

**January Bulletin, 2009.**  
[www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com](http://www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com)

**Committee meeting.** This will be held on the first Tuesday in February (3rd) at the Bribie Island Bowls Club on Welsby Parade, Bongaree. The meeting commences at 1 pm. Just a reminder. Any financial member may attend the committee meetings.

**Cultural meeting.** Held on the fourth Tuesday of the month (Jan 27<sup>th</sup>) at the Ningi community hall on Bribie Island Rd. The meeting begins at 1.30 pm. The guest speaker will be Anne Sales showing a DVD on her recent trip to Thailand.

**New growers' meeting.** Held on the last Saturday of the month (Jan 31<sup>st</sup>) at the Church of Christ hall on the cnr of Foley St & Fifth Ave. The meeting begins at 1.30 pm. We will find out how our orchids are judged.

**Date claimers.**

More information on the events closer to the time.

Jan 10	Species appreciation group meeting at Combined services hall Hayes St Caboolture. 1.30 pm.
Jan. 31	Dinner at the RSL at 6 pm to celebrate all the Jan.- Feb. birthdays. Names to Val 3408 7706.
Feb 28-Mar 1	Qld Begonia Society presents Begonia show at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. Ph 3359 4319
Feb 14-15	Aspley OS show celebrating Valentine's day at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens auditorium. Phone Jan Paterson 3269 7537 for more info.
Feb 21	STOCQ AGM in Bundaberg Avenell Hall, Thebeban St Bundaberg.
Feb 27-28, Mar 1	Qld International Orchid Fair, PCYC Baker St Bray Park. Free admission.
Apr 3-4	Caloundra show at Caloundra Uniting Church hall, cnr Queen & Ulm Sts Set up 2nd.
Apr 10-11	Bribie Island OS Q150 show at the Bribie Island High School. Set up 9th. Benching only.
May 2-3	Gympie OS show
May 7-8	Maroochydore OS Mothers' day show at Kawana shopping town.
May 16	South Burnett Show at the Uniting Church hall Kingaroy.
Jul 10-12	Caboolture OS show. Set up 9th.
Aug 8-9	Maroochydore OS show at community centre in Millwell Rd. Set up 7th.
Sep 4-5	Nambour OS show in Uniting Church hall Donaldson Rd
Sep 18-19	Noosa OFS show at RSL hall in Maple St Cooroy.
Sep 17-19	Maryborough District OS show . Set up 16th.
Oct 2-3	Glasshouse Country OS show at community hall Peachester Rd, Beerwah. Set up 1st.
<b>Oct 10 -11</b>	<b>Bribie Island OS "Bribie Orchid Bonanza" at Bribie Island SHS. Set up 9<sup>th</sup>.</b>

Sept-Oct 2009 'An Orchid Lovers Tour of Borneo', hosted by Wayne Harris.

8-13 Sept 2009, AOC conference & show at Werribee Events & Leisure Centre (west of Melbourne.)

Hosted by Marybynong OS.

Queen's birthday weekend in June, 2010 is the STOCQ "Golden Orchidfest" hosted by Sunshine Coast OS Caloundra Inc. at the Kawana Lakes Community Centre.

Contact Editor Joan for more information on these events.

*Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.*

**November Cultural Meeting.**

Our hard working secretary reported that our home grants are being prepared & will be submitted for the November 30<sup>th</sup> closing date. Ian McLaren moved that our society sponsor Class 4.01 Phalaenopsis - Predominantly white class for \$65 for Caloundra's "Golden Orchidfest" in 2010. This was seconded by F McLaren & carried by the members.

The guest speaker was Kirk Lambie, a student from Bribie Island SHS, who reported to members on the trip to Cambodia. He also showed a DVD which the students made of their activities. This was all especially interesting to all members who had supported these young folk meet their goals with financial & Practical support.

The judges for the day were Mel Wheeler, Tom Davis & John Hopgood. Bev Hopgood was scribe.

