

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au



Newsletter April 2013

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

PO Box 5949 Red Hill Qld. 4702

Founded 1955

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday. 23/4/13

at 7.30pm

Plants to be tabled by
7.15pm

President: Jeff Bloxson 49286582
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Ellie Dean 49282278
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New Grower's Leader:
Keith Marsden 49282752
Public Relations: Ellie Dean
Technical Advisers: John Frisch
Jeff Glover
Registrar: Terry Dean
Providers': Jan Rawlings
Door Monitors/ Hostesses:
Ellie Dean / Lorraine Weaver
Librarian: Jack Martin
Raffle Plant Caretaker: Terry Dean
Property Officers:
Barry & Faye English 49222637
Editor: Peter & June Shelton 49266889
sheltonpj@optusnet.com.au
Asst Editor: Trish Craig
trishcraig@bigpond.com

Judges for the Meeting

T. Dean, P. Shelton

B. Hulse, J. Hogan

Editors notes.

I was reading an article last week which was dated February 4 – 2013. I quote – *Doriteanopsis* and *Doritis* have officially been changed to *Phalaenopsis*.

The R.H.S. committee has decided to sink *Doritis* into *Phalaenopsis*. This means that effective immediately *Doritis* and *Doriteanopsis* should be considered to be *Phalaenopsis*. PLEASE note that other combinations with *Doritis* will not be changed until the the of the changes to the Vandaceous orchids is considered. This delay is so that there is not a double change in these orchids.

The changes to Vandaceous orchids *Dendrobium* and *Bulbophyllum* are not expected before the end of 2013.

As if judging wasn't hard enough already, the powers that be have decided to change even more names around. While we are on the subject of judging, if you are one of those growers who criticize judges, well, I suggest you take the course then you will see how easy it is not. (It's only a 4 1/2 year course).

This year there are quite a few I notice who will be recipients of O.B.E. congratulations I'll bet you didn't think you'd live that long. There's better days ahead folks, I'll join you later in the year that's if I remember.

It was deep regret we were to learn of the passing of Marie Page. She was a well known and much liked member of our fraternity. To the family please accept our condolences.

Were still waiting for you to put pen to paper – PLEASE.

Pete & June

Notice to Members please assist with cleaning the hall after the meeting

The closing date for articles for the next newsletter are to be received by the 15th of May; articles received after this date will be included in the following month. Ed.

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
General Meeting Tuesday 26/3/2013

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

New members;

Visitor:

Lucky Member: 33 Jack Martin.

Minutes: of previous monthly meeting approved as correct and accurate, Moved Maxine Maunder second Diane Hughes Carried.

Correspondence: In = Newsletters, Boyne-Tannum Orchid & Foliage Society, Mackay District Orchid Society Inc. Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc, Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc, Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc, Blackwater & District Orchid & Foliage Club, Caboolture Orchid Society Inc, Rockhampton Horticultural Society Inc. Mid-Murry Orchid Club Inc. Nambour Orchid News. Maryborough District Orchid Society Inc. Redcliff District Orchid Society Inc. Capricorn Orchid & Foliage Club Inc. Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Society Inc. Townsville Orchid Society Inc. Orchid News NSW. The Rock, Memberships Puckering, Post Box, Sub-Tropic Orchid Council, 4 YOU, Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, Minutes returned.

OUT = Moved Gloria Wakefield Second by Moyna Richardson Carried.

Treasurers Report: Read and moved by Bill Richardson Second Brian Weaver Carried.

New Growers: Keith Marsden Thanked everyone that attended his & Pam's house. Next day is at Ken & Rosalie house 92 Perrott Drive Oliver est. 27 th April.

General Business: Trip to Boyne-Tannum will be \$40.00 per person, Leaving early Saturday morning the 25 th May. At this stage 40 on the bus.

Show = Moved by Burnie Peters Second by Peter Shelton that Dinner cost is \$17.50 but the club will subsidise, So It will cost us \$15.00 per person carried. Show setup will start at 3.30 pm with plants not to come in until after 5 pm. Bob Lakey then showed everyone how to work the new web page that he has set up.

