

# Nambour Orchid News



Est. 1955

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**CULTURAL MEETING** -: The Nambour Orchid Society Inc. meets every 4<sup>th</sup> **SATURDAY** of the month, except December, in the Buffalo Lodge Hall, Price Street, Nambour at 2pm. All members, prospective members and visitors are welcome.

**BUSINESS MEETING** -: The monthly Business meeting of the Society is held prior to the Cultural meeting at 1pm. All members are welcome to attend the business meeting.

The next meeting of the Society will be held on **SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

The **Next SPECIES APPRECIATION SOCIAL GROUP** will be held at 2pm on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Venue will be notified in due course. Members of all STOCQ Societies are welcome to attend. Bring your flowering species plants, a chair and a plate to share for afternoon tea.

Disclaimer -:

While the Management Committee and the Editor of the Nambour Orchid Society Inc. endeavour to ensure the reliability of the content of this newsletter, neither the Nambour Orchid Society Inc. or the Editor can assume any responsibility for the views expressed or for information printed in this newsletter.

*A Christmas Blessing For You*

Helen Steiner Rice



*A Christmas Blessing  
For You*

May Jesus, our Saviour,  
Who was born on Christmas Day,  
Bless you at this season  
In a very special way...  
May the beauty and the promise  
Of that silent, holy night  
Fill your heart with peace  
and happiness  
And make your new year bright!

*Helen Steiner Rice*

## Editors Page

September, October and November are always great orchid months and our last meeting falls in the middle of Spring. Therefore it is no surprise when all the lovely species orchids come out to grace our benches in such style. Bob's lovely *V Manuvadeex x V coerulea* was a lovely sight and Tom Buckley produced a great *C walkeriana* "Kenny". I always think that "Kenny" is one of the best. Wayne had his *Cochleanthes* discolour out and Mal showed a very nice *Sc Dal's Tradition*. The benches were filled with little beauties.

Our entertainment for the afternoon came from Beryl when she showed her updated program of Specimen Orchids and explained what is required when you are trying to produce that "special" plant to get it to the recognized specimen category. It certainly takes a lot of good culture too over an extended period.

It was a good afternoon and all enjoyed a lovely "cuppa" from our great hostesses Hazel and Judy.

Last Saturday 13/11/10 we were the guests of Rod and Janet at their Woombye Home for our bi monthly species appreciation group. As always it is very pleasant under those lovely trees in Rod's back yard. His red hoyas in flower added a lovely touch. The bench of species brought out to be admired was a show in itself and there were dozens more in the bush house to be marvelled at and admired.

We all gave a little talk about what we knew about growing our respective plants and I am sure that much was learned. After a chat we had a really good lucky numbers raffle and then a nice afternoon tea. Our special thanks go to our hosts for such a great relaxing afternoon of fun.

This Saturday it was early rising and all hands on deck for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Yandina Orchid Show. This proved very good in spite of the dreadful weather. Our entry was to a colourful array of phalaenopsis and all the different genera was arrayed on the tables. There were plenty of good quality plants to attract our new patrons.

Beryl showed a beautiful basket of Miltonias which had everyone vowing to pick up their game, and the slipper orchids certainly had "WOW" factor as well. I liked the lovely green of *Coelogyne pandurata*. We don't see it too often. Cym Australian Midnight made a late show appearance and some of the oncidiums were fantastic.

Thank you to all who participated and brought their lovely hobby out to be enjoyed by everyone.

On our recent trip with the Gympie Society we were the guests of Dr Graham McKay and his wife who showed us their collection of phalaenopsis orchids. Graham kindly gave us some notes on how he grows his orchids and they are included in this month's newsletter for your information if you were not on the trip. If the Gympie club goes on another of these trips next year I would highly recommend it.

Christmas Holidays came early for some and it is good to see Alison and Alan and Joan and Bob back from their travels and looking so refreshed.

How can it be November this month and this our final meeting before Christmas? The year has just flown. Our shows are now all done for the year and we only have the one meeting and our Christmas Party at the Red Bridge Motor Inn on Nambour Connection Road, Woombye left to enjoy.

