



Bribie Island Orchid Society Bulletin

July Bulletin 2009

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MEETINGS

Committee Meeting

This is held on the first Tuesday of the month (Aug 4th) 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 (July 28th) at the Ningi Community Hall on Bribie Island Rd. The meeting begins at 1.30 pm. At this meeting the guest speaker will be Dean Stibbe from Files Stibbe Lawyers who will speak about wills/power of attorney and other personal documentation.

New Growers' Meeting

Held on the last Saturday of the month (July 25th) at the Church of Christ hall on the cnr of Foley Street & Fifth Ave. The meeting begins at 1.30 pm.

Pine Rivers Mini Species Show/Meeting

Pine Rivers Society have invited our participation at their next meeting on 21st July which will incorporate a mini species show. Gary Yong Gee is the guest speaker and Bribie members are invited to bench species orchids in flower. Venue is CWA Hall, 1431 Anzac Ave. Kallangur, with starting time of 7.45pm. I (ie John Stokes) will be attending and at this stage have a couple of spare seats if anyone wants a lift.



DATE CLAIMERS /SHOWS

Caboulture 40th Anniversary Show

This is the next show on our calendar in which we participate.

Name tag requirements should have been advised to Mel by Mon previous.

Plants for our display to be delivered to site at 3.30pm Thurs afternoon or John Stokes can collect.

We may be a bit short of plants for this show so please think about whether you can contribute something to our display.

Caboolture Show – Floral Art

Floral Art Classes will be:

11.01 Novice-Party Time

11.02 Novice-Basic Parallel Arrangement

11.03 Open-Design using Tatami

11.04 Open-Mellow Yellow

Flowers other than orchids may be used in all Floral Art Classes

Calendar

Jul 10-12	Caboolture OS show. Set up 9 th
Jul 21	Pine Rivers Species Meeting/Show
Aug 8-9	Maroochydore OS show at community centre in Millwell Rd. Set up 7 th .
Aug 29	Bus Trip-Logan and District Orchid Show
Sep 4-5	Nambour OS show in Uniting Church hall Donaldson Rd
Sep 8-13	18 th Aust Orchid Council Conference and Show, Werribee
Sep 18-19	Noosa OFS show at RSL hall in Maple St Cooroy
Sep 17-19	Maryborough District OS show. Set up 16 th .
Oct 2-3	Glasshouse Country OS show at community hall Peachester Rd, Beerwah. Set up 1 st .
Oct 10 -11	Bribie Island OS "Bribie Orchid Bonanza" at Bribie Island SHS. Set up 9th.
Oct 17-18	Bus Trip - Boonah Orchid Show



PLANNED BUS TRIPS FOR 2009

Saturday, 29th August a Bus Trip to **Logan and District Orchid Show** with a special invitation and discount to New Growers. We will leave Woorim at 7am with our first stop to be at the Pine Rivers Orchid Show at The Deception Bay Shopping Centre before proceeding on to the Logan and District Orchid show where we will have morning tea as soon as we get there. Afterwards, we will proceed to the Logan Sporting Club for lunch. After lunch, a visit to a member's green house there before returning home to Bribie Island. The all-inclusive cost is \$30, and \$25 to all New Growers. Please make bookings with Judith Carleton on 34100789 and payments to Ian Mc Laren as I (Diann Sirett) will be away until 29th July.

October 17th & 18th a bus trip to **Boonah Orchid Show**. This will be an over-night trip. Prices and details in a future newsletter.



OTHER HAPPENINGS

First 2 weeks August, Thailand Tour-these tours are very popular and numbers are limited so contact Ross at Aranbeem soon if interested.

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

26 Sept-6 Oct 2009, 'An Orchid Lovers Tour of Borneo', hosted by Wayne Harris. Organised by Go See Tours. Cost from \$3300.

24/25 Oct 2009, Gympie Society is organising a 2 day Bus tour to Northern NSW with visits to nurseries and an overnight stay in Ballina. Other societies have been invited to join the tour. If interested contact John Rees or Jim Evans on 54822574 and 54826962 or email : lavina.rees@bigpond.com.au. Cost for bus is \$65 and motel approx \$120 double.

Queen's birthday weekend 12-14 June, 2010 is the STOCQ "Golden Orchidfest" hosted by Sunshine Coast, OS Caloundra Inc. at the Kawana Lakes Community Centre.



JUDY'S JOTTINGS

Gee, another month has passed and I have to wrack my brains and put pen to paper. Lovely cold nights, beautiful sunny days and then dull days with winter rain – not my cup of tea. Have you guessed I hate winter!

A couple of changes happened at the June AGM. We welcomed Carryn Sullivan as our Patron and our new Committee members Ro Clyne and Gwendella Cooper.

