

### **COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY**

PO BOX 801, COFFS HARBOUR, NSW, 2450.

E-mail chorchidsociety@gmail.com www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

### **COFFS ORCHID NEWS – AUGUST 2021**

#### **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

#### THE AUGUST MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE DISPLAY ROOM, BOTANIC GARDENS ON 5 AUGUST

PRESIDENT:	CAROLE DAVIS	026658 1354	
VICE PRESIDENT	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695834	
SECRETARY:	PAIGE SINCLAIR	0427 591901	paigesinclair@me.com
TREASURER:	BRUCE HALL	0447 742030	
COMMITTEE:	LEONIE EVERITT	0427 146149	
	NEIL McDONALD	0414 342978	
	JUDITH WHITING	0438 187028	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695834	bssouthwell@bigpond.com

#### **SPONSORS**

#### **SHEARWATER RESTAURANT**

Brekkie and Modern Australian dishes in a light, upscale locale with outdoor tables and lovely views over Coffs Creek. 321 Harbour Drive. <u>www.shearwaterreastaurant.com.au</u> or 6651 6053.

#### LUDO'S OLD WARES

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

#### (More details in August Sponsors Spot)

#### **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 <u>www.tinoneeorchids.com</u>

#### **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.

#### COFFS COAST MOTORS

For Mazda and Honda vehicles, also second-hand vehicles, and ALL your servicing needs. Ring for an appointment 6652 3122, or visit 211 Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour. You won't be disappointed.

#### **BRUCE HALL**

Bruce provides the raffle items which are a major fundraiser

at our Shows .



1. <u>CALENDAR, 2021</u>							
5 Aug – Monthly Meeting. Doug Binns – "Orchids and Broms of Mexico"							
				14 Aug – Bunnings Fund Raising BBQ			
<ul> <li>2 Sept – Monthly Meeting. Bruce Hall – "Preparing Plants for the Spring Show"</li> <li>11-12 Sept – Spring Show (Set-up on 10/9)</li> <li>7 Oct – Monthly Meeting. Plant Auction</li> <li>16 Oct – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon at Opal Cove</li> </ul>							
				Guest Speaker – Jody Cutajar.			
				Tickets now on sale.			
				4 Nov – AGM/Monthly Meeting. Elections. Dick Cooper "Birds"			
				Primary School. 9am to 3.30pm 4 Dec – Luncheon. Christmas Awards &			
Presentation at Green House Tavern,							
Coffs Harbour.							
3 Feb, 2022 - TBA							
3 Mar, 2022 - TBA							
5 Wal, 2022 - TDA							

#### (2) EDITORIAL:

So, you would all have had the sense of Déjà vu after the cancellation of the July meeting. My thoughts were "here we go again" but we must all remain positive and plan accordingly. If we follow the regulations, wear a mask as required, follow social distancing, use hand sanitiser and log in and out with the QR Code then we will have a good chance of getting through this pandemic together. At this stage it is still hoped to hold the 5<sup>th</sup> August meeting with Doug Binns as the Guest Speaker. If Covid-19 restrictions continue and the August meeting has to be cancelled then we will inform allmembers as early as possible.

This year marks fifty years since the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society separated from the Coffs Horticultural Society in 1971 and became a stand-alone organisation.

We plan to mark this event with a luncheon at Opal Cove Resort on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. Tickets will be subsidised by the Society and priced at \$25 each per person. Spouses and Partners are welcome to attend. The tickets have now been printed and will be available for purchase from the 5<sup>th</sup> August meeting. Each ticket is numbered and a Lucky Door Prize will be awarded during the luncheon. It is expected that the tickets will sell quickly so you should purchase yours as soon as possible. If you wish to reserve tickets then please contact Paige Sinclair in the near future.

Guest Speaker is Jody Cutajar from the NSW Central Coast. Jody is a highly qualified orchid grower, judge and a wellrespected member of the orchid growing fraternity. Jody will talk on his "Brazilian Orchid Road Trip" which contains a nice mix of orchid and cultural information.

Two CHOS Committee members have indicated that they will not seek re-election at the November AGM. Bruce Hall and Neil McDonald, after years of valuable and dedicated service, will vacate their positions from November. Some other committee members have not yet indicated their intentions for 2022. This means there will be at least two positions that need to be filled at this year November AGM, one of them being the important role of Treasurer.