Plant Commentary: John Frisch spoke on all the flowers on display, thanks John.

Lucky exhibitor: Richard Mann.

Raffle; , *Peter Shelton, Karen Carr, Margaret Lyons, Ray Bills, Peter Jenkinson, Diane Hughes, Ray Bills, Marion Kehl,*

Meeting closed : 10.10 pm.

Next Meeting; 23 rd April 2013

Jeff Bloxsom President

Gloria Wakefield Secretary

Monthly Competition Results. March 2013

(Plants tabled: Advanced: 32. Novice: 21)

Judges Choice.

| | |
|--|------------|
| <i>Pot.</i> Burana Angel | K&R Smith |
| <i>Paph.</i> Transvaal | B&H Hilse |
| <i>Den.</i> "Burana Candy" (name not registered) | |
| X <i>Den.</i> Chao Praya Gem | J&S Frisch |

Popular Vote, Advanced.

| | | |
|---------------------|---|------------|
| Cattleya over 75mm | (C.Zuiho x Lc. Ecstasy) 'Capricorn's Pearl Jam' | J&S Frisch |
| Cattleya up to 75mm | <i>Pot.</i> Burana Angel | K&R Smith |
| Vandaceous | V.Kasem's Delight | T&E Dean |
| Dendrobium | <i>Den.</i> "Burana Candy" x <i>Den.</i> Chao Praya Gem | J&S Frisch |
| Paphiopedilum | <i>Paph.</i> Transvaal | B&H Hilse |
| Oncidiinae | <i>Milt.</i> Sandy's Cove | T&E Dean |
| Species | <i>Den.</i> <i>bigibbum</i> var. <i>album</i> | T&E Dean |
| Miscellaneous | <i>Zns.</i> Cynosure 'Blue Birds' | K&R Smith |

Novice

| | | |
|---------------|--|---------------|
| Cattleya | C. Caudebec Candy | P&T Jenkinson |
| Oncidiinae | <i>Milt.</i> Aztec 'Hildos' | T&N Craig |
| Miscellaneous | <i>Ctsm.</i> Orchidglade 'Davie Ranches' | G&M Maunder |

Addition to February Popular Vote Results- Novice section.

| | | |
|------------|--|----------|
| Oncidiinae | <i>Mtssa.</i> Dennis Kasenbach 'Crowhurst' | R&L Mann |
|------------|--|----------|



Paph. Transvaal



Pot. Burana Angel



Den. "Burana Candy" (name not registered) X *Den.* Chao Praya Gem

Your leaves can tell you what is needed.

Go into your bush house, ignore the flowers (I know that is hard to do but do it). Pay attention to the leaves especially the colour and substance. These are vital engines of any vegative plant, so what are they telling you?

Take your Cattleyas first. Do you find its leaves dark green, soft between your fingers and so flexible they bend easily? Or would they be medium green, perhaps, with some purple pigmentation, firm to the touch and rigid enough to resist severe bending? Or might leaves appear a light, perhaps yellowish green, stained with dark purple blotches and with a texture approaching saddle leather?

What does this tell you?

As a rule of thumb, says Gene Crocker of Carter and Holmes:

- 1- Soft dark-green leaves suggest that light levels may be too low in your bush house. Your plant may grow but fail to flower. Its health can be at risk from spores and bacteria that induce rot.
- 2- Medium-green shades indicate a light level satisfactory for that plant. It is getting enough light to sustain photosynthesis, resist infection and reward you with flowers.
- 3- For leaves that are pale and blotchy, read sunburn. Too much sunshine is killing the plant. Its food processing mechanisms have been damaged. Growth will be inhibited, disease resistance reduced and flowering limited to a final try at keeping its genes alive.

Depending on what you have seen in your bush house Crocker suggests, you may want to review the means by which you control the amount of light to which your plants are subjected.