Did you read in the Island News on 1st July that Council has budgetted \$75,100 rebate for the water and sewerage headworks needed for our clubhouse. Now we patiently wait for the building approval.

Between all our social activities and visitors during the holidays I hope that you've all found some time to spend with your orchids.



WEBSITE

Message from Lyn

Our Society has been approached by the State Library of Queensland for permission to archive our website at www.bribieislandorchidsociety.com to preserve it for future generations within the State and National Archives. To accomplish this, we require all the wonderful folk who have contributed to our website by the sharing of articles etc to grant permission for their articles to be archived. These articles are usually either from those kind folk who are Guest Speakers at our meetings or have written notes for their own society's newsletters.

Can you please email authorization as soon as possible or notify me if you don't wish your articles to be included in the archiving? I will need to finalize this by the end of July.

More information on the State Library's role in the PANDORA Archive is available at <http://slq.qld.gov.au/find/sites/pandora>.

Further information about PANDORA can be found on the National Library's website at <http://pandora.nla.gov.au/index/html>



JUNE CULTURAL MEETING

Our last meeting was preceeded by our AGM which was chaired by our new patron Carryn Sullivan. We were fortunate to have nominations for all positions and as there were no disputed positions the nominees were declared elected. Congratulations and a big thank you to all the new committee members.

All the existing members agreed to serve again except Joan Venz who had to withdraw for health reasons. The members voted a big thank you to Joan for her years of service.

New members elected were Ro Clyne and Gwendella Cooper.

Annual Reports read out showed that we had another successful year.

During the following Cultural Meeting Annual Awards were presented to D&M Neldner for Open Class and to Del Haupt for the Novice Class.

Congratulations to both the winners.

Also announced were the following promotions from Novice to Open Class :Del Haupt, Jeanette Saviane, Brian and Lois McKane and Tony and Sandra Harden.

Again congratulations. Those in the Open Class welcome the new competition!

A big bonus for all attendees was another distribution by Mel of Q150 orchids. Several members indicated flower spikes already on their plants which augurs well for the October Show.



JUNE BENCHING RESULTS

Cattleya	1 st (Plant Name)	1st	2nd	3rd
Exhibition	<u>C.</u> Princess Bells	I&F McLaren	S.Maller	J&J Stokes
Miniature/compact	<u>Sc.</u> Lyon Rustic Gold	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner	
Novelty	<u>Bl.</u> Yellow Bird	M&V Anderson	I&F McLaren	M&V Anderson
Cluster	<u>Gba.</u> Snow Ballet	I&F McLaren	M&V Anderson	W&J Corney
Species	<u>L.anceps</u>	W&J Corney	D&M Neldner	W&J Corney
Dendrobium				
Any other	<u>Den.</u> Chao Praya Sweet x <u>Den.</u> Somsak	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner
Vandaceous				
Over 60mm	<u>Rhv.</u> Colmarie	I&F McLaren	I&F McLaren	I&F McLaren
Under 60mm	<u>V.</u> Kultana Blue	J&B Hopgood	J&B Hopgood	M&V Anderson
Species	<u>Ang.eburneum</u>	J&J Stokes		
Phalaenopsis				
Any Type	<u>Dtps.</u> (Luchia Beauty x Taisuco Firebird) x (Formosa Pink x Yu Pin Coral)	J&J Stokes		
Paphiopedilum				
Any Other	<u>Paph.</u> Startler	I&F McLaren	S. Maller	
Oncidium				
Species	<u>Onc. maculatum</u>	M&V Anderson		
Other Alliance	<u>Onc.</u> Bitter Sweet Roll of Honour	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner	W&J Corney
Miscellaneous				
Hybrid	<u>Cal.</u> William Murray	J&B Hopgood	W&J Corney	
Species	<u>Coel. speciosa</u>	D&M Neldner	J&B Hopgood	J&B Hopgood
Cymbidium				
Any	<u>Cym. iridioides</u>	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner	
Aust Natives				
Dockrillia	<u>Den.</u> Olga Wenck	M&V Anderson		
Hybrid/Nat Hybrid other	<u>Den.</u> Pauline	I&F McLaren	S. Maller	D&M Neldner
Terrestrial	<u>Pterostylis nutans</u>	J&B Hopgood	D&M Neldner	
Novice				
Hybrid any other	<u>Paph.</u> Paeony 'Regency'	I&C McQueen	I&C McQueen	I&C McQueen
Foliage				
Bromeliad	Tillandsia	J&B Hopgood	M&V Anderson	D&M Neldner
Fern	Nephrolepis exalta	M&V Anderson	D&M Neldner	
Foliage other	Aglaonema	M&V Anderson	I&F McLaren	D&M Neldner
Anthurium		D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner	D&M Neldner

- ❖ **Popular vote** – Rhv. Colmarie (I&F McLaren)
- ❖ **Judges' choice** – Rhv. Colmarie (I&F McLaren)
- ❖ **Popular vote foliage** – Nephrolepis exalta (M&V Anderson)
- ❖ **Novice of the month** – I&C McQueen
- ❖ **Judges were:** Mel Wheeler, Agnes Linsen-Perez, Tom Davis, John Hopgood John Stokes (Student)
- ❖ **Raffle** was won by Del Haupt



Committee Meeting

Matters discussed at the recent committee meeting are summarised below.