Being part of the CHOS Committee is a rewarding experience and I would ask all members to consider making themselves available to fill one of these Committee positions for 2022. Alternatively, you may be in a position to encourage other members to stand for one of these Committee places. Nominations for the 2022 Committee will close on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

Many of you will have orchids in flower as we are now approaching Spring. Please take photos and post them on the Society Facebook site "What's in Bloom". This is a popular site but postings have been down in recent months. We would all like to see and share with you what is blooming in your orchid growing area. If you can't post the photos on Facebook then email or text them to Paige or Bob and they will do it on your behalf. This site is viewed by a world-wide audience and it would be wonderful if we could continue to share our orchids with others far and wide.

Big events are coming up and we continue to need your assistance to make them a success. Bunnings Fund Raising BBQ, Spring Show, October Plant Auction, the November AGM, the Woolgoolga Workshop in mid-November and the CHOS Christmas Luncheon on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. If you can help with working at these events and participating where possible then that would be appreciated.

Regards,

Bob Southwell. Editor.

# Coffs Harbour Orchid Society Inc.



th Anniversar

Luncheon

# 16<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Opal Cove Resort 12pm to 2:30pm **Tickets \$25 pp** (Partners welcome) **Guest Speaker – Jody Cutajar**

# Cash Bar, Lucky Door Príze, and please bríng a floweríng orchíd for a judged dísplay.

RSVP – 7days in advance with any special dietary requirements to Paige Sinclair

Email: Mobile: paigesinclair@me.com 0427 59 1901

#### (3) MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Hopefully, we will be able to conduct the 5<sup>th</sup> August monthly meeting with an easing of Covid-19 restrictions. If that is not possible, then members will be informed as early as possible.

Members are asked to bring along orchids for the monthly competition. The June meeting had a really wonderful display, which was good to see after 18 months of non-competition. Monthly judges will be Rhonda Smith and Malcom Ide.

Members are also asked to bring their Sarcochilus Growing Competition plant to the August meeting for judging. We plan to issue name tags and the library will be open for borrowing of books.

Supper will be served just before the Guest Speaker. Members are requested to bring a plate. Coffee and tea will be served in disposable cups.

Doug Binns will give an illustrated address on "The Orchids and Broms of Mexico". Doug is an experienced orchid and bromeliad grower and his talks are always enlightening and enjoyable.

There are a number of Covid-19 rules that we need to adhere to so we comply with Government Regulations. These Covid-19 rules are:

- Members to enter through the metal security gates. Do not use the side door. Maintain Social Distancing if there are other members present.
- Use the Hand Sanitiser supplied and all in attendance to wear a mask.
- Each member to sign in with name and contact phone number. Also use the QR Code if you can.
- Seats will be positioned 1.5 metres apart. Family members, and those that have travelled together, may sit closer together but all others are to maintain the 1.5m distance. Members are asked not to stand around taking but to stay seated wherever possible.
- We ask that you wipe over your seat at the end of the meeting. Antiseptic wipes will be provided for this purpose.
- If you have any Covid-19 symptoms please do not attend the meeting.

#### 4. AGENDA FOR THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST MEETING:

- (1) Welcome / Covid-19 procedures
- (2) Apologies
- (3) Minutes of June, 2021, Meeting as printed in July newsletter
- (4) Correspondence Paige
- (5) Finance Report Bruce
- (6) Sponsors Spot Ludo's Old Wares
- (7) Table Talk
- (8) Popular Vote
- (9) Judging Results of Sarco Comp Plant
- (10) Raffle Judith
- (11) Presentation to New Members
- (12) General Business 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon Tickets
  - Other General Business
- (13) Members Survey
- (14) Supper Break 15 minutes
- (15) Guest Speaker Doug Binns "Orchids and Broms of Mexico"
- (16) Please clean your seats with the wipes provided.



From the Paige Sinclair Collection: Den. Johnathos's Glory 'Dark Joy' HCC/AOS 'Pompadour'

Coelogyne triplicatula

Cymbidium Wyong Flame

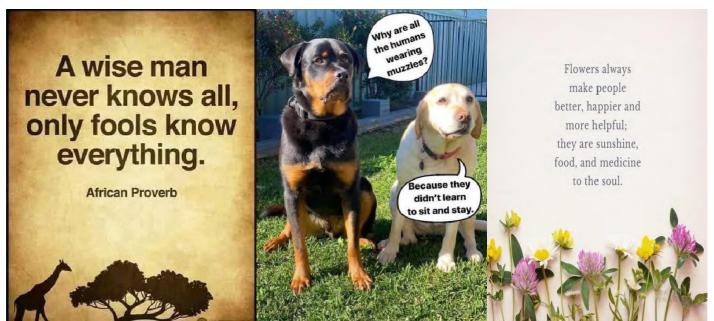
(Judges: Rhonda Smith and Malcolm Ide)

