



COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au

COFFS ORCHID NEWS – AUG 2015

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>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	CAROLE DAVIS	6658 1354
	STEVE CLEMESHA	6656 1937
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	BRONWEN FOX	0448 583030
<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.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

COFFS COAST 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.

CENTURY 21 FORESHORE 2 FARMS

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INDEX

1. Calendar
2. August Meeting topic
3. Agenda for August general meeting
4. Minutes of July meeting
5. Committee Meeting Report
6. President's Notes
7. Spring Show
8. Growing Oncidiinae Orchids – Brian Moore
9. Fungal Growth on Flowers
10. Invitation to Woolgoolga Meeting
11. Air Movement

1. CALENDAR

6 Aug	Murray Shergold - Orchids of Madagascar.
15 Aug	Bellinghen Show at Church Hall.
3 September	Graeme Benton - Australian Dendrobiums
11/12/12 Sept	Fri/Sat/Sun, Spring Show,
8 October	Max McKay – growing slipper orchids,
5 November	AGM. Dept of Fair Trading about scams.
3 December	Awards Meeting,

2. AUGUST MEETING

Our guests for the August meeting are Murray and Jean Shergold. They are the owners of Easy Orchids in Woodburn, and it's well worth a visit if you're passing on your way to or from Brisbane. They sell a wide range of plants and orchid growing supplies such as pots, etc.

If you wish to order any orchids or supplies from them they will bring your orders with them thus saving on postage. And they have a 25% discount at the moment. Their phone number is 6682 2605, and the website is easyorchids.com.

Murray will be talking about the "What's Different about the Orchids of Madagascar?" We are used to seeing orchids growing in pots, but it's worth remembering that the species orchids from which we breed our lovely hybrids actually grow on trees, etc.



We had some lovely Cymbidiums at the July meeting.

3. AGENDA for AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Judges – Peter Baker, Pat King

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors, New members?

Minutes of June meeting – as printed in newsletter

Inwards Correspondence

Outwards Correspondence

1.

Finance Report – printed in newsletter

Sponsors Spot – Coffs Coast Autos.

Table talk. –

General business

1. Preparations for our September Show.

Raffle, popular vote.

4. MINUTES of JULY MEETING

Apologies: C & B Axford, J Wong, B Forsythe, J Farr, G & P Baillie.

Visitors: Chin and Sally.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: as per Newsletter. Moved:
Ben 2nd: John

Committee Meeting: Nil

Correspondence: Bills, Cheque for \$150 Geoff King, Bellinghen Show Schedule.

Finances: In Newsletter. Moved: Barb 2nd: Clem

Sponsors Spot: Geoff King. New sponsor having taken over Fitzroy Motors.

Table Talk: Ed great benching of cymbidiums. Coelogyne discussed and slippers.

General Business:

- Review of the bus trip to Tinonee at next Committee Meeting. Thanks to John for driving. Please let us know your thoughts.
- Bellinghen show. Please support.

Popular Vote: Brian Moore OdaxOdm. Beautiful orchid.

Raffle: Kay, Ben, Tom.



Brian Moore's lovely Oncidiinae alliance orchid which was the clear winner in the Popular Vote.

5. JULY COMMITTEE MEETING

We had our July Committee meeting at Mangrove Jacks on Tuesday 21st July. Items discussed included

- Agreed bus trip was successful and will organise more of them
- Our website is being brought up to date
- Things are progressing well with organising our September Show
- Reminder that AGM and elections are approaching

6. PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I've had the pleasure of being guest speaker at a couple of other orchid societies recently.

I spoke about "What is an Orchid?" at the Woolgoolga Orchid Society at the end of June. Several members there are also members of the Coffs Harbour society so there were many people I knew.

I enjoyed talking with them and seeing how another society operates. Their meetings are on the afternoon of the last Saturday of the month and visitors are always welcome.

Then on 1st of July I spoke at the Ipswich Orchid Society on Coelogynes (yes, the technology worked properly this time). You might remember that they had a bus trip last year when they visited our Show. It is a society fairly similar to our society and it was again interesting to see how they do things.



We had an excellent display of Coelogyne Linda Buckley plants at our meeting on Thursday. Coelogyne is the group of orchids I talked about at Ipswich.