- *Council rebate for headworks for new clubhouse.
- *Senior's Expo 27 August – BIOS will participate.
- *DVD of last Taiwan Orchid Show is available for loan to members and will eventually be in our library. It shows an excellent range of orchids but be aware that it over 2 hrs long.
- *Caboolture Show - more plants needed.
- *Caloundra Orchidfest next year – full displays will be required from participating societies.
- *World Orchid Expo in Singapore have requested our assistance in publicising the show.
- *Alan Wilson was accepted as a new member. Alan lives in Sandstone Point and is an experienced orchid grower. Please make him welcome at the next meeting.
- *Our website – Lyn has starting reformatting the site to PDF to standardise the format.
- *Mini Species Show at Pine Rivers (details above).

New Growers' Meeting

An appreciative audience of new and experienced growers learned about the propagation and growing of Staghorns and Elkhorns at the June meeting. Dallas Minns from Brighton brought with him a selection of these ferns at different stages of growth and described in detail the process of propagating them from spores. Members were delighted to accept a gift of a baby fern and were shown how to attach it to a base.

Many thanks, Dallas. Brian and Lois McKane were presented with the Novice Trophy for the year and also with their Certificate of Elevation to Open Class. Strong support for the raffle was elicited by a number of orchids as prizes, kindly donated by members. At the July meeting John Stokes and others will provide information on what is involved in becoming an orchid judge. Merv Anderson has consented to run the meeting, in the absence (again?) of Don and Margaret, and will be happy to answer all your orchid queries. The August meeting will be a bus trip to Logan & District Orchid Show on 29th. Novice growers will receive a subsidy for this trip.

STOCQ Meeting

At the judges meeting Mel handed out certificates for awarded orchids and votes were cast for Orchid of the Year in the various categories.

The new President of Orchids Queensland, Dave Gatfield, addressed the meeting and showed a simplified judging sheet that he uses.

Five clubs from Central Queensland have asked to be affiliated with STOCQ. They were accepted in principle but there are some logistical issues to be sorted out.

Caloundra Golden Orchidfest is on track. STOCQ agreed to donate an extra \$100 to bring prize money for Champion to \$600. A new class of "Container Gardens" will be added to the schedule.

John Green is ready to start a new judge's course but needs a couple more people to make it viable.

A joint approach will be made to SEQ Water for change from afternoon to morning watering times for orchid growers.

Next meeting will be 7th November hosted by Childers/Isis.



Something New?

In trying to find something new and interesting for this section I am conscious of the fact that many of our members have been growing orchids for so long that there would be very little that they haven't learnt through hard experience and/or read in previous newsletters (our own website has excellent and comprehensive guidance but I realise that many don't have computer access).

Anyway I thought that I would persevere for the time being for the sake of the newer growers (of whom I am one).

This month a discussion question to get you thinking. Has anyone tried semi-hydroponic cultivation of orchids?

In case anyone wants to try it I obtained the following potting guide from one of the Orchid Forums I look at occasionally (Orchid Talk which is American I think). I've never tried it so I don't know how successful it would be. Just curious. I think I'd still be worried about root rot even using fired clay or similar mix. And note the contributor is using it for Phallies so may not work with other varieties.

I have tried vase culture for Vandas (which is a similar concept) with mixed results. All in all doesn't seem much different from standing pot in saucer of water except for inclusion of fertiliser and roots would end up in water.

