

TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



March 2024 Bulletin

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

Postal Address:

PO Box 836 D.C.
AITKENVALE QLD 4814

Email: townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com

Patron: Cr. Russ Cook

President: Troy McGill Ph. 0474 305 864

Secretary: Greg Kelly

Treasurer: Lisa McCulloch

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 22nd March.
The January General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 24th March.**

It would be appreciated if members would donate food items for the **afternoon tea**.
It would also be appreciated if members would donate some items for the **raffle table**.
Quality items appreciated!

Judges for March 2024:

Novice/Species
Reg, Peter

Open
Alison, Marie

President's Report

Hello Everyone,

Firstly, I would like to thank Reg for his presentation on orchid judging and Charles for his presentation on monthly tips at the previous General Meeting. I would also like to thank Greg, who has resigned as Secretary. Greg has been a member on numerous committees, hopefully he now can sit back and enjoy his time as a member of the Society.

As you can see below, things are starting to pick up. We have our Autumn Show fast approaching. So please, if you're available to help out, fill out the roster. Hopefully the weather hasn't affected too many plants and there will be plenty of colour and flowers for the Show.

Two weeks later, the Herbert River Orchid and Allied Plants Society are having their Field Day in April, so please remember to put your name down for the bus trip. My understanding is there are 5 different venues to visit this year. It's always a good trip so bring some change for raffles on the bus. Ingham always puts on a good lunch with raffles as well.

The Bowen Field Day has been cancelled, but potentially later in the year they be holding a Spring Show. Let's hope the dates don't clash with our Show.

Important dates coming soon to the club:

Saturday 16th March, 10am – 12pm, Ask the Experts, this will be at Jan's residence.

Wednesday 20th March, 9:30am Box Cutting Day at the TOS Hall.

Sunday 24th March, 1pm Monthly General Meeting.

Saturday 30th March, TQOC Meeting at 10am, Townsville Orchid Society Hall.

Thursday 4th April, 10am, Set up for the Autumn Show.

Friday 5th to Sunday 7th April, Autumn Show.

Sunday 14th April, Ingham Field Day.

Cheers, Troy

Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held Friday, 23rd February, 2024,

Meeting opened: at 7.20pm by President Troy McGill

Present: Troy McGill, Samantha McGill, Lisa McCulloch, Greg Kelly, Jan Allen, Wally Brooker, Noel Grant, Lyn Johnson, Joe Walker and Carolyn Gibson.

Apologies: Robert Rasmussen

The President advised of the death of a former member Grant Christopher.

Minutes:

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

M: G Kelly S. J Walker **Carried**

Business arising: Nil

Correspondence: In Flaming North, President (re hall damage), C Mobile, Ann Noble x 2, Flaming North, Office of Fair Trading, National Deposit Summary x 2, Proserpine OS, Herbert River OAPS, Plumber to your Door, North Queensland Insurance Brokers x 2, DMC, Australia Post, Campbell Constructions, Fernlands, Flaming North, AOC x 2, Nambour OS, Microsoft and Bowen Orchid Society.

Correspondence: Out. TQOC, North Queensland Insurance Brokers, Ann Noble.

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

M: G Kelly S: L McCulloch **Carried**

Business arising:

- President Troy advises that an inspection by an insurance assessor of the damage to the hall is scheduled in the near future. The club had obtained one quote but will await advice from the insurers as how to proceed.
- Troy advised that he also received a reminder from Flaming North and the matter is now in hand.

- Troy would like the club to enter the AOC award competition. Discussion was held as to exactly what sections the awards cover. Troy to look into matter. Relates to Ira Butler Trophy.

Treasurer's Report

Funds available to TOS: 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: L McCulloch S Gibson **Carried**

Business arising:

- Lisa advised that the money in the Savings Account was receiving .95% interest, Lisa advised the term rates for six months and twelve-month deposits. She advised that if money invested in term deposit the club is unable to break that investment. Lisa indicated. that perhaps \$20,000 could be invested.

