



# Nambour Orchid News

May 2011

Email [nambourorchids@gmail.com](mailto:nambourorchids@gmail.com)  
[www.nambourorchidsociety.com](http://www.nambourorchidsociety.com)

Postal Address: PO Box 140, Nambour, Qld. 4560

Articles for the newsletter are very welcome. Please forward to the editor by post or email to [nambourorchids@gmail.com](mailto:nambourorchids@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **MEETINGS:**

**Business Meeting is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 1pm prior to the cultural meeting. All members are welcome to attend the business meeting.**

**Cultural Meeting is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at the Buffalo Lodge Hall, Price Street, Nambour at 2pm. All members, prospective members and visitors are welcome.**

**Species appreciation get together is held monthly from February to November at members homes. Contact the Secretary for details. All STOCQ members welcome.**

**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.

At our April meeting we enjoyed a get together to discuss some of our potting and cultural ways of doing things. Some interesting things came to light with President Bill showing us how he cares and pots some of his little touchy species orchids. His *Restrepias* were on hand and this was his way of handling them. Alison had also brought along her "Private Bin" of chemicals that she resorts to using. She made interesting listening as she went through them and explained their uses in her cultural methods.

She had a modest collection as some people seem to own almost the entire chemist shop of potions and fertilizers. One strong point she made was to watch the use by date on all chemicals as after their shelf life they are not as effective as they originally were.

Our species group met at Tewantin at Judy's home this last month and we had a great attendance. As usual we had a lovely array of species which are out at this time of year to admire and discuss. Judy's orchid houses were a delight to inspect. Her orchids are in good health and weeds are just non-existent. It is what we all aim for and is good to see. The foliage plants were especially lovely and lots of them are in natural setting.

I had to revise my expectations of my *Hoya* collection after seeing a monster plant growing along the front fence which was well over twenty metres long. It was growing in and out of the hedge shrubs and in and out of full sun with flower clusters every foot along the way. It was just beautiful. Thank you Judy for a wonderful afternoon.

We were alarmed to hear that our friend Wayne Harris has had problems with his heart and needed a quick trip to Brisbane for some running repairs. We hope that you are well on the way to recovery now Wayne and that all is looking well.

Our lovely Bennie is still in our thoughts and she continues to make a recovery. Lots of love to you Bennie.

Our trip to Gympie was really good. We had lots of orchids to make our display and it turned out very well. Congratulations to all the prize winners and our thanks to all who made the trip up there with their lovely plants. Competition was stiff but we held our own well. Some of us had foliage plants in excess of our needs for the display so we entered them in the Horticultural Show of foliage plants in the hall next door. We even proved successful over there. It was a very enjoyable show and we thank the Gympie Society for their hospitality.

At our last meeting we had two visitors. We welcomed Jan and Dave Wood and hope to see more of them in the future.

The STOCQ Meeting will be held at the Lutheran Hall, Thorn Street, Murgon on 4<sup>th</sup> June. The Judges' Meeting kicks off at 8.30 a.m. (Early start eh!!!) The guest speaker for the day will be Mr. Allan Merryman. It should be a great day.

Bill told us that he had uncovered what he thought was a good buy next door at the hardware store in Price Street. He said it was a 34 litre battery powered spray and that they had it on offer for \$199 00. He said that it could be used from a wheelbarrow. It could be worth checking out. Thanks Bill for the tip.

Not much is heard about the *Restrepia* genus so I have decided to include some of Bill's thoughts on their culture here for maybe some future use. Ken Richards grew a much admired member of this family for a long time. He may still have it. It was always a wonder to see it in flower with its tiny yellow flowers coming out of the centre of the leaves and looking more like an insect on the leaf than a flower.

Regards Pat and Clive.

## RESTREPIAS

By Bill Letcher.

The Restrepia genus are native to the cloud forest of the Andes Mountains in South America. They are orchids that like “human conditions”. By this I mean; not too hot and not too cold.

They like moisture and not to dry out. This would be provided in nature by the cloud moisture. They do well in sphagnum moss. When using sphagnum moss culture it is important to repot into a fresh mixture every year as it will go sour. It gets too acidic when it sours.

These plants can be struck from leaf cuttings similar to African Violets. In this they are also similar to the pleurothallis genera and their poorer cousins the masdevallias. They prefer a tiny pot and often it is found that they are easier to grow than at first thought.

