



Nambour Orchid News

April 2014

Greetings!

Articles for the newsletter are very welcome. Please forward to the editor by post or email to nambourorchids@gmail.com by the 15th of each month.

Meetings

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 business meeting.

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

Species appreciation 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.

Editor's note

Oncidesa is a hybrid genus between *Gomesa varicosa* and *Gomesa Aloha Iwagana*. The latter grex is a complex with several species such as *Gomesa varicosa*, *G. flexuosum* and *G. sphacelatum*. in its parentage

Note that *Gomesa* is the correct generic name now applied to many of the species that were included in the genus *Oncidium* and the new hybrid generic name, *Oncidesa*, reflects these changes. (Ed.)



Judges choice, for March

Oncidesa Sweet Sugar 'One Million Yen'

Owned by Judy Robbins

"I bought this as a small plant from Robertson's Orchid Nursery about three years ago. It is growing in 12 to 1 mix of super coarse perlite and coco-peat, with small amounts of charcoal and coconut husk chips. I add 1/4 teaspoon of Osmocote High K in spring and use various foliar fertilisers at half strength once a week. The shade-house has 70% shade cloth, with solar weave covering the roof in winter, usually put on around Mother's Day and removed at Father's Day. My *Oncidium* and alliance plants are on the bottom shelf underneath the cattleyas, which are well spaced to allow enough light through."

Directory of office bearers

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Nambour, Qld 4560

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President	Mr. Bill Letcher	07 5441 1979
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Disclaimer

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Unregistered *Dendrobium* hybrid names and their usage

In recent years Australian Nurseries have been importing large quantities of flasks of many orchid genera from places such as Thailand. This article is mainly concerned with dendrobiums but I'm certain the same issues either apply or will apply to other genera.

The issue of concern is that most of these source nurseries are mainly interested in the cut flower or pot plant industry and consider the hobby growers a very small percentage of their target market. They are therefore not in the least bit concerned with registering new hybrids with The International Orchid Register (part of The Royal Horticultural Society, Horticultural Data Base, <http://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/>), in fact they frequently make up names of their own and rarely give the parentage of the hybrid in the flask. The flasks are very cheap to buy and cause very few import problems so Australian nursery owners are only too happy to purchase, deflask, grow on and sell these orchids with whatever label the originator applied to them. There is quite a good profit margin in it!

Examples which are widely grown and exhibited are *Den. Sakda Gold*, *Den. Sakda Blue*, *Den. Airy Soft Pink*, *Den. Hidden Money*, *Den. Airy Crimson*, *Den. Coyote*, *Den. Kiku Orange*, *Den. Phaisrithong*; in fact most dendrobiums with 'Airy' or 'Sakda' as part of their names are likely to be unregistered.

There are of course many other plants from the same sources which when one looks them up in RHS or Orchid Wiz are legitimately registered hybrid names. You can only hope that the plant is actually true to that name and certainly most are. But take for example *Dendrobium Brown King*. I have seen pictures of this Thailand plant on the web and it is definitely not the registered hybrid between *Dendrobium discolor* and *Dendrobium speciosum*. This is what can happen when occasionally a made up name coincides with a "real" one!



Den Hidden Money

One of the reasons that we are seeing so many of these plants on our benches is that the cut-flower industry these days is using orchids which are of quite a high quality compared to past years. Previously no self-respecting orchid grower would have a cut-flower hybrid in their collection, let alone bring them to a meeting or show. But I confess to having all of the above named dendrobiums in my collection, and very nice orchids they are!

Whenever I buy an orchid, from any source, I research the name on the internet. If it is a species orchid it is interesting to find out as much as possible about it, including pictures of it in flower and info on how best to grow it. For hybrids I check the online registration lists at the RHS site to see if the name is registered and to find out about the parentage and breeding background of the plant. If it is not registered I simply put the name in my database and on the plant label with (unregistered) after it. There's nothing else that can be done.

