



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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[www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au](http://www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au)

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – JUL 2013

### GENERAL MEETING & ORCHID COMPETITION

1<sup>st</sup> THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7.00 for 7.30 PM, UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED, at NORTH COAST REGIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS, HARDACRE STREET, COFFS HARBOUR.

|                   |             |                        |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| <u>PRESIDENT:</u> | ED PEARCE   | 6650 9578, 0418 519908 |
| <u>SECRETARY:</u> | BRONWEN FOX | 6652 4330              |
| <u>TREASURER:</u> | BRUCE HALL  | 6658 9891              |
| <u>EDITOR:</u>    | ED PEARCE   | 6650 9578              |

### SPONSORS

#### **BCU – BANANACOAST COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION.**

Serving local communities. For all your financial needs – Home and business loans, credit cards, personal loans, savings accounts, term deposits, insurance, internet and phone banking, and loyalty rebates. 69 Park Beach Road. 6651 4404. [www.bcu.com.au](http://www.bcu.com.au)

#### **MANGROVE JACKS on the Promenade**

Breakfast and lunch 7 days, and dinner Tues to Sat. A lovely, peaceful setting by Coffs Creek for coffee or a meal. 6652 5517. [www.mangrovejacksafe.com.au](http://www.mangrovejacksafe.com.au)

#### **LUDO'S OLD WARES**

Buying and selling antiques, old wares and collectibles. Deceased estates. 2/26 Industrial Drive, Coffs Harbour South. 6651 5514.

#### **EASY ORCHIDS**

Easy Orchids carries a wide variety of orchids and flasks, and orchid growing supplies – coconut, pots, etc. They provide quick delivery of orders. 6682 2635 or [www.easyorchids.com](http://www.easyorchids.com)

#### **FITZROY MOTORS**

For Mazda and Honda vehicles, also second hand vehicles, and ALL your servicing needs. Do your shopping while your car is serviced. 6652 3122, 41 Grafton St., Coffs Harbour.

#### **COFFS HARBOUR PRODUCE**

Coffs Harbour Produce is at 26 June Street in Coffs. They carry a good range of fertilisers, insecticides and fungicides for orchids, as well as general garden needs. 6652 2599.

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### **1. CALENDAR**

- 4 Jul Brian Moore – growing Cymbidiums and others  
1 Aug Ed Pearce – growing Coelogynes  
5 Sep Shergolds – Deflasking orchids  
14/15 Sep Spring Show

### **2. JULY MEETING**

Our guest speaker for the July meeting – **NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS ON 18<sup>th</sup> JULY** – will be Brian Moore. Brian will talk about growing Cymbidiums, and other cooler growing orchids. Brian is an excellent grower and usually wins the Cymbidium section in our shows.

Brian has also recently set up a heated green house and he will share some of his experiences.

### **3. AGENDA**

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, New members.

Minutes of Jun meeting – as printed in newsletter

Business Arising

Committee Report – refer to report.

Inwards Correspondence

1. \*OSNSW newsletter
2. \*Neutrog fertilisers – winter growing tips
3. \*Organising committee regarding “Botanica” at Gardens – 3/9 Nov
4. \*Ipswich OS – possibility of visiting us in 2014.
5. Neutrog – fertiliser samples
6. Tinonee Orchids – catalogue
7. Cymbidium Club of Australia – Show 9/11 August.
8. Mid North Coast Native Orchid Society

Outwards Correspondence

Finance Report – see attached

Sponsors Spot – BCU

Table talk

General business

1. Plants for the display bench.
2. Spring Show

Raffle, popular vote, guest speaker

### **4. MINUTES of JUNE MEETING**

The president welcomed the 30 people present  
\*69<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day.

Apologies: Carol and Bernie Axford, Glenys and John Smith, Pat and Peter King.

Welcome to new members: Kathy, Monica, Ben and Elaine.  
Glad to see that we are growing.

Minutes of last meeting: moved: John, Seconded: Sue

Committee Report: No questions

Correspondence: Moved: Gary, Seconded: Brenda

Financial Report: attached. Moved: Gary, Seconded: Jennifer

Sponsors: Fitzroy Motors

Table Talk: done by Bruce and Gary.

