



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – NOV 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.mangrovejackscafe.com.au](http://www.mangrovejackscafe.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**

- 7 Nov AGM and Lycastes  
5 Dec Awards and Christmas meeting  
6 Feb First meeting for 2014

### **2. NOVEMBER MEETING**

Our guest speaker will be Paul Sloan who will be talking about growing and breeding Lycaste orchids. Paul will talk about some of the species Lycastes, and the breeding which has been done to produce some of the lovely modern hybrids. He will also have some plants for sale, and perhaps some flasks.

Some might remember Brian Moore's lovely Lycaste that was Reserve Champion native at our recent show.



**Lycaste Macama "Jenny Klein"**

This will also be our Annual General Meeting with reports, election of office bearers for the next 12 months, and our financial report.



**Lycaste Kiama "Margaret" showing some of the colour we can get in Lycastes.**

### **3. AGENDA for ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

WELCOME to members and visitors

MINUTES of 2012 AGM – as printed in this newsletter

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – as printed in this newsletter

FINANCIAL REPORT – as printed in newsletter

1. Moved that annual subscription remain the same in 2014 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.

### **4. MINUTES of 2012 AGM.**

Welcome to all members and visitors.

Apologies: Ron and Judy Cowling, Bill Bright, Brian Newman.

Minutes AGM 2011: Moved: Sue, Seconded: Steve

President's Report: as per Newsletter

Financial Report: provided for members. Moved: Betty, Seconded: Glenys

Moved that annual subscription remain the same as in 2011/2012. \$10 single, \$15 couple. Moved: Bruce, Seconded: Barb P.

Election of office bearers for 2012/2013.

President: Ed  
Vice President: Steve  
Secretary: Bronwen  
Treasurer: Bruce  
Committee: Sue, Carole, Carol

Thanks to Don for his work on the committee.

Closed: 7:45

## **5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Orchid Society has had another good year with well attended meetings and several new members. We've had regular meetings, two shows, and workshops courtesy of Brian and Gordon.

A feature of the year has been our two successful shows. The Autumn Show was probably the best attended Autumn Show we've had for many years, and our Spring Show had the largest display of flowers we've had for many years. Many people helped out with supervision, selling raffle tickets or plants, setting up and taking down the show.

Thanks to our Show Marshall Bruce Hall and his team who do so much to make our show a success. Congratulations to Bruce Hall and Brian Newman who were our Grand Champions

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

Feb	Ray Clements – Australian native orchids
Mar	Brian Stokes – Railways travel opportunities
Apr	Steve Clemesha – preparing orchids to show
May	Murray Shergold – Laelia family orchids
Jun	Ed – species and hybrids, naming orchids
Jul	Brian Moore – Cymbidiums, and using coconut fibre
Aug	Ed – growing Coelogynes
Sep	Murray and Jean – Deflasking orchids
Oct	Social evening
Nov	Paul Sloan – growing Lycastes

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.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our society throughout the year. It takes a lot of help to organise for meetings, etc. And I would particularly like to commend the members of the committee for their contributions and their work.

## **6. AGENDA for NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, New members.

Minutes of Oct meeting – as printed in newsletter

Business Arising

Committee Report – refer to newsletter.

Inwards Correspondence

Outwards Correspondence

1. Sympathy cards

Sponsor's spot – Coffs Harbour Produce

General business

1. Workshop with Gordon and Brian.
2. December Meeting. Awards and supper.

Raffle, popular vote



**At this time of the year we have Brassias in flower. You will have seen some on our monthly display bench. They are relatively easy to grow.**

## **7. MINUTES of OCTOBER MEETING**

Apologies: Brian Newman, Brenda Mayled, Robert Standing, Sue Williams, Don Turner, Pam and Graeme Baillie. We also welcomed some visitors to our meeting.

Business Arising: Minutes accepted as per Newsletter.  
Moved: John, Seconded: Jennifer

Corro: Nil

Finance: As per Newsletter - approved

Sponsor: Ludo's Old Wares

General Business:

1. Show. Great display 200+ plants. Thanks to all those who volunteered their time. Please give any thoughts to the Committee who will review at meeting this coming Tuesday.
2. AGM November. Feel free to nominate. Ron Cowling is returning Officer and has the forms or they can be obtained on the web site.

