

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

Newsletter June 2015

PO Box 5949

Red Hill Rockhampton 4701

Founded 1955

Editors notes

Wow, where is this year going? We are already half way through and just three more months to our Spring Show. I am finding a lot of my orchids are profusely flowering at the moment and I am just wondering if they will be up to it again in September. Quite a lot of my Phalaenopsis Orchids are in flower, luckily there are still new spikes sprouting, so fingers crossed. Some of my cold region cymbidiums now have flower spikes due to misting them each afternoon during December and January, really looking forward to them flowering, missed them last year with our relocating from our previous residence and not having the time to do this requirement.(12)

Most growers would have now covered their green houses, and yet the weather is very changeable with lots of warm days and the occasional cold night. In this edition I will continue Ellie's Corner May article which was shortened due to space constraints last month with the inclusion of the results from our recent Show in April.

Container Gardens from our April Show



AOC – TQOC Conference in Mackay

Sunday 20th to Tuesday 22nd September
Some seats still available on coach. Cost is just
\$260.00 per member (twin share)
Includes evening meals and breakfasts, coach
travel and accommodation.
If you wish to attend you must notify
Jeff Bloxsom (President) ASAP

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

The closing date for articles to be included in the next newsletter are to be received by the 10th of July; articles received after that date will be included in the following month. Ed.

Orchid Society Store

For all your orchid supplies.

Pots many & various as well as many different potting mixes.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

*Barry and Faye English:
Phone 4922 2637*

FOR MEMBERS ONLY
*Closed Thursday and lunchtime
12 – 2pm.*

(Please note: This work is carried out 7 days a week voluntarily)



Sponsors of the Rockhampton Orchid Society

Judges for the Meeting

Terry Dean, Jeff Glover,

Bernard Hilde.

Assistant – Marg Handley

NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday. 23/06/15
at 7.30pm**

**Plants to be tabled by
7.15pm**

President: Jeff Bloxson_ 4928 6582
bloxsom123@optusnet.com.au

Vice President: Peter Jenkinson_ 0476 232 081
pe.oni@hotmail.com

Secretary: Trish Craig 4922 6621
rockyorchidsoc@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bill Richardson_ 4927 5759
william.r@optusnet.com

Committee:

Jeff Glover	4928 7701
Moyna Richardson	4927 5759
Jenny Moore	4923 7234
Bob Lakey	4928 8093
Terry Dean	4928 2278
Ellie Dean	4928 2278

New Grower's Leader: Keith Marsden 4928 2752

Public Relations: Ellie Dean 4928 2278

Technical Advisers: John Frisch / Jeff Glover

Registrar: Terry Dean 4928 2278

Provider: Maxine Maunder 4928 3212

Door Monitors/ Hostesses: Ellie Dean / Lorraine Weaver

Librarians: Jack Martin / Peter Shelton

Raffle Plant Caretaker: Terry Dean

Property Officers: B & F English

Editor: Sandra Rowcliffe Home 4936 4040
sypsli@bigpond.net.au Mobile 0438 130 360

Assistant Editor: Jenny Moore 4923 7234
jkmooore53@gmail.com

Webmaster: Bob Lakey 4928 8093
r.lakey@bigpond.com

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

General Meeting Tuesday 26th May 2015

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

New Members: Brigette Muller and Bill Gonch

Visitors: Nil

Lucky Number: 118 Graham and Maxine Maunder

Minutes of previous monthly meeting were approved as correct and accurate.

Moved Craig Schultz Seconded Ellie Dean Carried

Correspondence:

IN Newsletters from Nightcliff Orchid Soc., Blackwater & District Orchid & Foliage Club Inc., Pioneer River Orchid & Plant Assn., Mid-Murray Orchid Club Inc., Caboolture Orchid Soc. Inc., Nambour Orchid News, Townsville Orchid Soc. Inc., The Orchid Society of N.S.W., Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Soc., The Sunshine Coast Orchid Soc. Caloundra Inc., Boyne-Tannum Orchid & Foliage Soc.