General Business

1. Bulk bark. Gary brought a sample. If interested see him and we may be able to get bulk deliveries?????
2. Betty Pittaway found shallow pots on eBay. \$6 for 4 +postage.
3. Reminder about new shirts. Sue, Tom, Bruce and Bron looked great. Northside shop \$28. Order now.
4. Warning about safety. Helen Hillier assaulted going to Nambucca meeting. Be careful going home from meetings.
5. Glenys Smith rang and told of her husband's serious illness

Speaker: Ed and the naming of Orchids. Very interesting for the beginners and others.

### **5. COMMITTEE REPORT**

At our committee meeting we discussed

- Placing of display plants on benches at our monthly meetings
- Membership list and financial members
- Finances
- Dates requested for our 2014 meetings and shows

### **6. EASY ORCHIDS TOUR**

The next World Orchid Conference is to be held in Johannesburg from 8<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September in 2014. Easy Orchids is organising a tour and invites anyone interested to be part of the group. There will be more details later

## 7. NAMING of ORCHIDS

At our June meeting Ed spoke about the naming of orchids, and tried to simplify what can be a complex topic.

### SPECIES

Firstly dealing with species orchids, there are two parts to the name, and this is best explained with an example, e.g. *Dendrobium kingianum*. The first part – *Dendrobium* – refers to the genus which should start with a capital letter, and the second part – *kingianum* – refers to the particular species and should start with a lower case letter. Technically both parts should be written in italics, although this is often ignored. The naming of orchids is managed by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) in England.

If you have a particularly nice example of a *Dendrobium kingianum* you might like to give it a variety name. E.g. the late Norm Mitchell named one of his *kingianum* “Bellingen”, so the name of this variety was *Dendrobium kingianum* “Bellingen”, note that the variety is written with a capital letter and has inverted commas. The picture below is *Dendrobium kingianum* “Sparkles”.



***Dendrobium kingianum* “Sparkles” (species)**

There are lots of other species in the *Dendrobium* genus (the correct term for the group of *Dendrobiums*) such as *Dendrobium speciosum*, *Dendrobium falcorostrum*, *Dendrobium tetragonum*, *Dendrobium biggibum* (Cooktown orchid), etc. These different species have similar characteristics so they are grouped together in the genus *Dendrobium*. There are several sections and sub-sections in the genus *Dendrobium*, but I will leave that for another time.



***Dendrobium speciosum* has long sprays of white to yellow flowers**

There are a few other genera (plural of genus) that are similar to *Dendrobium* and these genera are grouped together to form a sub tribe, sometimes called an alliance. Another popular alliance is the *Laelia* alliance, or *Laeliinae*, which has many genera such as *Cattleya*, *Sophranitis*, *Laelia*, *Brassavola*, *Epidendron*, etc.

These genera are all part of the orchid family, or *Orchidaceae*, which in turn are one of the families in the plant kingdom.

A simple description of species is that they are the orchids which grow naturally in the jungles of Brazil, or the Australian bush, etc. Technically they all have the same structures if examined under a microscope. If you breed two orchids of the same species the product is the species. E.g. if you breed a *Dendrobium kingianum* with another *Dendrobium kingianum* the product will be a *Dendrobium kingianum*.

### HYBRIDS

If however you cross one species with another species you get a hybrid. E.g. if you cross a *Dendrobium tetragonum* with a *Dendrobium speciosum* you get the hybrid *Dendrobium Hilda Poxon* (note the hybrid name starts with a capital letter). This hybrid name was registered with the RHS in 1977.



**Dendrobium Hilda Poxon**

A crossing of *Dendrobium falcorostrum* with *Dendrobium kingianum* produces *Dendrobium Bardo Rose*. The person who does the breeding is able to choose a name to be registered by the RHS.

Sometimes we are able to cross plants from different genera to produce intergeneric hybrids. Sometimes the names are obvious e.g. when a *Miltonia* is crossed with a *Brassia* we get a *Miltassia*. Often though the naming is more complicated e.g. when a *Miltonia* is crossed with a *Brassia* and an *Odontoglossum* the intergeneric hybrid is called *Degarmoara*.



