



COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

PO BOX 801, COFFS HARBOUR, NSW, 2450. E-mail coffsos@gmail.com

www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

COFFS ORCHID NEWS – NOV 2012

GENERAL MEETING & ORCHID COMPETITION

1st 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

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

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

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.

INDEX

1. Calendar
2. November meeting
3. Committee Report
4. Orchid Sale 1 - Ivy
5. Orchid Sale 2 – Jim Rae
6. Gordon and Brian's workshop
7. Nursery visit
8. Supplies
9. AGM agenda
10. 2011 AGM minutes
11. President's Report
12. Robert Jackson's talk
13. Agenda for Nov general meeting
14. Minutes of Oct meeting
15. Growing Tolumnias

1. CALENDAR

- 1 Nov AGM, and orchids for beginners
4 Nov Workshop at Gordon's
17 Nov Visit to Rosella Orchids, Grafton
6 Dec Awards and Christmas breakup

2. NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting will start with our AGM. This will be similar to previous years where we will have reports and then have a vote for positions if required. We will announce the election results and then close the meeting.

Our November general meeting will then be held, followed by a talk on some of the basics of orchid growing.

3. COMMITTEE REPORT

At our October committee meeting we talked further about the Spring Show. There was also some discussion about the table talk – this seems to be an ongoing problem – and the change of due date for membership fees.

The new committee will need to discuss the purpose of the monthly competition, and the table talk.

4. ORCHID SALE 1.

Ivy Wheeler is selling many of her prized orchids. She has a huge orchid collection, 3 large shade houses full including many specimens and unusual species. The disposal entails thousands of quality plants including many of her prize-winning orchids. Ivy wants these to be offered to other orchid growers who will appreciate and benefit from adding them to their collections, rather than at a garage sale.

The date of the collection sale is set for Saturday, 10 November 2012 and will commence at 9.30am. The address is 21 Grandis street, Bonville, NSW. For more information, please contact Brian Newman, President, Woolgoolga District orchid Society 6654 1432 or Dick Cooper 6654 8447

5. ORCHID SALE 2

One of our foundation members, Jim Rae from Grafton, is selling his orchids. The main part of the collection is about 200 species many of which have several plants. A smaller collection of hybrids and natives make up the rest. He has been collecting for over 50 years mainly in the days when some of the species were more easily obtained. He suggests a price around \$3,000. He can be contacted on 02 6644 9433. Anyone interested in this offer could perhaps visit to have a look at his collection when we go to Grafton to visit Rosella orchids.

6. GORDON and BRIAN'S WORKSHOP

The next workshop, aimed at newer growers, will be held at Gordon Clarke's, 26 Pullen Street, Woolgoolga, 9.30 for a prompt 10 o'clock start on Sunday, 4th November.

Gordon and Brian will be covering potting mix, dividing and potting up plants, and correct pots to use. Gordon will also talk about how he uses hydrogen peroxide to grow better orchids.



Gordon talking at a workshop

Members are also encouraged to bring a plant along if they have one that they would like to ask about.

Gordon's phone number is 6654 2553.

7. NURSERY VISIT

We have organised a visit to Rosella Orchids for 17th November. Rosella Orchids is a large nursery in South Grafton specialising in Cattleya orchids, although they have some other varieties too.



One of Rosella Orchids' hybrids

Their website is <http://www.rosellaorchids.com> and you might like to visit this to see some of their orchids. There are photos of many of their plants, and there is a price list. There will also be some other plants for sale which are not in the catalogue.

If you would like to pre-order plants from the catalogue he can have these ready for you to collect on the day. Also if you can't be there you might like to order and pay for some plants and have someone else pick them up for you. We will meet at the bus stop/tourist information centre at the corner of Pacific Highway and Maclean Street at 9.15 on Saturday, and leave for Rosella Orchids, 95 Woolwich Road, South Grafton, at 9.30 am.

8. SUPPLIES

If you are looking for somewhere to get some orchid mix, you might like to try Coffs harbour Produce in June Street. They are one of our valued sponsors and they carry Searle's Orchid mix in both Dendrobium and Cymbidium formulations.

9. AGM AGENDA

WELCOME to members and visitors

MINUTES of 2011 AGM – as printed in this newsletter

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – as printed in this newsletter

FINANCIAL REPORT – provided at meeting.

1. Moved that annual subscription remain the same in 2011/12 as for this year, i.e. \$10, and \$15 for couples.

ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS – Returning Officer Ron Cowling takes the chair.

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee – 3 members.



