

**Bulletin for August 2008.**  
[www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com](http://www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com)

**Committee Meeting.** Held on the second Tuesday of the month (9th Sep. ) at the Bribie Island Bowls Club on Welsby Parade Bongaree & commencing at 1 pm.

**Cultural Meeting.** Held on the fourth Tuesday of the month (26<sup>th</sup> Aug ) at the Ningi community hall on Bribie Island Rd. The meeting begins at 1.30 pm. The guest speaker will be Nev Roberts from the Bribie Fire & Emergency service who will speak on fire safety in the home.

**New Growers' Meeting.** Held on the last Saturday of the month (30<sup>th</sup> Aug ) This month is our bus trip to North Brisbane OS show at Mt Coot-tha. (see bus trips)

**Diary Dates.**

Aug 22-24 Qld Orchid society open show in the auditorium at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. Set up 21<sup>st</sup> Aug from 3 pm. Judging starts at 8 pm. 40 orchid classes & 6 floral art classes. Ph 3366 2214.

Aug 23-24 ANOS Kabi Group Aussie Native Orchid show at the Lion's hall, Lawnton Showgrounds  
Aug 26 Bribie Community Options is again holding their Seniors' Expo at the Recreation Hall on First Ave.

Aug 30-31 Logan & District OS show at Logan Central Community Centre cnr Jacaranda Ave & Wembley Rd Logan Central.

Aug 30-31 North Brisbane OS spring show at Mt Coot-tha auditorium ph 3353 4851. We are visiting this show.

Sep 5-6 Nambour OS show at the Uniting Church on Coronation Drive. Set up 4<sup>th</sup>. We display.

Sep 4-6 Childers & Isis OS show

Sept 6-7 Orchid Species Society show at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens auditorium.

Sep 12-13 Noosa District O & F society show at Memorial hall Maple St Cooroy Set up on the 11<sup>th</sup> from 2.30 pm. This is a benching show. We support this show.

Sep 13 Grand opening day for the Ningi Garden centre 1421 Bribie Island Rd Ningi (opposite the lights)

Sep 12-14 Aust native orchid society Beenleigh group spring Orchid show at Showground hall, cnr James & Milne Sts Beenleigh. Set up Thursday 4 to 7 pm. Ph D Walker 5527 3781

Sep 13-14 Buderim Garden Festival. Spring flower show, open gardens, sculpture exhibition, plant stalls, workshops refreshments. [www.BuderimGardenFestival.com.au](http://www.BuderimGardenFestival.com.au)

Sep 13-14 West Brisbane OS Spring Charity Orchid Spectacular at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

Sep 17 Bribie Island Uniting Church presents "Years of Yore" at 9.30 am. Beginning with morning tea then a concert.

Sep 18-20 Maryborough District OS show

Sep 20 BIOS bus trip to Toowoomba for the Carnival of Flowers.

Sep 25-29 West Australian Orchid Spectacular (see last month's bulletin.)

Sep 26-27 Glasshouse Country OS show at Beerwah community hall. Set up from 2pm on 25<sup>th</sup>. We display.

Sep 27-28 Geraniums Annual show at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

Sep 27-28 Beaudesert & District O & F S spring show at School of Arts hall Pine St Canungra. Ph 55432108

**Oct 11-12 BIOS spring show "Orchid Bonanza" at student centre , Bribie Island SHS First Ave Bongaree.**

Oct 10-12 Hervey Bay OS show.

Oct 18-19 Boonah OS show & incorporating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qld Sarcocochilus festival at Boonah High School in Macquarie St.

Nov 7-9 Pumicestone & District O & FS show at Ningi community hall on Bribie Island Rd. We display.

Dec 16 **BIOS Christmas party ay Bribie RSL.**

18<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference & Show hosted by the Marybynong OS at Werribee in Victoria 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Sept '09  
I have on hand more info. from the organizers. Please ask the editor at the cultural meeting.