So boohoo! Who cares? Well, I do and so should we all if we are serious about our hobby. We grow the only plants in the world that have an international register for the hybrids made from the many thousands of species that make up the orchid family. In 1871 the first known list of orchid hybrids was published by F.W. Burbidge and listed 17 hybrids. From 1871 the Gardener's Chronicle listed all new orchid hybrids. In 1906 Sander's list of orchid hybrids first appeared. (Sander's had been publishing Orchid Guides for some time. These gradually contained more and more hybrids, until the 1906 list.) The list has been kept updated by the Royal Horticultural Society and new registrations are regularly published by them and appear in most orchid magazines. Online access as indicated above is also available.



Den. Airy Soft Pink

Anyone who has an orchid hybrid that is as yet unnamed may apply to register a name of their choice for it, provided that the parents of the plant in question are registered hybrids or valid species.

The unfortunate new trend in bypassing the International Register seem to me a sad breaking with a time honoured tradition. It also makes it impossible to check the species that make the hybrid and possibly makes it difficult to determine which class the plant should be judged in at shows. For some specialist societies, for example the Australasian Native Orchid Society, not being able to check the breeding background means that the plant cannot with any degree of certainty be considered eligible as a plant derived purely from Australasian species parentage.

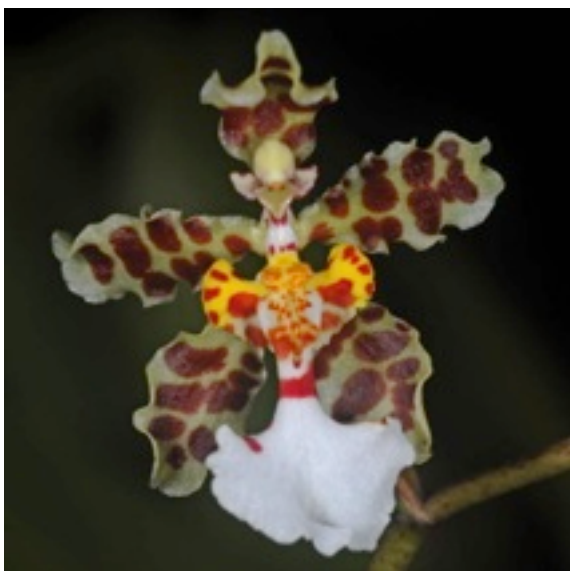
Another issue of importance to some growers are awards. No matter how good they are, or how well grown, these unregistered plants of unknown breeding background will not be eligible for any awards in any recognised judging system. All awards granted are provisional and it is a condition that before any award is ratified and published that the orchid, if a hybrid, is registered. Judging Panel Registrars should take care to check that any named orchid considered for an award is indeed legitimately registered, or that any hybrid is capable of being registered, and I'm certain that they do.



**A. Groffen
Ferny Grove**

It is my hope that, no matter how tempting, local breeders will not exacerbate this problem by using unregistered parents in their breeding programs. The professionals will probably find it easier and quicker just to import more flasks, but the hobby breeders, and there are a few around, might be tempted to do so. Perhaps they already have. For my part, I intend to simply enjoy the flowers, perhaps use them as cut flowers as their originators intended, or, if they are good enough, to exhibit them at meetings and shows clearly labelled as unregistered.

The above article is by A. (Dave) Groffen. Dave is a North Moreton and ANOS judge and a keen grower of 'hard cane' dendrobiums. This article is a timely reminder with the main show time fast approaching. Check your labels! Images are by A. Groffen.



Trichocentrum jonesianum
(Grower D. McMartin)

From the Coolum show: *Trichocentrum jonesianum* (Grower D. McMartin), a rarely seen species on our benches with a reputation of being difficult to maintain in cultivation. The species grows in riverine forests in southern Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. It has small pseudobulbs and fleshy terete leaves that are pendulous.

This species is best grown on a mount such as cork and watered frequently in the warmer months.

March 2014. Cultural meeting, popular vote & judges choices. – Hybrid Names as per RHS, species names, Kew Monocot List.