We wish all the members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Editors Pat and Clive.

### POPULAR VOTE FOR OCTOBER 2010

#### HYBRIDS

##### *Cattleya Alliance*

First & JC

Second

Tie Third

Tie Third

Lc Pixie Gold Dust x *Epi alatum*

Rlc Calico Charm

Ctna Why Not

Sc Dal's Tradition

Rob Raabe

Mal Rivers

Des & Elaine Middlebrook

Mal Rivers

<i>Oncidium Alliance</i>		
First & JC	Brassia Rex 'Christine'	Rod Aisthorpe
Second	Milt Herralexandre	Beryl & Graham Robertson
Third	<i>Milt spectabilis</i>	Lesley Beare
<i>Vanda / Phalaenopsis</i>		
First & JC	V Kultana 'Blue'	Rod Aisthorpe
Second	V Unknown	David Tyler
Tie Third	V Charungraks x Ascda Meda Arnold	Mal Rivers
Tie Third	v Sankamphaeng	Rod Aisthorpe
Tie Third	v Unknown	Alan Shield
<i>Dendrobiums</i>		
First	Den Wordet Nishi	David Tyler
Second & JC	Den Lemon Tree	Beryl & Graham Robertson
Third	Den New Guinea	rod Aisthorpe
<i>Other Genera</i>		
First & JC	Lycaste Auburn x Lycaste Candicrue	David Tyler
Second	Lycaste Pamela	David Tyler
PRIMARY HYBRID		
First & JC	Paph Berenice	Beryl & Graham Robertson
Second	Cym Australian Midnight	Val Siebenhausen
Third	Paph Pinochio	Beryl & Graham Robertson
EXOTIC SPECIES		
First	<i>Brassavola perrinii</i>	Judy Robbins
Tie Second	<i>C schilleriana</i>	Rob Raabe
Tie Second & JC	<i>Den eximium</i>	Beryl & Graham Robertson
AUSTRALIAN NATIVES		
<i>Hybrid</i>		
First & JC	<i>Chiloglottis x pescottiana</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes
Second	Sarco Fitzhart 'Marg' x <i>Sarco fitzgeraldii</i> 'Red'	Marty & Anita Vlekkert
Third	Den You Beaut	Marty & Anita Vlekkert
<i>Species</i>		
First	<i>Den kingianum</i> 'Minnie'	Marty & Anita Vlekkert
Second	<i>Bulb schillerianum</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes
Third & JC	<i>Cryptostylis subulata</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes

The plant of the month was *Den eximium* grown by Beryl & Grahan Robertson.



#### Dendrobium eximium.

This species belongs to the latouria section of dendrobiums from Papua New Guinea. The name *eximium* means extraordinary or outstanding. This species requires fairly high humidity and needs regular watering but it can be kept slightly drier during the winter months. The best time to repot ( as with most orchids) is late spring when new roots and shoots start to appear.

In good conditions this orchid grows quite quickly, but we have found that it can be subject to red spider mite damage during dry winter months if the humidity falls too low. When it came into bud this year we

transferred it to the phalaenopsis house, as sometimes it has dropped buds in cold conditions. There have been eleven primary hybrids made to date all of them within the latouria section.

Beryl Robertson

# Phalaenopsis Orchid growing made easy!



In their natural state, Phalaenopsis Orchids are epiphytic (grow on trees) or saprophytic (grow on rocks). They have no moisture storage mechanism such as a bulb or cane as do other orchids. Therefore, to grow well, they are not able to live outside under trees in an Australian climate. They need more protected conditions:

- Inside the home
- In a waterproof covered greenhouse

A greenhouse facility should have shade cover being 70 to 85% light reduction. Ideal conditions would be:

1. 70% light reduction
2. 70% humidity
3. Fertilize once weekly

Spring/Summer (September to March)

High Nitrogen HSO22 (Horticultural Solutions)

Autumn/Winter (April to August)

High Potassium HSO12

I use Amino K supplement for additional Potassium uptake including sugars, carbohydrates and amino acids. This is a good supplement when plants are first taken out of a flask environment

My potting media is - Coconut Husk : 3 parts : Granulated foam : 1 part .