Listen to radio 88fm for all the latest news & entertainment.  
A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

### Judy's Jottings.

Oh! dear! I don't like this cold weather. Sitting in the sun with a hot cuppa is the only spot to be. The perfect weather we had for our Gladstone visitors was heaven sent. We enjoyed everyone's company on this terrific weekend. Starting with a BBQ lunch, afternoon tea, dinner at the RSL with a rolling raffle, morning tea then lunch at the Caboolture Sports Club – we ate our way around the shire. John Stokes & I have now attended 3 classes in our judging course. Oh boy is there a lot to remember...here are 2 new words in our vocabulary – zygomorphic & nomenclature. Look them up in your dictionary.

Enjoying the Olympics ? I love seeing our Aussie sports people do their best. Enjoy !!

Judy.

### July Cultural Meeting.

A good display of orchids on the benches, but where were all the plants from our novices ? Make sure there is a good display in August on the novice bench. We had as our guest speakers, Sheryl Waite & Jeanette Robinson from Talbot Lodge, telling us all we needed to know about Bromeliads. They also had some beautiful plants for sale. I bought a really dark one which I have placed out in the garden in a dappled shade as directed. Our fruit tray raffle was won by Ian McLaren, other winners were Merv Anderson with 2 prizes & Diann Sirett.

The judges were Mel Wheeler & John Hopgood with student judge John Stokes. The 2 Bev's were the scribes.

<b>Cattleya</b>				
Exhibition	<i>Lc. Patriot</i>	W & J Corney	M & J Venz	A Pecci
Mini / compact	<i>Pot. Dal's Jet</i>	J & B Hopgood	T & B Pritchard	W & J Corney
Novelty	<i>Epc. Renee Marques</i>	I & F McLaren	J & B Hopgood	
Cluster	<i>Slc. Bloodshot</i>	D & M Neldner	M & V Anderson	W & J Corney
<b>Dendrobium</b>				
Spatulata & inter.	<i>Den. Superbiens</i>	D & M Neldner		
Any other	<i>Den. Unknown</i>	J & B Hopgood	W & J Corney	W & J Corney
<b>Vanvaceous</b>				
Under 60mms	<i>Ascda. Boonyarit Beauty</i>	J & B Hopgood		
Any other	<i>Angcm. Veitchii</i>	W & J Corney		
Species	<i>Rhy. gigantean</i>	W & J Corney	D & M Neldner	
<b>Phalanopsis</b>				
Any type	<i>Phal. Sandra Livingston</i>	T & B Pritchard		
Species	<i>Phal. equestris</i>	T & G Davis	T & G Davis	
<b>Paphiopedilum</b>				
Any other	<i>Paph. China Vision</i> x <i>Maudiae</i>	W & J Corney	J & J Stokes	
<b>Oncidium</b>				
Any other	<i>Onc. Twinkle</i>	T & B Pritchard	T & B Pritchard	I & F McLaren
<b>Cymbidium</b>				
Any type	<i>Cym. Summer Pearl</i> 'Sonia'	J & B Hopgood	D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Any hybrid	<i>Z. B.G.White</i>	D & M Neldner	W & J Corney	M & J Venz
Species	<i>Dend. wenzelii</i>	J & B Hopgood	J & S Knight	D & M Neldner
<b>Aust. Natives</b>				
Any other hybrid	<i>Den. Stunning</i>	J & B Hopgood	J & B Hopgood	D & M Neldner
Any terrestrial	<i>Pterostylis nutans</i>	M & J Venz	D & M Neldner	

<b>Foliage</b>				
Foliage	Dieffenbachia	D & M Neldner	W & J Corney	M & V Anderson
Fern	Adiantum	A Pecci	A Pecci	D & M Neldner
Bromeliad	Tillandsia	M & V Anderson	M & V Anderson	G Cooper
Anthurium	Pink Pearl	D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner

Orchid popular vote was *Rhy. gigantea* owned by Don & Margaret Neldner  
The foliage popular vote went to Anthurium Pink Pearl owned by Don & Margaret Neldner  
Judges' choice was awarded to John & Bev Hopgood with Pot. Dal's Jet

*The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same size bucket.*

### Showtime.

At the **Caboulture Orchid show**, Caboulture OS won the society display while our mob were a tie for third place. Congratulations to everyone. Our society had 15 prize ribbons on the display & Jean Corney gained 2 firsts in the floral art. M & F Wheeler had 3 x first, 3 x second & 2 x third. J & B Hopgood had 2 x second & 1 x third. W & J Corney had a second & a third while D & M Neldner & I & F McLaren each gained a second place.

At **Maroochydore OS show** the society display gained a tie for fourth place. Mel & Fay Wheeler were awarded Champion of the show & champion species with *Rhy. gigantea*, a mighty fine effort. Mel & Fay also had 2 x first, 2 x second & a third. John & Bev Hopgood had a first, second & third. Wal & Jean Corney had a second & third while Merv & Val Anderson had a second with their foliage.

**BIOS** show is not far away & Merv Anderson reminds us that plants for the sales table need to be well established & free of all pests & diseases. Merv will have sales tags at the next cultural & new growers meeting.

### Our Community Projects.

1. The August cultural meeting is your last chance to contribute to the Bribie High Students' Cambodia project. The students need small items to take for the Cambodian children such as pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers, combs, toothbrushes small toys or soft toys. Cash donations would also be welcome. Any queries call Lynn 3410 1919
2. The Community Options Senior Expo is to be held at the Recreation hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> August (our meeting day) Our society will display orchids & have info for the public on growing orchids. Of course we will have leaflets advertising our show in October.

### On the Grapevine.

A very happy birthday to all these lucky people - Rod O'Connor, Mavis Ratcliffe, Trish Fryer, Roy Mitchell & June Payne.

Two of our members are having hospital stays to have some parts fixed - Marj Webber & Allan Budge. Get well ASAP.

Ian & June Payne are sailing somewhere east of us. What an experience !

Jenny Sawaryn is enjoying herself in Europe catching up with old friends & relations.

### Bits & Pieces.

- A sign of things to come - *Rhynchoaelia* RI. Or how about *Rhynchoaeliocattleya* RIc.
- Don & Margaret have been benching their *Pterostylis nutans* regularly at the cultural meetings. It is a terrestrial orchid & grows naturally here on Bribie. "Produces green, hooded, nodding orchid flowers. Flowers winter. Possibly the most common of the greenhoods on the island. Favours shaded, moist, sandy areas covered with leaf litter."  
Wildflowers of Bribie Island by Ian C. MacRae
- *Caleana major* or flying duck orchid; bee orchid; large duck orchid. Slender herb to 50cm with single red-green leaf. Produces brown-green hooded orchid flowers resembling a flying duck. Flowers spring to summer. Favours drier sandy heathland. Sometimes it can be found on the

edges of disturbed areas such as sandy tracks. The first structure visible is the linear leaf of the orchid, but you need sharp eyes to notice them.

Wildflowers of Bribe Island by Ian C. MacRae.

- Old orchids. *Cym. Ensifolium* & *Den. moniliforme* were described in a Chinese manuscript written by Ki Han, Minister of State under the Emperor HuiTi about the year 300 B.C.  
Some Handy Hints & Short Tales edited by J Venz
- Cleaning leaves. Empty some pineapple juice or milk into a bowl. Dip a sponge into the juice & gently wash the leaves. Rinse off the residue. This makes the leaves clean & shiny. Mayonnaise will give a brilliant shine (something with garlic in could even deter bugs) to the leaves as well as remove calcium deposits. Washing the leaves with tea can also remove spots. New make up brushes are very soft & useful for removing undesirable marks.  
Winika newsletter of Manawatu OS.