When potting squeeze the water out of the sphagnum moss and then tease it out until it is nice and fluffy. Put a little bit in the bottom of the pot and don't press it down too hard. Wrap some moss around the root ball (not too tightly). I prefer that the eyes of the plant are left just above the medium.

Don't forget to put your label in. At a later time after the plant has become established I like to transfer the plant in to a mesh pot which allows it more ability to breathe.

Keep in a fairly shaded part of the bush house.

## ALISON'S MAGIC BOX OF TRICKS.

Rose Shield She uses this as a regular spray. It is available at Bunnings. It helps to keep the plants healthy. It can be used as a fungicide to help keep the black spots off the cymbidiums leaves and flowers.

Eco Oil This she finds to be a safe vegetable oil which she uses against mites, red spider and scale insects. Use at the rate of 5 to 10 mils per litre.

Cinnamon. Dusting plants with cinnamon can help with bacterial rot problems. Conditions are often the cause of the problem.

Condy's Crystals. These are often used as an antibiotic and the plant is isolated from the rest of the inhabitants.

Wettable Sulphur. She uses this to dust on any cuts she may make in a plant.

Eco Oil – Seaweed (Eco C Weed) She likes to spray this over the plant when repotting as it helps give strength to the cell walls of the plant.

Methylated Spirits. She likes to use at 75 per cent to 25 per cent water to sterilize cutting instruments.

Eco-Neem This is used to keep aphids in check.

Bleach After washing her pots she likes to sterilize them using bleach.

Thank you Alison for your tips. These are given only as a guide and no responsibility for their use is taken by Alison or the Nambour Orchid Society.

## POPULAR VOTE FOR APRIL 2011

### HYBRIDS

#### *Cattleya Alliance*

First	Blc Lois McNeil	Tom Buckley
Second	Blc Korat Sunset	Marty & Anita Vlekkert
Tie Third	Bc Donna Kimura x C Tiffin Bells	Des & Elaine Middlebrook
TieThird & JC	Blc Margaret Goldston	Tom buckley

#### *Oncidium alliance*

First	Onc Moon Shadow 'Tiger Tail'	Judy Robbins
Tie Second	Odcdm Hansueli Isler 'Floricultura'	Marty & Anita Vlekkert
Tie Second & JC	Mtssa Aztec x Milt Castanea	David & Julie Tyler

#### *Any Other Genera*

First & Jc	Bulb Wilmar Galaxy Star	David & Julie Tyler
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### PRIMARY HYBRIDS

First	C Mini Purple	Bill Letcher
Second & JC	Bulb Elizabeth Ann	Nathan Gould
Third	Bulb Luis Sander	Nathan Gould

### EXOTIC SPECIES

Judges Choice	<i>Phal bellina</i>	Judy Robbins
First	<i>Onc ornithorhynchum</i>	David & Julie Tyler
Second	<i>Den forbesii</i>	Bill Letcher
Third	<i>Phal hieroglyphica</i>	Judy Robbins

### AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

#### *Hybrids*

First & JC	Den Fantasy Land 'Princess'	Judy Robbins
Second	Ptst x furcillata	Alan & Alison Parkes

#### *Species*

First & JC	<i>Ptst procera</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes
Tie Second	<i>Ptst baptistii</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes
Tie Second	<i>Liparis swensonii</i>	Des & Elaine Middlebrook
Tie Third	<i>Chil sphyrnoides</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes
Tie Third	<i>Ptst collina</i>	Alan & Alison Parkes

### NOVICE

First & JC	Cattleya Unknown	Sally Miller
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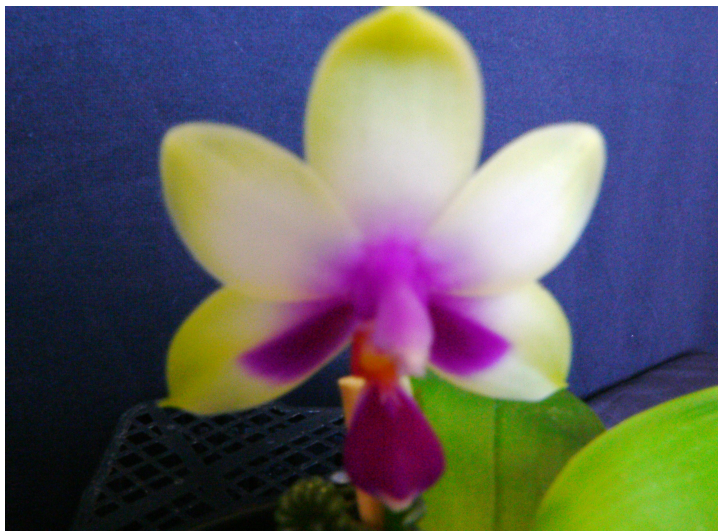
### FIRST FLOWERING