**The flower of *Degarmoara* Flying High "Stars 'n Bars". Note the intergeneric hybrid name – *Degarmoara* – the specific name of this crossing – Flying High – and the variety name – "Stars 'n Bars"**

Sometimes orchids are renamed, due to further study, or DNA analysis, and this can add to the confusion. E.g. The *Dendrobium kingianum* referred to earlier has recently been renamed *Thelychiton kingianum*.

## **8. DISPLAY BENCH**

The display bench is an important part of our monthly meetings. We encourage people to bring along their flowering plants so that everyone can see what is flowering.

The display bench is divided into sections, e.g. *Cymbidiums*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Dendrobiums*, etc so that plants from similar alliances are grouped together. It can be hard to work out where you plant fits, so please ask for help.

Please remember to put your name on the back of the label which you put with your plant. These labels are available when you arrive, or you can get them from our web site.

Please try to have your plants on the bench by 7.15 so the judges can start promptly to choose the best orchids in each class. These points are added up and prizes are given for the people with the most points in each class at the end of the year.

## **9. SLIPPER ORCHIDS**

At our June meeting we had several big, well grown plants of the slipper orchid, *Paphiopedilum insigne*. Here is some information about growing slipper orchids taken from the Orchid Society of New South Wales web site.



***Paphiopedilum insigne***

### **General Conditions**

*Paphiopedilums* are fan shaped plants which produce flowers comprised of a usually largish dorsal segment, a prominent pouch from which they derive their common name and two petals which are held horizontally or else droop to some extent. In the famed *paph sanderianum*, these petals can be as long as several feet. The *synsepalum* is the segment found behind the pouch and is a segment formed by the fusion of the lateral sepals. In addition, *Paphs* differ from other orchids in having 2 anthers carrying a sticky pollen paste rather than the typical *pollinia* masses. Each fan growth when mature will produce a terminal inflorescence carrying one or more flowers. *Paphiopedilums* are derived from species found naturally in Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. There are about 90 to over 115 or so species.

*Paphiopedilums* come in many different varieties, some of which require special attention to their culture, but the vast majority can be managed successfully if basic universal cultural requirements are met. It is not absolutely critical that you need to know specific requirements of each species or hybrid, but of course, if you do supply the special

treatment appropriate to each type, you will be rewarded with optimal results. The culture of these various types differs mostly in their desired temperature ranges for optimal growth and some peculiarities in their cultural management.



**Paphiopedilum insigne flowers**

### **Types**

Broadly, Paphiopedilums may be divided into plants with single flowered stems or those producing multifloral inflorescences. Of the single flowered type, the Complex Exhibition type and the species from which they are derived, sport plain green leaves with only slight veinations (often in red flowers). This type is amongst the easiest type to grow and bear flowers which have great glossy substance and texture and often rounded shapes with large dorsals. The finest examples of these attract high prices. They come in plain green and yellows, reds to browns, spotted types and various combinations of these colours.

The Barbatum or Maudiae Type are the ones with prominent mottled foliage sometimes worth growing for their leaves alone. The flowers are a bit more slender and cruciform in shape and often carry warts, hairs and stripes. The vini-colour forms of these can be dark reds to almost black in colour.

The third group of single-flowered Paphs are those belonging to the Brachypetalum group mostly from Malaya to Thailand which are generally warmer growing and the closely related Parvisepalum group (the so-called Chinese Group) which hail from higher latitude from Vietnam to the highlands of Southern China, which are naturally more cold-tolerant. These groups and their hybrids sport flowers which are naturally rounder but with thinner substance than the two previous groups and have been something of a fad in recent times. The ease of culture in hybrids of this type when compared to the species themselves have made the hybrid highly popular recently.

The Multifloral group can be roughly divided into 2 groups, one which produces their flowers more or less simultaneously and those which produce them sequentially, sometimes over a period exceeding a year. These multifloral types, especially those in the simultaneously flowering group

are much larger plants with correspondingly dramatic flowers. Because these hail from tropical climes, from moderate elevations, these plants and species require an intermediate temperature, albeit unvaryingly so. The simultaneously flowering multifloral type should probably be left to those with suitable accommodation to house these larger plants.

The sequential flowered multifloral types on the other hand are smaller plants with cute cockle shell flowers. The inflorescences may last over a year with successive flowers being produce although the quality may decline with time. These are definitely easier to grow as are the hybrids between the two and other groups.

