

TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



March 2022 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website
<http://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

Postal Address:

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AITKENVALE QLD 4814

Email: townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com

Patron: Jean Nicholson

President: Robyn Dundas Ph. 0474 305 864

Secretary: Helen Butler

Treasurer: Jeff Knowles

Bulletin Editor: Noel Grant Email: grantnml@bigpond.com

Hall Location:

Joe Kirwan Park
Charles Street, KIRWAN

Annual Membership Fees are due **1st September** each year
Family \$20.00
Single \$15.00

Details for paying membership fees: BSB: - 064823
Account Number: - 0009 0973
Name of Account: Townsville Orchid Society Inc.
Commonwealth Bank, Aitkenvale.

Are you currently un-financial? To remain a member of the Townsville Orchid Society Inc. and to continue to receive the TOS Bulletin, you MUST pay your annual membership.

The next Management Committee Meeting will be held from 7.30pm Friday 25th March.

The next General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 27th March.

It would be appreciated if members would donate food items for the afternoon tea.

Please also donate some items for the raffle table. Quality items appreciated!

Judges for March 2022:

Open

Charlie, Warren

Novice/Species

Marie, Alison

The President's Comments

Hello everyone,

My orchids are doing extremely well at the moment, considering the extreme heat we have all suffered with in the past few weeks. Flower buds are opening and sheaths appearing everywhere. Cannot say the same about my garden and lawn, as I cannot keep the water up to them fast enough. But I suppose we should be thankful that we are not living down south with the terrible floods they are enduring.

Preparations for the Ingham Field Day are well underway, with the bus list handed around at the February meeting. I am pleased to say that the bus is nearly full, so if you would like to join us on Sunday 10th April for a great day, please let us know. Costing for the bus trip is: members \$30 pp, non-members \$40pp plus \$10 for lunch. Payment must be paid by the 31st March. The bus will be leaving the Townsville Orchid Hall at 6.15am. Northern Beaches people can be picked up at the Yabulu service station at approximately 6.30am.

In addition, the preparations for our Autumn Show in April are well under way. If you would like a sales table or are able to help out on the rosters, please put your name on the roster lists which will be handed out at our next meeting on Sunday 27th March.

The topic for the lecture at the March meeting is Spider Mites and pest control on your orchids, by Charlie Truscott. Charlie had a similar talk last year when we held our zoom meetings, it was very informative and interesting, so try not to miss it.

Hoping to see you all at our meeting on Sunday 27th March.

Happy growing, stay safe and well.

Robyn Dundas

Minutes from the Management Meeting held Friday, 25 February 2022

Meeting opened: 7.35 pm by President Robyn Dundas

Present: R Dundas, N Grant, T McGill, S Fidler, J Cairns, L Johnson, J Allen, H Butler

Apologies: R Rasmussen, J Knowles, R Whiting

Minutes:

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

M: H Butler S: N Grant **Carried**

Correspondence In:

Other Society Newsletters for February: GOFS, SCOCSA February Gazette, Maroochydhore, Ipswich, AOCC, NQ Herbs, EDOS, RHSV, Broms Qld, HROAP, NOS, MOS

Advertising: Fernland, Ecuagenera, Cash Register Warehouse, Hot Toner, Triple T Radio, Alice's Orchids Catalogue

Grant: Confirmation of application submission, Support for Grant from Cr Sue Blom, Support for Grant from Cr Maurie Soars, SmartyGrants account details, Funding Requirements, Remittance advice from TCC, Letter of recommendation Cr Russ Cook, confirmation of Acquittal Submission.

General: Request for Cattleya orchids for a Wedding in April, CMobile account, Request for member number, OrchidWiz account update, Notification of peaceful passing of Lynn Archibald on Sunday, 20 February 2022 (no service planned), Request to discontinue membership – Denis Parker, Gracie Signs account, Additions to webpage by Noel Grant, Letter of resignation from **Bobby** Loftus, Invitation for Mother's Day Spectacular at Atherton International Club.

Correspondence Out

Reply to Wedding request, Grant documents, 75th Birthday documents.

