



# COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

## COFFS ORCHID NEWS – MAR 2016

### 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
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<u>EDITOR:</u>	ED PEARCE	6650 9578

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

Breakfast and lunch 7 days, and dinner Thu 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. Ulmarra. 0402 044601

#### **TINONEE ORCHIDS**

Tinonee Orchids carries a wide variety of orchids and orchid growing supplies – coconut, pots, etc. They provide quick delivery of orders. 6553 1012 or [www.tinoneeorchids.com](http://www.tinoneeorchids.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.

Thanks to the Xerox Shop for printing this newsletter

## **INDEX**

1. Calendar
2. March Meeting
3. Agenda for March general meeting
4. Minutes of February meeting
5. Annual subscriptions due
6. Growing Competition?
7. Ray Clements' talk on Paphiopedilums
8. April Show
9. Dates for 2016
10. Judging Roster
11. Orchid Scent and pollination
12. Orchid Fairs

### **1. CALENDAR**

- |              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 March      | Dick Cooper – staking, etc.    |
| 7 April      | Doug Binns – Orchids in Brazil |
| 30 Apr/1 May | Autumn Show                    |

### **2. MARCH MEETING**

Our guest speaker will be Dick Cooper. Dick is an orchid judge and convenor of the local judging panel. He will be speaking on the correct way to stake and tie up orchids.

With our show coming up at the end of April this is a good chance to find out how to tie up our orchids so they are presented at their best, and in a way that meets judges' approval

### **3. AGENDA for MARCH MEETING**

Judges            Gary Suter Pat King

Welcome, Apologies, Visitors.

Minutes of Feb meeting – as printed in newsletter

Business Arising

Committee Meeting – newsletter

Business arising

Inwards Correspondence

1. BCU Statements, etc.
2. Orchids Australia magazine

Outwards Correspondence

1. Thanks to Ray Clements

Finance Report – in newsletter.

Sponsor's Spot. \*Ludo's Old Wares

Table talk

General business

1. Growing competition?
2. April Show

Raffle, popular vote.



**One of the Vandas at our April Show.**

### **4. MINUTES of FEBRUARY MEETING**

Apologies: K Cowling, C Davis, M Chapman

Visitors: Ray Clements has taken over as our Orchid sponsor.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: as per Newsletter.

Moved: Bron 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ed

Finances: Report in Newsletter. Moved: Bruce 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bron

Table Talk: Ray looked at the table display and talked about several of them.

General Business:

- Annual subscriptions are now due
- Newsletters: please consider getting your newsletter by email rather than posting that has now gone up to \$1. Much appreciated.

Popular Vote: Peter King.

Raffle: Peter King, Ed and Di.



**Lovely slipper orchid.**

## **5. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE**

**Please note that the annual memberships are due. The fees are the same as for 2015, i.e. \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a couple (New members who paid towards the end of last year don't need to pay for 2016). Please pay Bruce Hall as soon as possible.**

## **6. GROWING COMPETITION**

The committee is looking into running a growing competition. The way this would work is that we would get a collection of seedlings from Ray Clements – all roughly the same size - which members could buy. Members would then be asked to bring their plants in every month and the judges would choose the best plant and award points.

There could be a special prize for the first plant to flower. What do you think? Would you be interested in doing this?

## **7. RAY CLEMENT'S TALK**

- Ray has gone out of Phalaenopsis and moved into slippers
- Uses bark x 2, charcoal x1, perlite x 1 (bit less) as a medium. Well drained.
- Like dampness hate wetness. Don't over water.
- Bark should be fresh.
- Should be repotted frequently.
- Don't over pot.
- Don't mind getting dry occasionally.
- Fertilize regularly with appropriate fertilizer.
- Calcium little regularly through summer. Lime water.
- ¼ strength with every watering.
- Use antibacterial anything and paint on black spot.
- Don't allow water in the crown of the plant as it promotes bacterial growth.

