

## TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



### June 2024 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website

<http://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

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Treasurer: Lisa McCulloch

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Hall Location:

Joe Kirwan Park

Charles Street, KIRWAN

Annual Membership Fees are due **1<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> June.  
The May General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.**

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 June 2024:

Novice/Species

Marie

Open

Peter, Alison

## President's Report

Hello Everyone,

It's been one of those busy months again. I have to thank the following members of the club for giving us their time: At the Eco Festival, Jan, Tony and Wally for assisting in setting up on Saturday. On Sunday, both Jeff and Lisa put on potting demonstrations. Jan, Sam, Tony, Wally, Joseph and Alison spent time talking to the public, handing out information on the Society and packing up the gazebo. I also need to thank Lyn, Noel and Jan for their time and help at the Bunnings Orchid demonstration, with both Lyn and Noel showing how they repot their orchids. A big thanks to Lyn who gave away five orchids to lucky winners.

Again, a big thank you to Lyn for her presentation on her Paphiopedilums (Slipper Orchids) at the May Meeting. She was very informative on how she cares for and grows her Slippers. I hope everyone also enjoyed Jeff's technical advice. It was a good talk about how to improve our orchids and how to identify award winning orchids using the Orchids Australia publication. Remember the club purchases this and it is in the library. Thank you, Charles for your monthly growing tips, these also can be found in the same Orchids Australia publication.

It's getting close to another Winter Show. The Committee will be asking for volunteers and donations of food for the show in July. This will be the Clubs first show using EFPOS at the plant sales area. Cash will still be needed at the door for a \$3 entry fee, and at the kitchen for food and drinks. If previous shows are anything to go by, we can expect to see many Laeliinae Hybrids, Dendrobium Hybrids and Vandaeae orchids.

## **Up and coming Events**

Friday 22 June: Committee Meeting, Sunday 24 June: General Meeting 1pm

Wednesday 26 June: Box Day 9:30am - please bring your cutters.

Thursday 4 July: Show Set up

Friday 5, Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 2024 Winter Show

Friday 26 July: Committee Meeting, Sunday 28 July: General Meeting 1pm

Cheers Troy

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## **Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held Friday, 24 May, 2024.**

Meeting opened: at 7.25pm by President Troy McGill

President McGill welcomed all members to the May Management Committee Meeting for 2024 and declared a quorum was present.

**Present:** Troy McGill, Samantha McGill, Lisa McCulloch, Jan Allen, Lyn Johnson, Noel Grant, Joseph Walker, Robert Rasmussen, Wally Brooker.

**Apologies:** Robyn Dundas, Carolyn Gibson

### **Minutes:**

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

M: J. Allen

S: L. Johnson

**Carried**

### **Business arising:**

1. Contacted Bunnings to book a date for garden centre.
2. Contacted Council regarding Eco-Fiesta
3. Posted letter to member.
4. Lisa contacted the bank regarding issues raised about using the Quick Cash bags. She has confirmed that we can no longer deposit our money through the Quick Cash bag – need to line up at the counter.

### **Correspondence In:**

Bunning Activities Advisor Kelly Goodbun; Eco-Fiesta booking confirmation; Ergon Energy – interruption to power; Exhibitor acceptance – Eco Fiesta; C-mobile Account; Bill Howell – requesting poster for orchid show; DMC Electrical & Airconditioning Invoice; HBOS flyer – Spring Show; Fernland; 4TTT Trivia Night; Member of public – enquiry; Bill Howell – request; AOC: call for motions for the AGM and BOM Meetings 2024; Autumn Show Report – Stephen Lynch; NED publisher survey; American Orchid Society – member update; Enquiry after 4TTT session; Reg Dix – correction to minutes required; Rentokil Initial Billing Information - Account Info; ATO - Annual self-review reporting – new TOS Financial Reports – Lisa; Letter of support – Bill Howell; Introduction to New Commercial Lease Officer.

### **Correspondence Out:**

Enquiry – Bunnings Garden Corner; Eco-Fiesta booking; May Culture notes and Townsville Show; Autumn Show Report and Photos – Orchids Australia; Letter to member regarding behaviour.

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

M: J.Allen

S: J. Walker

**Carried**

### **Business arising:**

1. Note that Melissa Thomson is no longer in the role of Commercial Lease Officer. A meeting will be organised with Nathalie Lacour, the new person in that role
2. ATO Annual self- review reporting – new requirement - Lisa to speak to auditor about that.





**Hall:** Wally Brooker

- The electrician should be here in the next two weeks. Airconditioning meter box is not working again.

**Publicity Officer:** Carolyn Gibson supported by Joseph Walker

- Congratulations to Troy who represented the Society on 4TTT to help promote the Society and our Winter Show.
- Over the next week Joseph will be organising with other media outlets.
- Winter Show poster. Poster made with barcode to reduce paper and ink use. Will use at Eco- Fiesta and Bunnings.

