



COFFS ORCHID NEWS DEC, 2022 PUBLICATION OF THE COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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1. AGM President's Report November 2022

Welcome – and well done everyone. As a Society I believe we have managed to accept the negative impacts of the COVID virus, enabling us to get back into a more positive routine, and for this a BIG thank you to all our Members for continuing to support our activities. Never forget that you are absolutely integral to our success.

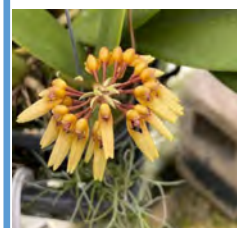
With our Autumn and Spring Shows we were able to throw off our virtual existence and come up with the goods in the real world proving that sensory perception and fragrance cannot be beaten. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to the MNC Judging Panel for their expertise, and having to make some hard decisions. At both Shows our Sales Table ran out of supplies very early which was a little embarrassing but we did offer a wide range of well-grown plants together with knowledgeable customer support.

Our Annual Growing Competition, Monthly Popular Vote, Table Talk, in-house Workshops and Auction continue to offer a sense of *connection* – together we learn and enjoy. It's exciting that we have attracted a large number of new members, many of whom *have* orchids but had not necessarily considered themselves to be growers. To assist them our Mentor/ Advisor program is available to answer questions and offer feedback, which is part of our commitment to providing an educational element to our meetings, at all levels, sharing knowledge and also giving the opportunity to show the diverse varieties which are grown within our Society. The recent excursion to Rosella Orchids was well supported and a bonus was the excellent display of Jacarandas in and around Grafton.

Our Facebook following continues with exposure overseas as well as locally, and I think our Newsletter speaks for itself – full of photos and information – so thank you to our Editor and all those who have contributed many valuable articles. However, if it hadn't been full in the last edition, and I had been less tardy, this Report would have been included and

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Bulb. auratum
from Pete Funnell

CHOS COMMITTEE 2022-23**CONTACT DETAILS**

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SPONSORS**SHEARWATER RESTAURANT**

Brekkie and Modern Australian dishes in a bright, upscale location with outdoor tables and lovely views over Coffs Creek. 321 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour.

www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au or Phone 6651 6053.

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. Phone 02 6652 2599.

COFFS COAST MOTORS

For new Mazda vehicles, also second-hand vehicles and ALL your servicing needs. Ring for an appointment 02 6652 3122 or visit 211 Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour.

You won't be disappointed .

TINONEE ORCHIDS

Tinonee Orchids carries a wide variety of orchids and orchid growing supplies—coconut fibre, pots, etc. They provide quick delivery of orders. 02 6553 1012

www.tinoneeorchids.com

BRUCE HALL

Bruce provides the raffle prizes for both the Autumn and Spring Shows.

OFFICE WORKS

Officeworks carries an excellent range covering all stationery needs, computers/monitors/printers, and associated technology. They sell a wide range of smart phones and watches, plus furniture and workspace solutions. If you are looking for low prices on everyday essentials, it's all there at Home Base, Coffs Harbour. Phone 66 919100 or check out the full range at officeworks.com.au.

CALENDAR, 2022

20 Nov— Bunnings Fund Raising BBQ

1 Dec—Annual Prize and Awards Presentation — Shearwater Restaurant—6.30pm

24 Jan 2023—Committee Meeting

2 Feb 2023— Feb Meeting— "Back To Basics—Potting, etc"

2 Mar 2023—March Meeting— Bruce Hall—"Repotting Stanhopeas"

6 April 2023— "Back To Basics— Plant Needs, etc"

22-23 Apr 2023—Autumn Show

4 May 2023—Paige Sinclair "Plant Labels"

1 June 2023— Dick Cooper— "Using OrchidWiz"

Note: The Committee meets on Tuesday following the Monthly Meeting.

CHOS BANK DETAILS

BSB No: 533-000

ACCOUNT No: 32817199



you wouldn't have had to listen to me now because of course there was an expectation that you would have previously read it?

