



# Nambour Orchid News

May 2018



## Judges Choice - April - *Bulbophyllum medusae*.

This species is epiphytic and lithophytic. It grows on limestone rocks in Thailand, western Malaysia, the islands of Sumatra and Borneo, Singapore, and the Philippines.

I purchased this plant from Robert Trost at our Species Show in November 2011. It had three pseudobulbs growing in an 80mm pot, and sat and sulked for a year before starting to grow. It flowered for the first time in April 2014 with two inflorescences. May 2016, eight inflorescences, and later that year was potted up into the current size saucer, 260 x 50 mm. The plant has doubled in size since then.

It is growing in a mixture of perlite and peat at a ratio of 12-1 with small amounts of medium bark, charcoal, diatomite and coconut pieces, with some gravel on top. It is under 70 percent shade cloth during summer, with a layer of solar weave added for winter. Watering is done to suit weather conditions, every second or third day in warmer weather, in cold conditions about once a week. I use a small amount of Plantacote Top K controlled release fertiliser twice a year, and use various foliar fertilisers at half strength every two weeks. Once a month I use a systemic fungicide, next month contact insecticide, following month contact fungicide, then systemic insecticide.

Mid April the plant had four inflorescences open, but still lots of buds. Then, with good timing, two days before our meeting, nineteen inflorescences opened.

At the meeting, a panel of judges considered the plant for an award, and it received an HCC and ACC. Thank you judges, you made my day. **Judy**

## Secretary news May

Eight of our members travelled to the South Burnett Orchid Society show, held on the weekend of the Wondai Garden expo in April. A great effort from our members and all came home with at least one ribbon. Congratulations go to Judy for taking out Champion species with her *Prosthechea boothiana*. South Burnett is only a very small club and it is nice to see such great support for them from our members. We all had a wonderful social day amongst fellow orchid growers.

Our next show was Gympie which we came home from with some success also. Tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place display with Agnes Water, and a nice lot of ribbons. John Robertson was the winner of Champion Orchid with Cycd.Taiwan Gold, & Judy took out Champion species with one of her favourites, *Phalaenopsis bellina*. Congratulations to all the winners.

We now have a bit of a break from shows, our next event as a club will be Garden Expo display in July.

Results from Gympie display are below.

C & G McMonagle	<i>Dendrobium rigidum</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
C & M Brackin	C. Tangerine Jewel x (Rsc. Dream Trader x C. Mari's Song) <i>Den. Burana Dark Blue</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
J Robbins	<i>Phalaenopsis bellina</i> <i>Ctyh. Mae Bly</i> C. Butterfly Wings <i>Den. Mitzuao White</i> <i>Phrag. Noirmont</i> <i>Aglaonema</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> & Champion species 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>r</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
J Robertson	Cycd. Taiwan Gold <i>Den. Asteroid Asternova</i> x Dal's Classic <i>Den. Mitzuao White</i> <i>Den. Excelsa</i> <i>Phalaenopsis amboinensis</i> <i>Rlc. Village Chief Armani</i> <i>Rlc. Chief Emperor</i> <i>Oncsa. Sweet Sugar</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> & Champion Orchid 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
R & J Aisthorpe	<i>Vanda luzonica</i> <i>Coelogyne fimbriata</i> <i>Trichoglottis atropurpurea</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Our species get together has moved to the second Sunday of each month. This will avoid clashes with STOCQ meetings and other shows in our area. The June meeting will be at the Home of Alan & Alison.

Charlie's Cultural Corner from 1.15pm to 1.45pm each meeting day is going from strength to strength. I like to call him the Pied Piper. He has quite a following.

If you can help Charlie at any time, please see him and offer your assistance.

Members can sell spare Orchids or foliage plants at our meetings. Only plants that we would use in show displays are permitted.