**General Business:**

- Business cards have been made to promote the Society. Members can come and get them from Troy. Will hand them out at the Eco-Fiesta and Bunnings. QR code takes them to our website.
- Eco Fiesta - 2 June Anderson Park with the set up on 1 June. Blue Moon Cove stall 28, enter through the main gate come down Gulliver Street. We are looking for volunteers and flowering plants. Passing around a roster for people to help.
- Bunnings – Wednesday, 5th June 10 to 11 am, Committee members will be conducting a workshop at Bunnings. Noel will be doing a potting demonstration. Lynette Johnson has offered to bring along a range of flowering plants.
- Winter Show - just remember your support, be it as volunteers at the door, security, cash register or in the kitchen, is what makes the event a success We will be using the EFTPOS machine for the first time, but it will only be used at the point of sale of plants, so cash will still be used at the kitchen and the door for entry and raffles.
- Lisa advised that the ability to get refunds or cash out from the EFTPOS machine has been disabled. This protects the Society from mistakes or scams occurring.
- Keith Day - Troy been informed Keith Day, a member of the society is not very well. He will endeavour to visit him this week. Thomas has named an orchid after him.

**Judges Choice: Peter Lucke**

**Open Section:** *Bulb. ornatissimum* x *Bulb. putidum* L. & G. Johnson 77 points

- One flower is going off. If displaying in a show, cut it off and it will be judged more favourably.

**Novice Section:** Phal. Unknown J. Walker 72 points

- Yellow phalaenopsis. Good shape and colour. Needs more open flowers for an award.

**Species Section:** *Bulb. pingtungensis* Jeff & Alison Knowles 74 points

- Good display of flowers. Well grown, with flowers looking outwards. Disadvantage - flowers of *Bulbophyllum* are short lived.

**Technical Report: Jeff Knowles.**

How Can you win awards at Orchid Shows?

*According to Jeff, there are just three steps you will need to follow.*

1. Start with quality plants. You need to buy plants that might win prizes. How do you know? Refer to **Orchids Australia**. Many winning plants are published in the Orchids Australia magazine – anyone can get a subscription.
2. Grow healthy plants. Clean plant, clean pot. Stake flowers early. Most that win will be standing up looking at you.
3. Dress your flowers up. Fold petals forward, separate if the flowers are close together.

Ray has developed an Excel sheet with the abbreviations of plants. We will try to get it onto the computer.

Jeff has invited some growers to provide information on plant culture.

**Peter Lucke - Feedback on plants on the floor**

Peter focused on hard cane dendrobiums – in larger pots - and explained how their presentation could be improved. Generally, it is thought that, Dens. like to be cramped in a pot. Maybe in a smaller pot they will dry out faster and won't get root rot.

Looked at one plant that had two inflorescences. They are staked but they need to be staked upright, facing the sky. Stake up the canes early so that the inflorescences grow more erect. If you get them early the flowers will be looking around the stalk. Noted that the inflorescences have been separated so that they are not getting tangled.

Regarding the second plant, Peter suggested that the canes needed to be pulled up vertically so that the flower is upright. Flower coming from a keiki is not a problem when judging. Once the keiki gets a new keiki it can be cut off and potted. Cut keiki off but leave a bit of cane on it. Put a bit of fungicide on the end. Some people twist the keiki off. When repotting, splay the aerial roots on the surface so that they can grow into the pot.

Can use wire, clips, wooden spikes, green wire (from Bunnings).

### John Nuss - native plants.

John talked about native tropical orchids – *Dendrobium discolor* and *Dendrobium bigibbum* (Cooktown orchid). There is a variety of bigibbum from Indonesia, one growing on a piece of melaleuca t-tree. Early flowering (usually June or July).

*Den. discolor* x *Den. bigibbum* = *Den. Superbiens* (Hybrid)

### Presentation – Lynette Johnson

Lynette gave a presentation on how she grows **Paphiopedilums** and **Miltonia**. She spoke about characteristics of Paphiopedilums (Lady slipper orchids) and conditions required to grow them – specifically, shady conditions, good air movement and they do not like to be dry.

With Miltonia orchids, Lyn noted that they are primarily found in South America and growing conditions are similar to that of the Slipper Orchids. Need to keep them moist, but not soggy at all times, 80 – 85% humidity and good airflow required to prevent disease. Light coloured leaves indicate lack of sun.

Lyn's PowerPoint will be made available. It includes potting mixtures that Lyn likes to use on her plants and explains her fertilising and pest control regimes.

### Presentation – Charles Lee

- Charles presented his cultural notes for May. These have been made available in the Bulletin.
- **Keikis on dendrobium** – Charles prefers to cut keikis off and uses **Mancozeb** on cut to prevent disease. He wires a bit of tree fern onto the keiki so that the roots develop on the bark. Waits until the front lead develops before repotting.

