

The Bulletin for January, 2008

www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com

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Ronald Victor Chant born 4-10-1928 died 7-11 2007

"Ron & Audrey joined our society back in January 1989 when the society was in its infancy. Both were active members. Life membership was awarded to Ron in May 2005. Ron was a kind and caring man with a quiet & unassuming personality, & that, at the moment in our society, is a rarity. Throughout the years, be it at meetings or shows, if there was a job to be done Ron was always there to help. He excelled at taking our money. Think of all the times he sold us a raffle ticket or took the entrance fees to our orchid shows.

For the past five years, Merv Anderson & Ron have had a tradition going. "Drinkies" (known by another name to the inner circle) was on from 10 am to noon for friends who were commitment free. Held on Wednesdays at the Anderson household then at Ron's every Sunday. High on the agenda was the sampling & discussing the finer points of the latest batch or new variety of Home Brew. And! Woh! Behold! Should this be cancelled?

At home Ron kept himself busy looking after his orchids & birds. He even grew the meal worms to feed his birds. Renovations were on going; the new orchid house was built last year & the old ones pulled down. Timber was replaced & painted around the back patio. This was where Ron showed his flowering orchids for all to see. And what a sight it could be. Just the place to sit, chat & drink with family & friends.

Over the years Ron became a good friend to many of our society members.
Ron, your smiling face will be sorely missed at the doorway of our future shows."

Speech by president, Judy Carleton to family & friends of Ron Chant.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Late last year we received a letter from the Ningi Community Hall Assn Inc requesting that we store our Library and utilities cupboard downstairs in the Crafty Shed at the back of the Hall. This situation has been brought about by Council requiring the Community Assn to implement several Occupational Health and Safety procedures. There is also concern about insurance issues with storing our equipment in the little room beside the stage. Council have now also fenced off the whole park area thereby restricting our onsite parking and this would necessitate members carrying their boxes of orchids for benching from the street into the hall.

After discussion at the Management Meeting in December 2007, your Committee agreed to make the following changes. We understand that altering our meeting day may inconvenience some Members but progress with our home is charging ahead and who knows, we may have our home finished for 2009.

So that you can understand our reasons for the decision to move to the Indoor Bowls Club, here are some pros and cons that were tabled at the last Committee meeting for each Hall.

NINGI COMMUNITY HALL.

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| Pros | Same Tuesday
Fans to keep the hall cooler |
| Cons | Storage of our cupboard to be moved to shed at back.
Not enough safe and close parking
Pack up and clean up must be quick as another group come in immediately after. |

CHURCH OF CHRIST HALL.

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|------|--|
| Pros | Same Tuesday
Storage for our Cupboard |
| Cons | Start meeting earlier
Not enough safe and close parking |

Noise factor - when raining
Noise factor - when Tom's boys are working
No fans
Pack up and clean up must be quick as another group come in immediately after.

INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Pros Storage for our cupboard
 Full kitchen facilities
 Plenty of safe parking
 Fans to keep the hall cooler
 Plenty of time to pack up and clean up.

Cons Change Meeting day

If you now find you are unable to attend the Thursday meeting and wish to be more involved in the Society, you are most welcome to attend the Committee Meeting. Held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Bribie Is. Bowls Club Meeting Room. 1.30pm.
There have been no changes with the New Grower's Meeting. It is still held on the last Saturday of each month at the Church of Christ Hall.

N.B. Committee Meeting. Held on the second Tuesday in February (12th) at the Bribie Island Bowls Club on Welsby Parade commencing at 1.30 pm.

N.B. Cultural Meeting. To be held on the third Thursday of January (17th) at the Indoor Bowls Centre, first Ave Bongaree & commencing at 1.30 pm.

N.B. New Growers' Meeting. To be held on the last Saturday in January (26th) at the Church of Christ hall on the corner of Fifth Ave & Foley St Bongaree. This meeting commences at 1.30 pm.

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Diary Dates

Jan 27 Dinner at the Bribie RSL at 6 pm to celebrate lots of birthdays. (See on the grapevine.)
Mar 21-22 BIOS Easter show at the Indoor Bowls Hall on First Ave Bongaree on Bribie. Set-up Thursday from 5 pm. Presentation of awards 2.30 pm on Sunday.
Sep 26-29 Western Australian Orchid Spectacular at the Belmont Oasis Leisure Centre. For information email waos@iinet.net.au
Oct 11-12 BIOS spring orchid show at the Student centre, Bribie Island State High School, First Ave Bongaree on Bribie.

Non-dictionary definitions – EGOTIST – someone who is me deep in conversation.

Jude's Jottings

Life hopefully quietened down for you all in the last couple of months. We had some lows & highs during this time.