Motion: That the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards adopted.

M: H Butler S: L Johnson **Carried**

Business arising:

Treasurer's Report

TOS available funds are healthy. Details are available at monthly meetings.

Motion: That the treasurer's reports be accepted and accounts be passed for payment

M: R Dundas S: J Allen **Carried**

Show Report (Stacey Fielder):

- April Autumn show:
- Rosters organised for Sunday
- Need to check on vaccination status proof at door
- Will talk on Sunday, ribbons have arrived, ribbons for show yet to be confirmed
- Marquees outside
- Swatch samples received
- Set up of hall on Thursday evening, 6.30 pm, Jan and Helen to man admin
- Step by step guide for benching plants help for novices in particular
- Talk on Sunday for plant tags for entries in the show. Two tags, name of plant on front, member number on the back and the green prong. Make sure that member number is on a tag present in the benched plant pot.

75th Birthday Celebration

- 12 responses from orchid nurseries for participation
- No table cloth or floor protection provided
- Details of conditions of vendors discussed, eg own hanging structures
- Sue Holcombe donating money to TOS, presenting at dinner
- Discussion held around wording on rosettes etc

- By law 18.4 entry of orchids is free, to be opening entry to other orchid member society members to enter for free
- By law 19.1 to be suspended to allow for member of other societies and enter
- M: S Fidler S: Troy
- \$5200 plus GST for the Ryan School, should we question because original quote was for \$1000 per day. Merrimac Centre same bond and deposit etc, but do we still need to consider for holding the dinner. Robyn to look in to.
- Bromeliad Study Group, Townsville Bonsai Society display, Herbs Society, should we invite bee people
- Coffee Cart available for Friday and Saturday, not Sunday
- Alice took flyers to the Orchid Fair, Robyn purchased another couple of display stands
- Leonie to ask Mayor to open the show, does she need a script etc prepared for 10.00 am Friday morning and 7.00 pm for the dinner
- Leonie to ask if students of Townsville Creative Technology Centre could use the opportunity as a practical for assessment or practice.
- BYO alcohol, Jeff to Chair the occasion, volunteers required to setup hall
- Townsville Bulletin in contact re paper inclusions, yet to be decided
- Leonie to approach television stations etc for running pieces, historically very willing if they need additional items etc

Building Report – Robert Rasmussen

- New sign erected, Gracie Signs
- Garden Club holding show on 17 and 18 June, \$200 cost for the two days
- Two new timber shelves purchased for stock cupboard

Hospitality Report – Ruth Whiting

- Organised items for Sunday

Field Day

- Ingham, April 10
- 40 seater coach quoted
- \$30 per seat, probably additional \$10 for lunch, \$40 non-members plus lunch, payment required by the end of March, payments not accepted on day of travel
- Robyn to prepare form for Sunday

New members

- Sandra Le Corv, growing for 4 years, 75 plants entered into Novice category
- Lex and Joan Cooper, Gympie Orchid Society members for 6 years, growing for 12 years, 500+ entered into Open category

Website – Noel Grant

- 75th anniversary page added
- Vendors invited
- Advertising flyer

Meeting closed 8.35 pm.

Robyn Dundas - President

Helen Butler – Secretary

Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday, 27 February 2022

Meeting opened: 1.03 pm by President Robyn Dundas

Present: as per Attendance Book

Apologies: T Cameron, M Vesely

Visitors : Joan and Bill Bitzel (Ingham OS), Barry Turnbull, Helen Townsend

Minutes:

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

M: H Butler S: J Allen **Carried**

Correspondence In:

Other Society Newsletters for February: GOFs, SCOCSA February Gazette, Maroochydoore, Ipswich, AOCC, NQ Herbs, EDOS, RHSV, Broms Qld, HROAP, NOS, MOS,

Advertising: Fernland, Ecuagenera, Cash Register Warehouse, Hot Toner, Triple T Radio, Alice's Orchids Catalogue

Grant: Confirmation of application submission

General: Request for Cattleya orchids for a Wedding in April, CMobile account, Request for member number, OrchidWiz account update, Notification of peaceful passing of Lynn Archibald on Sunday, 20 February 2022 (no service planned), Request to discontinue membership – Denis Parker, Gracie Signs account, Additions to webpage by Noel Grant, Letter of resignation from Bobby Loftus, Invitation for Mother's Day Spectacular at Atherton International Club.