### **Light, Watering and Housing**

In general, hybrids are easier to grow than species. Paphiopedilums lack pseudo bulbs like cymbidiums and they are generally more finely rooted. They therefore do not have the reserves in terms of moisture and nutriment to call upon which will allow them to endure the same levels of neglect as other orchids, at least not without stress and their consequences. Care should then be given to preserving the humidity around them and keeping the water up to them without allowing them to be constantly wet. Due to this consideration, they are generally better housed in some area with protection from hot or cold drying winds so that a higher humidity can be maintained without the necessity of watering too frequently. Generally, environments where ferns thrive would be ideal. Elevate plants to keep them away from snails which love the flowers. Watering needs to be thorough, 3 or more times a week in summer to perhaps once a week in winter. Keep the potting mix "just moist".

Paphs do not require a great deal of light to grow but if insufficient, they will not flower. Generally a "dull shadow" intensity should be sufficient... Brachypetalums and multiflorals types may benefit with a little more light and moving air than the other groups. The Maudiae types can even be gown indoors.

### **Temperature**

Paphs grow seasonally in the warmth of spring but may stop growing if heat-stressed during summer, recommencing during autumn. Most will stop growing during winter. Cultural strategy involves providing the longest growing period so that the plants may mature a growth during the growth season so as to enable them to flower in their appropriate season. Multifloral Paphs may take more than a year to mature a growth and so may flower every 18 months to 2 years. Although the Maudiae types and other warmer growing types will tolerate a frost-free winter, especially if kept a little on the dry side, the plants may take longer to reinstate growth. The shorter growing season may result in inconsistent flowering or compromised quality.

### **Fertilising and Potting**

A great number of potting mixes can be used successfully. A reliable mixture is one that is moisture retentive, free-draining and resistant to rapid breakdown. Mixtures of bark,

coconut husk chunks, peatmoss and even sphagnum together with relatively inert material such as perlite, diatomite chips, stone chips and polystyrene chunks can be used successfully. Try to keep using the same mix on all your plants so that some consistency in optimal watering practices can be developed. The mix should last about 2 years. Pot paphs only in pots just able to accommodate the root mass without squashing them unduly. Paphs generally benefit from frequent repotting and fresh mix, as frequently as annually and certainly no less than once every 2 years. An exception may be the Brachypetalums which resent roots being too disturbed. In these cases more inert material especially calcareous material such as marble chips have been recommended.

Fertilising should be of the low nitrogen sort recommended for orchids and applied regularly and weakly, usually at half or quarter recommended strengths. Fertiliser can be withheld during period of no growth (winter) and increased during active growth. Overfertilising will result in lush weak growth susceptible to various diseases.

### **Pests and Diseases**

Little to no pests or diseases will affect Paphs. Even the viral diseases plaguing other genera do not appear significant in Paphs. Pests and diseases appear on paphs only under conditions of bad culture such as low humidity, overcrowding, overfertilising. Watch out for mealy bug, aphids and mites during the warmer periods. The non-toxic or low-toxic treatments will work for these pests if treatment is applied frequently or as recommended.

## **10. SALE OF BADGES and PENS**

The society has a quantity of Coffs Harbour Orchid Society badges, and pens available. We are trying to reduce our stocks so they are being sold at reduced prices. Ron Cowling will have these for sale. The prices are

- Badges \$1
- Pens \$1
- 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pens \$2