Guest Speaker: Unavoidable family emergency and had to give apologies.

Popular Vote: Peter Baker and Ed Pearce.

We had an early supper and some general chat.

Meeting closed: 8:30

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORT**

We met as usual at Mangrove Jacks and discussed the following:

- Show: room booked for next show from 1pm. General discussion re roster, problems and solutions.
- Ed presented a flow chart of jobs. Bron to publish
- Jan Whittle has looked at the website and Ed will follow up with Paul Wicker.
- Last Meeting discussion.
- We decided to get some stationery for the club: letterheads, "with compliments" cards etc
- AGM discussed as well as the speaker for the November meeting.
- An Assets Register was discussed and to be held over.
- Ed to research the purchase of a Laptop for club use.

A very productive meeting which closed at 11:45.

## **9. GORDON and BRIAN'S WORKSHOP**

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

Gordon and Brian will be covering potting mix, dividing and potting up plants, and correct pots to use. This will be aimed particularly at our newer growers, and will be a revision for the more experienced growers.



**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.

## **10. DECEMBER MEETING**

The December meeting is an informal meeting where we have a few awards, our regular monthly competition and a Christmas dinner.

**Members are requested to bring a plate and some drink to share. Remember that we are not able to heat food. After the awards we will clear away the plants, put tables in the middle of the room, and enjoy a Christmas dinner. Please remember that we are not able to heat food at our meeting room.**

**Members are also asked to bring a small gift - no more than \$10 - for the "Secret Santa."**



**We had a plant of Arpophyllum spicatum at our October meeting.**



## 11. ANGRAECUM SESQUIPEDALE

We have seen a couple of the so called Darwin's Orchid, *Angraecum sesquipedale* on our monthly display bench and in local shows this year. This orchid has an interesting history as described in this article by Brian Milligan from North East Melbourne Orchid Society.

*Angraecum* species come from the Island of Madagascar (also known as the Republic of Malagasy), some 400 Km off the east coast of Africa. *Angraecum sesquipedale* is the most well known species because of its association with Charles Darwin.

Darwin (1809-1882) was a naturalist on board HMS Beagle during its voyage of discovery around the world between 1831 and 1836. He was a man with great powers of observation of all aspects of nature – you name it, he studied it. His observations led ultimately (in 1859) to his most famous book *The Origin of Species*, the theory of evolution of life on earth (and also to considerable controversy with the clergy of the day, even though the evolution of man received only passing mention in this book). *Angraecum sesquipedale* had already been "discovered" by du Petit Thouars and described in the scientific literature but Darwin popularised it by writing about the way the flowers were pollinated in his book *The Various Contrivances by which Orchids are Fertilised by Insects*. What a long-winded title!

*Angraecum sesquipedale* is a tropical orchid with long-lasting, waxy, white flowers some 150 mm across, and pendant roots as long as 5 m in the wild. But the orchid's most striking feature is the long green spur at the bottom of the flower's labellum. This feature led to du Petit Thouars choosing the species epithet *sesquipedale*, which means foot-and-a-half! In fact this is probably an exaggeration - Darwin measured the length of the spur of several flowers and found that none exceeded 300 mm (12 in). Because of its long, curved "tail", *A. sesquipedale* is commonly referred to as the comet orchid. He observed that nectar filled only the lower 25 mm of the spur, and speculated that there must be an insect that feeds on the nectar and at the same time pollinates the flower. He suggested that the pollinator was probably a sphinx moth, as a Brazilian one was known to have a proboscis of almost sufficient length to reach to the bottom of the spur.

Most entomologists of the day ridiculed this idea but many years later (in 1903, 20 years after Darwin's death); the pollinator was identified and named *Xanthopan morgani praedicta*. It was indeed a sphinx moth, and it had a proboscis 220 mm long when extended. When retracted the proboscis was coiled in a spiral containing almost 20 loops. The flowers of many Madagascan orchids have spurs; each has its own insect pollinator. Obviously each orchid must flower at the same time that its pollinator matures, or the two could not co-exist. The orchid provides the insect with food, and the insect pollinates the orchid, thereby ensuring the orchid's perpetuation

As the late Victorian orchid grower Jim Rentoul wrote in 1987: "The orchid world is full of what humanity sometimes regards as peculiar plants and flowers. But nothing in nature

is peculiar; it has been created, by whatever means, to take full advantage of the situation that it occupies".