The Coffs Harbour Agricultural Show was another opportunity for us to display our expertise, including plants which are not always flowering for our own Shows and that is a plus. In addition we have had some really interesting visits to Members' collections which offered a chance to investigate variations in growing strategies utilising whatever the environment and technology has to offer. Quite an eye-opener. Lots of good ideas.

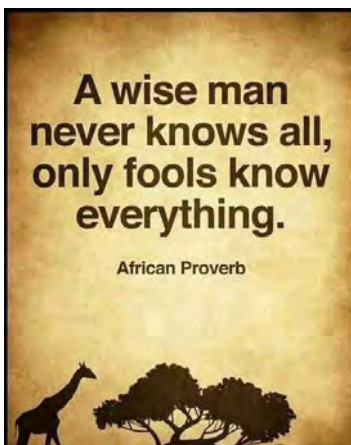
An absolute highlight was our 50th Plus One Anniversary Luncheon with our excellent Guest Speaker Jody Cutajar. It was also an opportunity to reflect on our history and long-term achievements. One outcome has been the decision to re-visit the original Society badge which showed a *Dendrobium kingianum* and this is now our official logo. Another personal realisation is that 50 years ago everything was handwritten and it is only because I have borrowed a friend's computer that this is not the case this evening!! Mine conked out.

Sponsors are really important to the Society – please do support them whenever you are able to do so. We were sorry to see Ludo's Old Wares relocate to Queensland after ten years but welcome to *Officeworks* which, as you probably know, is located at Homebase - it has a lot of *stuff* to suit all your office and technology requirements.

Finally, I want to sincerely thank the Committee members who have underpinned our endeavours over the last twelve months – things don't just happen without input from a diverse combination of viewpoints and historical experience. I regret that Leonie Everitt and Ann Deans have retired after overseeing Membership and Catering respectively – jobs well done. However, as I said at the beginning, it is the Members who are the heart of our Society and keep it beating. Thank you.

Carole Davis, CHOS President.

SOME PHILOSOPHICAL THOUGHTS FOR THE END OF THE YEAR



The 2% Mindset



3. JOKES: Here are some you may have heard before but they always worth a repeat laugh. (If you have any half-decent jokes can you send them to the Editor. Thanks)

As it's no longer politically correct to direct a joke at any racial or ethnic minority, try this one:

An Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, a Welshman, a Gurkha, a Latvian, a Turk, an Aussie, a German, a Yank, an Egyptian, a Japanese, a Mexican, a Spaniard, a Russian, a Pole, a Lithuanian, a Jordanian, a Kiwi, a Swede, a Finn, a Canadian, an Israeli, a Romanian, a Bulgarian, a Serb, a Swiss, a Greek, a Singaporean, an Italian, a Norwegian, an Argentinian, a Libyan, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist and an African went to a night club.

The bouncer said, "Sorry, I can't let you in without a Thai.

Toward the end of the Sunday service, the Minister asked, "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?"

80% held up their hands.

The Minister then repeated his question. All responded this time, except one man, Walter Barnes.

"Mr. Barnes, are you not willing to forgive your enemies?"

"I don't have any," he replied gruffly.

"Mr. Barnes, that is very unusual. How old are you?"

"Ninety-eight," he replied.

The congregation stood up and clapped their hands.

"Oh, Mr. Barnes, would you please come down in front and tell us all how a person can live ninety-eight years and not have an enemy in the world?"

The old golfer tottered down the aisle, stopped in front of the pulpit, turned around, faced the congregation, and said simply, "I outlived all those assholes" - and he returned to his seat.

Spaghetti

For several years a man was having an affair with an Italian women. One night she confided in him that she was pregnant . Not wanting to ruin his reputation or his marriage he agreed to pay her a large sum of money if she would go to Italy to secretly have the child. If she stayed in Italy to raise the child, he would provide child support until the child turned 18.

She agreed, but asked how he would know when the child was born. To keep it discrete he told her to simply mail him a post card and write 'Spaghetti' on the back He would then arrange for the child support payments to begin.

One day about 9 months later he came home to his confused wife 'Honey' she said 'you received a very strange post card today'.

'Oh, really Let me see...,' he said . The wife gave it to him and watched as her husband read the card turned white and fainted .