Vice President Reports:

Show Jan Allen

Autumn Show

- Jan advised that the judges would not be available for the 'Ask the Expert' day as they would be out of Townsville. Jan asked if the day could proceed as the technical officer, Jeff Knowles would be available as would other experienced growers. Day is to proceed as scheduled.
- The Ribbons for the show have been ordered.

Ingham Field Day.

- Jan advised that she had not obtained a quote for this year's trip but working on last year's cost recommended that the club hire a bus and charge \$40 per member and \$50 per non-member for the day. Jan also advised the additional cost of the meal, had been increased to \$15. (Meal actually increased to \$12.) Starter list to be handed around at General Meeting.

Hospitality Samantha McGill

- Sam advised she had nothing to report.

Building Report Wally Brooker

- Wally reported that the assessor for the damage to the hall would be here next week.
- Wally advised in relation to the air-conditioning, that a new mother board had been installed in a unit and this should resolve the problem.

Publicity: Carolyn Gibson

- Carolyn advised that she had quotes for advertising in the Townsville Bulletin for the Autumn Show and provided the various options. Carolyn advised the various costs and what had been done in previous shows.
- Carolyn also spoke about the cost of boosting the club on Facebook for the show.
- Carolyn also advised that she had completed flyers for the Autumn Show.

Motion: That the TOS advertises the Autumn Show in the Townsville Bulletin by the use of a quarter page advertisement on Monday or Tuesday and a one-eighth page on Saturday. TOS also authorises the cost of boosting the club on Facebook in the sum of \$50.

M C Gibson S Jan Allen **Carried.**

General Business:

- Troy advised that he had removed the incorrect address on the building. Carolyn advised the address she had used on the flyers came from Google. She had since changed the address. Greg indicated that it would be preferable to use the actual address of the clubhouse as provided by the Townsville City Council,

- There was prolonged discussion about the trophies and Bunnings vouchers given at the Christmas Party for the winners of various competitions. One primary issue was the value of winning the Points Section against winning the Judges choice for the section.
- It was resolved that all of the winners would receive a trophy as well as a certificate. This includes a trophy for the perpetual trophies of the Ivy Nott and Ted Boon trophies as the main trophies had to be returned.
- President advised that Bunnings vouchers may be added if donated. All is subject to change.
- Whilst discussing the above, it was stated that members do not know how those competitions work. Greg advised that for the past five years members had a document forwarded to them explaining this but most do not read the document. Noel will speak on the competitions at the General Meeting on Sunday.
- President Troy asked if the run sheets for the various positions had been completed. Most members still working on theirs.

Around the table

- Lisa advised that she had conducted research into an Eftpos machine and advised what she had discovered. Lisa iterated that her main concern was the actual inputting of the amount on the Eftpos machine and that amount had to be checked by the assistant cashier to ensure accuracy.
- She recommends that the club lease an Eftpos Machine.
- Greg indicated that the information supplied by Lisa was the same that he had been telling members for the past four months.
- Greg added that while previously it had been resolved that members using the shop would not pay the surcharge, would this also apply for payments for memberships, Bus trip and events such as the Christmas Party. This would be an impost on the club. President Troy indicated that perhaps we should just charge the surcharge.
- President Troy then indicated that we should proceed with obtaining the Eftpos machine and perhaps it could be used by the shop at the meeting prior to the show.
- President Troy indicated that he was glad that the matter was resolved and thanked Lisa for her work.
- Jan indicated that there is a need for the society to purchase Google space in the clouds for storage. Discussion was held regarding this. To be considered further.
- Grag advised that Noel Grant has located a site which sold 20gm containers of Banrot for \$20. Perhaps the members could be made aware of this site as many members will not pay for a full container of Banrot. Greg asked that members also be advised of the need for protective equipment to be used as this is necessary.