**Please remember to add your gold coin donation to the honesty box.**

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**Our new members shirts are available to Order. If you would like one, please Email or see Alison at the meeting. Cost to members is \$25 for the shirt with logo + \$5.50 if you require a pocket.**

**Name badges are also available to order. Cost is \$5.00 new members or \$10.95 if you require a replacement.**

**Thank you to the members who provide and assist with afternoon tea at our meetings. Your efforts are very much appreciated.**

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

With several Orchid Shows behind us, we have a short breather before the next round. Many thanks to all who assisted in the tasks associated with these events. What a pleasure to have, at long last, some cooler weather. I hope you are all enjoying a surge in vitality and finding time to do the tasks that have been put off because it was "Too Hot"!

At our April meeting we enjoyed the presentation on Botanical Art put together by Beryl Robertson and marvelled at her exquisite representation of orchids, wild flowers and butterflies in watercolours. Thank you so much Beryl for sharing your talents with us and maybe inspiring others to try as well.

I am grateful for all the work that our members do to keep the wheels rolling, at meetings and other activities. We endeavour to make your membership meaningful and enjoyable and appreciate any suggestions that you may wish to put to the Committee.

Cheers, **Gina**



#### **Judges Choice - Novice Dendrobium Burana Dark Blue**

We purchased this plant last March at the Yandina Show. It was flowering at the time with 3 flower spikes. This year it bloomed in early March with one long flower spike. It is grown in our green house under 70% shade. Usual watering and fertilizing. The parent plants are Dendrobium Fuchs Blue Angel X Dendrobium Kikuya. The blooms on this plant gives us great joy and is still looking good today.

**Patrick and Heather**



Wondai Garden expo



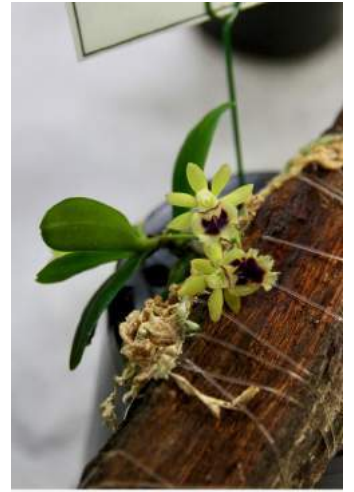
*Bulbophyllum* Wilbur Chang  
Bill



*Phalaenopsis* group  
Judy



Den. Fraser's Green Dragon x  
Den. Kuranda Sparkle  
Charlie & Gina



*Gastrochilus retrocallus*  
Alan & Alison



*Den. bigibbum* Judy



*Phragmipedium* unknown  
Rob & Joan



Rlc. Burdekin Jewel 'Kaye'  
John & Kaye



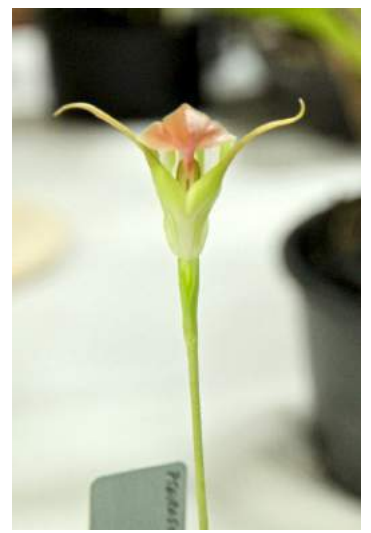
*Trichoglottis philippinensis*  
Duncan



*Prosthechea boothiana*



*Oncidesa* Sweet Sugar  
Col.



*Ptst. baptistii*  
Alan & Alison

## Fittonia Care by Sean Hemmer - updated November 28, 2016



### Fittonia Overview

Fittonia is often called the "nerve plant" or "mosaic plant" due to the bright, contrasting veins that run through the leaves. There are many cultivars of the nerve plant that feature many different styles of veining and foliage. The plant is native to the warm, humid regions of South America - especially Peru. This makes fittonia require care that is different compared to most houseplants.

The plant's requirement for high humidity and moist soil calls for regular watering and misting. Soil also needs to be suitable for fittonia to keep the foliage healthy. Pruning should also be performed to keep the plant looking full and bushy, and to prevent the plant from wasting resources on boring blooms during its flowering stage.