Cattleya and alliance hybrid		Name	Grower
	1st	<i>Vkt</i> Flame Thrower 'Justine'	T. Buckley
	2nd	<i>Rth.</i> Rosella's Horace	D & E. Middlebrook
	2nd	<i>C.</i> Mini Purple 'Coerulea H&R'	J. Robbins
	Judges choice	(<i>C.</i> Narooma x <i>Blc.</i> Jean Cannon's)	D & E Middlebrook
Oncidium and alliance hybrid			
	1st	<i>Bllra.</i> Tropic Lily 'Ice Paradise'	M & A Vlekkert
	2nd	<i>Onc.</i> Sweet Sugar 'One Million Yen'	J. Robbins
	3rd	<i>Zelemnia</i> Midas	M. & J. Rivers
	Judges choice	<i>Onc.</i> Sweet Sugar	J. Robbins
Dendrobium hybrid			
	1st	<i>Den.</i> Kuranda Classic	G. & B. Robertson
	1st	<i>Den.</i> Anucha Flare	J. Robbins
	Judges choice	<i>Den.</i> Anucha Flare	J. Robbins
Miscellaneous			
	1st	<i>Z.</i> Kiwi Choice	M. & A. Vlekkert
	2nd	<i>Cym.</i> Enzan Summer 'Ben'	M. & A. Vlekkert
	Judges choice	<i>Z.</i> Kiwi Choice	M. & A. Vlekkert
Paph./Phrag. Hybrid & species			
	1st	<i>Paphiopedilum. henryanum</i>	G. & B. Robertson
	Judges choice	<i>Paphiopedilum. henryanum</i>	G. & B. Robertson
Exotic species			
	1st	<i>Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica</i>	J. Robbins
	2nd	<i>Bulbophyllum grandiflorum</i>	W. Letcher
	3rd	<i>Brasiliorchis schunkeana</i>	M. & J. Rivers
	Judges choice	<i>Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica</i>	J. Robbins
Australian native hybrids			
	1st	<i>Den</i> Topaz Dream	J. Robbins
	2nd	<i>Den.</i> Rutherford Starburst x <i>D. tetragonum</i>	M. & A. Vlekkert
	3rd	<i>Den. X superbiens</i> 'Java'	I. Walker
	Judges choice	<i>Den</i> Topaz Dream	J. Robbins
Australian native species			I. Walker
	1st	<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i>	G. & B. Robertson
	2nd	<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i>	J. Robbins
	3rd	<i>Dipodium scandens</i>	W. & J. Harris
	Judges choice	<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i>	G. & B. Robertson
Novice			
	1st	<i>Cattleya gaskelliana</i> Blue Dragon	M. Walsh
	2nd	<i>Cattleya</i> unknown	M. Walsh
	3rd	<i>C.</i> Minerva	M. Walsh
	Judges choice	<i>Cattleya gaskelliana</i> Blue Dragon	M. Walsh
Foliage			
	1st	<i>Alocasia amazonica</i>	R. Wright
	2nd	<i>Caladium</i> Thai Beauty	P. Cairns
	3rd	<i>Anthurium</i>	R. Wright

Some of the plants exhibited appear below



Vkt Flame Thrower 'Justine' (T. Buckley)



Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica
(J. Robbins)



Zygopetalum Kiwi Choice (M. & A. Vlekkert)

Phaphiopedilum henryanum
(G. & B. Robertson)

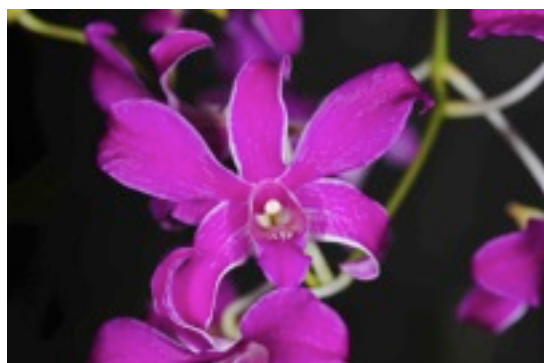


Bulbophyllum grandiflorum
(W. Letcher)



Dendrobium bigibbum (G. & B. Robertson)

Den. Topaz Dream
(J. Robbins)



Dendrobium X superbiens (I. Walker)



Dipodium scandens
W. & J. Harris)

Cultural meetings & guest speakers

April - Sam Cowie, *Oncidium* alliance

May – Wayne Harris, Gardening with orchids

We have a plant sales table at each meeting for members to sell any surplus plants. If you have any that you would like to sell, bring them along, tagged with your name & price so members can purchase them. Members are responsible for their own plants. Plant sale tags are on our website nambourorchidsociety.com - Go to links/forms and print off what you need.