New Member Applications accepted: Nil.

Meeting Closed at 9 pm

Troy McGill - President

Greg Kelly – Secretary

Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday 25th February, 2024

Meeting opened at 1pm by President Troy who welcomed all attendees.

Present: As per registration book.

Visitors: Helen Shelley, Barry, Merle and Leann O'Neil, Fran and Stephen Gooch and Rod and Christine Fitlock. Troy McGill introduced and welcomed visitors to the Society.

President Troy then spoke

- Advised of death of former member Grant Christopher.
- That an Eftpos machine will be trialled at the March General Meeting and will be used at the Autumn Show.
- Advised members of damage to hall during cyclone. Our excess for insurance is \$500 whereas the quote locally was over \$2000. We will be guided by the insurance company on how to proceed.

- The Townsville Orchid Society has advised the Tropical Queensland Orchid Council that it will not take part in the proposed Orchid Fairs as there was no support from members to that effect.
- Bowen Orchid Society had cancelled their Field Day for this year.

Minutes: Greg Kelly

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

Moved: Greg Kelly Seconded J Allen **Carried**

Business out of Minutes: Nil

Correspondence: Secretary advised relevant correspondence was the Herbert River Field Day, Cancellation of the Bowen Field Day. Outgoing. Advice to the TQOC that the TOS would not be assisting with proposed Orchid Fairs.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa McCulloch

The treasurer provided her report as to the state of the society funds. Spreadsheets are available from the Treasurer if anyone would like to look.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted and accounts passed for payments.

Moved Lisa McCulloch Seconded R Dundas **Carried**

Vice President Reports:

Show Jan Allen

Autumn Show

- Jan advised that she was passing round the documents for the Autumn Show. These included a list of donations for the kitchen, the kitchen roster and the actual roster for the show. This included an area for those who wanted sales tables. Jan advised that the kitchen roster commences at 8am.
- The box day where boxes are prepared for the show will be held on Wednesday 27th of March at 9.30am. (**Editor: Since amended to Wednesday 20th March**). Please bring a box cutter if you have one.
- Our "ask the expert" day will be held at Jan's home address on Saturday 16th March from 10am until noon.
- Set up for the show will be on Thursday 4 April at 10am. If you are coming to help set up you may bring your plants and leave them out of the areas. You may put your plants in the show and sales areas once areas are set up. Otherwise, all plants to be brought in after 1pm.

Ingham Field Day

- This is on the 14th April, 2024. A sheet is being handed around for those who wish to attend. Cost for members is \$40, Non-Members is \$50. Lunch will cost an additional \$12. They are not catering for special dietary requirements. Bus will leave clubhouse at 6.30am.

Hospitality Samantha McGill

- Sam asked people to donate food for the kitchen for the show and also reminded all members that a donation would be appreciated for the afternoon tea at general meetings.

General Business:

- Noel Grant addressed the meeting on the requirements for placing plants in the competitions at the general meetings. This covered the three sections, classes and the needs of those who record the winners and do the sheets. Noel also advised that the annual winner of the Novice section is elevated to the Open section. Champion plants in the Novice section of the Shows is not relevant to the point section or elevation to the Open Section.
- Greg Kelly spoke on the availability of Banrot in smaller amounts from Nutriflo. Safety precautions must be followed.
- Troy asked that if members had not confirmed their details, please complete the sheets which are on the front table.
- Troy advised that Greg Kelly was stepping down from his duties as Secretary and a replacement will be necessary.

Judges Choice:

Open Section: C Caudebec Candy L&G Johnson 77 points

Novice Section D Unknown J Horn 70 points.

Species Section: Vietnamica N&M Grant 74 points.

Technical Advisor Nil.

Lecture: Reg Dix spoke on Judging of Plants. Reg explained the difference between Award Judging and Show Bench Judging. He then provided information on the desirable traits of most of the more popular genera. This was very well received.