On the card was written ' Spaghetti , Spaghetti , Spaghetti. Two with meatballs and one without. Send extra sauce'

DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE AND MUST BE PAID BY THE START OF FEBRUARY, 2023. PAY BY DIRECT DEPOSIT THIS WEEK. SEE PAGE 2.

4. SOCIETY NEWS—WHAT IS HAPPENING AT CHOS?

Bunnings BBQ: The Society has committed to conducting a **Fund Raising BBQ at Bunnings** on Sunday 20th November. Paige has emailed the roster to those involved. Please check your rostered time, understand what is expected of you and please arrive in time for the start of your allocated shift. If you are at Bunnings next Sunday then please support our fund raising efforts.

The Society's Annual Prize and Awards Dinner will be held on Thursday 1st December at Shearwater Restaurant (instead of a General Meeting). The dinner will be subsidised and each member (plus spouse/partner) will pay \$30 for the two-course meal. This year the dinner will be held in the downstairs area and will be a private function. If you wish to attend, please add your name to the dinner list by contacting Paige Sinclair (0427 591 901 or email paigesinclair@me.com) Please see the poster on page six of this newsletter.

Paige will collect your \$30 (or more if you wish to have three courses) just prior to you entering the downstairs area (under the old Mangrove Jacks). Shearwater Management have requested that they collect orders early in the nights program, probably before the presentation of awards. It is suggested that you study the menu included in the poster on page six and be ready to place your order early in the evening.

It will be a great night and a worthy celebration of a better Orchid Year than 2020 or 2021.

Hope to see you all there.

The 2023 Growing Competition plant will be *Vanda falcata* (previously *Neofinetia falcata*). This is a small white flowered Vandaceous plant of Chinese/ Japanese origin and it may be a challenge to many growers. The society has ordered 40 plants for delivery in late January, 2023. The plants will be numbered and allocated to members at a draw during the February Monthly Meeting. The first judging will take place at the March meeting. Each plant is priced at \$10 each and only one is available for each member. You can simply purchase a plant for your collection and not go in the competition, but we would encourage everyone to get involved. Only 40 plants will be available so if you are interested then get your name on the list by ringing or texting Bob on 0417 695 834. Please pay Paige the \$10 in cash, credit card or by direct deposit into the CHOS account with Growing Plant as the reference (bank details on page 2 of the newsletter). Plants need to be paid for before the February plant draw. Further details will be in the next Newsletter. You can order now so your don't miss out and pay later.



2023 Committee was elected at the November AGM. Congratulations to those who were voted into the following positions:

President: Carole Davis

Vice President: Bob Southwell

Secretary: Annie Houston

Treasurer: Paige Sinclair

Committee: Judith Whiting, Carmen Pearce and Frank Pappalardo

Congratulations to Carmen and Frank as the two new Committee Members.

A very successful visit was held on 31st October to **Rosella Orchids in South Grafton**. 18 members attended and had an enjoyable morning at the nursery and at the Jacaranda Festival.

Thank you to Allan and Dylan for their cooperation and enthusiasm during our visit. Members appreciated the efforts of Judith Whiting in organising the event and to those members who provided transport for the day.

There will not be a monthly meeting of CHOS in January and we wish you all a great holiday break. Orchid activities will resume at the 2nd February monthly meeting.

The Committee will next meet on 24th January, 2023.

The next newsletter will be the February, 2023 edition.



Coffs Harbour Orchid Society End of Year Dinner and Award Presentations 1st December 2022 Shearwater Restaurant 6:30 – 10:00 pm

Two Course Dinner \$30 (\$25 subsidised by CHOS) per person. See menu below. Members can pay by cash/credit card on the night.

Cash Bar for alcoholic drinks, free of charge coffee/tea station.

Members are requested to bring one orchid for a Popular Vote competition.

ENTREES

King Prawns / BBQ / chilli / garlic butter / avocado salsa. G.F.

Pork Belly / cauliflower purée / daikon salad

Squid / salt and pepper / rocket and Parmesan salad G.F

Scallops / kumera puree / salsa verde

MAINS

Barramundi Fillet / potato rosti / capers / dill / lemon butter sauce

Chicken Breast / mushroom risotto / tomato relish

Black Angus Scotch Fillet / crisp potato / greens / porcini cream G.F.