We lost our dear friend & member Ron Chant.

Seems a long time ago now but in November, at the Pumicestone show our display table was placed third, while only 2 members won prizes for their orchids on that table.

As always, we celebrated in style at our Christmas luncheon at the RSL. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves as much as I did. We did miss our secretary, Lynn Hauck. That girl does have bad timing as to when to land herself in hospital. With Malcolm watching over her & limiting her activities, she will be in fine fettle when you see her at the January cultural meeting.

The gold orchid brooch raffle was won by Jeanette Saviane & Lesley Beare from Noosa was the recipient of the lucky door prize of a floral arrangement. Fred & Val Hayward were presented with a certificate celebrating our 20 years, having attended our shows for 19 of those 20 years.

Hope everyone enjoyed Christmas with family & friends, & happy New Year to you all.
Don't forget !! Our new meeting place is at the Indoor Bowls Club so see you there on January, Thursday 24th at 1.30 pm.

Gambling Benefits Community Grant

In October this year the Management committee applied for a Gambling Benefits Community Grant to purchase a data-projector for use at our meetings & to upgrade our computer & printer. We are pleased to advise our members that this application has been successful & you will be able to see this equipment in use during the year.

Darryl Banks continuing notes from the November Bulletin. Oncidium Alliance.

Why grow them??

- They are easy to grow
- Many flower twice a year and the flowers are often long lasting up to 10 weeks plus – thus great for shows. 3 years ago I had one Odcdm Wildcat that went to 4 shows over a 7 week period and won 3 firsts & a second and got on the champion table twice – not bad for one plant.
- Many will have tall branching spikes of many flowers from small to medium size plants – so they are excellent in temps of flowers for space they take up.
- Across the range of hybrids that grow here there is a huge variety of flower sizes, shapes and colours
- Often people claim these are difficult to grow or a more suited to my conditions (Montville) however in the local area 3 growers grow this group well (in particular Odcdm Wildcat) these are John Green (Gympie), Noela Frizzo (Glasshouse) and myself (Montville). These 3 growers have very different conditions throughout the year, yet all grow these plants well.

Some Common Intergeneric – and what Genera makes them

Alicera(Alcra)	Brassia x Miltonia x Oncidium
Bakerara(Bak)	Brassia x Miltonia x Oncidium x Odontoglossum
Beallara(Bllra)	Brassia x Cochlioda x Miltonia x Odontoglossum
Colmanara(Colm)	Miltonia x Oncidium x Odontoglossum
Degarmoara(Dgmra)	Brassia x Miltonia x Ondontoglossum
Burrayeara (Burr)	Cochlioda x Miltonia x Oncidium X Ondontoglossum
Goodaleara(Gdlra)	Brassia x Cochlioda x Miltonia x Oncidium x Ondontoglossum
Maclellanara(Mclna)	Brassia x Oncidium x Odontoglossum
Miltassia(Mtssa)	Brassia x Miltonia
Brassicidum(Brsdm)	Brassia x Oncidium
Odontobrassia(Odbrs)	Brassia x Odontoglossum
Vuyulstekera(Vuy)	Cochlioda x Miltonia x Odontoglossum
Wilsonara(Wil)	Cochlioda x Oncidium x Odontoglossum
Withnerara(With)	Aspasia x Miltonia x Oncidium x Odontoglossum

10 Hybrids you should have

Odcdm Wildcat -clones Bloodshot, Carmela & Formosa Yellow are the ones you should have(however many are very good) These flower twice a year and are long lasting (red, yellows, white)
Everyone should have a couple of these- if for no other reason than they flower and last so long – gives you something to put in a show and table at a meeting.
Colm Jungle Monarch- flowers twice a year , flowers long lasting (olive, yellow, white & red)
Mcilea Pagan Lovesong- larger flowers up to 150mm plus on tall (up to 1.5m) spikes (green, white & black)
Brs Mem Fritz Boedecker – still one of the best brassia – up to 450mm flowers (orange tans)
Dgmra Flying High - flowers twice a year, long lasting, up to 15 100mm plus flowers on up to 1m spikes (yellow & browns)
Bllra Tahomia Glacier – stunning up to 15 150mm flowers on 1.2m spikes (white/cream & pale red)
Vuy Cambria - still the most popular orchid in the world – 10 – 15 100mm plus full shaped red & white flowers

Odbrs Kenneth Biven – stunning spikes to 1.5m tall with up to 15 200mm black, white & yellow flowers

Onc Sharry Baby - flowers twice a year, long lasting and perfumed

Dgmra Skywalker - 4 -6 large red star shaped flowers with darker mottles

There are many other hybrids that I recommend but the above list are easy to grow, easy and cheap to buy (expect to pay \$6 -10 for a small tube and \$20 for a larger flowering size plant) and very rewarding to flower.

