

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au



Newsletter February 2014



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. PO Box 5949 Red Hill Qld. 4702
Founded 1955

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday. 28/2/14
at 7.30pm
Plants to be tabled by
7.15pm

President: Jeff Bloxson 49286582
jmbloxson@hotmail.com
Vice President: Terry Dean 49282278
terryellie@optusnet.com.au
Secretary: Gloria Wakefield 49224289
rwa13788@bigpond.net.au
Treasurer: Bill Richardson 49275759
william.r@optusnet.com

Committee
Jeff Glover 49287701
Peter & June Shelton 49266889
Jenny Moore 49237234
Ellie Dean 49282278
Trish Craig 49226621
P.Jenkinson 0419725173

New Grower's Leader:
Keith Marsden 49282752

Public Relations: Ellie Dean
Technical Advisers: John Frisch
Jeff Glover
Terry Dean

Registrar: Terry Dean
Provider: 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
Webmaster: R. Lakey 49288093
r.lakey@bigpond.com

Judges for the Meeting

J.Glover. P.Shelton.

B. Hilse. P. Jenkinson

Editors Notes.

As we all know this is the month we select our executives for the forth coming year. I hope you have given this a lot of thought as two nominations for Vice President have been received and a vote will take place. Remember we have had this group of executives for a long time; they have done a remarkable job as I am sure you will agree but we all get tired.

This week end we all journey to Boyne-Tannum on our usual tri annual group meeting. I'm sure that it will be up to it's usual good standard. June & I look forward to seeing you all there.

The rain we have had has been good for our orchids and mine are looking tops, but beware of the dreaded fungus that can appear after such lovely rain.

On page two you will read our presidents report which is followed by the minutes from the last AGM. We hope we have it correct this time as it is very easy to make a mistake.

John Frisch has submitted a great article on virus diseases in orchids a worth while read, also Ellies corner is in again.

Next month we will try to present a new format for the newsletter we hope that it will be well received. June has retired & Kate will take her place.

Enjoy your newsletter.

Pete & Kate

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 13th of March; articles received after this date will be included in the following month. Ed.

PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR 2013.

Yet again I have great pleasure in presenting this, my report for 2013.

I have now been president for some 16 years, I think the longest serving president yet. It gives me much pleasure over this time to see how our society has grown and prospered, to the extent of some 105 members, the fellowship and support from our members certainly attributes to the success of a large society as ours.

This year our autumn and spring shows were a huge success as in previous years. Most of our visitors to our shows are astounded that a show such as ours is produced by only one society; as most shows visited are produced by a combination of societies. Congratulations and thanks to all concerned. Most of the finances the society relies on are obtained at these shows and are very important to the running and maintenance of our orchid society.

Our C.Q. inter society field weekend was hosted by Bundaberg this year in March. A full coach load of members travelled down to Bundy and had a very enjoyable weekend, catching up with old friends and taking the opportunity to see how other orchid enthusiasts grow their collections. Our society puts up a substantial subsidy for most weekends, making them affordable to all members and I can only encourage all members to take advantage of future excursions.

Our big trip away was to the Gympie Orchid Fest in June. What a weekend it was with a spectacular show and great hospitality afforded to our members; which we mostly attributed to the efforts of our good friends John and Kaye Green. It was truly a weekend to remember especially with our vice president Terry Dean taking out the Grand Champion and Ken and Rosie Smith the Reserve Champion.

Our New Grower's workshops held the Saturday after our general meetings have proved to be a very important part of our Society. It is a way of introducing newer members to our society in a more informal friendly way; making them feel more a part of our society and thus retaining their membership for many years.

It was very sad to see the passing of two of our long time and well known members – Col Munro and Marie Page may they find eternal peace.

It was wonderful to see various members of our society receive A.O.C. cultural awards as this is not only a personal achievement but shows the orchid world what we can grow in Rocky.

In closing this report, a very big personal thanks to my hard working executive and committee for their support and help during his year in helping with the many things that are necessary to maintain a society such as ours. Also to all members, the life blood of any society a big thank you for your support in making our society what it is today.