Charles Lee spoke on what you should be doing with plants at this time of the year and also on how to use the microphone provided.

Meeting Closed at 2.25pm

Troy McGill - President

Greg Kelly – Secretary

Cultural Notes April 2024

General observations

The sun has crossed the equator and is now in the northern hemisphere. Night is longer than day. The European 'Autumn' is here.

From the Kakadu Mob perspective, *Kudjewk* – the monsoon season is over, *Bangkerreng* – the 'Knock 'em down' storm season is with us. Temperatures for April. 23°C – 34°C

Clear skies prevail. Floodwater is receding and streams start to run clear again. Most of Kakadu's plants are fruiting and its animals are caring for their young.

The early days of *bangkerreng* are marked by violent, windy storms that flatten the speargrass – these are called 'knock 'em down' storms. <https://parksaustralia.gov.au/kakadu/discover/nature/seasons/>

The days are getting cooler, therefore less evaporation, less growth, less transpiration. Reduce watering.

Pests and Diseases

Look for chewing insects. Spray if found – pyrethrum, 'Success', 'Mavrik', 'Diazamin 200', 'Ficam W'

Look for spider mites. They should not be a problem until the humidity drops. Rotate miticides on a 7 day interval at least 3 treatments. 'Supracide' is a good miticide.

Spray preventative fungicide. Triforine, Alginox are systemic fungicides, Mancozeb is a surface fungicide. Good air circulation is a good fungicide

Safety First!! Remember that all horticultural poisons are poisonous to humans if mistreated.

The Cattleya Alliance

Reduce watering. Water only once or twice a week depending on the weather and your potting mix.

Fertilise weakly, weekly. Alternate between Hi N and Lo N fertilisers (High Nitrogen, Low Nitrogen).

Check new leads for damp off. Treat with a systemic fungicide and increase air flow in your orchid house.

Check for Dendrobium beetle and spider mites. Refer to notes in 'Pests and Diseases' above.

Oncidium Alliance

Our "Wet" Season is over – Reduce water but do not allow to dry out. Keep moist. Water early mornings

Alternate fertiliser. Weakly, weekly. Hi N / Lo N. Spray Mancozeb to shield against fungus.

Paphiopedilum

Our 'Wet' Season is over– Keep moist but not wet. Water / mist daily. Avoid wetting flowers & buds

Weak Campbells Yellow (flowering) every 2nd water. Lo N, Hi PK. Check for mealy bug & anthracnose.

Heat stress should be less of a problem. Increase shade if plants show stress

Phalaenopsis

Our "Wet" Season is over. Water / mist daily. Mornings best time

Early flower spikes might appear. Stake early. Use bloom booster fertiliser. Weakly, weekly. (Lo N, Hi PK fertiliser)

Check for cockroaches, mealy bug, spider mites & anthracnose. Beware of crown rot.

Vandaceous

Our "Wet" Season may be over but many Vandas originate from areas with regular rain, so water daily.

Hi N / Balanced fertiliser. Weakly, weekly.

Be aware of crown rot & Thai disease. Watch for grasshoppers.

Phalaenanthe Dendrobium

Cease watering if flowering finished. Morning misting to maintain canes. Cold will cause leaf drop. Do not water if cool.

Fertilise weakly, weekly. Lo N, Higher PK

Stake new flower spikes, if they appear. Check for Dendrobium beetle, Spider mites.

Intermediate Dendrobium

Decrease water as weather cools. Seedlings should be kept damp. Fertiliser. Weakly, weekly. Lo N

Stake new flower spikes, if they appear.

Check new leads for damp off. Check for Dendrobium beetle, red spider

Repot before cold weather.

Canaliculatum Dendrobium (Our local orchid)

Our 'Wet' Season is over. Reduce water. Just enough to maintain canes. Mist whenever you have a heavy dew.

Minimum fertiliser. Weak, Lo N

Check new leads for damp off. Fungicide when misting

Check for Dendrobium beetle, red spider.