<b>Cattleya</b>				
Mini or compact	<i>Lc. Nell Clark</i> x <i>Blc. Waianae Leopard</i>	D & M Neldner		
Novelty	<i>Lc. Jungle Elf</i>	W & J Corney	J & B Hopgood	
Cluster	<i>Epi. Bees Knees 'Dark Mahogany'</i>	M & V Anderson	D & M Neldner	
Species	<i>C. forbesii</i>	J & B Hopgood	D & M Neldner	
<b>Dendrobium</b>				
Spatulata & inter	<i>Den. John's Charm</i>	J & B Hopgood	M & V Anderson	D & M Neldner
Any other	<i>Den. Gerald McGraith</i> x <i>Elva Ann</i>	D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner	
<b>Vandaceous</b>				
Over 60mms	<i>V. Intan</i>	D & M Neldner		
Under 60mms	<i>Ascda. Fuchs Joy</i> x <i>Peggy Foo</i>	J & B Hopgood	W & J Corney	
Any other	<i>Vasco. Pine Rivers</i>	J & B Hopgood	M & V Anderson	
Species	<i>Ren. Coccinea</i>	M & V Anderson		
<b>Phalaenopsis</b>				
Any type	<i>Phal. Matthews Spots</i>	M & F Wheeler	J & B Hopgood	W & J Corney
Species	<i>Phal. lueddemanniana</i>	J & B Hopgood	M & F Wheeler	T & G Davis
<b>Paphiopedilum</b>				
Any other	<i>Paph. Susan Booth</i>	M & F Wheeler		
Species	<i>Paph. roebelinii</i>	M & F Wheeler		
<b>Oncidium</b>				
Species	<i>Brs. Verrucosa</i>	M & V Anderson		
Any other	<i>Onc. Unknown</i>	G Cooper	G Cooper	
Other alliance	<i>Onc. Space Race</i>	G Cooper		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Species	<i>Coel. pandurata</i>	J & B Hopgood	W & J Corney	J & B Hopgood
<b>Cymbidium</b>				
Any type	<i>Cym. atropurpureum</i>	M & V Anderson	D & M Neldner	M & V Anderson
<b>Aust. natives</b>				
Den. species	<i>Den. farmeri</i>	M & V Anderson	D & M Neldner	
Any Sarco.	<i>Sarco. hirticalcar</i>	T & G Davis		
<b>Novice</b>				
Any type Catt.	<i>Ctyh. Burdekin Surprise</i>	D Haupt	D Haupt	
Any type hybrid	<i>Den. Gatton Sunray</i>	J Saviane		
<b>Foliage</b>				
Foliage	Caladium	M & V Anderson	M & F Wheeler	D & M Neldner
Fern	Adiantum	D & M Neldner		
Bromeliad	Bromiliad	G Cooper	D & M Neldner	
Anthurium		D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner	D & M Neldner

Novice of the month was J Saviane with her orchid, *Den. Gatton Sunray*. Judges' choice was *Paph. Susan Booth* proudly owned by M & F Wheeler.

*I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan Island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.*

### **Fragrant orchids.**

Taken from Bev Hopgood's notes from October '08 new growers' meeting.

Spring is here & by now I am sure you all know that orchids do have scent.

Some of the best ways of describing odours are :- Camphoraceous, Musky, Floral, Peppermint, Ethereal, Pungent & Putrid.

In 1993 Roman Kaiser described 4 basic orchid scents according to 'olfactory & chemical criteria' white – floral, rosy - floral, ionone – floral & spicy – floral.

White – floral is a fragrance found frequently with white flowers. Among orchids this group would include the genera *Aerangis*, *Angraecum* & *Brassavola*.

Some *Miltoniopsis* have a rosy – floral fragrance.

Spicy – floral group is *Masdevallia glandulosa*.

A study of more than 4000 plants showed that white & yellow accounted for more than 60% of all fragrant flowers. The study found that the order of the strength of the scent by colour was white, bluish-white, pale pink, mauve pink, pale yellow, yellow, purple. Plants bearing blue, orange, red or brown flowers have a high degree of pigmentation & generate little or no scent.

Many people identify 'orchid scent' as being the heavy sweet fragrance of the large *Cattleya* as this was the main orchid in the florist shops & used in floral arrangements. But this is not the case now.

Some orchids smell strongest for only a few hours in the morning while night pollinated varieties yield their scent in the evening.

If the flowers are fragrant during the day they usually reach their peak when it is warm & in the mid part of the day.

Cold gloomy days put a damper on fragrance.

If it is humid scent tends to hang in the air longer.

Sometimes it takes a few days after the orchid has opened for the scent to be detected.

After rain falls the oils the emit the fragrance frequently have been diluted & are thus weaker.

A plant in good health also tends to produce a strong scent.

**The process of judging orchid fragrance.** The South African OS has come up with this criteria.

**Intensity** – How strong is the fragrance ? **Diffuseness** – Can you smell the fragrance from a distance or only close up ? **Pleasantness** – How pleasant (or unpleasant ) is the fragrance ? **Elegance** – How well rounded & perfumistic is the fragrance ?

Take time & start to smell your orchids.

