



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.  
Est: 1955



[www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au](http://www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au)

P. O. Box 5949 Red Hill Rockhampton, 4701

Founded 1955

## Newsletter July 2019

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### *Editor's Notes*

Hi Everyone,

As you now know we could not access our meeting hall for the June meeting due to the transition of ownership from the Presbyterian Church to the new owners the Lutheran Church. Recent communications with the new owners and a check of the hall by our President Jeff Bloxsom has cleared the way for our July meeting. However, the hall still has some furniture and other material in storage of which we will have to negotiate around until their move is complete over the coming months. The good news is that we will be able to continue to keep our library cupboards in place and they are happy to have us as continuing tenants.

In addition, due to there being no monthly meeting the newsletter is obviously somewhat shorter this month. However, the **Growers Report** is included to remind everyone of the next meeting. Likewise, the **members' registration forms for Orchidfest 2019** are included to remind everyone that these have to be given to the Treasurer this month or paid directly as a bank transfer deposit as **the cut off date for registration is 1<sup>st</sup> August. If you choose bank transfer make sure you include your name.**

Jeff Glover

### *R.O.S.I Growers Group Report.*

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, the Growers Group enjoyed the hospitality of Peter and Jenny Moore at their residence at Craigie Street, The Range. Thank you to our hosts for sharing your colourful backyard. Many comments were made about the orchids growing throughout the garden. Peter and Jenny had erected 4 shades which gave us cover for the afternoon and 42 members attended. Jenny has 2 Orchid houses – one houses her Vanda collection and the other her hard cane dendrobiums plus 'the rest'. Since our visit last year, the Moore's have put weed mat on the floor of their 2 houses which has helped in keeping the floor clean. A great segue to the first topic which was a reminder to members to remove the yellow leaves that appear in their orchid houses at this time of the year. Jeff Glover wrote an article on this topic - 'Growers Tips' in the July 2018 R.O.S.I Newsletter available on the R.O.S.I Website. I then told the members about the recent NQ Orchid Fair held in Townsville on June 8/9. At least eleven of our members attended. After the Townsville Fair, the Smiths, Humbles plus

Trevor and I, went on our Orchid Rally drive to Atherton, Kuranda and Cairns. I also discussed the many different potting media used by different nurseries.

The main topic for the afternoon was the growing of *Spathoglottis*. Fortunately, I had been able to find a potted, flowering specimen in my yard to bring along and now with my research on the topic, it should receive much better care!!

Our raffle was excellent and we had 74 draws. Thanks again to all who donated.

Our next outing will be at the residence of **Gay and Ray Bills** at **143 Emmerson Drive at Glenlee on Saturday July 27, at 2pm**. As a lot of road works is happening on the Bruce Hwy around the Glenlee area- do take extra care. Going north on the highway, turn left into Terranova Drive and then turn left into Emmerson Drive. Ray has a very large collection which many new members wouldn't have seen as it is around 2 years since we have visited the Bills.

Bring a folding chair, hat, and a plate of food to share for afternoon tea and donations to the raffle are always welcome.

Margaret Handley

**Next Monthly Meeting Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Starts 7.30pm.**

**Notice to Members: Please assist if you can with cleaning the hall  
after the meeting**

*Rhynchostylis gigantea* season is upon us and I hope yours are flowering as well . Although they have a short flowering period once a year, this species and its hybrids are very rewarding to grow. Hopefully as usual we will see plenty at this month's meeting.



### Stop the Press

At the time of writing I have just heard from the Rockhampton Regional Council that our application for a grant for Orchidfest has been successful. More details at next month's meeting. 😊😊😊 46

## Office Bearers

### Executive:

**Patron:** RRC Councillor, Neil Fisher

**President:** Jeff Bloxsom

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**Vice President :** Peter Jenkinson

[pe.oni@hotmail.com](mailto:pe.oni@hotmail.com) ph.0439515820

**Secretary:** Trish Craig ph. 49226621

[rosi@rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au](mailto:rosi@rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au)

**Treasurer:** Sandra Rowcliffe:

[svpsli@bigpond.net.au](mailto:svpsli@bigpond.net.au) Ph. 49364040

### Committee

Terry Dean 49282278

[terryellie@optusnet.com.au](mailto:terryellie@optusnet.com.au)