#### 5. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:

The July Committee Meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

Topics discussed included:

- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon Discussion of details and update of budget. Tickets will be on sale from the 5<sup>th</sup> August (Monthly Meeting) at a subsidised price of \$25 per person.
- Spring Show Schedule discussed. Schedule approved. Show will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12th Sept, 2021. List of duties leading up to the Spring Show were distributed.
- Orchid Information Pamphlet has been updated and should be printed during August in time for the Spring Show.
- A member's survey has been prepared and approved for completion during a future monthly meeting.
- Next Bunnings Fund Raising BBQ will be held on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August. Paige Sinclair to seek member assistance to conduct the event.
- The Green House Tavern Function Room has been booked for a Christmas Luncheon and Awards Presentation to be held on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a limited choices menu and more details will be available in future newsletters. This luncheon is instead of the Christmas Dinner Meeting set down for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
- Much discussion centred around a proposal to investigate an increase in annual membership fees or some special services incurring a fee in the future. There are a large number of annual fixed costs that the Society has to meet and the current membership fee does not adequately cover these expenses. No decision reached and discussion will be ongoing.
- Next Committee Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> August.



6. FACEBOOK REPORT: (Paige Sinclair)

#### Coffs Harbour Orchid Society Facebook

July 2021 – Currently, the society has 141 likes and 161 followers on our Facebook page. This is up by 11 people for the June 2021 period. And from the creation of our Facebook page 78 people or over 300%.

An advertisement was created to attract more members, unfortunately, due to the NSW Government Covid-19 restrictions, the July 2021 meeting was cancelled and the advertisement was put on pause until two weeks prior to the August 2021 meeting.

#### What's in Bloom Facebook Page

June 2021 was below expectations, with only one post from Sue Williams; therefore, she will get the 5 extra raffle tickets for the June period. At the August 2021 meeting we will also have the July 2021 posts to draw from, so get out into your orchid house or look at your window sill and snap a photo or two of 'What's in Bloom' and post it on our Facebook group. Reminder if you are the person who is getting the extra 5 tickets in the raffle, you need to be at the meeting to collect the tickets or we will draw another person's name out of the bag.

#### 7. <u>SPONSORS SPOT:</u> Ludo's Old Wares, 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 <u>ludogayko@gmail.com</u>.

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.



#### CHOS SPRING SHOW, 2021 SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPT. SET-UP ON FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPT – 1PM

#### 8. DISTRICT SHOW DATES FOR SPRING, 2021

For more information Google the Orchid Society name

Macleay Valley OS – 28<sup>th</sup> August – Kempsey Heights Bowling Club, Polwood St, Kempsey.

Nambucca Valley OS – 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Sept – Nambucca Seniors Hall, Nambucca Heads.

Kempsey Speciosum Show - 4<sup>th</sup> Sept – Alverton Street, Greenhill, Kempsey.

Coffs Harbour OS – 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Sept – Coffs Botanic Gardens.

Woolgoolga District OS – 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Primary School, Woolgoolga.





From the Greenhouse of Rhonda Smith:

- A. Cym. pumilum Alba X Cym. Wyel 'Goldilocks'
- B. Epicattleya Siam Jade 'Ontario'
- C. Onc. Tsku Marguerit 'Chian-Tzy Glory'
- D. Sc. Fairyland Air 'Pixie'
- E. Slc. Tangerine Jewel

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#### 9. JOKE TIME:

A cop is staking out a bar for drunk drivers. At closing time, he sees a guy stumble out of the bar, trip on the curb, and fumble for his keys for five minutes. When he finally gets in, it takes him another five minutes to get the key in the ignition. Meanwhile, everybody else leaves the bar and drives off. When he finally pulls away, the cop is waiting for him, pulls him over, and gives him a Breathalyzer test. The test shows he has a blood alcohol level of 0.0. The cop says, 'How is this possible?' The guy says,'Tonight I'm the designated decoy.'



Humormeetscomics.com

No english dictionary has been able to explain the difference between the two words COMPLETE and FINISHED ,some people say there is no difference but there is .When you marry the right woman you are COMPLETE! when you marry the wrong woman you are FINISHED! And if you marry a wife who likes shopping you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!

His request approved, the CNN News photographer quickly used a cell phone to call the local airport to charter a flight.

He was told a twin-engine plane would be waiting for him at the airport.

Arriving at the airfield, he spotted a plane warming up outside a hanger.

He jumped in with his bag, slammed the door shut, and shouted, 'Let's go'.

The pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and took off.