Fortunately, the means to accomplish this today have been expanded by research and synthetic materials. You may now choose from an extensive variety of possible solutions to the problem of light and heat control in your bush house.

Reprinted from memory-Orchids Magazine.

New Growers Report.

There will be no new growers meeting at the end of March due to Easter.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday the 27th of April at the home of **Ken & Rosalie Smith at 92 Perrott Drive Olive Estate starting at 2 p.m.**

The usual plate for afternoon tea & a folding chair if possible

Look forward to seeing you there.

Keith Marsden

Phone- 49282752

The Bundy Trip.

Well it's all over for 12 months and what a weekend it was, good company, good food; as a matter of fact everything about it was good.

When we arrived we were given a very cordial welcome by Dr Bob the president elect while we enjoyed a rather large smoko, although it was much appreciated because a lot of us had not had any brekky, (whose fault was that I heard one person say).

We then mounted our bus (sorry coach) and journeyed out into a somewhat sick and sorry Bundaberg. The devastation the flood wrought was horrendous and we only saw a small portion, houses swept away never to be seen again, whirlpools that have virtually swallowed houses, one couldn't even imagine the scale of the volume of water that must have been traveling at speed down the river. My heart bleeds for the victims I can only wish them the best of all that is available.



However I digress, we went first to Alwyn & Bev Heidkes, there we were confronted with the best collection I have seen in a long time, I believe the credit must go to Bev for the superb way that they were grown, absolutely wonderful. Then we motored to Eddie Crosses place where to witness another small but well grown collection. Last visit for the day was Bob & Glenda Costers; again we were to see a very clean well grown collection. I think I had best put in now that in between visits at various times in the day we were again fed and watered sumptuously.

Saturday night we were treated to a delightful seafood meal at the Golf Club here the rolling raffle took place with the Rocky raffle rats not doing quite as well as usual.

Sunday, tired but eager travelers saddled up for an early breakfast, scrambled eggs, snags, bacon, lambs fry, toast, a good hearty meal to start the day off. We then traveled out to Sth Kolan to the

Neilsons where we saw an obvious new grower collection, clean and very well tended collection, only small at the present but when all those little plants in 3" pots grow that bush house is very smartly going to get too small. We traveled back to Bundy and once again put the nose bag on at Dr Bob and Deborah Shields acreage, manicured lawns and a very tidy bus house of quite large proportions made it a very pleasant stay for an hour or too where we listened to Alwyn tell us of the virtues of squirrel urine. It was a very pleasant stopover on a very hectic weekend. Next the Lindberbergs, this was an unusual place not that this statement is meant in a derogatory term, every genera that was grown had its own bush house and the plants were grown very well indeed its a system we all would like to have but can't, it must be better than clumping them all in together.



Well so ends another successful and most enjoyable trip, roll on Boyne/Tannum.

I think here I should mention that we are an extremely lucky society to have a president like Jeff his organising skills leave nothing to be desired. Congrats my friend on a job well done. (As usual).

Hymn.

Handy Hint

Did you know that the best way to tell if you have a genuine *Cattleya. intermedia*, whether it be the ordinary purple, aquinii, alba or other, its just doing two simple things.

1. Check to see if its bifoliate or unifoliate you are half way there.
2. Where the leaves are attached to the pseudobulb, place your thumb and forefinger on either side and gently run them along the edge of the leaf to about halfway then back again. If you feel a roughness or serrations ⁽³⁶⁾ you can then move in for a closer look, you will see the serrations take up about a quarter of the leaf length, this test is the best way of identification.

Warning, although this is the best way of testing if you have the real McCoy, don't take it as gospel and the only way, some *C. intermedia* hybrids (usually primary) retain a slight roughness you will find that not all of the leaves will bear serrations

We were sold a *C. intermedia* var *aquinii*, when we told a friend about it, he suggested we try the test, I am afraid the plant failed miserably. The growth was a combination of bifoliate and unifoliate and although the leaves had a slight roughness on only the odd leaf, not all leaves had the serrations, we then did a check on all the other plants of *C. intermedia* that we had – they all passed with flying colours.