*I finally got my head together now my body is falling apart.*

### **New Growers' Report for July.**

Several different types of Cymbidiums in flower were on display to augment the information provided by Merv Anderson, John Hopgood and Don Neldner at the July meeting.. Merv and John also provided a hands-on demonstration on repotting and Don circulated examples of the Mosaic Virus which can affect Cymbidiums. Merv provided a handout on Southern type growing and Don made available an edited booklet on Cymbidium growing in S.E. Qld.. All 25 present, including one visitor, appreciated Ian McLaren's Cultural Notes on Winter Care of Orchids. Thank you to all the presenters Numerous orchids and other plants were donated as raffle prizes won by Ros, Del, Sarah, Jan, Ian and Wal, to name the first six.

The next meeting will be the bus trip on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, to the Orchid Show at Mt Coot-tha and after lunch a visit to the Brighton Orchid Nursery. See Bus Coordinator's report for details.

Thank Don & Margaret for this report.

### **Cultural Notes – Winter**

Here in sub-tropical Queensland the winter months are usually a delight for everyone. Orchid growers get a special treat from the large range of species that are in flower at this time, and the abundance of shows to visit. When the flowering is over there will be all sorts of jobs to do, so it is a good idea to start some of them as soon as possible. But first while the main flowering period is on make sure growing conditions are aimed at getting the best flowers and support plants to show of the blooms at their best.

Keep a close eye on your plants with buds so as not to be caught by unexpected showers just as they open. If you have to move them under cover give them the same orientation to the main light source.

Do not wait till all your cattleyas have flowered before thinking about repotting, or the ones that flowered first will have large, crisp, easily-broken new growths. Get your potting medium ready now and start dealing with the pots that need it as soon as you can. This will avoid a large and daunting job in Spring.

Although the worst pest months are gone, check for things that CHEW, or you could lose the delicate and tasty new shoots and buds. Two-in-One [Killyptus & Pyrethrum] will get rid of most insects and also mealy bugs, which want to hide under leaves and in sheaths.)

**Cattleyas** (and their hybrids with *Brassavolas*, *Laelias* and *Sophronitis*) Many of these began flowering in Autumn, though some will not even start till Spring. They do not need as much water at this time and only use weak, low nitrogen fertiliser. Make sure that water does not sit for long in developing flower spikes, & try to avoid spraying chemicals on the flowers and buds.

Repot after the flowering if your plant is starting to "climb out" of the pot. Cattleyas "enjoy" repotting. Consider dividing the plant and potting the back bulbs.

**Dendrobiums** ( Hard cane types, Australian natives & their hybrids, including Intermediate types. )  
Most of these flowered in late summer and Autumn and are now in a resting period. They do not need much water or fertiliser until their new growths have started.

The cooler growing species ( *kingianum*, *tetragonum*...and their hybrids ) will be flowering now

**Dendrobiums** ( Soft cane types & their hybrids }

You should have **STOPPED** all feeding, and be only watering when necessary. They need somewhere bright and dry if they are to flower in Spring. Do not worry about leaf loss, but protect the new buds when they start to form.

**Oncidiums** ( As well as *Miltonias*, *Brassias* & their hybrids }

These can produce spectacular flowers at this time so it is easy to overlook the fact that they are also making new shoots. Water well, ensure good air movement and use a balanced fertiliser. Some growers recommend alternating high and low Nitrogen mixes. Although these plants can burn in summer, high light levels in winter promote good flowering, especially in the *Brassia* hybrids.

**Vandas** ( and their related species and hybrids )

These should be flowering now. Although the lower temperatures mean less evaporation, you must still keep water up to these plants as their exposed roots depend on humidity, and our air is much drier in winter.

**Phalaenopsis**

These orchids are like the vandas in their growth habit, their big fleshy, exposed roots and their lack of pseudobulbs. They must not be left to dry out, nor should they be left with water in the crown of the plant. Some growers use under-bench misting but, providing the air is not too cold evaporation from open trays should raise the humidity enough. The tender new shoots and bulbs are apparently very tasty to many insects. The large, usually arching sprays usually need staking *in a natural manner* to show the blooms to their best advantage.