Once in the air, the photographer instructed the pilot, 'Fly over the valley and make low passes so I can take pictures of the fires on the hillsides.' 'Why?' asked the pilot. 'Because I'm a photographer for CNN' he responded, 'and I need to get some close up shots.'

## The pilot was strangely silent for a moment, finally he stammered, 'So, what you're telling me, is . . . You're NOT my flight instructor?'

Here's a few Irish Jokes for you

- There was a power failure in a Dublin Department Store last week and three hundred people were stranded on the escalators for more than two hours.
- "O'Leary, your glass is empty, will you be having another one?" And what would I be doing with two empty glasses?" O'Leary replied.
- Young Teresa came home with some dreadful news. "I'm pregnant" she cried. "And how do you know it's yours?" shouts her father.
- PADDY: "If you can guess how many Pheasants I've got in me bag you can have both of them".
   SHAUN: "Three"

- Mrs O'Toole said: "I can only tell you this bit of scandal once, because I promised Mrs O'Leary I would never repeat it".
- Shaun and Molly sat up all night on their honeymoon waiting for their conjugal relations to arrive.
- Murphy was told by the Doctor he had two weeks to live so he chose the last week in July and the first week in August.
- Colleen dropped a Euro coin, intending it to fall into the blind man's hat on the pavement, but missed. As quick as a flash, he scooped it up and put it in the hat. "You're not blind," she said. "No" said Paddy, "Its Murphy whose blind. I'm just filling in for him while he's gone to the pictures".
- "We're looking for a Treasurer for the Xmas fund", said Paddy. "Didn't you take a new one on last month?" said Murphy. "That's the one we're looking for", Paddy replied.



#### 10. GROWING MASDEVALLIAS AND DRACULAS WITH WARMTH AND HIGH LIGHT TOLERANCE

#### **By Rod Nelson**

(Produced with permission from the Central Coast and Lakes Orchid Society, July, 2021 Bulletin)

(<u>Editor's Note</u>: Most orchid growers have looked at plants or photos of Dracula's or Massie's and wished they could grow them in Coffs Harbour. Some of us have tried and at the best they may have flowered once and then went to Orchid Heaven. In this article Rod Nelson from the NSW Central Coast describes growing conditions that are similar to the Coffs Coast. Perhaps we need to adopt Rod's potting mix and pot choice and try again to see if we can master the growing of these orchid beauties. However, a word of warning – you need to select Dracula and Masdevallia varieties which are heat tolerant and can grow in high light conditions.)

Masdevallias & Draculas have been notoriously difficult to grow in very warm conditions, and in previous years, I had followed the main instructions (without a special temperature and high humidity controlled growing house) of growing them in sphagnum moss, keeping them in very shady cool conditions and keeping them very moist. I found that the plants had very dark flimsy leaves, poor root systems and rarely flowered.

I believed that these plants could be grown in a manner to suit my orchid house, growing a diverse range of orchids, which has 50% shade cloth on the walls and only translucent polycarbonate on the roof. I am located on the Central Coast NSW, just North of Sydney, and experience numerous days over 30 degrees C. and a number of days over 40 degrees in Summer.

My minimum night temperatures in Winter are generally between 8 and 10 degrees, with occasional nights down to 5degrees.

The floor is covered in 50mm of gravel to assist humidity. I had been adding a layer of 50 percent shade cloth on the roof from November to

February to protect the plants from heat, but I don't do this now.



Dracula Varieties

Masdevallia

#### OK .... This is how I grow Masdevallias & Draculas in the described conditions above.

- Plants are grown in a 50% perlite & pebble mix, and I have now changed most of their pots to mesh style pots. I have found they grow superior root systems, with the perlite staying damp but not very wet. The pebbles add weight to the pot and this I believe, give the plants a feeling of anchorage. I use quartzite pebbles which are attractive and don't change pH.
- Plants are fertilised with a high phosphorus- potassium ratio flowering formula only, all year around. I have adopted this policy with all my various orchids, gaining better overall plant health, stronger root systems and flowering. I use Peter's Blossom Booster.
- High light is important to make your Masdevallias and Draculas flower. As said above, they are now grown under translucent, whitish coloured polycarbonate all year around. When buying new plants from nurseries etc, they have usually been grown in very high humidity and shade, so obtain them in Autumn/Winter to give maximum time to condition them to warmer/dryer conditions. Spray your plants monthly with Algaecide! This keeps them completely safe from fungal attack. This is especially important when the plants are heat stressed over summer. Algaecide is the most comprehensive fungicide I have ever used (although it is actually a pool product). My plants are watered by an overhead sprinkler system and even the flowers are always completely clean.
  - **Fungal Diseases** Unseemingly, Algaecide is the best overall control for fungal diseases, I have ever used. It broadly destroys fungus types including Phytophora, Pythium, and Botritis ie bulb and root rots, leaf spotting, flower spotting and rot.