Invitation to attend 2015 Field Day for the Bowen ORCHID & Foliage Soc. Inc.

Notice of meeting of STOCQ & OQI in Nambour on Saturday 20th June 2015.

Membership renewal from Dot Rebetzke. L & M Puckering, Mike & Phyllis Henderson.

Membership renewal to Orchids Queensland.

Invoice from Big Colour Works – print May newsletters.

OUT Nil

Moved Trish Craig Seconded Sue Eggleshaw Carried

Treasurer's Report:

Read and moved Bill Richardson Seconded Pat March Carried

New Growers: Keith Marsden thanked Ray and Gay Bills for hosting the last new growers at their home. The next new growers will be hosted by Graham and Maxine Maunder on 30th May.

General business:

Mackay trip: members travelling to Mackay in their own vehicle will be subsidised on a twin share basis to the same extent as those travelling on the bus. The secretary will email Gladstone, Boyne-Tannum and Bundaberg societies to see if any of their members wish to come on the bus if there are spaces available.

The STOCQ Conference (Diamond Festival of Orchids) next year will be held at Nambour on the Sunshine Coast on 11th & 12th June 2016.

Cent Sale: June Shelton has volunteered to help if we wish to hold a cent sale this year. June needs to book the Hall as soon as possible. Sunday 18th October was suggested.

At the next General Meeting Jeff Glover will do a presentation on his trip to Taiwan.

Plant Commentary: Jeff Glover gave a very informative talk on the orchids tabled at the meeting.

Lucky Exhibitors: Peter and Toni Jenkinson

General Raffle: B Hilsie, P Rankin, M Handley, T Craig, M Richardson, R Bills, C Schultz and K Marsden.

The next Committee meeting will be held at Jenny Moore's home on Tuesday 2nd June.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Next meeting 23rd June 2015

Jeff Blossom (President)

Trish Craig (Secretary)

Monthly Competition Results – May 2015

(Plants tabled: Advanced 39; Novice 19)

Judges Choice

<i>Brs. Rex X Brat. Goodale's Gift</i>	P&T Jenkinson
<i>Cyc. cooperii</i>	J&N Glover
<i>Clo. White Magic 'Ellie'</i>	T&E Dean

Popular Vote, Advanced.

Cattleya over 75mm	<i>Rlc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon'</i>	B&N Lakey
Cattleya up to 75mm	<i>Bct. Shannon Takamatsu</i>	M.Richardson
Vandaceous over 60mm	<i>V. Somsri Sunset</i>	T&E Dean
Vandaceous up to 60mm	<i>V. Viraphandhu 'Cherry Red'</i>	T&E Dean
Dendrobium	<i>Den. Fran's Lady 'Hildos'</i>	T&M Handley
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. Red Wizard</i>	T&E Dean
Phalaenopsis	<i>Phal. Chian Xen Piano 'CX334'</i>	B&N Lakey
Oncidiinae	<i>Brs. Rex X Brat. Goodale's Gift</i>	P&T Jenkinson
Species	<i>Cyc. cooperii</i>	J&N Glover
Miscellaneous	<i>Clo. White Magic 'Ellie'</i>	T&E Dean

Novice.

Cattleya	<i>C. Gila Wilderness 'Cactus Flower'</i>	S.Rowcliffe
Dendrobium	<i>Den. Burbank Gift</i>	P.March
	=(<i>Den. Chao Praya Smile X Den. Chao Praya Gem</i>)	
Miscellaneous	<i>Clowesia russelliana X Ctsm. Orchidglade</i>	S.Rowcliffe



Cyc. Cooperii



Clo. White Magic 'Ellie'



Brs. Rex X Brat. Goodale's Gift

New Growers Report.

On Saturday the 30th May the New Growers were invited by Graham and Maxine Maunder to hold their monthly meeting at their home. This is an invitation the members look forward to each year and everyone who was able to attend had a pleasant afternoon.