### Slippers in Thailand with Scott Barrie

- Thai government encourages farmers to grow profitable crops such as orchids.
- Paph project is a conservation project to save their native species.
- Showed some wonderful specimens.
- Visited the Royal Project that aims to conserve Thai species in a breeding program.

Thanks Ray for a most entertaining and informative talk.



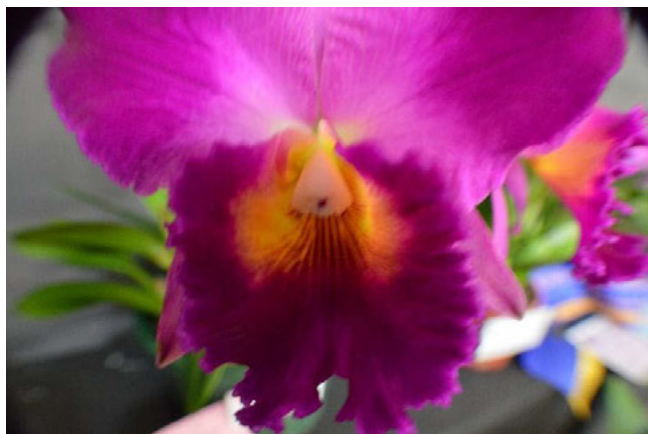
**Unusual laeliinae at last year's April show**



## 8. APRIL SHOW

How are your orchids going? What plants might you have in flower for our April Show? What do you need to do to them to present them at their best? We encourage everyone to enter the plants they have in flower so that we can put on a good display for the public. Dick Cooper will be talking at our March meeting about presenting your flowers to their best advantage.

**We are seeking volunteers for the roster. Ron Cowling is organising the roster and you can see him at one of our meetings or you can call him on 6651 2913. It takes a lot of work to put on a successful show, but if people are prepared to help then it is easier on everyone.**



**We usually have some lovely Laeliinae (Catts) in our show**

## 9. DATES for 2016

Our meeting and show dates for 2016 have been provided by the Botanic Gardens. Committee will need to discuss these.

4 Feb	Ray Clements
3 Mar	Dick Cooper
7 Apr	Doug Binns
29, 30 Apr, 1 May.	Show
5 May	
2 Jun	
9 or 10 Jul	Bus trip to Tinonee Open Day
14 Jul	
4 Aug	
1 Sep	
9, 10, 11 Sep	Show
13 Oct	

3 Nov

1 Dec

## 10. JUDGING ROSTER for 2016 MEETINGS.

MARCH	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gary Suter, Pat King
APRIL	7 <sup>th</sup>	Peter King, Rose McKay
MAY	5 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Southwell, Brenda Mayled
JUNE	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dick Cooper, Silesa King
JULY	14 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Pittaway, Barbara Forsyth
AUGUST	4 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Bright, Pam Warburton
SEPT	1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter Baker, Pat Wallace
OCT	13 <sup>th</sup>	John Sidebottom, Jennifer Lock
NOV	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Barbara Pearce, Helen Seiver

DEC, RESERVES. Carole Davis, Bob Southwell

**PLANTS TO BE BENCHED BY 7.15 PM. JUDGING TO COMMENCE AT 7.20PM**



**A champion Phalaenopsis at last year's April Show.**

## 11. ORCHID SCENT and POLLINATORS

Many of us enjoy the fragrance of orchids – others find some fragrances quite unpleasant. Have you ever thought about the importance of orchid scent for pollination of orchids? Here is an article written by Brian Milligan about this topic.

Most orchid flowers are scented, even though they may not seem so to our relatively insensitive noses. Of course, they are not scented to please us but to attract pollinators, whose attentions ultimately lead to fertilisation and seed production. The vast majority of orchid flowers are pollinated by insects. However, a few non scented orchid flowers are pollinated by humming birds and sunbirds during their search for nectar.

