

M A Y 2 0 1 6

Nambour Orchid News

Meetings

The **Business** meeting is held on the 4th Saturday of each month at 12.45pm prior to the cultural meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

The **Cultural meeting** is held on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Nambour Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave., Nambour at 2pm. All members and visitors are welcome. *Plants are to be tabled by 1.30pm for judging.*

The **Species appreciation group** get together is held monthly from February to November at member's homes. Contact the Secretary for details. All STOCQ members welcome. Bring your flowering species plants, a chair, a cup and a plate to share for afternoon tea.

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Cittamani Hospice Service

Judges Choice - April



Rlc. Donna Kimura - Gina McMonagle

Directory of Office Bearers

Patron	Rob Wright	
President	Gina McMonagle	5439 6353
Vice	G Robertson	5442 1288
Secretary	Alison Parkes	54417201
Treasurer	Jean Harris	54453307
Editor	Richard Hand	54422879

Postal address: PO Box 140, Nambour Qld 4560

Email: nambourorchids@gmail.com

Website: www.nambourorchidsociety.com

From the Secretary
Diamond Festival of Orchids (Just over 2 weeks to go)

Dinner bookings are still available for our conference dinner at Lakehouse, Brightwater Hotel 15 Freshwater Street, Brightwater on Saturday 11th June. Cost is \$55 per person, includes a 2-course alternate drop meal, plus nibbles and a complimentary drink on arrival. Dinner is 6pm start on the deck for nibbles and drinks, seated by 6.30pm for the meal. The venue has extended the final payment date and there are 13 places left so if you want to book you will have to be quick.

The rosters for members to assist will be at the April meeting. Please think about whether you can spend a few hours to help. There are plenty of jobs to be done over the 2 days. As is normal with all our shows, we also need help with dinner preparation on Friday night for the Judges & Volunteers meal.

The STOCQ & OQI meetings will be held at the Diamond Festival Venue on Sunday 12th
Agenda is as follows.

- I. Judges meeting 8.30am
- II. STOCQ meeting 9am there will be a call for societies to nominate for the 2019 Orchid Fest.
- III. OQI meeting 9.30am

There is a Diamond Festival Guest speaker scheduled for 10am.

Species social afternoons. There will be no get together for species in June as the normal date is our Diamond Festival of Orchids.

There will be a Sausage sizzle at Bunnings on Thursday 30th June.

See you at the show

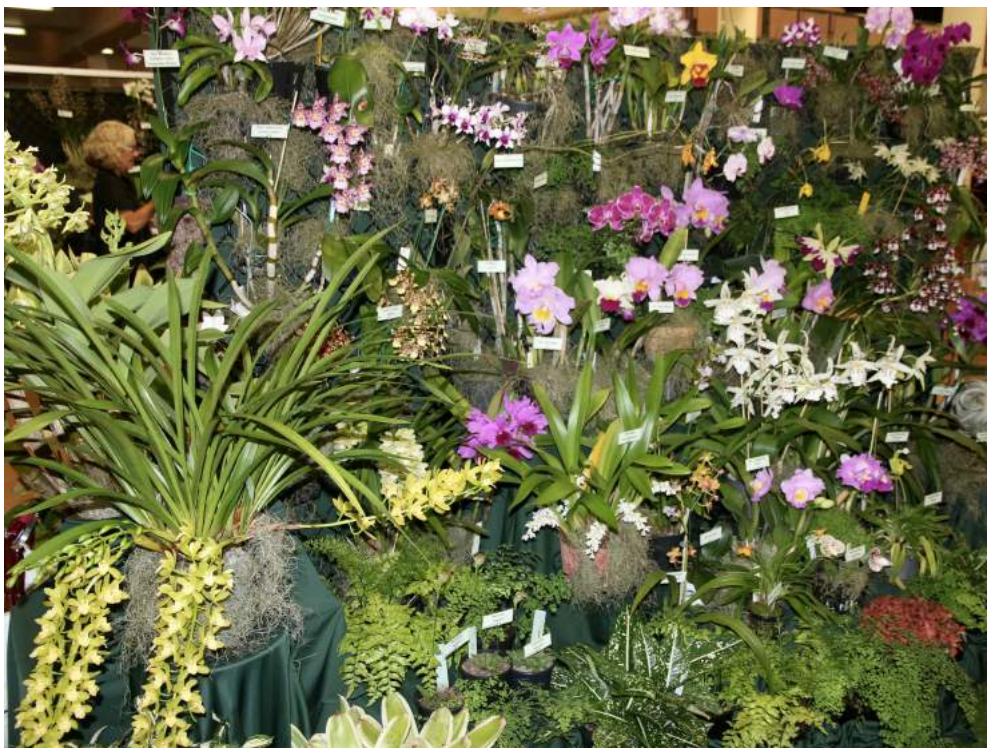
Alison

Guest Speakers for May meeting

Alison Parkes will speak and demonstrate on the correct way to do labeling.