- I use Hy-Clor Green Blaster, which has active constituent of 250 g/L of Benzalkonium\_chloride. The strength for spraying on plants is <u>1.5 ml per litre</u>, and all the plants are sprayed at the same time with a complete coverage, including the tops of the pots.
- Watering through Summer is nearly every day for 15 minutes, via an overhead watering system in the morning, so the plants dry off quickly and humidity is kept up via water held in the pebble floor. The orchid house has full sun on it all day and is facing north. Only on hot days over 40 degrees, I leave the sprinklers on, over the hottest part of theday. Water is reduced from May to maybe only every 2 weeks until the end of August, and is gradually increased again over spring. I check the pots for moisture content overwinter, only watering when the pots appear to feel fairly dry.

My Masdevallias and Draculas grow with all my other plants, and are very strong growing and often flower for months from Winter into Spring. During Summer some of the leaf tips may blacken, but this is minimal. Damaged leaves are trimmed off come Autumn, which is when the plants are repotted.

They are growing within my collection which includes Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Odontocidiums, Paphiopedilums, Vanda, natives and many species.

(Editor: The author used a commercial Algaecide called Hy-Chlor Green Blaster which is obtainable from pool suppliers. Many CHOS members will be familiar with Alginox which is another pool chemical used to control algae in swimming pools. The local Woolworths Supermarket, Toormina, has stocks of Alginox in their pool chemicals aisle (4 - 5ml/1L))

#### **11. BUNNINGS FUND RAISING BBQ:**

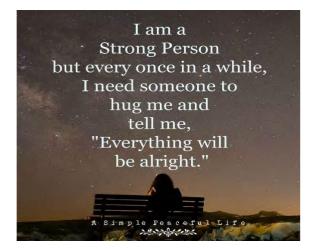
Money is a constant need for any Society that wishes to do things for their membership. There are many ongoing running costs that need to be covered in a twelve month period in the life of a Society. Raffles, Membership Fees, Donations and plant sales cover many of these but events such as the Bunnings Sausage Fund Raising Events are major ones in the life of this Society.

The next Bunnings BBQ will be conducted by the CHOS on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August.

Paige Sinclair is heading up the organisation for this event and is seeking volunteer members to assist for a short shift during the day. Please contact Paige if you can assist on the day.

Mobile Phone: 0427 591 901

Email: paigesinclair@me.com









From the Green House of Paige Sinclair: Onc. Distinctive 'Big Mac' F

Fdk. Turning Point 'Green Goddess'Procatavola Golden PeacockX Ctsm. De Elton Harris 'Emerald Goddess'

#### <u>COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)</u> <u>TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 18 June 2021 to 16 July 2021.</u> <u>DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 16/7/2021.</u>

Receipt			INCOME	Cheque	EXPENDITURE				
	00/3	Hall Hire		391	\$40.00				
	00/5	Affiliation		388,389,39	\$197.00	Gardens			
				0		, AOC,			
	22/4		<u>,</u>			OSNSW 			
	02/1	Bank Interest	\$ 25.79			Term Deposit			
	02/1	Subsidy	23.79 \$			Refer			
	02/1	Subsidy	0.17			bank			
						stateme			
						nt.			
		TOTALS	<u>\$</u>		<u>\$237.00</u>				
			<u>25.96</u>						
DEBIT/ <u>CR</u>	EDIT TOTAL FOR THE PE	RIOD	<u>-\$211.04</u>						
Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.									
Opening Bank Balance			<u>\$8,308.60</u>						
18/06/2021			<u> 70,300.00</u>						
-,, -	Rec for above period		\$25.96						
		S/T	<u>\$8,334.56</u>						
DEDUCT	Exp for above period		<u>\$0.00</u>						
	Pre. u/presented cheques		\$1,102.10 Chq. 387,386,385,384,38			,378.			
		S/T	<u>\$1,102.10</u>						
Balance of Income and Expenditure			<u>\$7,232.46</u>	Refer BCU Statement @ 16/07/2021.					

The following cheques have not been presented: 388,389,390 and 390 a total of \$237.00 The following cheque 382 a total of \$16.00 issued on the 11 June 2021 has 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 rolled into the daily account and is shown in the appropriate trading statements.

HALL. B.G. Hon. Treasurer 17/7/2021