Correspondence Out

Reply to Wedding request, Grant documents, 75th Birthday documents, Grant request documents.

Motion: That the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards adopted.

M: H Butler S: L Johnson **Carried**

Business arising:

Treasurer's Report

TOS available funds are healthy. Details are available at monthly meetings.

Motion: That the treasurer's reports be accepted and accounts be passed for payment

M: J Knowles S: R Whiting **Carried**

Reports:

- Presentation of orchids and booklets to new members
- Acknowledgement of Jan Allen and Jeff Knowles' preparation of 75th Birthday and history, advertising the event of celebration. Thank you very much.

Show Report - Stacey Fidler

- Autumn Show 29/30 April and Sunday 1 May, rosters to be passed around, request for early volunteers from 8.00 am
- Forms on the table for bar codes
- Specific details re days discussed next meeting
- Novices please, get involved, "You might just win!"
- Noel Grant
- Noel discussed presented plants in Novice section, need to fill in register with member name, club number and plant name

Hospitality Report - Ruth Whiting

- Request for slices etc for next show
- New shirts will be ordered soon, please put in your order and payment as soon as possible

New Business

- Ingham Field Day, 40 members needed to cover cost of bus, need to pay by end of March.

- 6.15 am departure from the Orchid Hall due to road works
- Discussion re need for contact information in case of emergency, perhaps to add medications to form as well.
- Pots at rear of hall donated, please do not be greedy, share around.
- Question re GST status of the club, and request for the need for an exact ruling from the ATO
M: to get full status determined, C Stout Seconded by Reg Dix (14 against)

Carried

- Question re recording device for accuracy of minutes, C Stout. To be discussed with H Butler.
- Question from C. Stout as to why the 75th Celebration venue was posted on a personal Facebook page when this information was not on TOS website which stated that the venue was still being discussed. These comments became personal in nature and the discussion was terminated.
- Judge's choice:
- Open Section: Den Fraser's Mosaic x Den Fraser's Red Dragon, owned by Reg Dix
- Special mention, Vanda Anne Hayes owned by Noel Grant
- Species Section: Doritis now under Phalaenopsis, *Phal pulcherima*, owned by Robyn Dundas
- Novice Section: Oncidium Unknown owned by Andrew Hamilton

Technical Advisor: Charlie Truscott

- Discussion held around pH of tap water, 7.1 at Wulguru, 8.0 at Rosslea, Cungulla high alkaline
- To get extra out of orchids, consider adjustment of pH of water not just when fertilising
- Check pH, if down around 5 or 6 affects availability of trace elements, calcium, magnesium, iron, need to adjust to improve
- How to adjust? Charlie showed measurement device, need to calibrate first to 7 using provided solution, preference for 6.5 reading before usage, can purchase pH buffer from Bunnings usually add 5 to 10 mls, get as close to 6.5 as possible, yellow leaves etc will improve
- Chart passed around re improvement of absorption of elements available to plants at various pH levels
- White marks on the leaves, Bruno uses unsweetened pineapple juice to reduce pH
- Think about evolution of plants in native environments, and positioning in natural growing situations
- Bark is very acidic, so Paphiopedilums need adjustment because they prefer growing on limestone.

While presentation being prepared, Noel Grant showed a plant which had been positioned on a piece of tree fern and was flowering beautifully facing downwards, sometimes you cannot tell what they are going to do!

Presentation by Reg Dix – Cattleyas

(Note by the Editor – the following was all typed directly as Reg was speaking by Secretary Helen; isn't that amazing? Great work, Helen.)