**Lovely Bulbophyllum at our Autumn Show. These are becoming quite popular.**

June Meeting

| Member Name            | Standard Cymbidium Hybrid Over 90 mm   | Intermediate Cymbidium Hybrid 60-90 mm | Miniature Cymbidium Hybrid Under 60mm | Laelinae Exhibition Hybrid over 100mm | Laelinae Intermediate Hybrid 60 to 100mm | Laelinae Miniature Hybrid under 60mm    | Laelinae Cluster Hybrid (min 5 flowers)  | Laelinae Novelty Hybrid spotted flower non exhibition | Laelinae Species     | Hybrid Paph (Complex)  | Paph and Allied Species | Oncidiinae Hybrids under 25mm |
|------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Class                  | 1                                      | 2                                      | 3                                     | 4                                     | 5  | 6                                       | 7  | 8   | 9                    | 10                     | 12                      | 13                            |
| <b>BAKER</b>           |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>BLAY</b>            |  | 2                                      | 3                                     |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>HALL (Bruce)</b>    |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      | 3                      |                         |                               |
| <b>PEARCE (Barb)</b>   |  |  |                                       |                                       |  | 3                                       |  |   | 2                    |                        | 3                       | 3                             |
| <b>PEARCE (Ed)</b>     |  |  |                                       | 6                                     |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>PITTAWAY(Betty)</b> |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>SIDEBOTTOM</b>      | 5                                      |  | 1                                     |                                       |  |   | 3  |   | 3                    |                        |                         | 3                             |
| <b>WILLIAMS (Sue)</b>  |  | 3                                      | 2                                     |                                       | 3  |   |  |   |                      |                        | 2                       |                               |
| <b>WONG</b>            |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        | 1                       |                               |
| <b>Member Name</b>     | Oncidiinae Hybrids between 25 to 65 mm | Tolumnia (equitant Oncidiiums)         | Oncidiinae & Allied Species           | Vandaceous Hybrid under 60mm          | Phalaenopsis Hybrid Under 60 mm          | Australian Native Hybrid inc Dendrobium | Australian Native species inc Dendrobium | AOV Hybrid under 50mm                                 | AOV Hybrid over 50mm | AOV species under 50mm | AOV species over 50mm   |                               |
| Class                  | 14                                     | 16                                     | 17                                    | 18                                    | 20                                       | 26                                      | 27                                       | 30  | 31                   | 32                     | 33                      |                               |
| <b>BAKER</b>           |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>BRIGHT</b>          |  | 3                                      |                                       |                                       |  |   | 3  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>HALL (Bruce)</b>    |  | 2                                      |                                       |                                       |  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>PEARCE (Ed)</b>     |  |  |                                       | 3                                     |  | 6                                       |  | 3   | 6                    | 3                      | 6                       |                               |
| <b>SIDEBOTTOM</b>      | 3                                      |  | 5                                     |                                       | 3  |   |  |   |                      |                        |                         |                               |
| <b>WILLIAMS (Sue)</b>  |  |  |                                       |                                       |  |   |  | 3   |                      |                        |                         |                               |

**COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)**  
**TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 22 May 2013 to 21 June 2013**  
**DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 22/6/2013.**

| Receipt                                  | <u>INCOME</u>          | Cheque | <u>EXPENDITURE</u>           |
|--|------------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| 00/2 Raffle                              | \$72.00                |        | Monthly Meet.                |
| 00/1 Various M/Ships                     | \$20.00                |        | Membership renewals.         |
| 00/3 Hall Hire                           |                        | 102    | For April.                   |
| 00/5 Affiliation                         |                        |        |                              |
| 00/7 Newsletter                          |                        | 250    | Xerox, June N/Letter. Stamps |
| 00/9 Sundry                              |                        | 919    | S. Williams/Tea Money        |
| 01/1 Soc. Sales                          | \$9.00                 |        | Cowling/Pens                 |
| 03/1 Autumn Show                         |                        | 102    | Hall hire                    |
| 06/1 Sponsors                            | \$100.00               |        | Easy Orchids                 |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                            | <b><u>\$201.00</u></b> |        | <b><u>\$215.35</u></b>       |
| <b>DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD</b> |                        |        | -\$14.35                     |

**Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.**

|  |                          |                                  |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Opening Bank Balance 22/5/2013           | <u>\$7,235.56</u>        |                                  |
| Rec for above period                     | \$201.00                 |                                  |
|  | <u>\$7,436.56</u>        |                                  |
| <b>DEDUCT</b> Exp for above period       | <u>\$115.35</u>          |                                  |
| Pre. u/presented cheques                 | \$956.50                 | Chq 231,233,234,245,246,247      |
|  | <u>\$1,071.85</u>        |                                  |
|  | \$6,364.71               |                                  |
| <b>Balance of income and expenditure</b> | <b><u>\$6,364.71</u></b> | Refer BCU Statement @ 21/6/2013. |

**NOTES:**

The following chqs. 102 totalling \$100.00 have not been presented.

CHOS has a sum of \$10,000.00 invested as a FTD with all interest earned rolled into the daily account and is shown in the appropriate trading statements.

HALL. B.G.  
Hon. Treasurer  
22/6/2013.