Quinoa / Roast pumpkin / haloumi / eggplant / Dukkha / capsicum G.F. V

DESSERTS

Sticky date Pudding w/ butterscotch sauce and vanilla bean ice cream

Baked Cheesecake w/ Berry coulis and ice cream

White Chocolate Brûlée w/ biscotti

6. THE END OF AN ERA AND HAPPY RETIREMENT: Ray Clement has decided to finally retire and close down **Tinonee Orchids Nursery**. Tinonee has been an institution on the Mid North Coast and Ray has had a significant influence on orchid growers and on Orchid Societies. Ray has been a wonderful sponsor to Coffs Harbour Orchid Society for many years as well as a regular visitor and guest speaker at our monthly meetings. He has also always provided advice and discounted materials and plants for use by the Society. Many of us also count Ray as a special friend and will miss his regular appearance at our meetings and his face behind the sales bench at orchid fairs and conferences. The nursery will close at the end of December. The CHOS thanks Ray for his long support of the Society and wish him and his family all the best in his retirement.

Often, as one door closes another door will open. We would like to announce and welcome **Dark Star Orchid Nursery** from Bowraville as the new sponsor for CHOS in 2023. Hans Schaible and Sue Daniels are also long time friends and supporters of the Society and we welcome them on board as sponsors from next year. Thanks Hans and Sue.



Sue Williams is shortly moving house and so in getting the house ready for sale she has some surplus orchid bits and pieces that may be useful to a fellow member. If anyone can use these hangers, etc, then phone Sue on 0417 784 338 and you can have the lot (but be quick).

What is my Phalaenopsis orchid growing?

ROOT vs SPIKE

<p>Rounded tip</p> <p>Texture is either smooth or with molting bits</p> <p>No ridge</p> <p>Usually lighter in color than flower spikes</p> <p>Evenly curved profile shape</p> <p>Velamen* starts showing at the base after a few days or weeks.</p>	 	<p>Oval / flat tip</p> <p>Texture has a fine grain, like a new leaf</p> <p>Ridges (nodes)</p> <p>Usually darker and greener in color than roots</p> <p>Pointy / mitten shaped profile</p> <p>No velamen. Instead, nodes will appear as the spike grows</p>	 
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*The velamen is the silvery part of the root, which absorbs water like a sponge | © Diane Costelloe, 2001



Carole Davis presents Mal Ide with his Reserve Champion trophy from the Spring Show. Congratulations Malcolm!

7. COMMITTEE REPORT:

The November Committee Meeting was conducted at the North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens, Coffs Harbour, on Tuesday 8th Nov, 2022.

1. Two new Committee members were welcomed to the meeting—Carmen Pearce and Frank Pappalardo.
2. Final arrangements were made for the Annual Presentation and Awards Dinner to be held at Shearwater Restaurant on Thursday 1st December, 2022.
3. *Vanda falcata* was confirmed as the selected plant for the 2023 Plant Growing Competition. Orders are now being taken at \$10 each and plants will be allocated at the February monthly meeting.
4. The Society will conduct a fund raising BBQ at Bunnings on Sunday 20th November. Organisation is well under way. Rosters will be emailed to all those involved.
5. Special duties for 2023 were discussed and a draft list prepared. Carmen Pearce will be the new Catering Coordinator and Frank Pappalardo will assist Judith Wright as Activities Coordinator. The full list will be published at the next Committee meeting.
6. A draft 2023 program was tabled. Discussion was held on additional activities that could be included in next years CHOS program. These could include greenhouse visits, workshops, member BBQ's, members dinners and a variety of bus trips.
7. Membership fees were set at the AGM as \$5 for Juniors, \$10 for Adults and \$15 for Family membership. Fees are now due and must be paid by early February.
8. Bark supplies—not a lot in stock so members should place an order with Paige while bags are still available.
9. Next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th January, 2023.

8. THIS YEARS VISIT TO ROSELLA ORCHIDS:



Peter Gough decides will I buy this one while my wife is not looking?'