A little fertilizer can be used to replenish nutrients a few months after potting.

### Light Requirements for Fittonia

Fittonia need filtered sunlight to flourish. Filtered light is similar to the light the plant receives under the canopies of its native tropical lands. Bright, direct sunlight will cause the edges of the leaves to burn, discolor, and become crispy. Move the plant further away from sunlight if burning occurs.

#### Artificial Lighting

Indoor fluorescent lighting can be used, but the plant needs to be placed close to the lights. Fluorescent lighting is not very intense, thus the close placement of the plant. Metal halide or high-pressure sodium lamps work great, but may be a bit too intense if placed close to the lamp. Metal halide and high-pressure sodium lamps are much pricier compared to fluorescent lamps.

### Watering Fittonia

The soil should always remain moist due to the tropical nature of fittonia. Use room temperature water and thoroughly moisten the soil, but do not water so much as to cause waterlogged soil. Waterlogged soil promotes disease and restricts air flow to and around the roots. Pouring out excess water is a must. Overwatering will cause discoloration and wilting of the leaves. The best method to estimate when to water is by feeling the weight of the container before and after a thorough watering. Poking a finger into the soil to test for moisture will only test the upper few inches of the container.

Placing a pot with drainage holes in a tray will create a little humidity. Adding gravel to the tray will slow down the rate of evaporation, and increases the time between waterings. Always use water that is room temperature.



## Misting

Fittonia need regular misting to keep the leaves from becoming limp and wilted. The plant is indigenous to tropical regions and has grown to require moisture on the foliage. Mist once or twice a day, along with regular watering. Wilting is only temporary, as long as a little watering and misting occurs soon after. Repeated wilting will stress the plant and is not healthy over time.

## Soil for Fittonia

Soil that drains well is a necessity for fittonia to flourish. The soil should also be high in organic content, which mimics its native tropical habitat. Soil high in organic matter will retain water, but may hold a little too much water. The soil should never remain waterlogged. Soil that remains saturated promotes disease and root rot. Amend waterlogged soil by mixing in coarse sand and/or perlite to facilitate drainage.

A good soil mixture consists of equal parts potting soil, coarse sand, humus, and peat. Potting soil is balanced in drainage and nutrient value, sand promotes drainage, humus retains moisture and builds a good soil structure, and peat is rich in organic matter and releases a little nutrient value as it decomposes. This mix isn't always a must. Soil from the backyard garden may work just fine, as long as the drainage is good and the structure is not too sandy or clayey.

## Pruning Fittonia

Fittonia can grow quickly within their desired environment, so pinching off the tips of leggy stems will keep the plant bushy and dense. Remove small flower spikes as well. The flowers are boring and use up resources the plant could be using to grow more attractive foliage. Nip the flower spike at its origin. Removing the flower will not harm the plant at all. It will continue to grow foliage just fine. Although, the flower can be left to grow if desired.

The picture to the left features a green flower spike in the middle of the plant. This spike was later removed at its source, which resided on the side of a stem.



## Fertilizing Fittonia

Fittonia can be fertilized a few months after repotting with a balanced houseplant water soluble (5-5-5 NPK) fertilizer or granular fertilizer. Dilute by half the recommended amount listed on the package when using a water soluble fertilizer. Apply the fertilizer solution between waterings. This will prevent excess fertilizer which can cause the foliage to burn and possibly kill the plant.

Granular fertilizer releases nutrients slowly over time. It can be applied on top the soil or mixed into the soil. Granular fertilizer should still be used in small amounts to prevent damage to the plant as well.