Judy Robbins – will show members how to prepare and present orchids for meetings and shows.

Cheryl Basic – will speak on grooming foliage plants and bromeliads and explain what judges are looking for at meeting and shows.



Our display at Gympie Show



**Judges Choice – April –
Rlc. Donna Kimura**

Rlc. Donna Kimura was registered in 1970 and still ticks all the boxes for colour, shape and substance.

We obtained our plant in 2010 and have found it to be a vigorous grower and A pleasure to bring in to the house when in flower.

It is potted in our large mix of Kiwi bark, perlite and charcoal and lives in the shade house with plastic on the roof.

Gina McMonagle



**Cultural Plant – April
Coelogyne fimbriata
Rod Aisthorpe**



**Judges Choice – Novice
Rlc. Goldenzelle x Rlc. Dal's Grace
Col & Marilyn Brackin**

Selection of plants on display at our April meeting



C. Leopard Queen – Tom Buckley



Habenaria thodocheila – W & J Harris



Coel. rochussenii – W & J Harris



Dendrobium virgineum – Duncan McMartin



Phal. Chialin Focus
G & B Robertson



Aerides quinquevulnera
Duncan McMartin

Softcane Dendrobium - Eric Collins

Soft Cane Dendrobiums are commonly known as Nobile type Dendrobiums. This grouping of plants makes up the genus Dendrobiums as it contains the type species *Dendrobium moniliforme*. There are about 55 to 60 species that range from Northern India in the west to Korea and Japan in the north and Australia in the south. The largest populations of species lie in the area of Indo-china where about 45 to 50 species are found with the rest spread amongst the other countries.



In general the bulk of these plants grow at moderate altitude in areas where the monsoon is the dominant weather pattern. This ensures a hot humid and wet summer and a winter of little rain with clear sunny days and cold nights. This then gives us a strong clue to the culture of these plants including the many hybrids we have available to us.

For successful cultivation of any plant we must supply a good balanced environment, which contains five major requirements at optimum levels. These requirements are air, water, light, temperature and nutrients.



Air: as these plants are an epiphyte (grow on other plants) they require that the air is fresh and moving, as does any epiphyte. This generally is not a problem as they should be grown either in the open or on trees in an elevated position or in a shade house where fresh air can pass through.

Light: soft canes require strong light levels even to full sun year round. We grow a number of plants in the sun on a lattice on top of our side fence about 160cm to 180cm from the ground and have never seen a burnt leaf on them. If a shade house is built for them a covering of 30% shade cloth is sufficient, however they can be grown successfully under 50%.

Temperature: This is usually no problem along our coastline however once you leave the coast and move inland frost can be a real problem as these plants will not survive freezing. Temperatures in Coffs Harbour can range from 0° in winter to 40°C plus in summer on occasion and even our outside plants come through with no problem.

Water: these plants require a good supply of good fresh water throughout the hot weather and even in winter we never let our plants dry out. On very hot days we give them a good watering in the morning and one or two lighter waterings through the day.

Many years ago it was said that to water soft canes in winter would make them produce aerial growths instead of flowers and at most you should mist them lightly so as to stop the canes from shrivelling. I am a little disappointed that this old story is still around as I believe that they do require some light watering in dryer periods but of course not as much as in summer when growth is happening.

It will also be said that in their native habitat they receive little or no rain during winter. This I agree with however although I have never been to the area where they grow I believe that nature being nature provides dews and mists with the change in day and night temperatures to the exposed roots, which are designed to absorb the moisture.



Fertiliser: like water, soft canes require plenty of nutrition, especially during the growth season. We use Seasol, Powerfeed and Nitrosol alternately at 1/2ml per litre of water at every watering and a chemical fertiliser at 1/4 strength about every 3 watering's. Through the growth season of October to March the chemical fertiliser contains a moderate amount of nitrogen and during the colder weather there is no nitrogen in it at all.