7. SEPTEMBER SHOW

Our Spring Show is fast approaching. We will be setting up our hall from 3 pm on Friday 11th September and the Show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th.

How are your orchids looking? We need lots of flowering orchids to have a good display for our show. Remember to stake developing spikes.

We need help to organise and run the Show and a roster will be circulated at the next meeting, with the completed roster included as part of the September newsletter.

8. GROWING ONCIDIINAE ORCHIDS



Brian Moore was our guest speaker

- Dorriggo is an entirely different climate for orchids
- Where we live determines what we can grow.
- Odontoglossums are not very forgiving. Difficult. Not many nurseries have them.
- Colmanara Wildcats do well on the coast.
- Wilsonara doing well on the coast. Warmer tolerant Oncidiums worth growing.
- Hybridising them for the costal market.
- Dorriggo is 3200 feet with cold westerly winds. Heated area to a min of 11 deg with air movement. 70% shade from October onwards.
- Odontoglossums like humidity but not too hot. Like cooler summers.
- Extra 50% during heat waves.
- Like to be comfortable.
- Uses weak Seasol or similar natural fertiliser, and pots in and sphagnum.
- Grow in small pots.
- No chemical fertilizer as it kills the sphagnum. Only organic.
- Sprays the cymbidiums for white scale with eco oil/white oil and Rogor.
- Hanging up the plants in hanging baskets helps with the bugs.
- Aphis can be a problem with cymbidiums.
- Very weak fertilizer.
- Blood and bone once a month on cymbidiums.
- Seedlings are great to watch.
- Likes to grow interesting plants.

Thanks Brian.

9. FUNGAL GROWTHS on FLOWERS

At our June meeting, a question was asked about the appearance of black spots on flowers. Here is a more detailed response

Botrytis cinerea - usually referred to as 'botrytis' or 'flower spotting' is a fungal disease which primarily affects the flowers and typically during cool, moist weather when air circulation is poor. It can affect most flowering plants so is likely to be present in your (or your neighbours) garden.

On orchids it appears as small, brown necrotic spots (i.e. unattractive brown spotting) on the flowers (quite often first appearing on the back of the segments). The spots may increase in size and number as the infection progresses, and may be surrounded by a pale pink margin. In severe infections, the spots can come together, and a grey, webbed fungal growth (mycelium) may become visible.

This fungus lives primarily on dead and dying plant material through the year, and produces and disperses its' spores during cool, damp weather in the spring or autumn. That is,

a stagnant, moist environment with inadequate air circulation promotes botrytis growth. Such damp conditions, rapidly rising humidity or disturbing infected plants may release spores into airspace within the growing area. These are then distributed by wind, rain or mechanical action. Temperatures of 18° C to 23° C, wet plant surfaces or ambient humidity of at least 92% are ideal conditions. Botrytis will spread rapidly and will affect healthy plant tissue in around 12-15 hours.



Another of the lovely Oncidiinae orchids at our last meeting

Prevention - is the best form of control. Some useful steps are -

1 - Be mindful of the potential for your growing area to provide conditions favourable to botrytis. Regularly remove any plant debris, dead or fallen flowers and leaves from the growing area to reduce the possibility of spreading the fungus. If botrytis appears, remove and dispose of all affected flowers to help prevent its' further spread. Put them in the wheelie bin, burn or bury the affected tissue.

2 - Try to ensure your growing area has plenty of fresh air moving through it and around your plants at all times. Good air circulation is a necessity to prevent fungal infections year round, but most especially when plants are in bloom. Increasing the ambient temperature and air movement during cool, damp weather helps to remove excess moisture on plant tissue which, in turn, reduces the chances of infection. Orchids grown outdoors often already have the necessary air movement in their environment.

3 - Avoid wetting the plant and its flowers, if possible. Water that remains on petals or leaves after rain, spraying, fertilising or watering can encourage fungal growth. Watering early in the day helps ensure that the plant and its flowers will be dry by nightfall. During autumn and winter, especially do not allow blooms or foliage to remain wet overnight.

4 - If you are happy to use sprays, it is good practice to spray all your plants with Mancozeb, Mancozeb Plus, Rovral, Physan, Bravo, Benlate or a suitable Rose Spray.

