



# Nambour Orchid News

June 2019



We had a special presentation at our May meeting to recognize our life members and thank them for all the work they do for the Society.

We realized that many of our newer members would not be aware of who our long serving members were, so a group photo was in order and President Gina presented each with a new life member name badge.

Included in the photo: from the left

Pat Mann, Graham Robertson, Elaine Middlebrook, Bob Raabe, Richard Hand,  
Beryl Robertson, Alison Parkes, Des Middlebrook, Alan Parkes  
Absent John Robertson, Joan Raabe, Rob & Margie Wright,



## Secretary news June:

June sees the end of our quiet time as far as shows go, so it is time to consider what you may be able to provide to build our Garden Expo display.

This is the 35<sup>th</sup> Nambour Garden Expo and the 34<sup>th</sup> time our Orchid Society has put up a display.

We are allocated a large 5m x 3m space so it requires quite a lot of plants to fill the display.

We receive many compliments each year from members of the public about our display and it is a great opportunity to promote our Orchid growing passion and our upcoming shows.

Set up date for Garden Expo is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 9.30am.

Palmwoods Arts & Crafts has their Craft fest on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July. We put on a small table display at this event and require a few members on a roster to talk to the visitors and promote both of our upcoming shows. There are rolling raffles throughout the day as well as the main large raffle which has handmade quilts for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. If you have a spare hour or two on the day, go along and support this event, I can assure you it is well worth your while. Admission is gold coin donation. Palmwoods Arts & Crafts also supports Cittamani Hospice when they can.

Caboolture Orchid Show is on Friday, Saturday & Sunday 26/27/28 July. This is a display show for us, set up is Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> from 2.30pm. If you have plants you would like to enter in this display and can't take them down, please let us know and one of us can take them for you. Names for the display plant need to be emailed to Alison by **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.**



Charlie's Cultural corner continues to be very popular this year from 1.15pm to 1.45pm each meeting day. If you can help Charlie at any time, please see him and offer your assistance

## President's Report

With our holiday over and a couple of days to get over jet lag, it was back into the swing of the monthly meeting. While the Committee was mulling over business prior to the general meeting, I looked up at one stage and wondered where everyone was and as I glanced around the hall, there they were, at the Culture Corner.

This has been a great success since we introduced it and thanks to Charlie for conducting the proceedings and to the experienced growers who assist him, a worthwhile forum to get advice and discuss problems.

The guest speaker for April was our member, Wayne Harris, who gave a very interesting presentation on the biodiversity of lowland New Guinea. He was part of a team of scientists who were appraising the flora and fauna of an area prior to a development project. Apart from the orchids there, the range of flora and fauna gave us something to consider in places where development can and has resulted in loss of habitat in many locations worldwide.

On a sad note, some members of Nambour Orchid Society as well as other orchid growers, attended the funeral of John Thelander. As a former Navy clearance diver, representatives of that service were present to pay their respects and as the notes of the Last Post, followed by Reveille died away, my thoughts were that this was a service of dignity and respect for a person we will remember as a real gentleman.

With the cold weather finally upon us, now is a good time to take stock in the orchid house and get rid of the pesky weeds that spring up in the pots and do a check for pesky insects as well.

Keep a look out for fungal spots and treat them promptly.

And the last word from Orchid Wise by Roger Rankin –

“Having a lazy day in the shadehouse will be a waste of time unless you get yourself organised.”

## Gina

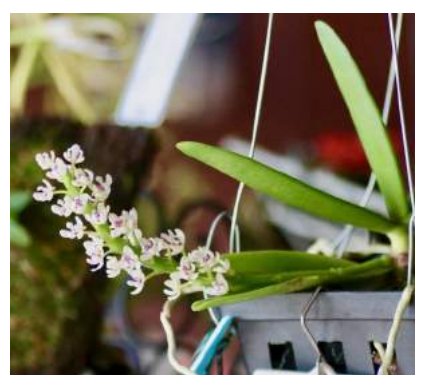
At the May meeting, I was asked about a plant that was labelled *bowringiana x thomsoniana*.