Jeff Bloxam President

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 26/2/2013

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

President's report: As circulated, Jeff Bloxsom moved a vote of thanks to all members for their support for the last 12 months.

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting approved as correct and accurate.

With no business arising from them. Moved Jeff Glover Second Sandra Rowcliffe carried.

Treasurers Report: Presented by Bill Richardson (as per report) moved Bill Richardson Seconded Ellie Dean carried. Nil against.

Election of Officials: President Jeff Bloxsom Thanked all committee members for doing a great job and always being there for him, as well as all members and said how strong our club was.

All positions now declared vacant.

Jeff handed the Chair over to Vice President Terry Dean

Election of Officers

Patrons:

President:	Jeff Bloxsom	= Elected unopposed
Vice President:	Terry Dean	= Elected unopposed
Secretary:	Gloria Wakefield	= Elected Unopposed
Treasurer:	Bill Richardson	= Elected unopposed
Committee:	(1) Jeff Glover	= Elected unopposed
	(2) Peter & June Shelton	= Elected unopposed
	(3) Trish Craig.	= Elected Unopposed
	(4) Jenny Moore	= Elected Unopposed
	(5) Ellie Dean	= Elected unopposed
	(6) Peter Jenkinson	= Elected Unopposed
Librarians:	Jack Martin	= Elected unopposed
Editor:	June & Peter Shelton	= Elected unopposed
Assistance Editor	Trish Craig	= Elected unopposed
New Growers Leader:	Keith Marsden	Accepted.
Public Relations:	Ellie Dean	Accepted.
Registrar:	Terry Dean	Accepted.
Technical Advisors:	John Frisch	Accepted
	Jeff Glover	Accepted
Providers:	Jan Rawlings	Accepted
Door Monitor:	Ellie Dean &	Accepted
	Lorraine Weaver	Accepted.
Property Officers:	Faye & Barry English	Accepted
Hostess/Host:	Ellie Dean	Accepted
	Lorraine Weaver	Accepted
Plant Caretaker:	Terry Dean	Accepted

Terry Dean moved Ellie Dean Seconded that the Secretary receive \$200, President receive \$100 for reimbursement for expenses for the year Carried.

Moved Moyna Richardson Seconded Peter Shelton that the Ballot papers be destroyed Carried.

Meeting closed 8.10pm.

Jeff Bloxsom **President**

Gloria Wakefield **Secretary**

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
General Meeting Tuesday 28/1/2014

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

Visitor: Max Rawlings

Lucky Member: 52 Ted Page.

Minutes: of previous monthly meeting approved as correct and accurate, Moved Peter Jenkinson, second Sandra Rowcliffe Carried.

Correspondence: In = Newsletters, Maryborough District Orchid Society Inc, Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc, Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc, The Sunshine Coast Orchid Society Caloundra Inc, Caboolture Orchid Society Inc, Pioneer River Orchid & Plant Association. Rockhampton Horticultural Society Inc. Mackay District Orchid Society, Townsville Orchid Society Inc. Orchid News NSW. Nambour Orchid News, Nightcliff Orchid Society. Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc. Boyne- Tannum Orchid & Foliage Society. STOC QLD, Orchids Australia, Australian Orchid Review. Orchids QLD Inc, John Rees, Eastern District Orchid Society Inc, City Printing Works.

OUT = Moved Burnie Peters Second by Bob Lakey Carried.

Treasurers Report: Bill Richardson read and moved second by Ken Smith Carried.

New Growers: Keith Marsden talked about the new growers for the year, and that he may be away for some meetings this year. Also that he and Pam went to Lister Place and talked about Orchids.

General Business: Trip to Boyne-Tannum Terry Ahern Moved that the club Subsidise the trip by \$1500.00 second by Sandra Rowcliffe Carried. The cost per person will be \$145.00. The coach will leave at 7 pm. Next Show 12-13th April. Peter Shelton moved that the Fees stay at \$20.00 second Keith Marsden carried. Must be paid before the AGM and that is in February, Easter Bonnet parade at the Dinner for the show. Max Rawlings has been asked to be at our Spring Show, Moved Ken Smith Second Peter Shelton Carried.

Plant Commentary: Jeff Glover great talk and very good information was passed on to everyone Thanks Jeff.