In the book "Fragrant Orchids" by Steven A Frowine (which is in our library) profiles 110 fragrant orchids with exquisite images of each. The concise descriptions include cultivation information along with detailed notes on the plant's fragrance & intensity, which can range from elegant & sophisticated to downright pungent, from fruity & spicy to medicinal, from light & fresh to overwhelming. A further 350 enticing orchids are included in 6 extensive lists, which group plants by ease of culture, intensity of fragrance, & season of bloom, among other attributes.

Following are just a few of the orchids named in this book.

**Light fragrance** – *Acineta superba* – light vanilla, *Brassia verrucosa* – musky, *Bulbophyllum ambrosis* – honey bitter almonds, *Caditia taylori* – vanilla, *Cattleya forbesii* – bubblegum, *Dendrobium lodigessii* – sweet floral, *Vanda ctistata* – floral

**Strong fragrance** – *Aerangis citrata* – lemon, *Angraecum Veitchii* – jasmine, *Bifrenaria harrisoniae* – fruity, *Brassavola nodosa* – freesia, lily-of-the-valley, *Blc.* Rio's Green Magic – citrus

**Very strong fragrance** – *Bulbophyllum beccarii* – said to smell like 100 dead elephants rotting in the sun, *Dendrobium glumaceum* – curry, *Stanhopea tigrina* – sweet

**Orchids by time of fragrance** – **Day** – *Agampe papillosa*, *Blc.* Hawaiian Avalanche, *Bulbophyllum lobbii*, *Encyclia fragrans*, *neofinita fragrans*, *Stanhopea oculata*.

**Evening** – *Aerangis biloba*, *Angraecum Veitchii*, *Bl.* Yellow Bird, *Vanda denisoniana*.

Thank you Bev for these notes.

### **New Growers Report.**

Some 30 enthusiastic new and experienced growers attended the Christmas Party on 29th November. The Alphabetical Fill- the- Stocking Quiz was enjoyed and the Rolling Raffle was entertaining also. Everyone received at least one prize. Thanks to all the donors of gifts and the goodies for afternoon tea.

Thanks to all the presenters, the exhibitors, the refreshment convenors, Tom and his helpers, the experienced growers who provide encouragement and support, the judges. and all who came to learn

something and enjoy the fellowship. We hope to see you at the next meeting on Jan 31st, 2009 Our topic will be 'Judging our plants'. May this Christmas give you pleasure and satisfaction. and the New Year hope and fulfillment

This year we will have a new judging section. We will have a foliage class with novice & open combined. Please only bring one foliage plant per family.

Don and Margaret Neldner

*She was only a whisky maker, but he loved her still.*

#### **Committee news.**

- The Bribie High School will be the venue for all our future shows.
- Concerning our home on Bribie. Grants are being applied for so everyone cross your fingers.
- The society has just received a grant from the Qld government to stage the Easter show with the theme Q150 & to register a new variety of orchid *Dtps.* Bribie Q150
- The society has bought a number of chairs which are being stored until we get our new home.
- There will be a roster at the January cultural meeting to get members to man the kitchen at the cultural meetings. How about a husband & wife team ? If we all volunteered for one month , the roster would soon be full for the year.
- John Stokes will be the new operator on the raffle machine. A very big thankyou to Don Neldner who has been the raffle man for a long time.
- Subscriptions are due by the 30<sup>th</sup> April at \$15 per family or single. Pay now so you don't forget. Please put it in an envelope provided by the treasurer.

#### **Floral Art.**

Just to give all our floral art folk a head start, here are the arrangements for our Easter show in April.

There are open entries only. 

1. An Easter arrangement with orchids to predominate.
2. An arrangement using two containers. To be named.
3. Q150.

Qld Floral Art Society rules apply.

#### **Proposed Bus Trips for the Year (2009).**

February, Wednesday 25th 2009....Caloundra RSL for morning tea, lunch and a show...to see "Patsy, Dolly and Me"

Cost...\$20 all- inclusive including bus. (if we can get 40+ people)

August, Saturday 29th.....Logan Orchid Society Show.... price and full details to be determined.

October, Saturday 17th...Boonah Orchid Society Show...price and full details to follow.

If you are interested in any of these please contact..... Diann Sirett on 34081130 as soon as possible.

Allan&DiannSirett

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*No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.*

### **Pesticides, Insecticides & Weedkillers by Rob Smith.**

At various times most of us use various types of chemicals to combat insects, bacteria, fungi & weeds in & around our orchid houses & gardens. Many of us have probably used them for years without accident or harmful effects (that we know of) & have perhaps grown a little careless over the years, or have been using them for so long that

e have formed habits in using them that predate warnings about their possible dangers.