PS. The European 4 seasons do not adequately define our climate in North Queensland. I feel the first nations' understanding is more appropriate. However, I am unable to find anything pertinent to the Townsville area. I have used the seasons of the Kakadu area as it is on the east coast of the Northern Territory. If anyone has some info on the first nations' seasons for the Townsville area, please let me know.

Charles

SHOW VICE PRESIDENT - REPORT

Well, a new year brings new ventures. After a long break (Townsville Field Day in October was the last event I needed to organise) preparation for the Autumn Show and Ingham Field Day is well and truly in progress.

Advertising is organised (thanks Carolyn Gibson), Show ribbons are ordered and rosters were passed around at the last meeting. As we only have two weeks between the March meeting and the **2024 Autumn Show**, I have sent out the rosters via email to members, just in case you missed the last meeting and would like to contribute to helping at the Show. If you sold plants last year, you will probably also receive an email from me, confirming if you still require a table. By the time this Bulletin is published, our 'Ask the Expert' Day will have come and gone. We started this last year as it was felt that there was not enough time at our monthly Sunday meetings for members to make enquiries about their own plants. Advice on how to present your plant, stake your flowers and whether a plant has a fungal disease or pest is what we aim to provide. Last year, as I remember, there was also a repotting demonstration. We plan to run this three times a year – one to two weeks prior to our Shows.

The Herbert River Orchid & Allied Plants Society Inc. Field Day is an event that the TOS has supported for many years. It is very well organised and great fun. We are providing a bus. It was agreed at the last Management meeting that supporting other Orchid Societies and the advantages of providing a way members could attend these events, outweighed a small financial loss. To minimise the loss, we will be organising a smaller bus (24 seater) with a trailer, should we have 22 or fewer people using the service. I will need to know by the March meeting, and payment will need to be made by 31st March. Bus - \$40pp (member), \$50pp (non-member) and lunch - \$12 pp.

Unfortunately, the **Bowen Orchid and Foliage Society** has advised us that they will not have a Field Day this year.

See you at the next meeting,

Jan Allen.

Herbert River Orchid & Allied Plant Society Inc.
invites you to our

2024 Field Day.

Sunday 14th of April.

Conroy Hall,
Mcilwraith Street,
INGHAM.



Hall will be opened at 8.00 a.m.

Morning tea & afternoon tea will be provided free of charge.

Lunch \$ 12.00

Soft drinks/water \$ 2.00

Our Club is unable to cater for special dietary needs.

Morning raffle Cent sale Rolling raffle.

Bus is available at a cost of \$10.00.

Those wishing to attend, please contact Reta on
0459632829/hroaps_inc@hotmail.com by the 31st of
March 2024.

Clubs that are bringing buses, we just need numbers.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF February 2024

Bold Type indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
OPEN	1st	Rlc Supranthong 'Siam'	R. Whiting
CATTLEYA	2nd	Rlc Chief Journey 'First Class'	L. McCulloch
110mm and over	3rd	C. Dinard 'Blue Heaven'	W. Hughes
CATTLEYA	1st	C. Caudabec Candy 'Burgundy'	R. Whiting
75mm to 109 mm	2nd	C. Fort Mott x C. Lulu	L. McCulloch
	3rd	C. Caudabec Candy	W. Hughes