As always the afternoon started off with a look over the gardens and orchid collection. Graham and Maxine have a very large back yard with an interesting garden setting all in order and housing their orchids in a number of green houses. A lot of work for them to keep up with, they had it looking spot on for us to enjoy. Many thanks Graham and Maxine for the pleasure.

Afternoon tea was next giving the members a chance to enjoy each other's company before the start of the meeting. The trouble plant discussion was short as we had only one member with a concern. Graham then addressed the members on how he and Maxine got starting with the growing of orchids.

We then discussed the basic repotting in preparation for our repotting workshop to be held next meeting. This meeting will be held at the home of Sandra and Michael Rowcliffe at 53 Constance Avenue on Saturday the 27th of June. The Society will be supplying the potting mix and pots as in the past. I request members not to bring any overgrown and/or difficult plants as they will take up too much time in the afternoon.

My sincere thanks again to Graham and Maxine, and to everyone who helped in making the meeting enjoyable especially to all who donated to the afternoon's raffle and helped in making the afternoon the success that it was.

Remember the next meeting will be held at the home of Sandra and Michael Rowcliffe at 53 Constance Avenue, Olive Estate starting at 2.00pm on Saturday 27th June. The usual plate, folding chair and raffle donation if possible.

Keith Marsden

Large Displays from Autumn Show – Two displays tied as the Winner
T & E Dean - K & R Smith and P & T Jenkinson



Terry & Ellie Dean



Rosie & Ken Smith and Peter & Toni Jenkinson



Bob & Nat Lakey

Taiwan International Orchid Show by Jeff Glover

My wife Norma and I recently had the great pleasure of visiting this year's Taiwan International Orchid Show. We accompanied Max and Susan Rawlings from M&S Orchids of Sarina, Queensland. Max and Susan have been making an annual pilgrimage for the last six years, where they have developed a wide range of friends both amongst the Taiwan orchid community and likewise, with many of their fellow registrants.

Max Rawlings with vendors Wilson and Jane Chang, who were setting up in the Business Hall



These registrants in the main come from the USA, Europe, Japan and Australia as do most of the international judges, many of whom have similarly, also become yearly devotees. The majority of the judging team are naturally from Taiwan and members of the Taiwan Orchid Growers Association. The judging is completed on the Thursday prior to the show opening to the public the next day, which then runs until the following weekend. While the TOGA system is slightly different to our AOC procedures in the way the first, second and third placing's are derived; it is very similar in most other aspects. A highlight for me was to be part of the judging team that chose the orchid that ultimately claimed the grand champion award.

This year's show the 11th since its inception in 2004, was held in March from the 7th - 16th. To say it is a grand affair is not to do it justice. Last year the 10th anniversary show saw numbers attending go close to 300,000 and this year's figures were expected to be similar. A display of huge proportions it certainly is; however, it is also a showcase for the Taiwan Orchid Industry, which in itself is a highly organized and proud commercial enterprise. Over the years via government and private company sponsorship Taiwan's orchid industry has developed to be arguably the World's premier location for both commercial orchid growers and collectors alike.

The show is held in the heart of the main location for orchid growing in Taiwan at a former Sugar Plantation site near Tainan City in the island county's south.



This huge specimen of Phal. schilleriana won Grand Champion Orchid

It is a massive site divided into grids where purpose built high –tech greenhouses, storage facilities and laboratories are built over many hectares all with connecting streets. These are in the main full of Phalaenopsis, which is the staple orchid on which Taiwan’s orchid exports are founded. We visited OX Orchids at one of these facilities and could see workers in the huge greenhouses caring for the Phalaenopsis seedlings and others packing flowering orchids for shipping.

The quality of the Phalaenopsis grown for the flower trade is very impressive; however, the plants exhibited for judging can only be described as outstanding and really have to be seen to appreciate their excellence. Exhibition type Phalaenopsis with multiple spikes with 15 or more flowers per spike was a common sight. While in the novelty and miniature section 30 flowers or more on multiple spikes was not uncommon. The afore mentioned greenhouses really are high–tech in that all the plants’ requirements can be monitored and provided with ease and the results of this level of control is shown by the quality of the plants produced. Mechanical roof shades and grow-lights automatically control light-levels while huge fans coupled with ‘water walls’ act like giant evaporative coolers to maintain temperature and humidity. It was quite evident that this purpose built equipment is a key part of the Taiwan orchid industry.