First & JC	Rlc Caricia en Paraiso	Des & Elaine Middlebrook
Second	Mtssa Dark Star	David & Julie Tyler

### FOLIAGE

First & JC	Anthurim	Judy Robbins
Second	<i>Anthurim andreanum</i> 'Black Prince'	Pat & Clive Mann
Third	Caladium	Pat & Clive Mann

The plant of the month was *Phal bellina* (image below) grown by Judy Robbins

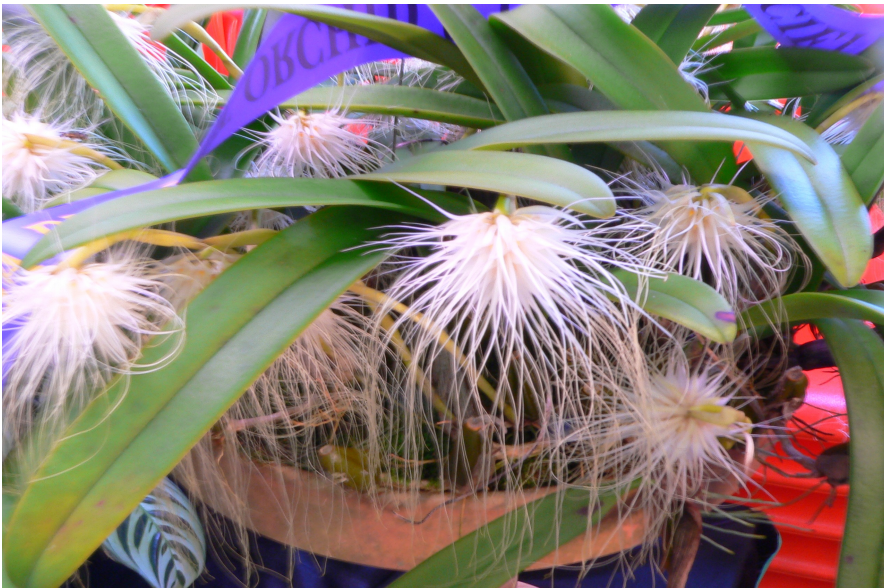


#### *Phalaenopsis bellina*

According to Botanica's Pocket Orchids the above species is restricted to the Malay Peninsula and Borneo. It grows at low altitudes in shady, humid habitats, such as beside streams. The flowers open progressively with one, two or three open at any one time. They have a strong fruity perfume.



The Society display at the Gympie Orchid Society Show



The Champion Orchid at the Noosa one day Show.

*Bulb medusae*

## Secretaries News Update

### May 2011

April – This was a really good cultural day. Some of our new members came along with their plants that needed attention for us to discuss. Thank you to all who participated in the afternoon. We hope you all learnt something from the members who gave so freely of their knowledge.

Congratulations to Nathan Gould for winning the growing competition for the Epi Sunlight Valley. Our President Bill chose the winner, although he did try to choose his own. **Remember June meeting** is the time to return your Bulbophyllum given out at the Christmas Party.

May - Our Guest speaker for our May meeting will be Erica from the Fern Society.

June – Return growing competition plant Bulbophyllum macranthum

July- John Green from Gympie Orchid Society will talk on growing seedlings

## Species appreciation:

Thanks to Judy for hosting the May species appreciation. It is always a pleasure to view Judy's place. I wish my orchids & foliage looked as good as Judy's always does. Judy you really do have the best green fingers.

Plants tabled are as follows:

*Bulb. appendiculatum*, *Bulb. putidum*, *Ptst. ophioglossa*, *Ptst. abrupta*, *Corybas barbarae*, *Ptst. collina*, *Acianthus pusillus*, *Onc. ornithorhynchum*, *Pelatantheria insectifera*, *Bulb. lasiochilum*, *Zygo. intermedium*, *Eria bractescens*, *Epi. coriifolium*, *C. percivaliana*, *L. anceps*, *Bulb. longissimum*, *Bulb. rothschildianum*, *Bulb. grandiflorum*, *Asctm. ampullaceum*, *Pinalia spicata* (*Eria convallarioides*) *Den. nathanielis*, *Rest. contorta*, *Rest. trichoglossa*, *C. curnua* (*Sophronia cernua*) *Isabelia pulchella* (*Nla. pulchella*) *Acampe rigida* (*Acampe longifolia*) *Pleoro. stricta*, *Den. forbesii*, *Den. epidendropsis*, *Den. bifalce*, *Den. aloifolium*, *Den. amplum* (*Epigeneium amplum*)