Lucky Exhibitor: Laurence Lucke.

Raffle; Marg Hadley, Jeff Bloxsom, Diane Hughes, Sandra Rowcliffe, Terry Dean, Marg Hadley, Laurence Lucke, Gwen Breingan, Karen Carr, Kerry Wilson, Bernard Hilse.

Meeting Closed: 9.15 pm.

Next Meeting: 25th February 2014

Jeff Bloxsom **President**

Gloria Wakefield **Secretary**

Monthly Competition Results. January 2014

(Plants tabled: Advanced: 18. Novice: 24)

Judges Choice

<i>Rlc.</i> Dora Louise Capen	K&R Smith
<i>Psh.</i> <i>cochleata</i>	B&H Hilse
<i>Cl.</i> <i>russelliana</i> x <i>Ctsm.</i> Orchidglade	S. Rowcliffe

Popular Vote, Advanced.

Cattleya over 75mm	<i>Rlc.</i> Dora Louise Capen	K&R Smith
Cattleya up to 75mm	<i>Blc.</i> Hawaiian Leopard 'Mei Leng'	B&N Lakey
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph.</i> Vanguard	T&E Dean
Miscellaneous	<i>Psh.</i> <i>cochleata</i>	B&H Hilse

Novice.

Cattleya	<i>Ctt.</i> Towering Inferno	M&C Dahler
Vandaceous	<i>V.</i> Alphonsus Pang Chong Soon	P&J Moore
	=(<i>V.</i> J.V.B. x <i>V.</i> Pat Delight)	
Miscellaneous	<i>Cl.</i> <i>russelliana</i> x <i>Ctsm.</i> Orchidglade	S. Rowcliffe



Cl. *russelliana* x
Ctsm. Orchidglade



Rlc. Dora Louise Capen



Psh. *cochleata*

NEW GROWERS REPORT.

Saturday the 1st of March will be the first meeting of the new growers for this year.

As in past years we shall have the meeting at our place to discuss the year aheads activities. Your suggestions and input will be much appreciated.

We look forward to receiving your invitation to have our members company at your place again this year.

Please come along and assist in the planning of our new growers meetings for the year 2014.

The meeting shall commence at 2 pm at **463 Crane Ave, North Rockhampton**. Weather permitting. Please phone **49282752** for further information. A plate for afternoon tea and a folding chair also, if possible.

Keith Marsden
New Grower Leader.

New Awards



Rhy. coelestis 'HB Blue Lip' HCC 78.6



V. Bay Splendour 'HB Blood Red'
HCC 78.5



Ctt. Mem. Evelyn Paquette
'Kate' HCC 77.7

Virus Diseases of Orchids

Orchids, like all plants, are susceptible to varying degrees to a range of pathogens including several types of virus. Unfortunately, some of these viruses can have detrimental effects on growth, flower production and/or flower quality of orchids. If we want to grow and flower our orchids to their full potential it is therefore important that we understand how to maximize our chances of establishing and maintaining a virus-free collection. Some of these factors are considered below.

What is a virus? Pathogenic viruses isolated from orchids are composed of a single (rarely a double) strand of RNA (RiboNucleic Acid) enclosed in a protective protein coat. The RNA (which is the genetic material) is the infective component of the virus. Provided the protective protein coat is intact, RNA is incredibly stable and can remain infective for several years and in some cases, several decades. However, in the absence of the protein coat, any RNA that is outside the host cell is rapidly rendered inactive. Viruses are only a few millionths of a millimetre in length and can therefore be seen only with the aid of a powerful electron microscope.

Viruses replicate only within the cells of the host plant. Viruses gain access to plant cells through plant tissue that has been damaged, mostly during manipulation of the plant but sometimes through insect or mite attack. Even damage that is microscopic is a potential entry point for virus particles. Replication is very rapid and within 24 hours each infected cell may produce more than ten million virus particles. Because of these huge numbers, an entire orchid collection can potentially become infected very rapidly through the careless handling of a single virus-infected plant. There are no reported cases of orchids that have inherent resistance to the range of viruses that can potentially cause infection. Thus, every plant in every collection has the potential to become infected.