**Acknowledgement:** Thanks to Sean for this article. He has been in the industry of gardening and landscaping since 2006. He is also a certified arborist that tends to focus on plant health. **Mal**

**A selection of plants on display at April meeting**



Rlc. Donna Kimura - Michael & Betty



Alcra. Pacific Treasures - Judy



*Bulb. grandiflorum* - Jenny



V. Kultana x V. Pakchong Blue  
Cheryl



Den. Chao Praya Sweet x  
Den. Hidden Money  
Luda



C. Elisabeth Calov - Judy



*Den. bigibbum* var. *compactum* Alba  
Nita



Van. Precious - Rod & Jan



Den. Fantasy Land - Tom



Den. Chao Preya Candy  
Nita



Ctsm Orchidglade  
Micheal & Betty



Paph. Invincible - Marty & Anita



Cyc. Caloundra Dawn  
Michael & Betty



## Gympie Show



Champion Orchid - Cycd. Taiwan Gold  
John Roberson



John & Judy  
collecting their awards from  
Jim.



Champion species - *Phal. bellina*  
Judy



Our display at Gympie Show



## Species

### Plant of the month - *C. forbesii* - Rod & Jan

*Cattleya forbesii* was once a common epiphyte in the coastal swamps and riverside forests from east of Rio de Janeiro to southwest of São Paulo. However, clearing land for agriculture has severely depleted the population.



### Cultural plant - May - *Bulb. rothschildianum*.



Found in southern Yunnan Province of China, northeastern India, Assam and Myanmar as a small sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte. with ovoid pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical leaf and blooms on a basal, erect, few flowered, umbellate inflorescence that has fragrant [ie. bad] flowers occurring in the spring and fall. This species needs to be grown in a pot or basket with a fast draining medium, partial shade, ample water and fertilizer and good air circulation. I've had this plant for several years. I bought it from the collection of Ed McKane who was a very good Nambour member. He grew it attached to a shade cloth 'sock' which contained potting mix. The plant grew on the outside of the sock. I don't give it any special attention. It hangs in the NE corner of my bushhouse. I water and fertilise same time as my other plants. It flowers every year but this is the first time I was fortunate enough to have it flowering when the species day was on. These are very good days and you don't have to bring a plant to be welcome.

As I am not particularly fond of the Bulbos, I no longer have this plant. **Mal**.

Our species get together for May was at the home of Wayne & Jean. Thank you both for making us feel so welcome. Winners for the day were Judges Choice *Cattleya forbesii* - Rod, & Cultural *Bulbophyllum rothschildianum* - Mal. 51 plants were displayed on the bench on the day.

Names are as per the Kew WCSP list:

*Anothallis obovate*, *Bifrenaria vitellina*, *Bulbophyllum digoelense*, *Bulbophyllum dissitiflorum*, *Bulbophyllum fascinator*, *Bulbophyllum lasiochilum*, *Bulbophyllum lepidum*, *Bulbophyllum mastersianum*, *Bulbophyllum mcphersonii*, *Bulbophyllum pictum*, *Bulbophyllum putidum*, *Bulbophyllum rothschildianum* x 3, *Bulbophyllum salebrosum*, *Bulbophyllum sicyobulbon*, *Calanthe vestita*, *Cattleya cernua* x 3, *Cattleya forbesii*, *Cattleya lundii*, *Ceratostylis retisquama* x 2, *Cleisostoma chantaburiense*, *Cleisostoma subulatum*, *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *superbum*, *Dendrobium bowmanii* x 2, *Dendrobium exile*, *Epidendrum ciliare*, *Epidendrum porpax*, *Gastrochilus dasypogon*, *Gastrochilus obliquus*, *Holcoglossum wangii*, *Laelia anceps*, *Macodes petola*, *Masdevallia hedwigiae*, *Phalaenopsis bellina* x 2, *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica*, *Phalaenopsis pulcherrima*, *Phalaenopsis violacea*, *Prosthechea boothiana* x 2, *Prosthechea cochleata*, *Renanthera histrionica*, *Stenoglottis longifolia*, *Trichoglottis latiseptala*, *Vanda falcata* 'Pink', *Vanda luzonica*