**Paphiopedilum** ( The Asian 'slipper orchid' )

As these plants finish flowering remove the dead spike, and remove the old leaves as the parent plant dies. It should have one or two new younger plants which must be kept growing until they can be repotted in Spring. Unlike orchids with pseudobulbs that appreciate alternately wet and dry roots, Paphs should be kept in moist but not wet medium which is not allowed to dry out.

**Phragmipediums**, ( the South American 'slippers' ) need similar treatment.

Ian McLaren

*Definition of a secret – Something you tell to one person at a time.*

**Bus Trips.**

Saturday , August 30 is our next bus trip. We visit North Brisbane OS show at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens & Brighton Orchid Nursery & visit a club for lunch. Cost of bus is \$20. The bus leaves Woorim at 8.30a.m. Please contact Diann for a pick up point.

Saturday, September 20 is the bus trip to Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers. The bus leaves Woorim at 7.30a.m. Cost is \$25 BUT for an extra \$12 Diann has been able to obtain covered seating for the parade plus entry & lunch at the orchid show. \$37 in total. Please contact Diann ASAP Ph 3408 1130

Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> October we visit the Redlands District orchid show. More info on this trip next month.

**The Astonishing Stanhopeas.**

Excerpts from a book by Barney Greer, a Sydney grower.

The astonishing Stanhopeas are native to the mountain slopes of Central America, South America & Mexico at altitudes ranging from about 5000 metres to sea level. Stanhopeas grow in trees & on sloping rocks & a few grow, less successfully, as terrestrials.

Most of the Stanhopeas are native to areas closer to the equator than Australia's Cape York but as they grow at varying heights on steep mountains, most of the species are not hot climate growers, but grow in a climate suitable for, say, *Cymbidiums*.

Stanhopeas have the extraordinary habit of flowering downwards instead of upwards. The flowering adventure. After the flower spears emerge they will lengthen & thicken over the next 6 to 8 weeks, then the individual buds will begin to push out from their protective sheaths. Then, early one morning, watch the sepals burst wide open in one nonstop gesture whilst the perfume pours out like there is no tomorrow, & there isn't. Stanhopea flowers flourish & collapse, win or lose, usually all within about 3 days. If the flower hasn't wooed & won a fertilizing bee in that one short burst it has no reproductive future for that year. Why is the flowering so short ? Probably because there is a limit to how long it's possible for the flower to keep pumping out perfume with Stanhopea extravagance. Would you believe that, at that triumphant moment when a Stanhopea bursts into flower it goes POP with excitement.

The plants of all the Stanhopea species tend to look very much alike, but the flowers vary dramatically in colour & markings, even different clones of the same species. To identify the various species & separate one from another, don't depend on immediate visual impressions. Learn to recognize the differing parts of the lip. Only those separate one species from another.

If you wish to find out more about "The Astonishing Stanhopeas" the book is available from Sarah in our library.

*I have kleptomania & when it gets bad I take something for it.*

#### **Committee News.**

- We have 3 new members to welcome to our merry band so say 'gooday' when you see them. They are Jeanette Smith (pot no. 88), Marie Webster (pot no. 68) & Mrs Myra Milner (pot no. 90)
- Ron Powell has been appointed our society's botanical & cultural adviser.
- Lynn Hauck will be the guest speaker organizer.
- A catering committee has been formed for our show catering . The members are Bev Hopgood, Diann Sirett, Val Anderson & Gwendella Cooper.
- A roster has been organized to do the kitchen duties at our cultural meetings.
- Our scribes for this year are Gwenda Davis, Bev Pritchard & Bev Hopgood.
- Maroon aprons are to be made for the sausage sizzle cooks at the orchid show.
- BIOS will be represented by Merv Anderson & John Stokes at the Qld Orchid Society meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> September.

***That's all folks.***