- 2,786 species, 48,753 hybrids
- Explanation of highest points received by Burdekin Dream 'Roxanne', points of flower to notice
- Showing of work of breeders: Allan Eggins, Ron Grienke, Ross Maidment, Fred Clarke in US (Sunset Valley Orchids), spotted
- Can be potluck in what you can get from a large number of plants from the same breeding
- Bifoliate (Two leaves), Cattleyas can have canes like sugar canes
- Light can be from direct sunlight to dappled
- Air flow through root system important
- Roots must dry out between watering and fertilising
- Temperature ranges vary
- Do not use fertiliser with Urea
- Do use a mix of different fertilisers
- Do not water before hand
- 15L of water, 3 drops of phosphoric acid

- Yellow and blue, magnesium chelate, iron chelate
- Seasol, Nitrosol, Molasses, Seasol with growth hormone once a month
- Reg owns 160 orchids, 15 L is all needed for one watering
- Bifoliate need to have root growth before repot
- Noticed that potting mix being used was too wet for Townsville conditions, roots rotted, staying too wet
- Repotted all plants in LECA (lightweight expanded clay balls), with limestone chips on the top, no problem with roots rotting
- Sample showing of hangers for pots
- What healthy orchid roots look like, root is green, photosynthesis taking place, healthy orchid roots branching, microscopic view of orchid root and cross section
- Outside spongy piece (radicum) will absorb the first of the water which is up to 85% of what they need, water every three days
- Water when temperature is over 16 degrees, especially from 4 pm in the afternoon
- Common diseases include Fusarium, Black Spot etc, snails and slugs
- Dendrobium Beetle, Boisduval Scale, there are male and female, greatest problems, white furry growths on plants, repot the plant with the following hints but throw the pot out, use Fortune 500, soak the plant, leave out of pot for 3 weeks. Do not use methylated spirits as when it evaporates will damage leaves
- Control the amount of water, solar weave fabric is useful for this
- Reg having difficulty getting plants to flower, 5 growths after potting in Sept, video of greenhouse, all growing well but not flowering....
- *Cattleya walkeriana* as an example. The mean temperature during January this year was 33°C, with the lowest temperature being 28.6°C
- Resorted to technology, the temperature at midnight was 27.3°C, at 12.30 am it was 27.1°C, at 3 am it was 26°C, at 3.30 am it was 25.6°C but then by 7.00 am had risen back to 27.2°C
- OrchidWiz program was consulted, chose to look at Rth Memoria Warren Eggins
- Looked under cultivation, notes stated to grow between 14 and 24 degrees, **Townsville too hot!**
- GCT Barrel of Joy 'Pearl' mentions 18 to 28 degrees (as a hot grower) and it is flowering well
- The Cattleya Alliance grows mainly from South America, up to Florida and across to Cuba etc
- Orlando, 30 degrees north, same as bottom island of Japan which is equivalent to Merrimbla in NSW
- Examples of sea level originators that will flower here
- So, suggestions ? pick up cattleyas and send south or position on top of Mt Stuart which is 5 degrees cooler?...
- Therefore conclusion is that temperature is just as important as light and fertiliser
- Bruno asked if we should water at 2 am in the morning, he does. Finds that allows for a long time to drip and water drops from leaves and calcium etc does not deposit on leaves, and flowering
- Home environment eg besser block and concrete will be hotter conditions and affect flowering
- Comment from member about moving plants across the region has affected flowering, has taken up to 7 years to reflower
- Revisit of Dendrobium beetle slides, grub form is most destructive, kill with two bricks or clapping of hands...
- Test flower – who would check tag to flowering plant and be able to dispute....Charlie did...

Meeting closed 2.38 pm.