Pam Cole

North Queensland Orchid Society, Cairns, Qld

Don't forget our SOCIETY - STORE (members only)

For all you Orchid Supplies



49222637 Barry & Faye English

Hours of Business: 8am -12 – 2- 5pm (Closed: 'Thursdays'⁽³⁶⁾ and 'Lunchtime' each day)

No cheques please

PLANTS THAT CAST A SPELL

Speak to people who grow orchids and you are instantly aware of the hold these often unusual flowers maintain over those that love them. Like a delicate child, an orchid needs constant attention but also like a well loved child, it rewards its carer with great joy.

Heresy, I'm sure many of these orchid lovers would think, if someone suggested they eat the roots of their favorite plants. But people did eat the roots of terrestrial orchids, for various reasons.

When treatment of an illness was frequently based on using plants that resembled the affected part of the body, the roots of orchids thought to look like testicles, were crushed and eaten, supposedly to encourage sexual activity. Only in men? The books don't say.

Orchid roots contain a starch-like substance called *Bassorin* which is highly nutritious and was used as starch as a preservative.

In Turkey and Persia this was extracted from various kinds of orchids and before coffee became more common, it was used for making a wholesome and nutritious drink. Called Saloop or Salep it used to be sold at stalls in the streets of London. "A basin of it at three pence, accompanied by a slice of bread- and- butter at a halfpenny," claimed one English writer, "is an ideal breakfast for a chimney sweep."

Witches were supposed to use the tubers of *Orchis. mascula*, the early purple orchid which was common in English woods, in their concoctions. The fresh tuber was given to promote true love.

None of the orchid growers we talked to admitted to such use of their favorite plants. But all appeared to submit willingly to the spell that these beautiful, sometimes strange, flowers weave around them.

Anon.



8 and 9 June 2013

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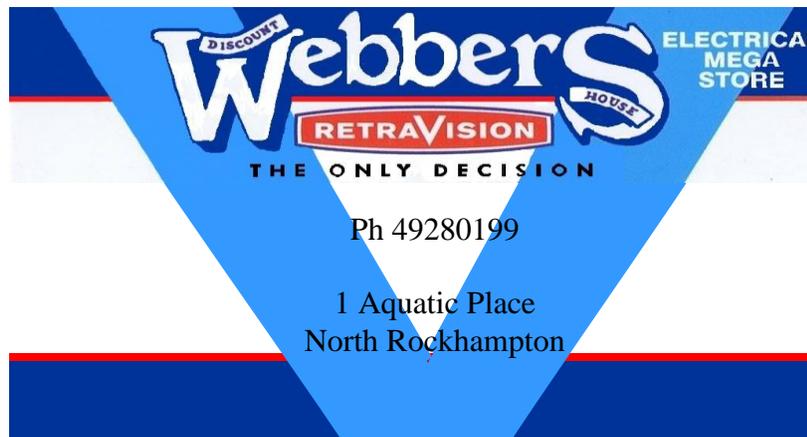
In support of Little Haven Palliative Care, Gympie
A TRIENNIAL SHOW AND CONFERENCE OF THE SUB TROPIC
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Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

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

Disclaimer

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

Your Orchid Diary 2012

April 11-13 Sunshine Coast OS Show
April 20 South Burnett Orchid Show
April 21-22 **Rockhampton**
May 4-5 Gympie Expo
May 10-12 Noosa
May 10-11-12 Bundaberg OS
May 25-26 Boyne/Tannum OS
July 6th – 8th Caboolture Orchid Soc
August 11 – 12th Maroochydore Orchid Soc
August 31 Sept 1 Childers & Isis District Orchid Society Spring Show
August 31 Sept 1 Nambour Orchid Soc

2013 **June 8-9 STOQC Orchidfest Gympie**

2014 TQOC Atherton

2015 TQOC Mackay