This assists in reducing water consumption and the foam opens up the air spaces. Larger husk size is used with larger plants. The brand must be ORCHIDMATE which is PH adjusted. Additionally, I soak this in CULTIPLEX solution (Horticulture Solutions) to ensure salt reduction and also that the PH is 5.5 to 6.0. I wash the medium with rainwater 3 times and soak again in HYSAN solution to stabilize before use. Phalaenopsis Orchids grow best in temperature conditions 15° to 28° When temperature is greater than 28° the humidity must be left high and air flow maintained with fans or convection flow. PLANTS MUST BE DRY below 15° and therefore watering in cooler.

# Secretaries News Update

## November 2010

### **Plant Growing Competition**

At the Xmas party in December 2008, all members present were given a plant of Denrobium Anuka Flare as our first growing competition. If you still have this plant in your collection, please bring it along to the *cultural meeting this week*.

I hope last months Epi.plant is starting to grow for you all, the next one will be given out at the Xmas party, this will be a species plant.

Plants will be returned to the meetings at 6month & 12 month intervals to assess the best plants.

### **Species appreciation**

I am told everyone had a great time at the species appreciation at Rod & Jan's place this month, November seems to be a good flowering time for species, when we went to the species meeting in Brisbane the Monday after ours, the tables were loaded with beautiful plants in flower. Wayne had in full bloom his Bulbophyllum fletcherianum,( fondly referred to by Jean as Mr Stinky) & being a bit fond of the Bulbo's, I was only too pleased when Wayne rang and asked if I would like to see it. I wonder if I will ever see mine flower.

### **Display and Market day**

The weather was a bit ordinary for our display and market day on Saturday, but we had a lot of good troopers in our members who turned up nice and early in our hopes of catching the market traffic. Our thanks go to everyone who helped with the set up Friday night, and on the day. Our results were better than expected, and I think a good time was had by all. There are a few photos floating around that I believe will be used as bribes somewhere along the line. Special thanks to Graham & Alan who got soaked hanging up the banner in all that rain so early in the morning. They certainly needed a change of clothes by the time they finished.

Yandina was our last show commitment for the year, so you can all have a rest now and spend your time potting plants ready for next year.

### **Plant Sales.**

We have a plant sales table at each meeting for members to sell any surplus plants. If you have any you would like to sell, bring them along tagged with your name & price so members know who to pay. A 10% commission is payable to the Treasurer. Each member is responsible for their own plants.

### **Christmas Party.**

The Christmas party has been booked at the Red Bridge Motel on Nambour Connection Road for Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> December. Arrival time at the venue is 12Noon & lunch will be served at 12.30pm. If there is any member who has not given me their name and would like to go, please advise so I can adjust the booking numbers. The meal will be a smorgasboard, & the cost is \$30 per head for non members & \$15 per head for members. *Payment at the meeting this Saturday please* so the Treasurer can enjoy the day and not have to be chasing money.

This is also the last newsletter for the year, as we do not have a December meeting. The next newsletter will be proir to the January meeting which will be Saturday January the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.

There is no species appreciation until Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2011

In case I don't see you at the Christmas Party, have a great Christmas & New Year and I am sure we all look forward to doing it all again next year.

Show Dates Catalogue 2011  
Nambour Orchid Society commitment (in red)

<b>Society</b>	<b>Show Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>
STOCQ AGM hosted by Gympie Orchid Society	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2011	Surface Hill, Uniting Church Hall, Gympie
Childers & Isis District Orchid Society	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	
Capricorn Orchid Society	Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Bauhinia House, North Rockhampton
Boyne Tannum Orchid & Foliage Society	Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> April & Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	
Sunshine Coast Orchid Society	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> & Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Uniting Church Hall, Caloundra
South Burnett Orchid Society	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	
Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Society	Fri, Sat, Sun, 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Toyota Showrooms, Gladstone
Gympie & District Orchid Society	Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> April & Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> May	
S.T.O.C.Q Meeting hosted by South Burnett	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	