The plant appears to be *Laellianthe* (syn. *Schombocattleya*) Splendid Bow which is *Guarianthe bowringiana x Laelia splendida*. *Splendida* was previously in the genus *Schomburgkia* which accounted for the elongated pseudobulbs and the clustered head of mauve flowers on a long inflorescence. *Myrmecophila thomsoniana* was previously a *Schomburgkia* and can be yellow or a whitish colour. Unfortunately I cannot recall the name of the member who queried me about this plant. **Mal.**



A selection of plants on display at May meeting



## Catasetinae Plant Culture

Cycnoches, Catasetums, Mormodes, and Clowesia

The cultural information below is a generalization and will apply in most situations; however each grower and growing environment is different. I encourage you to make adjustments based on your own experience and growing conditions. It would also be advisable to seek out other growers in your area for their advice and insights into these amazing orchids



*Catasetum expansum*

Catasetinae have a distinctive growth and rest period (dormancy). For best plant growth it is important to understand and respect these growth phases. When the plants are in active growth maintain constant root zone moisture and fertilize regularly. This is essential to optimizing the development of new growth. When the plants are dormant little or no water is needed as the pseudobulbs store enough moisture and nutrients to survive the dormancy Catasetinae plant culture is not difficult.

All it takes is an understanding of the seasonal growth patterns. The plants' vegetative state signals to the grower their changing needs. Interpret the signals and make the appropriate cultural adjustments.

Here is what to look for:

Early spring:

Catasetinae begin their new growth in early spring. However, watering should wait until the new growth has well-developed new roots. This means you should let the new roots grow to an approximate length of 75 – 125mm, another measure is to look at the new leads, when the new leaves begin to unfurl is also the right time for watering to start. Let me emphasize this point. Wait to water until the new roots are well developed and the new leaves have unfurled. The waiting to water is not easy; my natural instinct is to begin watering when I see new growth, but I have learned through trial and error that it is better to wait to water than start watering too soon. I also believe that Catasetinae roots deteriorate during dormancy, and in the following year they are not as effective at taking up moisture and nutrients. This makes the new roots vital in the plants' health. This reinforces the message about not watering too early.

Mid-Season:

Once the new roots are sufficiently developed, this is the period where the plants are rapidly developing their new pseudobulbs. There is a surprising amount of growth that occurs in these 3-4 months; often the plants will double their size. Due to this, the plants require constant moisture and regular fertilization. In most cases, irrigation will be needed 2 or 3 times a week. A balanced fertilizer at full strength is suitable for this rapid growth. Light levels at or above those suggested for Cattleya will help insure strong good growth and flowering. This is the time when the fruits of your labour will begin to pay off as the flowering season is in underway. (continued)



## Late Season:

Sometime after flowering, in the late autumn and with some plants into winter the plants will begin to enter the dormancy phase. Understanding the signals of the onset of dormancy and the factors triggering it are important to a healthy plant culture. The plant's first signals are the yellowing and browning off of the leaves, at this time stop fertilizing and reduce watering by one-half and when most leaves are yellow/brown and have dropped off cease watering altogether. The general rule to follow is: by mid-May stop fertilization and reduce watering by one-half. Most leaves should have yellowed or fallen off by the beginning of July. However, if the plants still have leaves all irrigation should be stopped at this time.



The onset of dormancy is caused by several factors; the maturity of the pseudobulb, shorter day length, cooler day/night temperatures, and a reduction of root zone moisture. In most of the country dormancy occurs naturally; however when the plants are cultivated in warm growing areas such as in North Queensland or in the home or under lights sometimes dormancy needs to be encouraged. I have found that stopping watering in June regardless of the number of green leaves will trigger the start of dormancy providing flowering has finished.

Note: Watering during dormancy should only be done if the plant shrivels severely. Usually a single irrigation is sufficient to restore the bulbs.

### *Catasetum pileatum*

Here's a summary:

As the new growth develops wait to irrigate until the new roots are well-developed and are 75-125mm long and the new leaves have started to unfurl.

(Don't be in a hurry to water; it is better to wait)

Irrigate and fertilize frequently while the plants are in active growth, they are very hungry feeders. Stop fertilization and reduce irrigation by one-half around by mid-May or June.

Cease watering by the beginning of July.

Light levels:

Catasetinae like light levels comparable to Cattleyas at about 2500-4000 foot candles (fc) However, the plants are widely adaptable and do well with light levels as low as 1500 fc and as high as 5000 fc. For optimal growth I suggest a Northern exposure or a location where all the plants will receive plenty of bright, filtered light

Potting mix:

For mature plants I have been using a 3:1 of mix of fine 'Kiwi Bark' and medium Perlite.

