get together. Of course, it would have to be under the Covid-19 rules that apply at the time.

\* The Committee has been working on developing an Advisor System that will assist members if they have any questions about particular orchid genera or disease and pest control methods. A list of these advisory members will be published separately from the newsletter. If you have not yet received your copy then it should be in the post or email box in the near future. Please contact these members if you are any questions about particular orchid groups. The Groups will also be providing some details about specific orchids at monthly meetings once we return to 'normal' conditions. New Members will also be given the opportunity to contact an advisor. Thank you to all who have volunteered their time to assist other members.

\* If you have not had the chance to log onto the Society Facebook pages then you are missing out on seeing some wonderful orchids as well as interesting information about orchids in general. If you are not certain how to log on then please ring Paige or message her on 0427 591 901 – she is very happy to assist you.

\* Unfortunately, WDOS have had to postpone their November Workshop for this year due to the pandemic. It is planned to hold a bigger and better one in 2021.

\* Tinonee orchid Nursery have had to cancel part of the Open Day which is scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November. The nursery will be open over the weekend for orchid sales only. There will be no speakers, no demonstrations and no food sales. However, there will be plenty of quality orchids and hardware for sale. The full Open Day has been rescheduled for July, 2021.



Helen Seiver with her awesome *Dendrobium Amphion Veil*. This is an Australasian hybrid as it has part Australian Native parents and part New Guinea parents (*Den. teretifolium* x *Den. Tweetie*).



Venue: Shearwater Restaurant

Time: Presentations 6:00, Dinner 7:00

RSVP: Before October 31, 2020 to Paige Sinclair

Please join us for an evening meal to celebrate the end to an unforgettable year! Bring a special orchid with you to put on our tables and the first bottle of wine will be courtesy of the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society. The meal and additional beverages are at your cost. In order to book the restaurant, we need to know who is interested in attending.

Please register your interest in attending by return email or by telephone, to Paige Sinclair on 0427 591 901 before the end of October 2020







Helen Seiver holding her fantastic specimen plant of *Dendrobium lindleyi*

Below: Rhonda Smith – Top: *Aerangis citrata* & Pot. Shinfong Little Sun 'Orchis' Bottom: *Lcr. Village Chief Parfum 'Orchis'*



### 11. INVITATION FROM AUSTRALIAN ORCHID FOUNDATION (AOF):

The Annual meeting of the AOF will be conducted as a ZOOM meeting on Saturday, 24th Oct, 2020 from 2pm.

Guest Speaker will be Gary Yong Gee who will speak on "Australian Epiphytic Orchids"

Gary is an amateur photographer, grower of species orchids and an orchid judge. He has travelled the world photographing orchids for over 30 years. His knowledge of orchid species of the world cannot be matched. For this address he will concentrate on Australian epiphytic orchid species.

This is a ZOOM Meeting so the venue will happen to be wherever you are with your computer device.

Please email [aof@australianorchidfoundation.org.au](mailto:aof@australianorchidfoundation.org.au) to obtain the computer link to this meeting.

You will need to have loaded the Zoom App onto your computer (Google it to download it – straight forward). Once you get the link to the meeting it should be easy going. (If you have earphones of some kind then they will be useful but not essential).

## Orchid Appreciation Workshop



KEMPSEY HEIGHTS  
BOWLING CLUB  
22nd November 2020



### Mid North Coast Judging Panel.

Introduction to orchids

Nomenclature

Award Judging

Paphiopedilums

Vandaceous

Cymbidiums

Species Or-

Oncidium Alliance

Phalaenopsis

Lycaste

Natives / Native Hybrids

Terrestrial Orchids

Display Judging

Cattleya Alliance

Sarcanthinae

Dendrobiums other than  
Australian Natives



Participants will be:

- More informed about orchids in general.
- More confident to Judge orchids at their local meetings
- Better informed of the judging system of the Australian Orchid Council (AOC)
- More critical and confident when purchasing plants for your own collection.
- Aware of the Judging standards for each genera.
- Able to listen to guest speakers talk on various genera
- Cost \$50 (Includes All notes, Judging Handbook, Morning Teas, ...)
- The Orchid Appreciation workshop is several days in length and if you want to become an AOC judge the course is longer with a written and practical exam at the end.

To register your interest, contact either:

Dick Cooper ph 66548447 or Grahame Beaton ph 65688978