5 - In addition, it is best to keep new plants aside from other plants in your growing area for a minimum of two weeks. During this period, keep a close eye on the new acquisition for signs of any pest or disease that could be spread to other plants.

Control - if botrytis appears, there is no removing it - but you can prevent future occurrences by using one of the above-mentioned sprays. Make sure you adhere to the manufacturer's instructions.

10. INVITATION to WOOLGOOLGA MEETING

We are invited to attend the Woolgoolga Orchid Society meeting on 25th July to hear Neville Anderson speak. He was a member of our society in the early days of the society, and his father Sandy Anderson was a president and is a life member of our society.

I have pleasure in inviting you and your members to hear an informative and interesting talk on how to grow mixed orchids by none other than our own knowledgeable Neville Anderson. Neville has an enviable reputation throughout the district when it comes to growing orchids.

Neville will provide the answers you need to successfully grow an eclectic group of orchid species at the Woolgoolga District Orchid Society meeting on Saturday, July 25 at 12.30pm at the Woolgoolga Community Hall in Boundary Street, Woolgoolga.

Looking forward to seeing you there and sharing a cuppa and cake after the meeting



We also had a couple of lovely slipper orchids on our display bench

11. AIR MOVEMENT

One of the things we need to do to grow our orchids well is to have good air movement around our plants. Here is an article from the Bankstown Orchid Society Bulletin about this topic.

Orchids appreciate moving air; after all, the majority of them evolved as epiphytes high in the tree canopy, where winds are much stronger than they are on the ground. Assuming you have achieved the proper humidity and light levels, adding ventilation will aid gas exchange through leaf pores and, more importantly, around the rhizome and roots and through the potting mix.



Our secretary Bronwen doing the minutes at our meeting

Good air movement is the best defence against fungal and bacterial diseases. If you grow orchids on a windowsill supplemental air movement is really not a major consideration. Even when I had a collection of 30 plants on and near a windowsill the air from my cool-moisture humidifier provided enough circulation in winter and an open window did the same in summer. When I put the plants outdoors, of course, there was plenty of wind and breezes. However, in an enclosed grow room or greenhouse, fans are essential to good orchid health.

I find that sufficient air movement is the environmental factor least understood by orchid growers. Air turbulence is especially important as the relative humidity rises. For example, in an enclosed 3x4x3-foot case or light box with an average relative humidity of 50%, one 3 1/2 inch pancake fan (like the miniature fans used in personal computers) is probably adequate to keep the plants healthy. However, for every 10% rise in average humidity, I would add an extra fan. Thus, at an average 80% relative humidity, I'd have four fans scattered around the case to move the damp air. I really think the ideal condition for most tropical orchids is high humidity (about 70%) coupled with high turbulence.

Most growers respond to outbreaks of fungal or bacterial diseases by lowering the humidity, but I think the best solution is to increase air movement. Some of the healthiest plants I have seen were growing in saturated environments with lots of fans. Roots grow magnificently and water doesn't collect in the leaf and flower sheaths, so rot cannot get started and the plants thrive just as they would in the rain forest. I think orchids in the cloud forests thrive in nearly constant fog because breezes constantly rise from the

lowlands on convection currents. Put those same plants in a greenhouse with too little air movement and they'll succumb to rot at much lower humidity levels. Remember, though, you always have to strike a balance between airflow and humidity. If the humidity is too low, fans can quickly desiccate the Orchids.



Some of our members before the July meeting. It was good to see Kay Mitchell there.

How do you decide how strong your airflow should be? I think of it in this way. If your humidity is 50-60%, aim for the equivalent of a 5-miles-an-hour gentle breeze. If the greenhouse, grow room, or case, is closer to 80-90% humidity, then you need a 10-15mph breeze (if you don't know what 15 mph feels like, it's enough wind to fly a kite). I know one grower who runs his humidity close to 100%, and the wind in his greenhouse blows over 20mph!

But for enclosed light boxes or cases, the little pancake fans work well, as you can tuck them into corners away from plants and the watering hose. For bigger grow rooms, oscillation fans are better because they distribute the air and give the plants a breeze, then rest, breeze, then rest, the way they experience wind in the wild. In greenhouses, ceiling or horizontal airflow (HAF) fans, possibly combined with oscillating fans are best.