This was certainly confirmed when we visited the Business/Trade display, which is held in one of these huge greenhouses close to the exhibition halls. It is converted for this purpose while the show is in progress. Benches are taken out carpets are laid and portable air-conditioners and trade booths installed.



An example of the quality of the Phalaenopsis presented for judging.



A high-tech commercial greenhouse full of Phalaenopsis seedlings

Here all manner of equipment from secateurs to shipping containers are displayed and orchid nursery owners and managers conduct the commercial aspect of the show. Recent shows have resulted in upwards of 10 millions US dollars in commercial contracts being clinched and it was expected this would be the case with this show as well.



A shipping container purpose built to convey Phalaenopsis to Europe and the USA



Miniature and novelty Phalaenopsis on the judging bench.

The orchid display section is staged over two halls and the surrounding grounds and minor pavilions which house cafés and food stalls and is also where market type traders display their wares. The first hall houses the massed displays and accentuates the theme of each show, while the second is the judging hall. This year the theme was 'The Moment'. Amongst sweeping vistas of thousands of Phalaenopsis and supporting orchids such as Paphiopedilums, Cattleyas and Dendrobiums, waterfalls cascaded and mood lighting certainly captured 'the moment' for orchid and nature lovers alike. Everywhere amongst this overwhelming riot of colour attendees could be seen taking group photos and partaking in the almost obligatory current craze of talking 'selfies'.



A waterfall complements the displays in the main pavilion.

Amongst the displays was one featuring the native orchids of Taiwan. It was quite surprising to see just how many orchids are endemic to this island country but when one considers its geography it is understandable as the eastern half is very mountainous and humid. Phalaenopsis, Paphiopedilum, Cymbidium, Bulbophyllum and Dendrobium are the main genera represented. Perhaps the most widely recognized is the Negro-Histule group of dendrobium, also known as the Formosan type dendrobium group. 'Formosa' of course, being the previous colonial name by which Taiwan was once known. Many of these have been hybridized and perhaps the most notable is Den Dawn Maree a primary hybrid between Den. formosum and Den crenatum.



A typical sales booth at the TIOS

The sales hall can only be described as a 'mecca' for local orchid collectors with over 100 booths and a source of great frustration for overseas visitors especially Australians; who probably have the strictest plant quarantine regulations in the world. As a result, the larger growers of note in Taiwan such as Jumbo Orchids, OX Orchids, and In Charm, know instinctively to lead Australian customers to the flask section of their booth. However, for those from countries with less strict quarantine laws and for the locals there is a myriad of orchid plants on offer to choose from. These range from orchids in flower to 50mm seedlings. The range of hard to procure (in Australia anyway) Paphiopediliums was the stand out for me.

These included Multiflorals and Parvisepalum (Chinese type) both with species and primary hybrids relatively freely available and very keenly priced. Most were on average half price or less of what you would pay in Australia and that's if they could even be obtained.



Multifloral Paphs were well represented in judging and on the sales booth

Likewise, the number of large flowering cattleyas for sale was very impressive. Many of the stands also included associated orchid growing paraphernalia such as pots, fertilizers, mounting blocks and stakes and it was interesting to see the different styles and techniques used. Of special interest was the demonstration of how to stake Phalaenopsis.



A sales booth at the Tainan City market. Pick of the stall for \$10 AD.

We also took time out to go to the flower markets in Tainan City and in the capital city Taipei, in the country's north. While the market in Taipei was a commercial enterprise split into a potted plant section, which was dominated by orchids, and a separate hall devoted to the cut flower trade, it was evident that orchids are certainly a part of life in Taiwan. In contrast, the market in Tainan City was a typical weekend market with an accent on plants, bonsai and local craft, yet also dominated by orchid stalls.