During the growth period October to March we will still apply the fertiliser even during wet periods when there is a lull in the rain as we figure a bit more water won't hurt and the benefits of the fertiliser are too good.

Over the last 9 years Dot and I have concentrated most of our efforts on these plants and have monitored them closely, keeping detailed logs of weather conditions and the progress of the plants and we have learned much.

We with all due respect to past and present growers, we have found no time of rest with our observations as something seems to be going on at all times.



We now prefer to look upon winter as a time of metamorphosis. When temperatures have a drop we have observed node swelling after just 2 weeks of sub 15°C. We see a 4-season year of growth, containing, bud initiation and flowering.

Growth starts in late July or August and progresses slowly until flowering. After flowering has finished the new pseudo bulbs will recommence their growth rate until March when they should be completed. This of course has been their best growth season and also the time to have applied moderate nitrogen based fertiliser.

Over the next month or so the new canes will fatten up and it is important not to starve them of water at this time. It is also time to cut the nitrogen from your fertiliser.

From about the second week in August flowers will start opening depending on the weather conditions. It is now time to sit back and enjoy the fruit of our labours.

I would like to thank Sandy and Ollie Anderson who for a number of years ran Banana Coast Orchids and imported many fine soft canes from Hawaii. We may well have given up growing these beautiful orchids after an early and utter failure if Sandy had not advised and encouraged us all those years ago. I think they became our mentors for a number of years without really knowing it.

Thanks to Coffs Harbour O S for allowing us to reprint this article.

Pat Mann

Continuing articles about some of our long time and/or well-known members of our society, this month's story is about Pat Mann.

Pat joined North Coast Orchid Society in 1969 (as Nambour O S was known as then). Pat was President of NCOS for 3 years, she was an inaugural member and President of Nambour Orchid Society for 6 years. She was an inaugural member of President of Noosa District Orchid and Foliage Society for 3 years, an inaugural member of Sub-Tropical Orchid Council and inaugural member of Kabi (ANOS) for 4 years. Pat was keen to expand her orchid knowledge and experience and began a judging course around 1982, under the tutelage of Ben Matthews and the late Dave English.

Pat's primary loves in orchids are natives and species but hybrids also hold a great fascination. Pat loves walking in the bush and seeing and photographing orchids in situ. She enjoys the experience of growing and showing orchids and sharing knowledge with other orchid growers.

Pat is a member of the STOCQ Judging Panel and is a respected judge and has a calm and dignified manner when she goes about her judging. Together with her late husband, Clive, she has contributed to orchid life greatly.

Pat is indeed one of our long time treasures.



Species

Plant of the month - *Paphiopedilum wenshanense*.

G & B Robertson. The story behind this plant is that *Paph. Conco-bellatulum* (concolor x bellatulum) was discovered as a natural hybrid, originally. However, certain plants had flowers that were distinctly different than the man-made *Conco-bellatulum*, therefore it was given the new species name *Paph. wenshanense*. It is very rare and very local with few subpopulations and a very restricted distribution in China.

The population trend is decreasing. The abundance of the species has been significantly reduced during recent decades and some populations are already extinct due to many threats especially habitat destruction, logging, irregular fires, deforestation, ruthless collection for horticultural purposes, regional and international trade, trampling, recreation, ecological disturbance, tourism and infrastructure development.

It is assessed as Critically Endangered

Plant on display at species group meeting

Note: Names now regarded as synonyms are in parentheses

Aerides magnifica, *Ancistrochilus rothschildianus*, *Anoectochilus burmannicus*, *Anoectochilus chapaensis*
Anoectochilus formosanus, *Anoectochilus roxburghii*, *Anoectochilus siamensis*, *Bifrenaria (Stenocoryne) vitellina*

Brassavola subulifolia (cordata), *Bryobium hyacinthoides*,
Bulbophyllum biflorum, *Bulbophyllum corolliferum(curtisii)*
Bulbophyllum flabellum-veneris, *Bulbophyllum grandiflorum(cominsii, burfordiense)*, *Bulbophyllum lasiochilum*
Bulbophyllum lingibracteatum, *Bulbophyllum mastersianum*,
Bulbophyllum pteroglossum, *Bulbophyllum putidum*
Bulbophyllum rothschildianum, *Bulbophyllum sanguineopunctatum*,
Cattleya (Laelia) lobata alba