Please in most parts of Queensland be careful of Odontonia hybrids, Hybrids with a lot of Odontoglossum crispin in background, Miltopsis and many of the Wilsonara's. These plants are very beautiful but our climate here can be too hot and dry in summer.

Non-dictionary definitions – BEAUTY PARLOUR – A place where women curl up & dye.

Information Notes on the growing of Soft Cane Dendrobiums presentation by Ann Sales

General Information

Soft Cane Dendrobiums are epiphytes (grow on trees). The original species, which were the forebears of the modern hybrids, originated in Burma, India, Thailand and Indo China in the foothills of the Himalayas to an elevation of 4,000 feet. They have a definite growing period followed by a rest period in winter. They flower in spring and then send up new growth following flowering.

- **Water:** Do not water during the rest period from Mothers Day to Fathers Day unless the canes begin to shrivel. Mar-Apr decrease watering. May –Aug only water if canes shrivel, *Sept-Oct* slowly increase watering as roots develop on new shoots. *Nov-Feb*. Watering in the heat of summer may be done daily.
- **Fertilising:** In Spring, when the new growth has started to develop and new roots appear, start fertilizing with a low nitrogen fertilizer. This should continue till mid March....Fertilising with high nitrogen will result in strong tall growth and poor flowering. Don't use slow release fertilizer. Do not fertilise in the rest period.
- **Light:** Adult plants can be very successfully grown in a 30% shade house in summer. In the cooler months, they can be grown in direct sunlight. Hang on the clothes line on Mothers Day and bring into 30% house on Fathers Day. This is their rest period. It is however recommended that younger plants are given more shade.
- **Potting:** Do not overpot. Use as small a pot as you can. They like their roots in a tight ball. So quite often the plant looks very large compared to the size of the pot. Many mediums have been used, tree fern, bark, sphag. I grow them in Bark/ styrene or on Tree Fern or Bottle Brush logs. Only repot after flowering and when temperature is above 13 degrees C. Only plants with 7-8 canes should be divided. Preferable that each division has 4-5 canes at a minimum.
- **Temperature:** They drop their leaves in winter. Need a low temperature in the rest period to trigger flowering. They will survive with temperatures down to 3 to 4 degrees C in winter and in spring, when the temps get to 17-18 degrees C, they will flower. They will suffer if frosted. They need approx 1 month of low night temperatures to trigger flowering.
- **Air Movement:** Need good air circulation... many growers hang their plants, rather than have them on a bench. Mr Yamamoto said that as long as the air circulation is good they can be grown in full sun all year round.

- **Maintenance:** Some consider they are a high maintenance orchid.... They require staking to keep the canes erect however I have grown them on tree fern and let the canes hang down and quite like the effect of a mature plant in full flower. They drop their leaves in winter.
- **Keikei's:** This happens for a number of reasons....if there is root damage, if you fertilise in the rest period, if not given enough water for long periods and thus become stressed, if in too much shade they will flower and keikei at the same time. If Keikei's are removed too early they will stagnate for a long time. The Keikei's are best taken off after a year and when the new root growth for that year is over 3 inches.
- **Pests:** Scale and Red Spider appear the most common. Am told they will also get mealy bug and aphids but have been lucky to avoid this so far. Never seen them attacked by Dendrobium beetles even when grown outside all year round.
- **Fungal Attack:** Fungal spots on leaves. I prefer to remove a leaf rather than spray. If you have good air circulation the spots will keep to a minimum. They drop most leaves in winter anyway. Always pick up fallen leaves rather than let them rot on the floor and spread the fungus.
This excellent talk was given at the October new growers' meeting.

Non-dictionary definitions – CANNIBAL – Someone who is fed up with people.

On the Grapevine

Lynn Hauck & Joan McCartin both spent time in hospital. We wish them well. Lynn is a worry; she was in the maternity ward.

Lots of birthdays this month so best wishes to everybody.

Bev & Tom Pritchard, Diann Sirett, Merle Mitchell, Malcolm Hauck, Trish McKeown, George Bourne, Ian McLaren, John Knight, Stephanie Maller, Judith Horton, Pam Board & Jean Corney.

Val Anderson & Florence McLaren have reached the big 70 or shouldn't I mention that.

As there are so many birthdays it is a good enough reason to celebrate at the RSL on Saturday 27th January at

6 pm. Please phone Lynn on 34101919 or Judy on 34100789 to book.

We have a new member to welcome to our merry band – Jean Dunn, pot no. 8. Everyone say 'goodday' when you see her at our meetings.

That's all folks.