CATTLEYA Miniature under 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Rth Chunfong Smile Pot. Burana Beauty C. Vaupes Sunrise x C. tigrina	? R. Whiting K. Owens
CATTLEYA Cluster	1st	C. Vaupes Sunrise x C. tigrina	W&C Sewell
DENDROBIUM Spatulata	1st 2nd 3rd	Den. Luis's Keiki Den. Juleen High Den. Mary Trousse	K. Owens K. Owens K. Owens
DENDROBIUM Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	Den. Little Green Apples Den. Dalvey x Den. Mem. Kip McKillop Den. Airy Crimson	L&G Johnson K. Owens L. McCulloch
VANDA Over 65 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V. Kulwadee Fragrance 'Black Spot' V. Robert's Delight 'Inkstar' V. Robert's Delight	N&M Grant R. Whiting G. Watt
VANDA 40mm to 65mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V. Ladda Gold Van. Precious 'Glorious' V. Bicentennial	G&S Kelly G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
VANDA Under 40mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Prra. Bangkok Sunset V. Green Light V. Ladda Gold	R. Whiting N&M Grant N&M Grant
PHALAENOPSIS Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd	Phal. Allura Ruby Diamond Phal. Yen Orion	L. McCulloch N&M Grant
ONCIDIUM Full Shaped	1st 2nd 3rd	Milt. Sandy's Cove Mtssa. Charles M. Finch Tolu. Red Dragon	L&G Johnson L. McCulloch L&G Johnson
PAPHIOPEDILUM Multi Floral	1st 2nd	Paph. (Hilo Emerald x Alma Gevaert) X Hsinying Majakun Paph. (St Swithins x Rothschildianum) X Pinnochio	L&G Johnson L&G Johnson
ANY OTHER ORCHID Over 75mm	1st	Ctsm. Black Jade	R&E Dundas
NOVICE CATTLEYA	1st	Bc Tetradip x <i>L. dayana</i>	J Horn
DENDROBIUM	1st	Den. Unknown	J Horn
SPECIES CATTLEYA	1st 2nd	<i>Prosthechea chacaoensis</i> <i>C. intermedia</i>	N&M Grant L&G Johnson
VANDA	1st	<i>Vanda vietnamica</i>	N&M Grant
PHALAENOPSIS	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Doritis pulcherrima</i> <i>Phal. cornu cervi v.red</i> <i>Phal pulchra</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
ANY OTHER	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Spathoglottis unknown</i> <i>Miltonia spectabilis var. moreliana</i> <i>Peristeria elata</i>	K. Owens L&G Johnson L&G Johnson

Points Tables after February 2024

Name	Open	Novice	Species	Aggregate
Blanchard D	8			8
Dundas R&E	6			6
Fidler S	4		6	10
Grant N&M	29		37	66
Fidler S	4		6	10
Hilder G&R	4		2	6
Horn J		8		8
Hughes W	4		21	25
Johnson L&G	38		12	50
Kelly G&S	44			44
Knowles A&J	5		8	13
McCulloch/Weaver	35		7	42
Nicholson J	2			2
Owens K	27		8	35
Sewell C&W	4			4
Triebel M&M		4		4
Watt G	4			4
Whiting R	42		10	52



Judges Choice

February 2024

Novice

Dendrobium Unknown

J. Horn 70 points



Judges Choice

February 2024

Open

C. Caudabec Candy

L&G Johnson

77 points



Judges Choice

February 2024

Species

***Vanda
vietnamica***

N&M Grant

74 points

Banrot systemic fungicide

There has recently been some discussion about an effective systemic fungicide called Banrot, which is a wettable powder used in a spray.

Most members have been discouraged because it is usually available in a 1kg pack, which sells for about \$1,000. While it is possible to break this pack into smaller (more affordable) parcels among several members, most people have not proceeded with the purchase.

Good news! I have done a bit of detective work and I have found Banrot is for sale in 20-gram plastic bottles for \$20 each (plus a small postage amount), from

<https://www.nutriflo.com.au/product/banrot-20gms-additive/>

Nutriflo is a supplier for hydroponic systems.

Caution: This product has been classified as a **Schedule 5 Poison**, so proper personal protection precautions must be taken when using it. Therefore, it is **essential** that users wear full covering – hat, mask, gloves, long pants, long-sleeved shirt – including, and especially, when preparing the spray. Launder all the clothes after using the spray, and take a full shower.

Noel Grant
March 2024