1. Gather your materials. You will need: an appropriate plastic container, suitable media, a drill, and a plant to repot. For media, we are using fired clay nuggets similar to PrimeAgra. These are roughly 3/4 to 1 inch in all dimensions. Since the principle behind Semi Hydro culture is the same as the principle that rots your orchid's roots when you leave the pot standing in water, choice and size of media is important. As a general rule of thumb, the *smaller* the media, the *finer* the porosity, the *more* water will be wicked up by capillary action and retained. Conversely, the *larger* the media, the *coarser* the porosity, the *less* water will be wicked up and retained. So it's important that you choose a size and type appropriate for the moisture needs of the plant you are growing. For a container, anything plastic that's deep enough and handy (from the laundry room or kitchen) will do. In this case, we are using a piece of Tupperware I snagged when from the kitchen.
2. Rinse the media to remove any dust and fines and soak it for several hours. At the end of that time period, water the plant thoroughly
3. Mark the plastic pot approximately 2 inches up from the bottom and drill holes around the circumference. The holes should be large enough to allow excess water to freely drain, yet small enough to keep the media from spilling out.
4. Drain the water from the soaked media, and pour enough media into your S/H "pot" until it covers the holes. You will need to adjust this initial level depending on the root length of the plant you intend to repot.
5. WASH YOUR HANDS THOROUGHLY WITH SOAP AND WATER, then unpot your plant. This is a Phal. seedling we have been growing in Sphagnum, and the roots are in pretty good shape:
6. Carefully remove the old media from around the roots. Repotting is a "shock" to the plant, so be as careful as possible to keep all of the roots intact.
7. Place the plant into your pot. The plant's lowest leaves should be level with the top of the pot, and its longest roots should not extend below the drain holes you drilled in Step 3. Then, fill the pot to the top with the remaining media, rapping the pot against your workbench every so often to settle the media around the roots. The newly re-potted plant should look something like this (see right, if it prints!).
8. Using a dilute fertilizer solution, fill the pot until the liquid runs out of the drain-holes.
9. Tada! You're done. Your plant has now been happily re-potted into S/H, and you too can now say you're a really cool S/H orchid grower. Add water / fertilizer solution as necessary to keep the water level even with the bottom of the drain holes.



Flowering in July in our Region

Cattleya (some species and hybrids), Coelogyne, Cymbidium, Lycaste, Odontoglossum, Paphiopedilum, Pterostylis.

Resting of Orchids

Interesting article in last issue of Noosa Bulletin which was reproduced from "Orchids for Everyone" by Brian Williams. Due to space constraints I will only include an extract on Deciduous Orchids in this issue.

With orchids that naturally become completely deciduous during winter and early spring—most *pleiones*, *calanthes*, *nobile*-type *dendrobiums* and *catasetums*, for example – the supply of water should be gradually reduced as the foliage begins to turn yellow during early autumn.

Simultaneously, the amount of light and air given to the plant should be increased. This can be achieved by reducing the shading or by moving the orchid to a brighter position in the greenhouse. Where possible, it would also be advantageous to reduce the temperature slightly.

Another indication that the orchid is approaching a natural period of rest is a reduction or even a complete stop in root activity. When this occurs the velamen (the greenish-white outer layer of absorbent cells) grows partially or completely over the normally bright green root tips. This is the plant's way of saying that winter is approaching, and the velamen covers the very tender root tip as a form of protection from both the elements and possible physical damage.

With negligible root activity and partial or complete loss of leaves, the moisture requirement of the plant is very small. Unless severe shrivelling of the pseudo bulbs is noticed, all watering should be withheld until new growth is apparent with the onset of brighter, warmer conditions the following spring. An occasional overhead spray will prevent excessive desiccation of the plant during its resting period, but this light spray should be applied infrequently, for example, during the occasional spells of brighter winter weather.



OTHER INFORMATION

Internet sites for Month

After last month I just had to tell you that the Flickr site has no fewer than 556,731 orchid photos!

It can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/search/?ss=2&ct=6&w=all&q=orchids&m=text>.

And Photobucket has 9205 at <http://photobucket.com/images/orchids/>.

For those who can't afford Orchidwiz and have trouble with Wildcatt Greg McDougall has pointed out in the Caboolture Bulletin that all the information in these programs (except photos) can be obtained from the Royal Horticultural Society site starting at www.rhs.org.uk/seedlist/registration_orchids.asp. He also gives some navigation tips for the site which I can provide to anyone who needs them.

Finally, On the Grapevine

July birthdays known to us are : Lester Ratcliffe, Ro Clyne and Nancy Brown. Best wishes to all the birthday people. Have a great day from us all.

On the sick list Roy Mitchell and Kevin Cheatham have had visits to hospital , Val Anderson is not her normal healthy self, haven't seen Joan at recent meetings so I assume she is still unwell and Alex Wrigley is due to start his cancer treatment soon. Be assured your friends in the Society are thinking of you No doubt there are others I haven't heard about and I apologise for leaving them off the list.

News from members Vic and Judith Horton (now living in Gympie) that they are now proud great grandparents of a baby girl, Isabelle Eleanor. Congratulations.

(Note-Bulletins can be viewed in colour on our website)

Contact Editor John (phone 3408 9228 or email stokes@sillyfrog.com) for more information on any of above items.

That's all, folks.