Watch the plants. Are they drying out too much? Or is rot setting in? If you have the first problem, try raising the humidity or, if you can't, redirect the fans so that they blow around but not on the plants. If rot is a problem, try increasing airflow or redirecting the fans to blow more directly on the plants. I like to set the fans so that the air moves up from below or down from above, working its way through the pots and the crowns of the plants.



A new Zygopetalum crossing named Zygotoria (Zygopetalum x Pescatoria) which we had on our display table at the July meeting.

COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)**TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 23 June 2015 to 20 July 2015.****DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 22/7/2015.**

	Receipt	<u>INCOME</u>	Cheque	<u>EXPEND</u>	
00/1	Membership	\$ 20.00			Refer Reciept Book/Standing,Nuntiwat
00/2	Raffle	\$ 88.00	491	\$ 105.00	Monthly Meet, July/Reimb. To E,Pearce for plants.
00/3	Hall Hire		489	\$ 175.00	May,April, A/Show
00/5	Affiliation		488	\$ 55.00	Orchid Aust. Subs.
00/7	Newsletter		492	\$ 22.50	Xerox, June Issue.
00/9	Sundry Income/Expen	\$ 20.00			Donation T. Denison
02/1	Bank Interest	\$ 132.90			Term Deposit
	Bank Interest	\$ 1.74			Working Account
05/1	Tinoee Bus Trip	\$ 159.00	490	\$ 150.00	Members's deposite (No. 6), fuel cost and Fuel return.
05/1	Tinoee Bus Trip		493,494,495	\$ 140.00	Refunds to members, additional mileage
	S/Ship	\$ 250.00			Ed Pearce, Geoff King Motors
	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>\$ 671.64</u>		<u>\$ 647.50</u>	

DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD **\$ 24.14****Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.**

Opening Bank Balance 23/6/2014	<u>\$ 7,008.63</u>	
Rec for above period	\$ 671.64	
S/T	<u>\$ 7,680.27</u>	
DEDUCT Exp for above period	<u>\$ 587.50</u>	
Pre. u/presented cheques	\$ 35.00	Chq. 339
S/T	<u>\$ 622.50</u>	
	\$ 7,057.77	
Balance of Income and Expenditure	<u>\$ 7,057.77</u>	Refer BCU Statement @ 17/07/2015.

The following cheques 480 and 495, a total of \$159.45 have not been persented.

The following Accts to be paid: OSNSW \$62.00.
Fuji xerox \$40.00
AOC. \$100.00

NOTES:

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
21/7/2015.

Member Name	Standard Cymbidium Hybrid Over 90 mm	Intermediate Cymbidium Hybrid 60-90 mm	Miniature Cymbidium Hybrid Under 60mm	Laeliinae Exhibition Hybrid over 100mm	Laeliinae Intermediate Hybrid 60 to 100mm	Laeliinae Cluster Hybrid (min 5 flowers)	Laeliinae Novelty Hybrid spotted flower non exhibition	Novelty Paph & allied Hybrids	Paph and Allied Species	Oncidiinae Hybrids under 25mm	Oncidiinae Hybrids between 25 to 65 mm	Oncidiinae Hybrids over 65mm
Class	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	11	12	13	14	15
BAKER										2		
BLAY		3						5				
D COOPER					3						3	
K Cowling			3									
DAVIS				3								
B HALL							3					
P & P KING									3		2	
B MOORE	3								2			5
B PEARCE						3				3		
E PEARCE		2										
SIDEBOTTOM				2	2							
SOUTHWELL	2											
Julie ?	2		3									

Member Name	Oncidiinae & Allied Species	Phalaenopsis Hybrid over 60 mm	Dendrobium Hardcane Hybrid Non Native	Dendrobium AOV Hybrid Non Native	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	Australian Native terrestrial species
Class	17	21	23	24	26	27	30	31	32	33	35
BAKER	2										
BLAY									2		
D COOPER		3	3								
DAVIS								3			
B HALL						3				3	
P & P KING					2	3					
B MOORE	3				3						
B PEARCE								2			
E PEARCE				3							
SOUTHWELL							3		3		3