For seedlings up to a 75mm pot size I like to use New Zealand sphagnum moss s. However, this genus is not too particular in what it is potted in, and any well drained media will work well.

Containers:

I prefer to grow in plastic pots; however clay pots, baskets, and cork slabs will all work. Catasetinae don't like to be over potted; select a pot size that will allow for 2-3 years of growth. (continued)

#### Fertilizer:

When in active growth, use your favourite fertilizer once or twice a week, I have found it hard to over fertilize these plants at this time.

#### Air movement:

Catasetinae enjoy abundant air movement. If you are growing in a greenhouse (enclosed) use air circulating fans. Also, hanging the plants allows for maximum air movement around them and often they do best hanging.

#### Repotting and Dividing:

Is done as the new growth is just starting to develop and before the new roots start to show.

(Remember no watering until the roots are well established, 3-5" long).

Unlike most orchid plants Catasetinae do well when divided in to 2 bulb pieces.

Divisions are made by cutting with a sterile tool or by pulling the bulbs apart. I try to keep the size of my divisions between 2 and 3 bulbs with no more than 5 bulbs on a plant as this number of bulbs will encourage female flowers.

#### Insect pests:

Catasetinae are generally pest free. However spider mites are attracted to the soft leaves of these plants. Spider mites are quite small. They live and feed on the undersides of the leaves.



*Catasetum Olga*

Take care in checking for them as the plants are developing the new leaves and control them by hosing the underside of the leaves every morning as this will dislodge the pests. If the infestation gains a foot hold on your plant then treat with a recommended miticide.

Although the leaves will drop off during dormancy this is not an excuse to not treat for them.

It is for this reason I grow my Catasetinae hanging high in my greenhouse this also ensures the plants get plenty of light during the growing period.

Once the basics are understood they are very rewarding orchids to grow. Once the plants start their flowering cycle it is generally very hard to stop them. If a spike gets hung up on something I simply cut it off and the plant usually grows another to replace it.

This article was reproduced with the permission of Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids, USA, with adaptations for Australian conditions.

**Mal Rivers.**



### Judges Choice - May - Cyd Taiwan Gold 'Orange'

Cyd Taiwan Gold 'Orange' is a primary hybrid between *Cycnodes chlorochilon* and *Mormodes badia*.

This particular grex has received over 30 awards since its registration in 2004. Many of this cross were yellow but the orange clone is most impressive as it usually carries a good flower count and the rich gold/red flowers has exceptionally good texture. The flowers are also quite long lasting and well displayed.

It is fairly easy to grow and temperatures in a covered greenhouse in this area seem to suit very well. The important aspects of cultivation are to water and fertilise well when the plant is forming new leaves to ensure the pseudo bulbs



grow large and do not shrivel, and to reduce watering as the pseudo bulbs mature and the leaves begin to yellow and drop. We grow this plant in tightly packed sphagnum moss. **Beryl Robertson**

### June Species:

The weather turned on a lovely afternoon for our species get together at Charlie & Gina's place after what was a fairly chilly week. Thank you both for your hospitality and also to our wonderful members who assist with bringing a plate for afternoon tea. We are lucky to have some very generous wonderful people in our club.

Plants benched are listed below. Names checked and correct as per Kew WCSP list.

**\* indicates a change to your listed name.**

*Acampe ochracea*, *Acianthera sp.*, *Bulbophyllum angustifolium*, *Bulbophyllum grandiflorum*, *Bulbophyllum lasiochilum*, *Bulbophyllum purpurascens\**, *Bulbophyllum sanguineopunctatum*, *Bulbophyllum weberi\** x 2, *Calanthe vestita*, *Cattleya maxima*, *Cattleya simondii*, *Cattleya wallisii*, *Ceratostylis retisquama*, *Ceratostylis rigida*, *Cleisostoma simondii*, *Cleisostoma sp. Myanmar*, *Coelogyne fuscescens*, *Dendrobium rigidum*, *Dendrochilum cobbianum*, *Dendrochilum convallariiforme*, *Dendrochilum uncatum* x 2, *Epidendrum ciliare*, *Holcoglossum wangii*, *Laelia anceps*, *Laelia rubescens*, *Liparis parviflora* x 2, *Liparis sp. Indonesia*, *Masdevallia menatoj.*, *Paphiopedilum insigne*, *Paphiopedilum sanderianum*, *Paphiopedilum tonsum*, *Pelatantheria ctenoglossum*, *Phalaenopsis bellina*, *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica*, *Phalaenopsis speciosa*, *Pleurothallis pachyglossa*, *Prosthechea boothiana*, *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*, *Vanda luzonica*, *Zootrophium atropurpureum*, *Zygopetalum mackayi*



## Species

### Judges Choice - June - *Phalaenopsis Speciosa*



The name is derived from the Latin *speciosus* meaning 'showy'.