In his book *The Scent of Orchids* (Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1993), Roman Kaiser classified orchids into various groups based on the nature of their pollinators. The moth-pollinated, night scented group of orchids, predominantly from Africa and Madagascar, give off scents reminiscent of jasmine, honeysuckle, tuberose and gardenia, which are released predominantly in the evening and at night. Most of these flowers are white, providing an additional visual guide for the moths. About 8% of all orchids are believed to be moth-pollinated. *Angraecum sesquipedale* is probably the best known, being pollinated by a hawk moth with a proboscis over 300 mm long, as postulated by Charles Darwin in the nineteenth century. But certain American orchids, also with white flowers, such as *Brassavola* species, are also pollinated by moths.



***Angraecum sesquipedale***

In contrast to these sweet-smelling orchids, there are fly-pollinated orchid flowers, mostly red or brown in

colour, whose scents resemble that of rotting flesh. Many bulbophyllums, especially those in the section *Bulbophyllum*, are of this type. The prime example is the evil-smelling *Bulbophyllum robustum* of Papua New Guinea.

Bee-pollinated orchids produce a wide range of scents, resembling those of the rose, violet, lily-of-the-valley, hyacinth and sweet pea. Honey bees (and presumably most other bees) have a different sensitivity to colour than humans, in that they cannot perceive the colour red but can see ultraviolet light, which is invisible to us. There are a few bee-pollinated red flowers but all of these flowers also reflect ultraviolet light, which makes them visible to bees. Many orchid flowers have ultraviolet guide lines that direct bees to the nectar-producing glands concealed within the corolla tube where the pollinia and stigma are also located.

Most bee-pollinated flowers rely solely on attracting the bees by their perfume, and leave the business of pollen transfer to and from the pollinator to chance. But others have a more specific mechanism, for example European terrestrial orchids of the genus *Ophrys*, whose perfume closely resembles the sex attractant of certain female bees. Pollen is transferred from one flower to another when a male bee attempts to mate with a succession of flowers, whose labellum closely resembles a female bee in shape, colour and scent.



***Ophrys lutea***

Butterfly-pollinated flowers are less common but most of us are familiar with the prime example, *Disa uniflora* from South Africa. The pollinia of this species, being among the largest of all orchids, need quite a large pollinator to carry them from flower to flower.



**Disa uniflora (Reichenbachia)**

Most bird-pollinated flowers are red or orange, because birds are more sensitive to this end of the visible spectrum. They are also scentless, because birds have almost no sense of smell. Some species of the American genera *Masdevallia*, *Cattleya*, *Epidendrum*, *Comparettia* and *Laelia*, are pollinated by humming birds. In Papua New Guinea and Malaysia many dendrobiums are pollinated by sunbirds. However, bees and other insects are the main pollinators of orchids, only 3% being pollinated by birds.

An amazing facet of orchid pollination is that in some cases a particular orchid species is pollinated by only a single insect species. In other words, each of these orchids has its own pollinator, thus ensuring that no cross-pollination with related orchid species occurs. But that's another story!

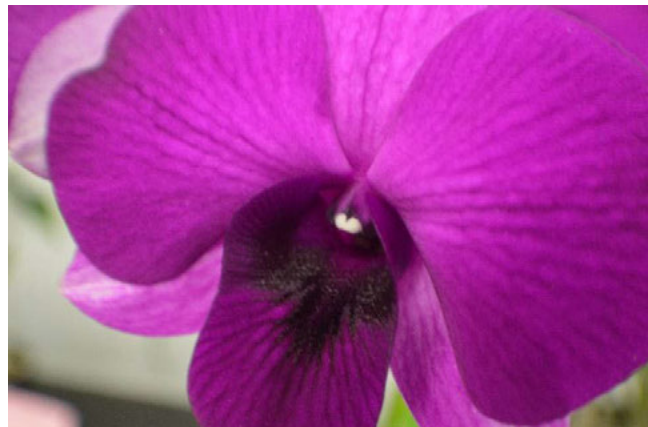
## 12. ORCHID FAIRS

Have you ever been to an orchid fair, or a show, where there are lots of orchid sellers with lots and plants and orchid growing supplies for sale? You might be interested in visiting one of these, even though they involve a bit of travel. There several of these throughout the year – here are just a few.