### April Popular vote & Judges Choice

Class & Judges Choice	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Cattleya.</b> <i>Rlc.Donna Kimura.</i> <i>Michael &amp; Betty.</i>	<i>Rlc.Donna Kimura.</i> <i>Michael &amp; Betty.</i>	<i>C. Elisabeth Calov</i> Bob & Joan <i>Bc.Hawaii Stars.</i> Bob & Joan.	<i>Rlc.Donna Kimura.</i> <i>Michael &amp; Betty.</i>
<b>Oncidium</b> <i>Alcra.Pacific Treasures.</i> <i>Judy.</i>	<i>Oncsa.Sweet Sugar.</i> Col & Marilyn.	<i>Alcra.Pacific Treasures.</i> Judy.	<i>Onc.Ruth's Rainbow.</i> Nita <i>Alcra.Pacific Treasures.</i> Judy.
<b>Vanda/Phal</b> <i>Van.Precious. Rod &amp; Jan.</i>	V. Kultana x V.Pakchong Blue. Cheryl.	V.Thananchai x V.Vivian. Rod & Jan.	V.Guo Chia Long x V.Mem.Choo Laikeun. Richard V.unknown.Delwyn.
<b>Dendrobium.</b> <i>Den.Burbank Sweet x</i> <i>Den.Santi Fancy.</i> <i>Beryl and Graham.</i>	<i>Den.Candy Stripe.Nita.</i>	<i>Den.Red Toro x stratiotes.</i> Cliff.	<i>Den.Burbank Sweet x</i> <i>Den.Santi Fancy.</i> Beryl & Graham.
<b>Any Other.</b> <i>. Ctsm. Orchidglade.</i> <i>Michael &amp; Betty</i>	<i>Ctsm.Orchidglade.</i> Michael & Betty.	<i>Bulb.Elizabeth Ann.</i> Charlie & Gina. <i>Cyc.Caloundra Dawn.</i> Michael & Betty.	<i>Ctsm.Orchidglade.</i> Michael & Betty.
<b>Paph/Phrag.</b> <i>Paph. Invincible.</i> <i>Marty &amp; Anita</i>	<i>Paph.Invincible. Marty</i> & Anita	<i>Phrag.Unknown..</i> Rob & Joan.	<i>Phrag Calurum. Jenny</i> <i>Paph.Invincible.</i> Marty & Anita.
<b>Exotic Species.</b> <i>Bulb medusae. Judy.</i>	<i>Bulb.medusae. Judy.</i>	<i>Coryanthes macrantha.</i> Judy <i>Pescatoria ecuadorana.</i> Rod & Jan <i>Bulb.grandiflorum. Jenny.</i>	No 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
<b>Aust. Native Hybrids.</b> <i>Den. Pauline.</i> <i>Rob &amp; Joan.</i>	<i>Den.Fantasy Land.</i> Tom.	<i>Den.Pauline. Rob &amp; Joan.</i> <i>Den.Pearl Vera.</i> Col & Marilyn.	No 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
<b>Aust. Native Species.</b> <i>Den. bigibbum. Judy.</i>	<i>Den.bigibbum. Judy</i> <i>Den. bigibbum Nita.</i>	<i>Den.antennatum. Cliff.</i>	<i>Den.rigidum.</i> Charlie & Gina.
<b>Novice.</b> <i>Den.Burana Dark Blue.</i> <i>Patrick &amp; Heather.</i>	<i>Den.Burana Dark Blue.</i> Patrick & Heather.	<i>Oncidium unknown. Bryan.</i>	<i>Cattleya unknown.</i> Bryan.
<b>Foliage. Fittonia. Bryan.</b>	<i>Aglaonema Red Tiara.</i> Nita.	<i>Fittonia. Bryan.</i>	<i>Neoregelia Melanie.</i> Cheryl.

**JUDGES CHOICE OVERALL: *Bulbophyllum medusa. Judy.***

Kindly change your labels to the name on this sheet if it differs from the name on your plant label.





## Nambour Orchid Society Information and Contacts

### **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.

### **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 are welcome. Bring your flowering species plants, a chair, a cup and a plate to share for afternoon tea.