It can be seen that innovation and sponsored commerce has over the last decades certainly placed Taiwan at the forefront of the world's orchids industry. This continued innovation was on display at the TIOS with the development of a new shape Phalaenopsis. It has a wide lip and is along the lines of the pansy-type hard-cane dendrobium of a decade or so ago. While not available to the collecting public yet, the developers told me it would be introduced worldwide in a couple of years. I am sure it will renew interest in Phalaenopsis and create a temporary headache for the judges once they appear at shows. So this is a heads up for what is on the way and an exclusive for Orchids Australia readers!



The future of Phalaenopsis, the next generation of breeding on display at TIOS 2015

As previously noted it is estimated that visitor numbers at this year's Taiwan International Orchid Show will be in excess of 300,000, a very healthy crowd in anyone's estimation. However, at the Lantern Festival, further north at Taichung which celebrates the end of Chinese New Year festivities, which we also attended, we later found out that 1.5 million people had visited on the Saturday that we were there. But that is another story, so if you are into excessive proportions and an orchid tragic the Taiwan International Orchid Show should certainly be on your bucket list.

PHOTOS FROM APRIL SHOW





Ellie's Corner

Hello Everyone. Welcome to Ellie's Corner. First up is my May news continuation, which was not printed last month due to space restrictions.

Karen Carr broke her foot just after Easter and was in plaster for over two weeks. She is now out of plaster but has a moon boot for a further two weeks. I thought Karen was absent from the Show because she and Peter were supposed to be holidaying in Sydney. How wrong can one be!! She is now back at work and our thoughts and best wishes are with her.

I rang Ray Bills for his Birthday today (6 May) and he told me he and Gay are off to spend a night at Agnes Waters and then off to Bundaberg for their Orchid Show and to see their daughter Karen.

Jan and John Hogan have 5 dogs and showed them at Bundaberg over Easter. Their little dachshund Tamby won a First and Max (another dachshund) got a Reserve. There were over 600 dogs entered in the Show and panel of judges included 5 international judges.

I received an e-mail from Sharyn Frisch telling me about the wonderful holiday she and her daughter Shelley recently shared. They went to Singapore and Koh Phi Phi Island, Thailand. In Singapore they got around on the MRT (underground train). They enjoyed having breakfast with the Orang-utans at the Singapore Zoo and in the evening, a city lights tour with dinner along the Singapore River at Clarke Quay for Shelley's Birthday. The famous Raffles Hotel and the obligatory Singapore Sling were part of this tour! River tours at night were wonderful and the Light Show in the Gardens by the Bay were nothing short of amazing. The huge Cloud Dome and the Flowers Dome were beyond belief. Then followed a great flight to Phuket and then 2 hours ferry trip to Koh Phi Phi Islands. They enjoyed a round island tour so much that a couple of days later they hired a long-tail boat to themselves for the day and enjoyed beaches and snorkeling without the crowds. All in all, a wonderful trip. As Sharyn says she and Shelley are not only mother and daughter – they are best friends!

Now for our June news - Our Society continues to grow with new members joining. We welcome Frank Foley who is now retired and previously worked at the Morning Bulletin for 35 years. His wife Allyn's uncle passed away and they inherited his orchids. Their friend Margaret Warner invited Frank to come along to our meeting and he became a member. Allyn still works at the Ten Pin Bowling in the kiosk. They have two children, Justin and Amanda, and 7 grandchildren. Allyn celebrated her 60th Birthday on 14th March and their 40th Wedding Anniversary was on 15th March. Their son Justin was born on their Wedding Anniversary in 1979. What a special time of year mid-March is for their family.

Ray and Margaret Stegemann recently joined our Society. They used to visit our Shows twice a year. Margaret became friendly with Marilyn Bloxom and Sharyn Frisch at the Embroiderers' Group. Ray and Margaret have been married for over 55 years and have three children, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Ray told me he was an only child and Margaret was number ten of ten children!! They have a small orchid collection and are looking to acquiring more orchids and gaining more knowledge.