Robyn Dundas - President

Helen Butler – Secretary

TABLED PLANTS: PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2022

Bold Type indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
OPEN CATTLEYA 110mm and over	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Burdekin Charm 'Mt. Poverty' Rlc Deception Moonlight (Dal's Toshie x Dal's Grace) Rlc Chief Journey 'First Class'	B Fighera B Fighera R Whiting
CATTLEYA Miniature under 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	C Rossella's Royal Flare 'Mia' Ctna Topaz Raspberry 'Lea' C Chantilly Lace	G&S Kelly G&S Kelly J Nicholson
CATTLEYA Cluster	1st 2nd 3rd	Ctna Volcano Queen 'Orange Fire' C Vauper's Sunrise x <i>C. tigrina</i> (<i>C leopoldii</i>) C Chocolate Drop 'Kodama'	G&S Kelly W&C Sewell R&E Dundas
CATTLEYA Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	C Caudebec Candy 'Burgundy' C Jungle Hotspot 'Spots' C Caudebec Candy 'Burgundy'	R Whiting B Fighera R Rasmussen
DENDROBIUM Spatulata	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Fraser's Mosaic x Fraser's Red Dragon Den Alice's Silvano Den Burana Mint x Den Blue Twinkle	R Dix K Owens R Whiting
DENDROBIUM Intermediate	1st 2nd 3rd	Den King of Monkey Den Jacqueline Concert x Den Uniwai Royal <i>Den superbiens</i> x Mekong River x Kuranda Classic	R Whiting R Whiting K Owens
VANDA Over 65 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V Kulwadee Fragrance 'Black' V Jiraprapa x V Tokyo Delight V Kee Yong Wee (Kultana Gold x Guo Chia Long)	N&M Grant N&M Grant G Watt
VANDA Under 40mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V Ann Hayes V Ann Hayes V Brighton's Gold 'Korat'	N&M Grant G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
VANDA Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	V Chao Praya Emerald x Van Gold Friendships V Green Light V Unknown	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
PHALAENOPSIS – OVER 60mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal Zen Orion	N&M Grant
ONCIDIUM Any Other	1st 2nd 3rd	Lsz Lava Burst Lsz Lava Burst 'Bug' Ryl Mary Eliza	R Whiting R&E Dundas J Nicholson
ANY OTHER ORCHID Under 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Ctism russellianum</i> x <i>Ctism christianum</i> Ctism Rebecca Northen x <i>Ctism denticulatum</i> Ctism Black Jade	R&E Dundas R&E Dundas R Whiting
NOVICE ANY OTHER	1st 2nd 3rd	Oncidium Unknown	A Hamilton
SPECIES AUSTRALIAN NATIVE	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den bigibbum var compactum</i>	A&J Knowles
CATTLEYA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Psh chacaoensis</i> <i>C forbesii</i> <i>B nodosa</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant K Owens

VANDA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Trgt philippinensis</i> <i>V tessellata</i> var blue x 'Blue India' <i>V falcata</i> var pink	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
PHALAENOPSIS	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Phal pulcherrima</i> <i>Phal cornu-cervi</i> var red <i>Phal pulcherrima</i> var <i>champornense</i>	R&E Dundas N&M Grant N&M Grant
PAPHIOPEDILUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph jogjae</i>	J Nicholson
BULBOPHYLLUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Bulb corolliferum</i> <i>Bulb aureum</i> <i>Bulb longisepalum</i>	P&M Cooper A&J Knowles A&J Knowles
ANY OTHER	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Ctism frimbriatum</i> <i>Eria</i> species unknown from Fiji	R&E Dundas A&J Knowles

Points for Tabled Plants after February 2022

Name	Open	Novice	Species	Aggregate
Blanchard D	4			4
Cooper P&M			4	4
Dix R	4		1	5
Dundas R&E	64		12	76
Fidler S	3		3	6
Fighera B	13			13
Grant N&M	46		64	110
Hamilton A		8		8
Hardy A	6			6
Hughes W	6			6
Johnson L&G	13		11	24
Kelly G&S	35			35
Knowles A&J			30	30
Nicholson J	4		4	8
Owens K	32		11	43
Rasmussen R	5			5
Richardson J&K	9			9
Sewell W&C	11			11
Truscott C	7			7
Watt G	16		4	20
Whiting R	62		22	84



Judge's Choice

February 2022
Novice Section:

Oncidium Unknown

Andrew Hamilton



Judge's Choice

February 2022
Species Section:

Phal. pulcherrima

Robyn Dundas



Judge's Choice

February 2022
Open Section:

Den. Frazer's Mosaic x
Frazer's Red Dragon

Reg Dix