Cultural plant of the day was awarded to Lesley Beare for her plant of *Pelatantheria insectifera*. This species is found in the Himalayas, North East India, Nepal & Myanmar. It grows as an epiphyte at altitudes of approximately 1000metres. The inflorescence has 3 to 5 flowers, each about 15mm across. Information from Botanica's Pocket Orchids

## Shows:

Whew! A bit of a reprieve this month after a very busy April. Our only show since the last newsletter was Gympie. Below are the results.

Congratulations to Mal Rivers who was awarded an AM with 82 points for his plant of Rth. Southern Aurora 'Jomal'

Southern Aurora was registered by Aranbeem orchids in 2006.

It is a Hybrid of Rth. Spirit of Beau x C. Dal's Magic.

Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.) is made up of Cattleya (C.) xGuarianthe ( Gur.) x Rhyncholaelia (Rl.)



Information from Orchid Wiz

Gympie Show Results: Nambour received 5<sup>th</sup> place for display.

Des & Elaine Middlebrook	<i>Rlc. Donna Kimura</i> x <i>C. Tiffin Bells</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Judy Robbins	<i>Rlc. Chinese Beauty</i> <i>Phal. bellina</i> <i>C. walkeriana</i> <i>Den. Fantasy Land</i> <i>Aglaonema anyamani</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
Tom Buckley	<i>Rlc. California Girl</i>	1 <sup>st</sup>
G & B Robertson	<i>C. Precious Jewel</i> <i>C. Jungle Queen</i> <i>Paph. liemianum</i> <i>Rlc. Toshi Aoki</i> x <i>C. Tiny Titan</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>

	Rlc. Capricorn Charm C. Red Berries	3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Mal Rivers	C. Dal's Tradition	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Rod Aisthorpe	<i>C. percivaliana</i>	1 <sup>st</sup>
Alan & Alison Parkes	<i>Ptst. baptistii</i>	1 <sup>st</sup>
Bob. Raabe	Paph. Prim'n Proper	2 <sup>nd</sup>

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. Members are responsible for their own plants. Plant sale tags are on our website.

### Website update.

A Pdf version of each newsletter is available on our website. This is still a work in progress, if you have any feedback or any articles to include please email the Secretary or our Webmaster. We are looking for some cultural notes from our members to add to the web page.

### Show Dates Catalogue 2011

#### **Nambour Orchid Society commitment (in bold)**

**Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> May – N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> June S.T.O.C.Q meeting - at Murgon- Hosted by South Burnett**

**Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> June – N.O.S Species appreciation**

**Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> June – N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Fri. to Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July Nambour Garden Expo- Nambour Showgrounds – Set up Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> at 9am**

**Fri. to Sun. 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July Caboolture Orchid Society Show – Morayfield Community complex next to Bunnings Morayfield - Set up Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup>**

**No NOS Species appreciation for July due to Garden Expo & Caboolture Show.**

**Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> July – N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> & Sun. 7<sup>th</sup> Aug. Maroochydore Orchid Society Show – Milwell Community Hall- Milwell Road Maroochydore - Set up Fri. 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> August – N.O.S Species appreciation**

**Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> August – N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Fri. 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Nambour Orchid Society Spring Show – Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour. Set up Thurs. 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Childers Orchid Society Show. Set up Thurs. 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> September – N.O.S Species appreciation**

**Fri. & Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> September, Noosa Orchid & Foliage Society Show, Cooroy RSL Hall Set up 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> September – N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sat 24<sup>th</sup> September Glasshouse Country Orchid Society Show. Set up Thurs. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Sat 1<sup>st</sup> & Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Hervey Bay Orchid Society Show- Great Hall HBSHS. Set up 30<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

**Sat. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> N.O.S Species appreciation**

**Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. N.O.S Cultural meeting**

**Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> November – Nambour Orchid Society Species Show – Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour. Set up by 7.30am for judging**

**Sat. 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. N.O.S. Species appreciation**

**Sat. 12<sup>th</sup> & Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> November Orchid Species Society open show – Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens Auditorium- Set up Fri 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. N.O.S Cultural Meeting**