Tony March (son of our dear member Pat March) recently joined. He said his love of orchids (and plants in general) was inspired by his mother. Tony and his wife Jodee have two children, a son aged two and a half, and a daughter aged five and a half. I have written previously in Ellie's Corner about their little son Nathaniel. He has received two cochlear ear implants. This has made a remarkable difference to his hearing and his speaking. Tony said it is a miracle what has happened so far, and our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Nathaniel and his family.

Another two new members are Brigette Muller and Bill Gonch. They bought Bev Mc Arthur's orchid house and orchids including the potting bench – so we now have two more orchid growers in our midst! Bill is retired. Brigette runs Ernie's Pet Home Care and she looks after dogs and cats and other animals (including chooks). I was very impressed with Brigette's passion for animals as I share her great love of them. Bill and Brigette have 2 dogs, 4 cats, plus fish. Way to go!!

Happy 60th Birthday to Sue Eggleshaw who celebrated this auspicious occasion on 13 May. She and David earlier had lunch with Sue's beloved mother Avis at the Nursing Home. This was a very special time for Sue. A Celebration Dinner was held at the Masonic Club that evening, with family and friends and a great time was had by all. Sue said the food was delicious. The next day Sue and David left for a camping holiday at Woodgate for ten days with other family members. They all had lots of fun in the great outdoors.

A very enjoyable week was spent in Brisbane in May by Jill and Don Howes when they celebrated two happy family events. Firstly, their daughter Kristy, who has worked in London for 8 years, moved back to Australia, which thrilled the rest of the family. Secondly, their daughter Jodie turned Forty the same week! Consequently two parties were held to celebrate these events....Jodie's being a Surprise Party at the Punjabi Palace Restaurant and Kristy's being a day-long welcome Home gathering at Jodie and her husband Rod's home. Both girls had a ball at these events, with guests coming from Cairns, Melbourne, Rocky and Bundaberg as well as many family and friends from Brisbane. At present Jill and Don are being busily entertained by their three year old Granddaughter while her parents are overseas visiting Italy and cruising the Croatia Coast. Good times!

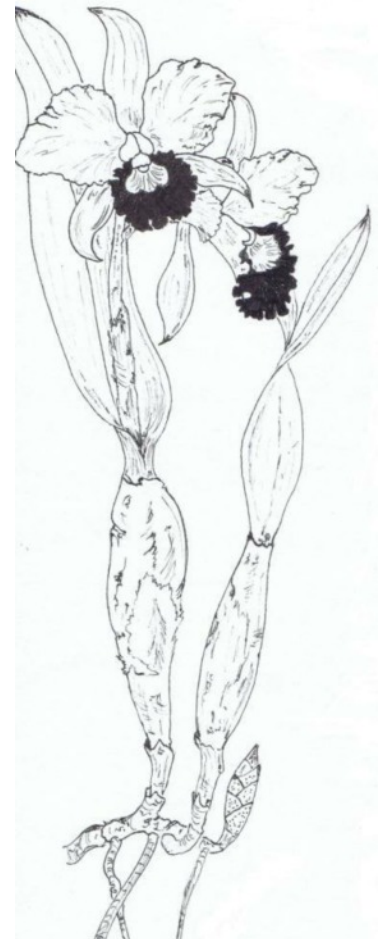
Bye till next time. My love and prayers.

Ellie Dean

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PO Box 5949
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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 2015 Orchid Diary

July 3rd to 5th – Caboolture OS Show
July 24th & 25th – Toowoomba Conference & Orchid Show
August 7th & 8th – Maroochydore OS Show
August 28th & 29th – Nambour OS Show
September 10th to 12th – Maryborough DOS Show
September 5th & 6th – Rockhampton Spring Show
September 16th to 23rd – TQOC & AOC Conference
and Show Mackay
September 25th & 26th – Glasshouse OS Show
October 3rd & 4th – Bribie Orchid & Foliage Show
(open benched)