**Angraecum sesquipedale showing the long green spur below the flower.**

**COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY. (CHOS) Inc.**  
**AGM FOR 2012-2013.**  
**PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST. NOV. 2012-28 th OCT 2013.**  
**A.B.N 406 371 37575**

		INCOME		EXPENDITURE		NOTES
		<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2011/12</u>	
<b>00 ADMIN</b>		<b>\$ 1,479.90</b>	<b>\$ 1,414.35</b>	<b>\$ 2,434.47</b>	<b>\$ 2,034.37</b>	
00/1	Memberships	\$ 565.00				4 LM, 38 SM and 9 JM.
00/2	Raffle	\$ 854.90		\$ 367.00		M/Meetings cost of raffle plants
00/3	Hall Hire			\$ 300.00		Bot. Gardens
00/4	Prizes/Awards			\$ 270.00		Point score.
00/5	Affiliation			\$ 237.00		Aust. O.C., NSWOS, Gardens, 2FM
00/6	Statutory			\$ 416.08		F/Trade, Insurances
00/7	Newsletter			\$ 471.46		Printing/stamps
00/8	Executive Exp.			\$ 251.00		Christmas, PO Box rent.
00/9	Sundry inc/exp	<u>\$ 60.00</u>		<u>\$ 121.93</u>		Donations, food services
<b>01 SOCIETY SALES</b>		<b>\$ 91.00</b>	<b>\$ 31.00</b>			
01/1	Gen.Sales	<u>\$ 91.00</u>				Pen, book sales
01/2	Special Sales					
01/3	Sundry inc/exp					
<b>02 BANK INTEREST/CHARGES</b>		<b>\$ 455.61</b>	<b>\$ 577.98</b>			Refer bank statements.
02/1	Term deposit	\$ 440.29				
02/2	Interest Other	<u>\$ 15.32</u>				
02/3	B/Charges					
<b>03 AUTUMN SHOW</b>		<b>\$ 6,068.60</b>	<b>\$ 3,097.80</b>	<b>\$ 4,685.65</b>	<b>\$ 3,396.40</b>	See separate cost report.
03/1	Income	<u>\$ 6,068.60</u>				
03/2	Expenditure			<u>\$ 4,685.65</u>		
<b>04 SPRING SHOW</b>		<b>\$ 3,711.10</b>	<b>\$ 4,482.75</b>	<b>\$ 3,701.68</b>	<b>\$ 4,508.94</b>	See separate cost report.
04/1	Income	<u>\$ 3,711.10</u>		<u>\$ 3,701.68</u>		
04/2	Expenditure					
<b>05 OTHER PROMOTIONS</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 974.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 292.45</b>	
05/1	Income					
05/2	Expenditure					
<b>06 MARKETING</b>		<b>\$ 900.00</b>	<b>\$ 550.00</b>			Sponsorships
06/1	Income	<u>\$ 900.00</u>				
06/2	Expenditure					
<b>07 ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 299.00</b>	
07/1	Income					
07/2	Expenditure					
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 12,706.21</u></b>	<b>\$ 11,127.88</b>	<b><u>\$ 10,821.80</u></b>	<b>\$ 10,531.16</b>	
<b><u>PROFIT/LOSS</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 1,884.41</u></b>				

HALL.B.G.  
Hon. Treasurer.  
28/10/2013

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS FOR THE PERIOD 1st. Nov. 2012 - 28th Oct. 2013**  
**A.B.N. 406 371 37575**

6 **NOTE:** The CHOS is holding gift vouchers to the value of \$100 from Easy Orchids. At this date cheques total value of \$133.90 have not been presented.

A.B.M No. 406 371 37575

NOTES:

HALL.B.G.  
Hon.Treasurer  
28/10/2013.

