

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

Newsletter - November 2020

P O Box 5949

Red Hill Rockhampton 4701

Founded 1955

Editors notes

This is just a quick newsletter to give you details of our upcoming Special Meeting on 10th November and our Christmas Dinner on 5th December. Following is a notice from our president for your information.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS – FUTURE EVENTS OF OUR SOCIETY

I know it has been a very difficult year for everyone, what with all the COVID 19 restrictions happening. As you all know we have not been able to hold any meetings since the early part of this year and of course no Orchid Shows.

However, with the COVID restrictions now easing, we will be able to hold a General Meeting in November whilst still observing the required regulations for COVID. You will be required to sign a second register at the door with your details, and all seats and tables must be sprayed and sanitised after the meeting. There will be hand sanitiser at door to use on Entry and Exit. Any one not feeling well or has a cold or flu please do not attend as you will not be allowed to enter the hall.

As we have had no plant competition for the year, the committee have decided to make this meeting a 'Special Meeting'. It will be rather an informal format with a catch-up and more of a social theme. **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE to TUESDAY 10TH November** not the usual 4th Tuesday of the month. We have changed this to give us a little more time between this meeting and our Christmas Party on the 5th December.

As we will not be holding our usual plant competition on the night, we have decided to hold a once only popular vote plant completion so we can still have some orchids on display at the meeting. If you wish to enter please bring some orchids on the night with a restriction of **3 Plants per member** being in place. The THREE PLANTS that receive the most votes will receive a prize on the evening. All plants will be tabled with a relevant number as per usual and recorded on a plant sheet. There will be no Advanced or Novice sections, just all in together. There will also be a much larger raffle for the evening as we are a little raffle starved I think.

As well, could members who can, bring along a plate for supper, just to make the supper a little better and more social as there will not be a lot of formal matters to discuss.

Our annual **Christmas Dinner** will be going ahead as planned. **Saturday 5th December at the Frenchville Club.**

Details are still as published in the previous newsletter. As in previous years your particular table names and numbers will also be required by this Meeting in November. The Club will be subsidising the party and your cost will be \$25 a person. Preferred Payment is at the Nov meeting but you will be able to pay at the door on the night.

As there will not be any official presentations on the night, we hope to arrange some sort of activities to fill in the night. The dinner will be a Christmas Smorgasbord with pre-dinner drinks and savories served in the foyer. Commencement 6.30pm. Due to COVID regulations all food & drinks will be served by the staff. Fruit punch will be available at the bar. Table placement will again be displayed at the door. Our usual Extra-large multi draw raffle will also be held. So put your name down as there are restricted numbers due to COVID regulations.

Unless the COVID restrictions change; the society will be commencing the New Year with our General meeting to be held the fourth Tuesday of the month – 26th January 2021. So many things have changed around us and all over the world, but I hope you have all managed to cope and stay safe. Let's hope for better times ahead; I would love to see as many members as possible at the special meeting and at the Xmas party, but if you do not feel safe to attend meetings as yet we understand.

Jeff Blossom President

Rockhampton Orchid Society - Orchid Store

Property Officers - Faye & Barry English
110 Murray Street Rockhampton 4700

PHONE 4922 2637
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Closed Thursdays & Daily 12pm to 2pm

**LARGE RANGE OF ORCHID SUPPLIES
FOR ROSI MEMBERS ONLY**

SALES BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



R.O.S.I MEETING DATES 2020

<u>January</u>	General Meeting Tuesday 28 th
<u>February</u> 25 th	AGM & Gen.Meeting Tuesday Growers Group Saturday 29 th
<u>March</u>	CANCELLED
<u>April</u>	CANCELLED
<u>May</u>	CANCELLED
<u>June</u>	CANCELLED
<u>July</u>	CANCELLED
<u>August</u>	CANCELLED
<u>September</u>	CANCELLED
<u>October</u>	CANCELLED
<u>November</u>	Special Meeting 10 th November

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CHRISTMAS DINNER – SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER
FRENCHVILLE SPORTS CLUB

(Please note it is a Saturday night, NOT the usual Sunday Night)

Suggested tips for new growers. (reprint of article from ROSI January 2016 Newsletter)

1. If you purchase a plant anywhere other than reputable nurseries ensure they are disease and pest free. Scale, mites and other nasties are visible so you can offload them; it's what's in the mix that you can't see that can present an ongoing problem in your bush house. A bucket of insecticide in which you can dunk your pot will bring most to the squashable surface. Do not however be too heavy handed with the dunk or you will float out a lot of loose mix. (Wear protective gloves) Isolation from your established plants is a good idea until you are absolutely sure the nasties (if any) have all departed.
2. When you bring "new" plants, to keep your watering regime on a level scale they need to be repotted into your standard mix, which of course can differ with different genera. Repot when your plant is in active growth, which can be any time of the year with hybrids and a specific time with species.
3. In your bush house; have a bin (with a lid) so all the fallen leaves and spent flowers, along with their stems, which you always cut off with sterile cutters can be placed daily.
4. A plant dies in the pot – get it out of the bush house! It may have died from a disease you have missed in your daily rounds. If you have a plant on the suss side, take it out and have it checked by the advanced growers at your next new growers meeting, or let it take its chances outside.
5. After you discard the dead, diseased or dying plants NEVER reuse the medium, sterilise the pot with a strong bleach mixture before reusing. Old mixes of bark or sphagnum are great used on your garden beds as a mulch or even dug in.
6. On inspecting your plants daily, if one is loose in the pot – stake it so it is firm, loose plants (of any genera) never flourish as they can't make a stable root system. Crooked plants do not bench well so ensure you have them staked firm and straight with room for forward growth.
7. Nobody can tell you when to water. Your bush house has its own distinctive microclimate. This is perhaps the hardest thing to learn (if one ever does). No two seasons are the same so you must study your plants. There can be two reasons for problems – Dehydration- under watered or Drowned - over watered. If you think you are over watering knock one out of its pot you will find some of the roots in the centre of the pot, black and going rotten, consequently they are not getting any sustenance to transfer to the plant. Under watered you will find the roots, dry, flaccid and lifeless.

Hymn.

If undelivered return to _

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc

PO Box 5949_Red Hill Rockhampton Qld 4701

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Your 2020 ROSI Orchid Diary

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER

ROSI CHRISTMAS DINNER

FRENCHVILLE SPORTS CLUB

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

Disclaimer

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