Too much choice for Silesa and Ann



9. POPULAR VOTE AT THE NOV MONTHLY MEETING

Congratulations to Malcolm Ide for his excellent *Dendrobium chrysotoxam*
Well done!



10. Coffs Harbour Orchid Society Facebook: By Paige Sinclair

November 2022 – Currently, the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society has 501 likes. This is up by 36 people from the last month. The image below shows a range of insights.



11. SPONSORS SPOT:

OFFICEWORKS

Officeworks carries an excellent range covering all stationery needs, computers/monitors/printers, and associated technology. They sell a wide range of smart phones and watches, plus furniture and workspace solutions. If you are looking for low prices on everyday essentials, it's all there at Home Base, Coffs Harbour. Phone 66 919100 or check out the full range at officeworks.com.au.

SUPPORT THEM AS THEY SUPPORT US

12. AWARD OF MERIT GRANTED TO MID NORTH COAST PLANT:

A Multi-flowered Paph was recently awarded an Award of Merit (AM) from the OSNSW and the AOC. This spectacular specimen was grown by Woolgoolga District Orchid Society member Peter Furniss. Congratulations Peter!



Paph. Prince Edward Of York 'Mary Helen'

13. BARK SUPPLIES FROM CHOS FOR THE CURRENT POTTING SEASON:

The Society stocks 35 litre bags of NZ Orchiata Bark selling at \$27 each. There are two main sizes – 9 to 12mm and 12 to 18mm. Some Super Grade is also available.

Remember if you desire quality plants then always use quality potting mix.

Contact Paige Sinclair on 0427 591 901 or paigesinclair@me.com.

14. WHAT'S INSTORE FOR CHOS MEMBERS IN 2023?

Your new Committee has already put together an extensive program of orchid activities for 2023 and there are a number of different types of programs planned to cater for our increased membership.

Due to the large number of members who are relatively new to orchid growing, we plan on having a series of 'Back To Basics' activities to help these new growers develop the skills needed to successfully grow orchids in Coffs Harbour. The first meeting for the new year will be devoted to 'Which pot do I choose?', 'What's an ideal potting mix?' and what are some 'potting methods'.

The March meeting will cover the topic 'Repotting Stanhopeas' and should be a useful segment for all members as most growers have at least one Upside-down orchid in their collection. It is planned to include a variety of guest speakers, workshops and the popular orchid auction during the year.

The new Members Activities Team of Judith and Frank are planning green house visits, possible short trips and a variety of new social activities. A members BBQ has been suggested and perhaps a Cultural Dinner where members bring along a traditional dish from their country of origin (or your ancestors origin), or even an Aussie National Dish, and we share these with other members. Sounds like an amazing way to get together and enjoy each others company plus awesome food.

The full program should be available by the end of January and will be published in the February newsletter.



15. GROWER REVEALS SOME OF HIS SECRETS:

CHOS members were recently given the pleasure of listening to experienced orchid grower and nurseryman, Malcolm Ide, talk about how he grows his orchids, especially his Cymbidiums.

Malcolm revelled that he uses the standard potting mix of five parts of Orchiaata 12-18mm bark mixed with one part of Jumbo Perlite but the secret ingredient he adds is one part Coco Chip. This chip would hold additional moisture over the summer months.

Malcolm does occasionally use liquid fertilizer on his orchids but he provides the majority of his plants fertilizer needs by using Slow Release Fertilizer applied at repotting or topping up and then additional doses 6 to 9 months later as required. Mal uses Planticote Top K 8M which is a commercial slow release with an NPK Ratio of 9:3.9:15.7. Many growers don't use slow release products because they fear there will be an irregular release of the nutrients but Malcolm has not experienced any issues and it is certainly a time saving technique.

We are all looking for that plant that seems to grow in a well balanced way with leaves and flowers evenly spaced around it. Malcolm seems to achieve that with this simple technique –two key rings joined together with a fishing swivel. When placed in between two hooks this device allows a pot to move freely in the air moving in the orchid house resulting in plants that seem to produce flowers completely around the plant. Well worth trying with all your hanging orchids. The other photographs below are Malcolm's excellent Cascade Cymbidium's.