*Phal. speciosa* is closely related to a sister species – *tetraspis*.

It is endemic to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The species mostly produces inflorescences mostly longer than the leaves and the racemes reflowed with branching laterals. The flower colour is highly variable with unstable pigments which caused some confusion with the original identification.

These variations produce some unusual and eye-catching flowers. It flowers in late spring

to early winter and most specimens are fragrant at certain times of the day. Most articles on *speciosa* report it as growing epiphytically on mangroves in muddy swamps and also as being extinct in the wild. However it is being widely reproduced by nurseries and is a desirable addition to species collections. **Beryl & Graham**

### Judges Choice Miniature - June - *Masdevallia menatoi*



#### *Masdevallia menatoi*

Found in Bolivia near Chulumani in the Department of La Paz. They were growing in virgin forest at about 5900 ft. (1800 m). The forest where the plants were originally found has since been cleared for agriculture, and they have not been found in any other location. All plants now in cultivation have come from divisions of the original plant donated by Mr. Menato -- Source: Charles Baker.

Grow in shaded conditions in cool to warm conditions.

I grow this plant, among other *Pleurothallidinae*, on a branched piece of driftwood. It obviously likes its mount as it is firmly attached. It usually flowers May/June and displays 1 flower per spike. It is fertilised along with all other orchids. It is currently displaying 4 flowers with another 2 buds coming in separate inflorescences. Natural spread is 0.7cm. The colour of this flower seem to be an uncommon colour. When I displayed this plant at our Species Group meeting, I incorrectly labelled it as *Masd.coriaceae*.

This plant is very easy to cultivate. **Mal.**

## Popular vote & Judges Choice - May 2019

Class & Judges Choice	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Cattleya.</b> <b>C.Aloha Case. Judy.</b>	C.Aloha Case. Judy  R/c. Subprasert, Tom.	N/A	C. unknown, Patrick & Heather, R/c. Runnapha Fancy, Graham & Beryl, R/c.Burdekin Charm, Judy C. Aloha Case, Judy.
<b>Oncidium.</b> <b>Onc. Caramel Confection.</b> <b>Col &amp; Bev.</b>	Onc. Caramel Confection Col & Bev.	Mtdm. Tropical Heatwave. Charlie & Gina.	Onc. Sharry Baby. Grahame D.
<b>Vanda/Phal.</b> <b>V. Buttercup.</b> <b>RodJan.</b>	V. Buttercup, RodJan.	V.Roberts Delight. Rod & Jan.	V. unknown. Nita.
<b>Dendrobium.</b> <b>Den. Woon Leng. #</b> <b>Luda.</b>	Den. French Rose. Graham & Beryl.	Den. Woon Leng. # Luda.	Den. Mitzuso. Nita Den. French Rose. Judy.
<b>Any Other.</b> <b>Cycd. Taiwan Gold.</b> <b>Graham &amp; Beryl.</b>	Cycd. Taiwan Gold. Graham & Beryl.	Gplm. Arlene Armour. Col & Bev.	<b>Bulb. Louis Sander. #</b> <b>Luda.</b>
<b>Paph/Phrag.</b> <b>Paph. Invincible,</b> <b>Marty &amp; Anita.</b>	Paph. Rosy Dawn. Gabrielle.	Paph. Greensuk, Gabrielle, Paph. Invincible Marty & Anita.	N/A
<b>Exotic Species Americas.</b> <b>Prosthecia boothiana,</b> <b>Judy.</b>	<i>Prosthecia boothiana.</i> Judy.	Onc. <i>maculatum</i> , Rod & Jan, C. <i>maxima</i> , Judy.	N/A
<b>Exotic Species Asian.</b> <b>Phal. lindenii,</b> <b>Judy.</b>	Phal. <i>lindenii</i> , Judy.	<i>Tuberolabium kotoense</i> , Gabrielle <i>Gastrochilus retrocallus</i> # Luda Phal. <i>heiroglyphica</i> , Charlie & Gina.	N/A
<b>Aust. Native Hybrid.</b> <b>Den. Australian Robbie McInnes,</b> <b>Marty &amp; Anita.</b>	Den. Australian Robbie McInnes, Marty & Anita.	Den. Duno Vivspot, Marty & Anita.	No Entry.
<b>Aust. Native Species</b> <b>Den. biggibum, June.</b>	Den. <i>biggibum</i> , June.	Den. <i>wassellii</i> , Gabrielle.	No entry
<b>Novice. No entries.</b>			
<b>Foliage.</b> <b>Alocasia,</b> <b>David &amp; Lorraine.</b>	<i>Alocasia</i> , David & Lorraine.	<i>Bulbosa</i> , Gabrielle.	<i>Anthurium</i> , David & Lorraine.