Important Viruses of Orchids. Of the 30+ viruses isolated from orchids, by far the most important to hobby growers are CyMV (Cymbidium Mosaic Virus), ORSV (Odontoglossum RingSpot Virus, also known as TMV-O, Tobacco Mosaic Virus, type O) and OFV (Orchid Fleck Virus). These viruses are found world wide, are quite prevalent, particularly in old collections and in old plants, and can infect and produce severe effects in all of the commonly grown orchid genera. Viruses may occur alone or in combination. When a plant becomes infected, the virus spreads throughout all tissues of the plant (ie. the infection becomes systemic) with the exception of seeds that may be forming within a seed capsule on the plant. Thus, all divisions of the plant or any mericlones derived from the plant will be infected. However, seedlings originating from infected plants may be free from virus. The exception is that some seedlings (particularly, but not exclusively, those derived from green-pod sowing) may be infected if infective tissue from the seed capsule is inadvertently sown with the seed. For hobby growers, precise identification of the type of virus is not important. It is however important to be able to recognise symptoms where they occur and understand and implement procedures to establish and maintain a virus-free collection.

Symptoms of Virus Infection. Unfortunately, the symptoms of virus infection are highly variable and depend on several factors. Among these factors are the type and strain of virus, whether one or more viruses is involved, the genetic makeup of the plant (which variety, which genus), the cultural conditions under which the plant was grown and flowered (ambient temperature, humidity, amount of light and fertilizer) and whether the plant is stressed from other causes. ***Some infected plants do not show any obvious symptoms of virus infection.*** Nevertheless, these sorts of plants act as a reservoir of infective virus particles. Because the expression of symptoms is so variable, it is often impossible to determine from visual symptoms alone whether a plant is infected or not. Additionally, some symptoms that are generally associated with virus infection can be caused by other pathogens, such as fungi, or by physiological effects, such as some nutrient deficiencies. However, the most common foliar symptoms of pathogenic virus infection are associated with necrosis (death of the tissue) or chlorosis (distinctive yellowing of part of the leaf), either alone or in combination. Necrotic lesions may occur as brown to black spots, streaks, rings or line patterns that may or may not be the same on both sides of the leaf.

Where spots occur, they are generally, though not always, quite irregular in shape as opposed to the comparatively regular shape associated with fungal or bacterial infections. ORSV may produce prominent red to purple spots, rings or lines particularly in lavender, purple or red cattleyas. However, exposure to high ambient temperatures or excessive sun can cause similar spotting. Virus infection may also cause erosion or pitting of the leaf surface. However, mesophyll tissue collapse caused by low ambient temperatures, particularly in Phalaenopsis, or damage caused by thrips can result in similar symptoms. Chlorotic lesions may occur as irregularly shaped spots or as rings or streaks with the latter often composed of multiple spots confined within the leaf veins. Necrosis may occur within the chlorotic lesion. Virus-infected Phalaenopsis may show distortion and a distinctive downward curling of the leaf. However, physical damage to the newly-emerging leaf can sometimes cause a similar effect. Symptoms are generally more severe where more than one virus is involved.

The flowers of infected plants will generally show more clearly defined symptoms than foliar parts of the same plant. This is particularly so if more than one virus is infecting the plant. Symptoms include distortion, necrosis and/or colour break. The latter is generally associated with a reduction of pigmentation in the central areas of the lesion with an intensification of pigmentation around the margins of the lesion. Unfortunately, the symptoms produced by some fungal infections and by some insects can be similar to those caused by virus infection. In addition, not all flowers on an inflorescence may show symptoms of virus infection and both the incidence and severity of symptoms may vary between flowerings.

How are Viruses Spread? For ORSV and CyMV and many other viruses, ***the only known method of transmission from one plant to another is by mechanical means.*** Most commonly, this occurs through contaminated hands and the use of contaminated cutting tools during repotting, dividing, leaf-trimming or flower removal. However, given the stability of viruses, infection can occur through the reuse of contaminated pots, hangers, stakes or clips or via contamination of potting surfaces or potting media. Transmission can also occur through contaminated water or from plants rubbing against each other. A frequent cause of transmission is via infected hands. OFV is known to be transmitted by mites. Other viruses are known to be transmitted by both mechanical means and by insects, including thrips and aphids. It is therefore advisable to maintain a high level of insect and mite control for all plants within the orchid house.