Species identification competition

This species was recently transferred to another genus. What is its name now and what was the synonym? How would you best grow this plant? What is its distribution?



Last month's mystery was an easy one just to get you all in the mood! It was *Cattleya percivaliana* a unifoliate species that is endemic to Venezuela.

The interesting thing about this species is that it is found almost entirely growing on rocks with full exposure to the sun, generally in the vicinity of river courses at altitudes of 1300 - 2000 m.

The flowers are somewhat smaller than many of the other *Cattleya* species. It is very tolerant and easy to grow producing 2-4 flowers in winter.

Send your answers to the Editor via our e-mail or give them to him at the next cultural meeting. Please note that you have up to two weeks after the cultural meeting to submit your answers.

From the Social editor. (Images by C. McMonagle)

Seen at the Caloundra show
Are they accepting bribes?



You're too kind!



How amazing!



Our display at the recent Caloundra show. Won 3rd prize!

Future major conferences & shows



2016 – Sub Tropical Orchid Council Queensland

Diamond Festival of Orchids | 2016
Hosted by the Nambour Orchid Society Inc.
Saturday & Sunday June 11th & 12th

Lake Kawana Community Centre
Sportsmans Parade, Bokarina.Qld

Website: www.nambourorchidsociety.com

2014 - 49th Tropical Queensland Orchid Council Conference & Show, Atherton

Queen's Birthday weekend - June 6 to 9 2014 Early registration \$160 Closes March 31/2014. Late registration \$200 closes June 2/2014 Registration includes ALL meals except breakfast from Friday evening to Sunday evening, and free entry to conference show lectures and sales areas. (that's 5 meals and 4 smokos). Sellers will be offering an extensive range of orchids, allied plants and growing aids.

Enquire now for further information, and to go on the mailing list - contact: Conference Secretary, PO BOX 427, Atherton, QLD, 4883 Email – ebatey1@bigpond.com

2015 - 1st AOC/TQOC Conference, Australia. It was agreed to combine both conferences TQOC and AOC into one major event to take place in Mackay, Qld, 16 -23 September, 2015

Species appreciation group meeting

Despite a rather soggy day, 19 members enjoyed the hospitality of Rod and Jan Aisthorpe for the April meeting of the Species Appreciation Group.

Forty-three plants were benched and Mal Rivers selected the following for comment.

Cultural Plant

Aerangis ellisii, grown by R. & J. Aisthorpe

This species is a widespread large epiphyte in forests and a lithophyte amongst rocks in the eastern and central regions of Madagascar from 300-2000m. The plant exhibited had 2 long (to about 35cm) inflorescences with about 25 flowers with long spurs to about 20cm.



Plant of Botanical interest

Dendrobium hamaticalcar, grown by W. & J. Harris

This is a hot growing lowland epiphyte first described from Sabah (Mt Kinabalu) in 1993. It is a large sized species growing from 400-900m. It has long arching stems and the inflorescences are pendulous, 4-9 flowered and appear from nodes near the apex. The specific name is derived from the long mentum that forms a semi-circular hook that may even be curved into an almost complete circle.



This is the list of plants on the bench for April 2014; names as per Kew Monocot list. (Brackets = name on your label).

Acampe pachyglossa, *Aerangis ellisii*, *Aerides lawrenciae*, *Aerides odorata*, *Brassavola nodosa* x 2, *Bulbophyllum dearie*, *Bulbophyllum grandiflorum*, *Cattleya dormaniana* x 2, *Coelogyne rumphii*, *Cyrtorchilum flexuosum* (*Oncidium flexuosum*), *Dendrobium bigibbum*, *Dendrobium bowmanii*, *Dendrobium hamaticalcar*, *Dendrobium ionopus*, *Dendrobium lampongense*, *Dendrobium taylori* (*Cadetia taylori*), *Dimerandra stenopetala* (*Epidendrum stenopetalum*), *Epidendrum porpax*, *Epidendrum viviparum*, *Gastrochilus retrocallus* (*Haraella odorata*), *Laelia anceps*, *Maxillaria meleagris*, *Micropera pallida*, *Miltonia regnellii*, *Paphiopedilum fairrieanum*, *Phalaenopsis bellina* var *alba*, *Phalaenopsis bellina* x 4, *Phalaenopsis deliciosa*, *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica* x 2, *Phalaenopsis sumatrana*, *Psychopsis papillio*, *Restrepia brachypus*, *Smitinandia helferi* x 2, *Stenoglottis longifolia*, *Trichocentrum jonesianum*, *Vanda denisoniana*.