**Plant of the month: *Cycnodes Taiwan Gold*, Graham & Beryl.**

**Novice Plant of Month: No entry.**

A crosshatch # beside the name of an orchid on this sheet indicates a correction or the new name of your plant.



## 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 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**

**Our new 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.**

### **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

Members can sell 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.**

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 2019

Set up is the day before Show date unless otherwise noted.

(NOS commitment in blue)

### July

Fri/Sat/Sun 12/13/14	Nambour Garden Expo.	Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Ave. Nambour
Fri/Sat/Sun 26/27/28	Caboolture 50th Anniversary Show	Morayfield Community Centre (Behind Bunnings)

### August

Fri/Sat 2/3	Maroochydore OS show	Milwell Road Community Centre, Maroochydore
Sat/Sun 10/11	Agnes Water OS show	Agnes Water Community Centre, 71 Springs Road,
Fri/Sat/Sun 23/24/25	ANOS Conference Hosted by KABI	Strathpine Community Centre, Strathpine
Fri/Sat 23/24	Noosa Orchid Show	RSL Hall, Cooroy

### September

Fri/Sat 6/7	Nambour OS Spring Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour
Sat/Sun 14/15	STOCQ Rocky Roundup	Korte's Resort, Rockhampton
Thurs/Fri/Sat 19/20/21	Maryborough OS Show	St Paul's Memorial Hall, Maryborough
Thurs/Fri 19/20	Sunshine Coast OS (closed show)	Pelican Waters Shopping Centre
Fri/Sat 27/28	Glasshouse Country OS show	Beerwah Community Hall, Peachester Road.
Fri/Sat/Sun 27/28/29	Hervey Bay OS show	Xavier Catholic College, 1 Wide Bay Drive, Eli Waters

### October

Fri/Sat 11/12	Bribie Island OS Show	The Orchid House, 156A First Ave. Bongaree
---------------	-----------------------	--

### November

Fri/Sat 1/2	Nambour OS Species Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour
Sat. 16th	STOCQ & OQI meetings	Orchid House, 156A First Ave. Bongaree

### 2018 AOC Conference

Australian Native Orchid Society Sat/Sun 14th & 15th Sept	Hosted by KABI Native OS STOCQ Rocky Roundup	Strathpine Community Centre, Strathpine Korte's Resort, Rockhampton
--	---	--



**The Aluminium Window & Door Doctor**

**Graham Christian**  
**Mobile: 0412 367 707**

Email: [windowdoordoc@bigpond.com](mailto:windowdoordoc@bigpond.com)  
 72 Diddillibah Road, Woombie 4559

HOUSE CALLS - FIX YOUR DOORS - REMOVE YOUR PANES



**Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.**  
Est. 1955



**Sub Tropical Orchid Council Qld. Inc.**

**Rocky Round Up Orchidfest 2019**

Conference and Show

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 9am to 4pm

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 9am to 3pm

Admission \$5 Children free

Hosted by The Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



The conference will be an open show exhibiting club displays & tabled plants



**Orchid Nurseries for plant sales**  
Orchid Sales



**Capricorn Region Bonsai Society**  
Display & Sales

**Orchid potting supplies**



**The Rockhampton Cake Decorators**

**Guest Speakers**

**Free Door Prize**

Refreshments will be available.

Visit our website for Updates, Registration Form & show Schedule

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

Email: [rosi@rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au](mailto:rosi@rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au)



President Jeff Bloxsom Ph: 0407 995 122 Show Marshal Jeff Glover Ph: 0409 633 469

Venue

**KORTES**  
RESORT

984 Yaamba Rd. Parkhurst QLD. 4701