Control. ***There is no known cure for virus infection.*** Since cure is not an option, controlling infection depends entirely on prevention. Ideally therefore, all plants used to establish or add to the collection must be virus free and must be kept virus free throughout their life. This is not an easy task given that most hobby growers are either unaware of the presence of viruses in orchids or do not take sufficient care to avoid spreading viruses. In reality, the best that can be done is to be aware of the problem and to practise cultural methods that are known to reduce the risk of infection. The first step is to establish the collection based on plants that are derived from reputable sources, ideally, from sources that test for, and guarantee, freedom from viruses. Unfortunately, most hobby collections begin with divisions of old plants, often from old collections. These are precisely the sorts of plants most likely to be infected and to not show obvious signs of infection. However, regardless of their origins, all plants must be considered as potential virus carriers and must be treated accordingly. Any plants that show signs of possible virus infection must be isolated immediately and advice sought as to followup procedures. Any tool likely to contact any part of the plant during manipulative procedures (eg. tweezers used for weeding, secateurs used for dividing) must be sterilised before being used on that plant. The most practical method is to immerse and thoroughly soak all tools in a saturated solution (ie. crystals remaining undissolved) of trisodium phosphate (TSP). To ensure effectiveness, the cutting tool should be thoroughly cleaned under running water, immersed for at least ten minutes in the TSP and washed under running water before use. Tools will not rust if left in TSP and hence should remain in the TSP when not in use. Ideally, two or three pairs of secateurs should be kept in the TSP and used in rotation. TSP is highly alkaline, strips the protein coat and thus deactivates any virus particles. Care must be taken when using TSP for although it is not caustic, repeated exposure can result in contact dermatitis. For this and reasons of cleanliness, it is always

advisable to use disposable gloves when repotting. Similarly, if pots, hangers, stakes or clips are reused, they must be sterilised before use. This can be done by following the same procedure as for tools. TSP is stable but is deactivated by organic matter. Hence, any and all objects must be thoroughly cleaned of organic matter before being immersed in the TSP. Hands are highly likely to become contaminated when handling virused plants and must therefore be thoroughly washed with soap and water between plants. If washing facilities are not readily accessible, an alcohol-based hand steriliser is a convenient substitute. It should be a constant, frequently used companion whenever you are handling plants, either yours or those belonging to others.

Cut surfaces of virused orchids leak cell contents that contain millions of infective virus particles. The particles will contaminate potting surfaces and hence any other plants that come in contact with those surfaces. To avoid this problem, the potting surface must be covered with clean, fresh newspaper for each and every plant and discarded, along with any plant debris, after a single use. Likewise, hands will become contaminated and in turn will contaminate any plant or medium that they contact. Hands must therefore be thoroughly washed between plants and where feasible, the medium should be added to the pot with a sterile ladle. This is impracticable for sphagnum moss. Instead, after washing your hands and before the potting process begins, set aside the amount of sphagnum expected to be used for the particular plant. This avoids handling and possible contamination of the main bulk of the medium. A sure and certain way to spread infection is to dip newly potted plants into the same solution of fungicide, fertilizer, water or any other solution. Any infected plant will contaminate the solution with millions of virus particles that can then enter the cut surfaces of other, previously uninfected plants. Fungicides do not kill viruses.

Testing for Viruses. Given all of the uncertainties in visual identification of virus-infected plants, how can the virus status of a plant be guaranteed? The only feasible method available to most hobby growers is to have suspect plants tested for virus infection by a reputable commercial organisation eg. TASAG ELISA. Samples can be screened for ORSV, CyMV and OFV by Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) for about the same cost as that of the plant. Screening for a wider range of virus types by TEM is more expensive but, as for the tests for the common viruses, may be a small price to pay to help reduce the risk of contaminating additional plants. Because of costs, testing by ELISA (a serological test) is generally uneconomic and it is far more practical to discard and destroy any suspect plant rather than have it tested by this method. There is a real role for Orchid Societies to assist members in identifying suspect plants and having them tested. We can all expect to benefit if the incidence of virus infection is reduced. Remember, at shows in particular, our plants are very likely to come into contact with either the hands or plants of others. Can we be confident that viruses will not be transferred?