Some soft cane Dendrobiums in flower

10. MINUTES of 2011 AGM

Meeting opened at 7:30pm

Minutes of 2010 AGM Detailed in November 2011 newsletter. Mvd by Don Turner and Sue Williams that minutes be approved

Nil Business arising from last AGM meeting

Presidents Report: Ed Pearce highlighted the main events of the year. A full report given in the November 2011 Newsletter.

Financial report: a summary was given by Bruce Hall. All details published in report which was distributed at the meeting...

Mvd. Brenda Mayled Scd. Betty Pittaway. That report be approved

Motion to keep the annual fees the same as the previous year. \$10 for individuals and \$15 for couples.

Mvd. Bruce Hall. Scd. Sue Williams.

Election of Office Bearers

President Ed Pearce

Vice President Steve Clemesha

Secretary Sherill Harrison
Treasurer Bruce Hall
Committee Carole Davis, Don Turner, Sue Williams.

Meeting closed at 7:44pm.

11. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The society has had a good year with meetings, shows, workshops, an orchid walk and there will be a nursery visit in November. We are very pleased that here have been several new members join the society.

We have been fortunate to be able to provide a varied program of guest speakers and topics throughout the year. While we recognise that not every topic is of interest to every member, we hope that there is something for everyone at different stages. Our meetings were

	2 Feb	Ray Clements from Tinonee Orchids talking about Cattleyas
	1 Mar	Brian Lane from the Botanic Gardens talked about the history of the gardens.
5	4 Apr	The Orchid Tray Company visited again to talk about the products they sell to help with growing orchids.
	3 May	Steve Clemesha spoke about orchids that are native to this area.
	7 Jun	Murray Shergold from Easy Orchids talking about African Ansellias
	19 Jul	Peter King talked to us about Cymbidiums
	2 Aug	We held a very successful plant auction
	13 Sep	This was a social meeting where we just talked with each other after the formalities.
	11 Oct	Robert Jackson from Fitzroy Motors talked about safety and basic car maintenance.

Thanks to all those who have presented topics for our meetings. It can be difficult to provide a program of speakers and we have been very fortunate to be able to provide the program we have.

We have again run two successful shows. Both the Autumn Show and the Spring Show were held at the Botanic Gardens – this is an easier venue for us than the Plaza Shopping Centre and seems to work well. Thanks to Ivy who was show marshal for the Autumn Show and to Bruce Hall who was show marshal for the Spring Show. Congratulations too to the Grand Champions, Norm and Kay Mitchell and Eric and Dot Collins.



**Some members have Arpophyllums in flower now.
This is a rather unusual looking orchid.**

The plant auction was a new activity for us and we were pleased to have so many good plants to auction. Thanks to everyone who provided plants or who bought plants. Thanks to Steve Clemesha for leading us on the orchid walk in the Bongil Bongil Park. It's interesting to see some of the orchids that are native to this area.

I would also like to thank our sponsors for their generous support. The funds which they provide allow us to keep our membership fees as low as they are, and still have the prize money and services for members. This year we gained a new sponsor in Coffs Harbour Produce in June Street, Coffs Harbour.

Thanks to the committee for the time and effort that everyone put in to make things run as they have. Thanks to Bronwen Fox who took over as secretary when Sherril had to give up the job due to her health. Thanks too to all those members who have contributed in so many ways to the society this year. I would particularly like to thank Bruce Hall who has stepped in at short notice on several occasions to get things done.

12. ROBERT JACKSON'S TALK

It is recommended that cars be serviced regularly, preferably twice a year. Some new cars these days have 10,000 or even 15,000k service intervals but many people don't travel this far in a year. For safety we recommend a basic service in between scheduled services to check -

- fluid levels
- brakes
- belts
- battery
- tyres
- etc

Fitzroy Motors offers a 10% discount for seniors (please ask for this when booking the car in so that the invoice is ready for you when you call to collect your car)

We also suggest that you check you tyre pressures regularly. Correct inflation is important for safety, tyre wear and fuel economy. For people who find it hard to check their tyre pressures we will do it for you. Just drive in to Fitzroy Motors and we will do it on the spot free of charge.

13. AGENDA FOR NOV MEETING

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, New members.

Minutes of Sep meeting – as printed in newsletter

Business Arising?

Committee Report – refer to newsletter.

Inwards Correspondence

Outwards Correspondence

Sponsor's spot – Coffs Harbour Produce

Finance Report – no report.

Table talk

General business

1. Visit to Rosella Orchids on 17th. Any questions?

Raffle, popular vote.