Anyone working with these chemicals (which we might take for granted around our homes) in a commercial or industrial environment will be aware of Material Safety Data Sheets, which are available from the manufacturers of these products. MSDS provide detailed information about the chemicals, their risks, safe handling, emergency treatment, etc.

Unfortunately the information provided on the bottle or packet purchased for home use is often less detailed & is often not prominently displayed & many of us may not have ever read even this basic information. Or if we have

we might still tend to pay little attention to the warnings. After all no one wants to become paranoid about using these products & if handled correctly there is no reason we should, but we often don't handle them correctly& there is a risk.

How often have you wanted to give a few weeds a quick spray, or spray a few plants for scale& not bothered about wearing gloves or a mask, or goggles, let alone even long trousers, sleeves & shoes ? We've all probably done it at some time, perhaps some of us do it all the time, after all nobody wants to get dressed up like a biological warfare researcher just to spray a few orchids & we'd probably feel a bit silly out in the garden dressed in all the safety gear just to spray the roses.

Despite all this & the facts that accidents are rare & most chemicals are relatively harmless in very small amounts, most of these chemicals should not be treated lightly. Many of them can & will build up in vital organs & repeated exposure can lead to long term effects. But the one off accident, particularly a spill of chemicals in a concentrated form, can be very serious & have much more immediate effects.

While wearing masks, respirators, full body cover, suitable shoes & rubber glovescan be a chore & a bit uncomfortable, a little short term discomfort won't hurt in the long run, BUT the chemicals might.

Personally I keep a pair of long sleeved overalls for spraying chemicals, wear boots, rubber gloves, a hat, gogglesor safety glasses& a respirator (dust masks only keep out dust not vapours & fumes.) I've even worn one of those disposable white suits with the hood that you can buy for a few dollars at hardware stores for the odd big job & I always shower straight after spaying ( don't wear the clothes you use for these jobs over & over without washing them either.) You might laugh at all this, but you see I'd rather look silly for half an hour or so than live, or perhaps not live to regret it.

I don't mean to preach, but check what you're using before you use it & keep yourself safe.

Rob Smith. [aussiecym@internode.on.net](mailto:aussiecym@internode.on.net)

*Australian Orchid Review, Dec 08-Jan. 09*

### **A Timely Warning.**

A magazine article on the timely warning on sprays. The start was referring to some of the old pesticides & fungicides which are now off the market but the final paragraph certainly applies today. "I was very thoroughly ticked off by an agricultural scientist for not wearing gloves when mixing & was warned to be very careful when spraying. Wash & change clothes as soon as spraying is complete. Being careless costs no effort at all. The after effects may be a different story. Do YOUR methods stand close scrutiny."

*Australian Orchid Review, Mar. 78. (Time is irrelevant.)*

*Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.*

**Handy Hint.**

1. Regular fertilizing will help optimise growth during this peak growing period. A thorough leaching (watering) of the pots will help reduce any harmful buildup of salts.
2. Check for insects, scale, rots, etc. & spray as necessary.
3. Air circulating around plants & pots can help control rots.
4. Extra mistings under bench on hot & dry days will help increase humidity.

*Orchids Australia, Dec. '08*

5. The colour of a healthy Cattleya should be green with a lightish yellow tinge. A lush green means the plants have been grown too shady & this is accompanied by lack of flowers.

With small Cattleya plants from the flask, grow them on in community pots; the larger ones, they can go straight into 5cm. pots. From these ultimately to a 10 cm. round & they will flower in these pots. After repotting, place the plants in reduced light & withhold water a little.

*Les Vickers.*

6. Largest orchid. When it comes to absolute mass, a species of *Grammatophyllum* from S-E Asia & Pacific Islands & a remarkable look alike from Ecuador, *Cryptopodium longibulbosum*, take the prize. Their pseudobulbs can attain a length of up to 16 feet. Although *Grammatophyllum* with the accumulated humus of the root zone, may weigh several hundred pounds, they are massive not tall.

*Some handy hints & short tales.*

**On the grapevine.**

This is the big month for birthdays in our society so a very big happy birthday to everyone.

Bev & Tom Pritchard, Judith Horton, Diann Sirett, Ian & Florence McLaren, Val Anderson, John & Sarah Knight, Merle Mitchell, George Bourne, Malcolm Hauck, Trish & John McKeown, Stephanie Maller, Pam Board, Wal & Jean Corney, Phil McMurdo & Lorna Binnie who will be a very young ninety.

I saw Graham & Fay Steele & they sent best regards to all their old orchid friends.

*That's all folks.*