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Nat Lakey 49288093

Tony March 0401280352

Bill Richardson [william.r@optusnet.com](mailto:william.r@optusnet.com)

Allan White Ph. 0419580086

### Ex Officio Positions

Society Registrar: Terry Dean

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Glover

Assist Newsletter Editor: Jenny Moore

Technical Advisors: John Frisch, Jeff Glover

Webmaster: Bob Lakey

ROSI Growers Coordinator Marg Handley

Providor Maxine Maunder

Promotion Officer Sandra Rowcliffe /Jeff Glover (STOC)

Door Monitors Lorraine and Brian Weaver

Librarian: Yvonne Manning .Assist. Tony March

Raffle Plant Caretaker: Terry Dean

Property Officers: Barry and Faye English.

### Shows and Meetings

Show Marshall: Jeff Glover

Chief Steward: Moyna Richardson

Plant/Barcode collators Trish Craig & Barry English

Australian Orchid Council ROSI Based Judging

Team

#### Judges:

Jeff Glover

Terry Dean

Marty Gunder

Faye English.

Bernard Hilse

#### Associate Judges

Trish Craig

Doug Chippendale

Peter Jenkinson

Nat Lakey

Sandra Rowcliffe



### Growers' Tip

My tip this month as we approach the re-potting season; despite the current spate of cold days ( for us anyway, down to 5 degrees C in Rocky overnight ) is to 'de-clutter'. Don't fall into the trap of keeping too many plants of the same species or hybrid. When I started collecting orchids nearly 40 years ago, plants especially hybrid cattleyas, were not so readily available and as inexpensive as they are today. Many people even re-potted 'back cuts' as there was a ready market and people were willing to wait and pay big money to get a different hybrid; \$20 was worth a lot more in 1981. Those days most cattleya hybrids came from the USA and Hawaii, with only a few nurseries in Australia having exclusive access to the latest breeding. In today's market where the Taiwanese dominate in almost all popularly grown genera, it is easy and relatively inexpensive compared to then, to build a collection of the latest breeding should that be your goal. And this is where the aspect of de-cluttering is very pertinent. Most of us have relatively small greenhouses and too often we are tempted to keep to many of the same plant.

One well grown cattleya can quickly divide into 5 plants. Two to keep for me, two to sell and one to give away. The two to sell then stay until the next show taking space; however, rest assured quiet a few others will have that plant and it may not sell at all! "Where do I put the great new plants that I just bought at the show or on a trip away ", quickly becomes a well

known delimea. So, the tip is be selective how many do I really need of this plant is it the one I like more than others? If it isn't, it's probably not that popular with other growers as well so, do I do really need 5 of them . Sometimes its just best to give them away, try them on a tree in the garden or bite the bullet and bin them. One of the best kept secrets in orchid culture is not to overcrowd your plants. Therefore, avoid the trap this potting season, and **De-Clutter!**

Jeff Glover

### Species of the Month

The species of the month is *Phragmipedium caudatum* . This species is akin to probably the most sought after and hybridized Phapiopedilum, *Paph. sanderianum*. Just like *Paph. sanderianum*, *Phrag. caudatum* also has the fascinating and exclusive elongated petals, a feature that never ceases to capture the admiration of orchid collectors worldwide, thus making it very popular. It has been long theorised that these are feature that



encouragizes insects to use the petals as ladders to crawl to the flower's reproductive organs and induce pollination. Orchidwiz states that it is found from Southern Mexico to Peru, where it grows at mostly 1000 mtrs to 2000mtrs on forest trees and in humus laden forest floors; where it prefers seepage areas such as, at the bottom of cliffs. Its popularity has seen it become extinct from over collecting in many areas. However, it has been widely cloned and line-bred which makes it readily available. In addition, Orchidwiz reports it has 51 First Gen hybrids and 24 awards.

In my experience it is much easy to grow and flower than its 'Asian Cohort', *Paph sanderianum*. Having said that, the plant in picture above was my specimen, but has since departed this life, having been a victim of bacterial rot brought on by my cultural conditions, a result of trying as many of us do, to grow too many genera in the one greenhouse. Like many *Phragmipediums* it prefers to be wet/moist at all times and grown in a cool situation with plenty of light. Well worth a try for advanced growers if you can source one; however, be prepared to pay a premium price for this fascinating orchid.