Friendii.

References.

Freitas-Astua (2003). Orchid Viruses. The Bulletin of the American Orchid Society.
Orchid virus diseases in Taiwan and their control strategies. (Google).
Tasag elisa Price Schedule for 2013-14.



Ellie's Corner

Welcome to the February edition of Ellie's Corner. It was great to catch up with everyone at our first meeting for 2014.

The Maunders told me that they had a wonderful time over Christmas. Graham's son Shane and two teenage

granddaughters April and Crystal (Shane's children) came to Queensland from Broadfort (an hour's drive from Melbourne) to spend their first Christmas ever with Graham and Maxine. They all drove to the Gold Coast and took in Movie World, Sea World and other attractions and called in to Gympie and Bundaberg to visit relatives. They had so much fun and really enjoyed this special time together.

Jan and Terry Connolly travelled to Armidale NSW prior to Christmas and spent time with Jan's mother who is 91 years old and has a rare form of cancer. She is a resident of Autumn Lodge. Jan and Terry spent time with her and they were able to have Christmas Lunch together. Terry told me he spent some time talking to some elderly gentlemen who didn't have any visitors. Terry said he talked about "all sorts of things", including orchids, coal mining, and being a policeman. (I bet the old gentlemen all enjoyed Terry's company). Jan and Terry also saw Terry's brother Neil who lives in Armidale.

Our love and prayers go to Marilyn and Jeff Bloxsom on the passing of Marilyn's dad, Collin Thomas Page on 28 January aged 89 years. He had lived a long and full life and family members thanked Marilyn for the devotion and care she had given their dad. He was a person with many interests and loved to play the mouth organ. The family discovered he had 22 mouth organs in his possession when they cleaned out his room.

Alan and Lyn Mikkelsen were members of our Society some time ago and it was lovely to welcome them back recently. I first met Lyn during the 1970's when I was Parish Secretary at St. Paul's Cathedral and Lyn managed the Vanity Frock Salon (owned by Alec George) opposite my office in William Street for about 25 years. Lyn told me I was "her special customer", and when new boxes of frocks would come in, she would phone me and I would go over after work and try some on. We had great fun and I nearly always bought something! Lyn told me that, (after a period of retirement) she was asked back to Georges in William Street, selling clothes, which she is thoroughly enjoying. Alan and Lyn both enjoy growing orchids and other plants.

Daphne O'Brien's husband Ron died on 18 November aged 68 after a long illness. Six weeks prior to his death it was discovered he had a very aggressive lung cancer. They joined our Society about 9 years ago but Ron was too ill to attend meetings. Daphne said they both enjoyed reading our Newsletters. Our thoughts and prayers are with Daphne and her family at this tragic time.

I have been talking to Sandra Rowcliffe today (6 February) and she was very excited and delighted to tell me that she and her husband Michael had officially sold Scottvale Park Squash Courts that very day! She has relocated her Natural Way Weight Loss Clinic to Ford Street (just behind the Northside Plaza). Michael will continue his role as an electrician at Q. Mag, Parkhurst. They will now both be working 9 to 5 instead of the erratic hours required to run Scottvale. Sandra is looking forward to spending more time with orchid activities. I am sure that we all wish them well in the future.

Jan and John Hogan travelled to Mackay to visit their daughter Jessica and her husband Raj for Christmas, and to await the birth of Jessica and Raj's first baby. A little girl arrived on 11

January and she is named Lily Janette (after Jan) .The proud grand parents think she is just adorable. Love and congratulations go to you all.

Sharyn Frisch sent me the following e-mail of their start to 2014 for all to share.