**Australian native terrestrial orchid – Pterostylis or
Greenhood.**

14. MINUTES for OCTOBER MEETING.

Ed welcomed members and our guest speaker Robert Jackson, to the meeting. There were apologies from Margaret, Anne, Robert, Bronwen, Pam and Graeme, Ivy, Norm and Kaye, Bill, Carol and Bernie, Ken and Dulcie

Minutes of Sep meeting – Mvd Sue, Scd Glenys that minutes be approved as printed in newsletter.

Business Arising - nil

Committee Report – refer to newsletter.

Inwards Correspondence

Outwards Correspondence

Finance Report – Mvd Betty, Scd Don that report as printed in newsletter be approved. Bruce explained a few points

Table talk – Bruce (Judges Steve and Carole)

General business

1. A reminder that we always have plants at meetings unless definitely told otherwise
2. Thanks for comments about Spring Show.
3. Membership fees due at February meeting instead of November/AGM
4. Sale of Ivy's orchids – 9.30 on 10th November.
5. Paul has lots of music available on zip drive for anyone interested.

Popular vote was won by Ron Cowling for his impressive Indian Dendrobium.



**Ron's Dendrobium which flowers regularly at this time
of the year. He has won a Grand Champion award with
this plant.**

15. GROWING TOLUMNIAS – EQUITANT ONCIDIUMS

Thanks to Christine Martin for these notes



In nature these orchids grow on small branches or twigs and that is why they need excellent drainage.

They will grow well with Cattleyas or Phalaenopsis with or without heat, provided they are grown in a covered shade or glass house with reasonable humidity and good air movement.

Growing Equitants is very much a matter of what works for you as a grower. Not all growing areas are the same and there is some trial and error involved finding the right place in your orchid house.

The two most important basic requirements however are:

Air movement must be good and the plants must dry fast

In their natural habitat in the Caribbean, they grow on twigs with their roots freely rambling to catch dew and rainfall, and then quickly dry out in the breezes. Temperature should ideally range from 26c to 29c but not much lower than 10c.

In a sheltered orchid house short drops in temperature in the mornings in winter down to 2c are tolerated. If the weather is cold and windy try to keep them dry but make sure humidity is reasonably high during the day so they can absorb some moisture. On very hot days frequent misting till late afternoon is recommended or at least the floor of the orchid house should be wet and relative humidity of 50% to 70% is desirable.



Light should be bright but diffused, somewhere between the optimal for Phalaenopsis and that for Cattleyas, larger plants should be getting more light than small seedlings.

Plants are normally grown on cork slabs but if the humidity cannot be maintained around 50% to 70% during the day they can be planted in small terracotta or plastic net pots with very coarse material like polystyrene and a bit of medium bark or pebbles on the top, as long as the media is dry by night.

Fertilize at recommended strength with a balanced fertilizer once per week, every 4th feed use an organic fertilizer for example fish and add some calcium nitrate (if using rain water).

Pest can be a big problem so look at the plants once a week with **thoroughly**. Mealybug and scale are the worst enemies of Tolumnias, as they are small plants and an attack of these critters can wipe them out in one week, so prevention is better than cure. Other than that, they do not have any frequent problems with fungus as they are grown fairly dry. If you have fungus problems, just use one of the fungicides that are systemic, but please read the instructions and make sure you cover up.

After the first flowering **do not remove the inflorescence** as they will often branch out and flower again. I had some plants in flower from July to November

October results

Member Name	Miniature Cymbidium Under 60mm	Laelinae Exhibition over 100mm	Laelinae Novelty	Laelinae Cluster (min 5 flowers)	Laelinae Intermediate 60-100mm	Brassia style hybrids	Odontostyle hybrids	Oncostyle hybrids	Elegant oncidium	Vanda under 60mm	A.O.V hybrid under 50mm	
Class	3	4	6	7	8	13	14	15	17	18	20	
BAKER Peter						3						
CLEMESHA Steve												
COWLING Ron				3								
HALL Bruce							3	8	5			
PEARCE Ed												
PEARCE Barb		3							1		3	
PITTAWAY Betty				2								
RONOLO-KING Selisa			5									
SMITH Glennis, John												
TURNER Don	3				3							
Class	22	23	24	25	26	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
BAKER Peter			3				3	3	3	5		
CLEMESHA Steve											3	
COWLING Ron						3						
HALL Bruce								2				
PEARCE Ed	3			3	3			1				
PEARCE Barb												
PITTAWAY Betty	2	5		3								
RONOLO-KING Selisa												
SMITH Glennis, John												3
TURNER Don							2					