JTG 16-7-2019

### Bunnings BBQ : Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019

President Jeff Bloxsom has secured another BBQ time slot from Bunnings. The past two have been very successful with proceedings contributing to the funding of Orchidfest and for other expenses incurred by the society. This BBQ will be discussed at the July meeting and volunteers called for.

### General Cultural Guide April/July.

| <i>* Information is general in nature and given in good faith.</i> | Watering/Weekly  | Fertilizer/Weekly   | Pest/Disease Control   | Comments  |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Cattleya</b>  | 2-3times weekly  | Blossom booster<br>Low Nitrogen                               | Flower Thrips<br>Yates Success or<br>Pyrethrum on<br>buds                  | Weather is variable at this time of year. Reduce watering frequency as temperature cools. |
| <b>Dendrobium<br/>Hard cane</b>                                    |  | Reduce fertilizer and cease by Winter's onset                 | Flower Thrips<br>Yates Success<br>Pyrethrum on<br>buds                     | Weather is variable at this time of year. Reduce watering frequency as temperature cools. |
| <b>Dendrobium<br/>Softcane</b>                                     | Once to twice weekly   | Cease fertilizer  |  | If fertilizer is applied from now on, plantlets will form rather than flowers             |
| <b>Phalaenopsis</b>  | 2-3 times weekly   | Reduce fertilizing with cooler weather.<br>Low nitrogen       | Preventative<br>Fungicide if wet<br>cooler weather<br>Mancozeb             | Weather is variable at this time of year. Reduce watering frequency as temperature cools. |
| <b>Vandaceous</b>  | Water daily in hot weather 2-3 days if cooler                    | Balanced fertilizer if still in growth Cease if weather cools | Flower Thrips<br>Yates Success or<br>Pyrethrum on<br>buds                  |   |
| <b>Oncidium</b>  | In hot weather, every 2 days if cooler2-3                        | Balanced fertilizer if still in growth Cease if weather cools |  |   |
| <b>Paphiopedilums</b>  | Every 2 days in hot weather. 2-3 times weekly in cooler weather. | Balanced fertilizer   | Preventative<br>Fungicide if wet<br>cooler weather<br>Mancozeb             |   |
| <b>Catasetinae</b>   | 2-3 times weekly   | Fertilizer should cease once flowering has initiated.         | Plants will defoliate if weather cools significantly.<br>(Normal reaction) | Watering should be phased out completely after flowering is finished.                     |



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## Sub Tropical Orchid Council Qld. Inc.

### “Rocky Round Up Orchidfest” Conference and Show September 2019

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> 9am - 4pm    Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 9am - 3pm



The conference will be an open show exhibiting club displays & tabled plants

[Visit our Website for Updates, Registration Form & Show Schedule](#)

Visiting Orchid Nurseries  
Orchid Sales

Capricorn Regional Bonsai Society  
Display & Sales

The Rockhampton Cake Decorators  
Demonstrations

Refreshments Available

Guest Speakers

Free DoorPrize

Registration Closes 1<sup>st</sup> of August

Admission \$5 Children Free

Registration form  
Available on our website



Venue

**KORTE'S**  
RESORT

[www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au](http://www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au)

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## Your Orchid Diary 2019

10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> August: Agnes Water O&FS show, Community Centre, Springs Road, Agnes Water; set up 9<sup>th</sup>.

23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> August Noosa O&FS show in Cooroy Memorial Hall with set up 22<sup>nd</sup>.

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> September: Nambour OS show set up 5<sup>th</sup>.

**14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019:**

**STOCQ Orchidfest**

**Rockhampton**

19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> September: Maryborough DOS show St Paul's Memorial Hall, set up 18<sup>th</sup>.

27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019: Glasshouse COS show with set up 26<sup>th</sup>.

27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> September: Hervey Bay OS show with set up 26<sup>th</sup>.

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> November Nambour OS species show; set up 31<sup>st</sup> October.

16<sup>th</sup> November 2019: STOCQ and OQI meetings at The Orchid House, 156A First Avenue, Bongaree hosted by Bribie Island Orchid Society

### **Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.**

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Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding December) at St Stephens Presbyterian Church Hall, Burnett St. Nth Rockhampton; commencing at 7.30 pm. Plants must be tabled by 7.15pm.

**Disclaimer:** Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. disclaims all responsibility for any losses or damage, which may be attributed to the use or misuse of any material published in this Newsletter.