Queensland International Orchid Fair – Beenleigh Show Ground, James Street, Beenleigh on 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March (Brisbane).

Castle Hill International Orchid Fair – 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April at Harvey Lowe Pavilion at Castle Hill Showground (Sydney).

Tinonee Orchids – Open day and Workshop. 768 Tinonee Road, Tinonee. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July



**We usually have some hard cane Dendrobiums on display at the April Show.**

February

Member Name	Laeliinae Exhibition Hybrid over 100mm	Laeliinae Intermediate Hybrid 60 to 100mm	Laeliinae Miniature Hybrid under 60mm	Laeliinae Species	Novelty Paph & allied Hybrids	Oncidiinae Hybrids under 25mm	Oncidiinae Hybrids between 25 to 65 mm	Oncidiinae Hybrids over 65mm	Tolumnia (equitant Oncidiums)	Oncidiinae & Allied Species	Vandaceous Hybrid under 60mm
Class	4	5	6	9	11	13	14	15	16	17	18
B Bright					2						
B Fox											
B HALL						3					3
B PEARCE			3								
BLAY					3						
P & P KING		3		5							
SIDEBOTTOM		2									
SOUTHWELL	3						3	5	3	3	

Member Name	Vandaceous Hybrid over 60mm	Phalaenopsis Hybrid Under 60 mm	Dendrobium Hardcane Hybrid Non Native	A.O.V Species Non Native	Australian Native Hybrid inc Dendrobium	Australian Native species inc Dendrobium	AOV Hybrid under 50mm	AOV Hybrid over 50mm	AOV species under 50mm	Novice (first year of membership)
Class	19	20	23	25	26	27	30	31	32	36
B FORSYTH										3
B Fox		2								
B NEWMAN		5	3							
B PEARCE								3		
BAKER			2			3				
BLAY				3			2			
CLEMESHA									2	
WILLIAMS							3			
No Name					3				3	

**COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY (CHOS)****TRADING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF 24 January 2016 to 22 February 2016.****DATE OF THIS STATEMENT 22/2/2016.**

	Receipt	<u>INCOME</u>	Cheque	<u>EXPEND</u>	
00/1	M/Ships	\$ 396.00			Refer Receipt Book
00/2	Raffle	\$ 102.00			Monthly Meet, Feb.
00/8	Executive		69	\$50.00	Petty Cash.
00/8	Executive		71	\$54.95	C.Davis gift, web site
06/1	Sponsorship	\$ 100.00			Tinonee Orchids
00/3	Hall Hire		70	\$70.00	Nov, Dec, 2015.
00/7	Newsletter		68	\$40.00	Xerox, Feb. issue.
	<b><u>TOTALS</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 598.00</u></b>		<b><u>\$214.95</u></b>	

**DEBIT/CREDIT TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD**                      \$ 383.05
**Bank Reconciliation for the above trading period.**

Opening Bank Balance 24/2/2016	<u>\$ 5,803.78</u>
Rec for above period	\$ 598.00
S/T	<u>\$ 6,401.78</u>

<b>DEDUCT</b> Exp for above period	<u>\$ 144.95</u>
Pre. u/presented cheques	\$ -
S/T	<u>\$ 144.95</u>
	\$ 6,256.83

**Balance of income and expenditure**                      **\$ 6,256.83**

Refer BCU Statement @ 22/02/2016.

The following chqs have not been presented: Chq 70 for \$70.00

The following Accts to be paid Nil at this time

**NOTES:**

CHOS has a sum of \$10,000.00 invested as a FTD

HALL. B.G.

Hon. Treasurer

23/2/2016.