Cattleya walkeriana, *Cattleya wallisii*, *Cleisostoma simondii*,
Cleisostoma simondii, *Cleisostoma sp. 'Myanmar'*
Coelogyne assamica, *Coelogyne bilamellata*, *Coelogyne ovalis*,
Coelogyne speciosa, *Coelogyne triplicatula*
Coelogyne usitana, *Dendrobium affine*, *Dendrobium bracteosum*,
Dendrobium convolutum, *Dendrobium fairchildiae*
Dendrobium glomeratum, *Dendrobium ionopus*, *Dendrobium ionopus*, *Dendrochilum cobbianum*

Dendrochilum pangasinanense, *Dendrochilum uncatum*,
Epidendrum nocturnum, *Galeandra lacustris*
Gastrochilus calceoloris, *Liparis latifolia*, *Liparis reflexa*, *Liparis viridiflora*,
Ludisia discolor, *Ludisia discolor var. alba*
Ludisia discolor var. nigrescens, *Macodes petola*, *Oncidium ornithorhynchum*,
Paphiopedilum wenshanense,
Phalaenopsis bellina, *Phalaenopsis tetraspis*, *Phalaenopsis violacea*,
Phalaenopsis lowii, *Pomatocalpa angustifolium*

Psychopsis papilio alba, *Vanda luzonica x 2*



Cultural plant - *Vanda Luzonica*
 R Aisthorpe

Diamond Festival of Orchids
Sub Tropical Orchid Council Queensland Inc.
Triennial Orchid festival 2016
Hosted by Nambour Orchid Society Inc.



Saturday June 11 & Sunday June 12, 2016

Featuring the best Orchids South East Qld has to offer

Vendors selling orchids and supplies Art, Craft & Photography Displays

Demonstrations of Potting, Craft & Botanical Art

Five Guest Speakers over two days

Catering by Caloundra Meals on Wheels

Lake Kawana Community Centre

114 Sportsmans Parade Bokarina, Sunshine Coast, QLD 4575

Find more details at www.nambourorchidsociety.com/dfo

Email Alison at diamondfestivaloforchids@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com

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Proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council's grants program

Show Dates 2016 – NOS commitment

Date & Show	Location
JUNE	
Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 (Set up Fri. from 3pm) Diamond Festival of Orchids Sub Tropical Orchid Council Queensland Inc. Triennial Orchid Festival Hosted by Nambour Orchid Society Inc	Lake Kawana Community Centre 114 Sporstmans Parade Bokarina, Sunshine Coast
JULY	
Saturday 9 Combined Societies Social Day Out	Community Centre, Howard
Fri.8, Sat.9, Sun.10 (Set up Thursday) Garden Expo	Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Ave. Nambour
Fri. 22, Sat. 23 & Sun 24 (Set up Thurs.21) Caboolture Orchid Show	Morayfield Community Centre Morayfield Road, Morayfield
AUGUST	
Friday 4 & Saturday 5 (set up Thurs. 3) Maroochydore Orchid Show	Community Hall Millward Road East, Maroochydore
SEPTEMBER	
Friday 2 & Saturday 3 (Set up Thurs. 1) Nambour Orchid Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Avenue, Nambour
Fri. 16 & Sat.17 (Set up Thurs 15) Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Show	RSL Memorial Hall, Maple Street, Cooroy.
Fri. 23 & Sat. 24 (Set up Thurs. 22) Glasshouse Country Orchid Show	Beerwah Community Hall Peachester Road, Beerwah
OCTOBER	
Sat.15 & Sun. 16 (Set up Fri. 14 Oct.) Bribie Island Orchid Show	The Orchid House 1 st Avenue, Bribie Island
Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 Hervey Bay Orchid Show	PCYC O'Rourke Street, Pialba
Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 Boonah Orchid Show	Boonah High School Boonah
Saturday 22 & Sun 23 Orchid Species Show	Auditorium Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
Friday 28 & Saturday 29 Set up Thurs. 27) Nambour Orchid Species Show & Trade Fair	Uniting Church Hall Coronation Avenue, Nambour
Friday 4, Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 November Pumicestone Orchid Show	CT Williams Hall, Caboolture Showgrounds