<b>Patron</b>	<b>Rob Wright</b>		
<b>President</b>	Gina McMonagle	07 5439 6353	
<b>Vice President</b>	G Robertson	07 5442 1288	
<b>Secretary</b>	Alison Parkes	07 5441 7201	nambourorchids@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jean Harris	07 5445 3307	
<b>Editor</b>	Richard Hand	07 5442 2879	rhand39@gmail.com

**A reminder for all winners of Judges Choice, cultural awards etc. at both our meetings, please send a few lines on how you grow your plants, growing conditions and anything relevant, for inclusion in the Newsletter to - [rhand39@gmail.com](mailto:rhand39@gmail.com). Information is required two weeks prior to the monthly meeting**

### **FOR SALE**

Nambour Orchid Society members may use space in the Newsletter free of charge, if you have any Orchid related items for sale, please send your ad to [rhand39@gmail.com](mailto:rhand39@gmail.com) no later than 2 weeks prior to the monthly meeting

PO Box 140, Nambour QLD 4560 [nambourorchids@gmail.com](mailto:nambourorchids@gmail.com) [www.nambourorchidsociety.com](http://www.nambourorchidsociety.com)



### **Supporters of Cittamani Hospice Services**

Cittamani Hospice Services are in Palmwoods and provide end of life palliative care for people in need in their own homes. They also provide essential equipment free of charge for patients use in their own home.

## Nambour Orchid Society Show Calendar 2018

(NOS commitment in blue)

June		
<b>Saturday 16th</b>	<b>STOCQ &amp; OQI meeting</b>	<b>Hosted by Maryborough OS</b>
July		
<b>Fri/Sat/Sun 12/13/14</b> <b>Fri/Sat/Sun 20/21/22</b> 18th to 22nd July	<b>Nambour Garden Expo.</b> <b>Caboolture OS Show</b> 21st AOC Conference	<b>Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Ave. Nambour</b> <b>Morayfield Community Centre</b> Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor, Sydney
August		
<b>Fri/Sat 10/11</b> Sat/Sun 11/12 <b>Fri/Sat 31st Aug &amp; 1st Sept</b>	<b>Maroochydore OS show</b> Agnes Water OS show <b>Nambour OS Spring Show</b>	<b>Milwell Road Community Centre, Maroochydore</b> Agnes Water Community Centre, 71 Springs Road, <b>Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour</b>
September		
<b>Sat 1st</b> Fri/Sat 31st Aug 1st Sept. <b>Fri/Sat 14/15</b> <b>Fri/Sat 21/22</b> Fri/Sat/Sun. 28th/ 29th /30th	<b>Nambour OS Spring Show</b> Childers OS Spring Show <b>Noosa Show</b> <b>Glasshouse Country OS</b> Hervey Bay show	<b>Day 2</b> Cultural Centre, Childers <b>RSL Hall Cooroy if renovated</b> <b>Beerwah Community Hall, Peachester Road.</b> Xavier Catholic College 1 Wide Bay Drive, Eli Waters, Hervey Bay
October		
<b>Fri /Sat 12/13</b> Sat/Sun 20/21	<b>Bribie Island OS Show</b> Orchid Species Society show	<b>The Orchid House, First Ave. Bribie Island</b> Auditorium Mt Cootha Botanic Gardens
November		
<b>Fri/Sat 2/3 set up Thurs 1st</b> <b>Saturday 10th</b>	<b>Nambour OS Species Show</b> <b>STOCQ &amp; OQI meetings</b>	<b>Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour</b> <b>Caboolture</b>
2018 AOC Conference		
<b>18th to 22nd July</b>	<b>21st AOC Conference</b>	<b>Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor, Sydney</b>

### Orchidfest



Will proudly host  
the 10<sup>th</sup> STOCQ  
Conference in 2019

**"ROCKY ROUND-UP" ORCHIDFEST**  
WILL BE STAGED AT KORTE'S RESORT  
BRUCE HIGHWAY PARKHURST  
ROCKHAMPTON  
14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019



Pictures from Korte's Resort



Entries are invited from individuals and  
Societies/Clubs  
For further information check out our  
website which will be updated regularly in  
the lead up to the conference.

[www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au](http://www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au)