“Just after New Year, John & Sharyn, along with their daughter Shelley, flew to Nadi, Fiji, then took the ferry to Octopus Resort on Waya Island in the Yasawa group. This was the venue for their son Ashley and his bride Katie's, small & intimate wedding. Shelley was one of the two bridesmaids for Katie, and Sharyn and the bride's mother participated in the ceremony as well. John and Ashley collected timber from the beach and with palm leaves and gingers, created a beautiful floral archway under which Katie & Ashley said their vows. The dinner for just 22 of their very close family & friends, was on the deck right at the high tide mark and that evening there was a glorious sunset. Over the next 2 weeks an entourage of about 14 followed the couple island hopping and enjoying hiking, snorkelling, & kayaking, but best of all Sharyn & Ashley went on a shark feeding dive where they watched up to 30 X 2 1/2 to 3 metre sharks (bull, lemon, tawny reef sharks, grey reef sharks, black tips & white tips) just a few feet away. They enjoyed it so much that they went back for a second dive the next day!

They were home in Rockhampton only a few hours when Sharyn tripped over her suitcase, falling and breaking her shoulder in 3 places. Fortunately there is no bone displacement on the articulating surface so no surgery is required.

Two days later they were due in Townsville, where on Australia Day at Ashley's & Katie's acreage at Nome, (just South of Townsville) there was a wedding 're-enactment' and barbecue reception for their much wider circle of friends and family.

Ashley & Katie (originally from Colorado), last night (5th Feb) left for Penang, the first leg of their year long worldwide travel adventure. Sharyn & John plan to rendezvous with them somewhere in Europe about May.

Meanwhile John is enjoying the new barra fishing season while Sharyn feels sorry for herself knitting broken bones!!?” Thank you Sharyn!

Happy Birthday to those celebrating in March: Clarry Smith 6th: Helen Hilse and Di Cornale 7th: Don Meier and Richard Cornale 8th: Gwen Breingan 10th: Jeff

Bloxsom, Lynne Mann and Maxine Maunder 11th: Bob Lakey and Theo Ledwy 12th: Karen Williamson and Sandra Rowcliffe 13th: Rae Cowie 18th: Terry Dean 21st: Alan Mikkelsen 23rd: Fred Rosel and Kevin Logan 24th: Daphne O'Brien 27th: Gloria Wakefield 29th.

Till next time. My love and prayers.

Ellie Dean

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+and 'Lunchtime+each day)

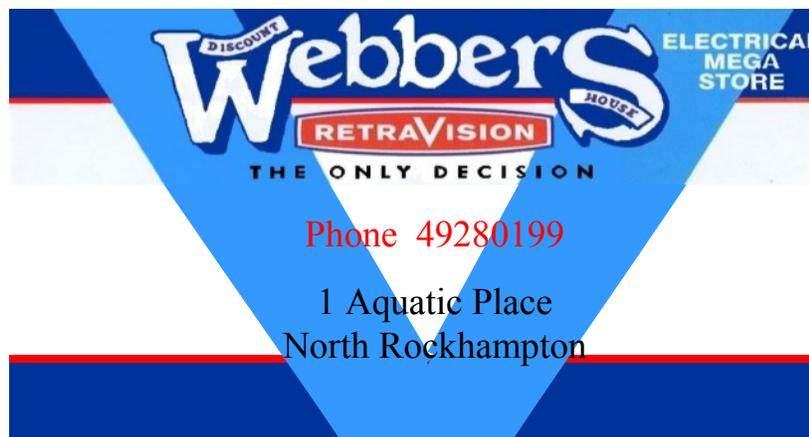
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Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding December) at St Stephens Presbyterian Church Hall, Burnett Street, Nth. Rockhampton. Meetings commence at 7.30pm and plants must be tabled by 7.15pm

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 2014

February 22 Boyne.Tannum Field days (Full Weekend)
March 29 Nambour Autumn Show (Closed Show)
April 5,6. Boyne Tannum Orchid Expo
April 11,12 Sunshine Coast OS Caloundra
April 12,13. Rockhampton Autumn Show
May 3,4. Gympie Garden Expo
May 9,11 Bundaberg OS Show
June 7 Rockhampton convenes STOCQ meeting
September 13,14 Rockhampton Spring Show
September 26,27. Glasshouse COS Show

2014 TQOC Atherton
2015 TQOC Mackay
2016 STOCQ Orchidfest