Below is the calendar of venues based on last year for the species appreciation meetings. Any member who is not available to host the meeting, please contact the secretary.

May – W & J Harris

June - ?

July – No meeting – Garden Expo

August – L Beare

September – A & M Tymson

November – R & R Hand

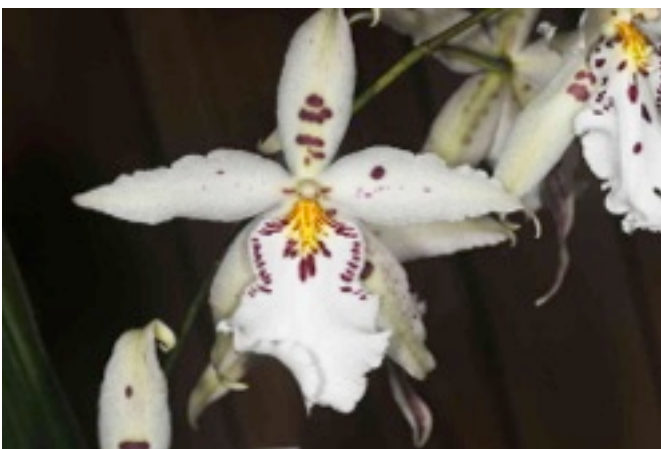
The Autumn show at Cooloom on Saturday 29 March was a great success thanks to all those members who turned up and did their bit!
Champion orchid went to C. Dal's Buddy 'Bette' owned by Judy Robbins and Reserve went to G & B. Robertson with *Den. Burana Stripe* x *Den. Chao Praya 'Candy.'* Congratulations to all who participated.



C. Dal's Buddy 'Bette'



Den. Burana Stripe X *Chao Praya 'Candy'*



Blla Tropic Lily 'Ice Paradise"



Den. Sophie Bonnie

Puzzle time!

I wonder who brought a delicious chocolate cake with green ?coconut icing to a meeting?

The answer to this puzzle will be revealed next month.

Annual subscriptions are now due and payable. You can pay these by several methods: by cash; by cheque; and now you can pay by Direct Funds Transfer (DFT) from your bank account via the internet.

The society's bank details are as follows:

CBA Nambour Branch, BSB 064 424, Account No. 00909232

Please make sure that you include **your name** and **payment type** (eg 'subscription', 'potting supplies' etc.) in the appropriate fields.

2014 Schedule of local events

Date	Function		Notes
26 April	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm
3 & 4 May	Gympie OS show		Set up 2nd
9 & 10 May	Noosa OS show		Closed show
10 & 11 May	Pumicestone OS show	Ningi Hall	Set up 9th
10 May	NOS species group		2pm
24 May	NOS cultural mtg		2pm
TBA	STOCQ mtg		Rockhampton
28 June	NOS cultural mtg		2pm
4, 5, 6 July	Caboolture OS show		Set up 3 July
11, 12, 13 July	Nambour Garden Expo		Set up 10th
26 July	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm
9, 10 Aug.	Maroochydore OS show		Set up 8th
9 Aug.	NOS species group		2 pm
23 Aug.	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm
5, 6 Sept.	NOS spring show	Uniting Church hall Nambour	Set up 4th
13 Sept.	NOS species group		2 pm
19, 20 Sept.	Noosa OS show	Cooroy RSL hall	Set up 18th
27 Sept.	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm
26, 27 Sept.	Glasshouse show		Set up 25th
11 Oct.	NOS species group		2 pm
TBA	Bribie Is OS show		
25 Oct.	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm
31 Oct, 1 Nov	NOS species show & Trade Fair	Uniting Church hall Nambour	Set up 30 October
8 Nov.	NOS species group		2 pm
22 Nov.	NOS cultural mtg		2 pm