Meeting Closed at 3.00 pm

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Troy McGill - President

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Jan Allen – Secretary

## June Cultural Notes for next month

### General observations

The European season of Winter is here.

For the Kakadu mob, we are in the middle of 'Wurrkeng' – the cold weather season. *Mid-June to mid-August*. Most creeks stop flowing in Wurrkeng and the floodplains quickly dry out. The Bininj/Mungguy continue patch burning, which is extinguished by the dew at night.

Magpie geese, fat and heavy after weeks of abundant food, crowd the shrinking billabongs with a myriad of other waterbirds.

<https://parksaustralia.gov.au/kakadu/discover/culture/country/>

Townsville averages - humidity low, daytime temperatures highs around 24°C and lows about 14°C at night. Average only 1 day of rain for the month can be expected.

### Pests and Diseases

Preventative fungicide spray – **Mancozeb**, Alginox, Triforine. Good air circulation is best fungicide.

Chewing insects more active. Spray if found – pyrethrum, 'Success', 'Mavrik', 'Diazamin 200', 'Ficam W'.

Spider mites more active. Rotate miticides - 7 day interval - At least 3 treatments. 'Stealth' (Abamectin).

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

### The Cattleya Alliance

Water once a week, depending on weather and mix. Mist to keep humidity up.  
Fertilise weakly, weekly. Alternate Hi N, Lo N. Check new leads for damp off.  
Check for Dendrobium beetle, Spider mites. Keep look out for fungal attack.

### Catasetum Alliance

The flowering season is almost over. Soon the plants will drop their leaves. When that happens, cease watering and move the plants to a section of the orchid house that does not get wet.

### Oncidium Alliance

Keep moist. Water early mornings. Alternate fertiliser. Weakly, twice weekly. Hi N / Lo N.  
High light levels are needed for Spring flowering. Good air movement

### Paphiopedilum

The Wet Season is over- Keep moist but not wet. Water / mist daily. Avoid wetting flowers & buds  
Weak Campbells Yellow every 2nd water. Lo N, Hi PK. Check for mealy bug & anthracnose. Stake flower spikes.

### Phalaenopsis

Water twice a week. Keep moist but not wet. Mornings best time. Weakly, weekly. Lo N, Hi PK fertiliser.  
Check for mealy bug, spider mites & anthracnose. Good air movement & humidity.  
Beware of crown rot. Stake flower spikes.

### Vandaceous

Water daily in morning. Weakly, weekly. Lo N fertiliser. Be aware of crown rot & Thai disease.  
Watch for grasshoppers. Carbaryl spray. Good air circulation.

### Phalaenanthe Dendrobium

Keep mature plants dry. Seedlings just damp. Cold will cause leaf drop. Protect from dry winds.  
Seedlings - only fertilise weakly, weekly. Use balanced fertiliser.  
Maintain watch on fungal attack. Check for Dendrobium beetle, Spider mites.

### Intermediate Dendrobium

As these types are a hybrid between the Phalaenanthe and Ceratobium species, be guided by the parentage of your particular plant. Thankfully, they are usually more forgiving than the species.

### Dendrobium canaliculatum (Our local orchid)

Water once a week (or less). Keep damp but not wet. Weak fertiliser when watering - Lo N.  
Check new leads for damp off. Check for Dendrobium beetle, they should be less active. Red spider mites are likely to become more active.  
Good air movement. High light levels. (Some trees shed old leaves at this time).

### Soft Cane Dendrobium

Require a good cold snap to trigger spring flowering. They can also tolerate full winter sun. Move these plants out of your orchid house to a spot that gets cold and has little shade.

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## PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

**Bold Type** indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
<b>OPEN</b> CATTLEYA 110mm and over	1st	Rlc Mikkie Nagata	McCulloch/Weaver
	2nd	Rlc Village Chief Armani 'Red Dragon'	L&G Johnson
	3rd	Rlc California Girl	McCulloch/Weaver
CATTLEYA 75mm to 109 mm	1st	Rlc Goldenzelle 'Tokyo'	R. Whiting
	2nd	<b>C</b> Melody Fair 'Carol'	R. Whiting
	3rd	Rlc Chief Sunlight 'Yellow Ruby'	R. Whiting
CATTLEYA Miniature under 75mm	1st	C. Elusive Dream	W. Hughes
	2nd	Gct Sogo Doll 'Little Princess'	McCulloch/Weaver
	3rd	Rth Chief Sunny 'Little Orange'	L&G Johnson
CATTLEYA Cluster	1st	Pot Alyssa Valmadre var Clifton	G. Watt
	2nd	Rtt Volcano Trick 'Orange Fire'	L&G Johnson
	3rd	Pot Alyssa Valmadre	McCulloch/Weaver

DENDROBIUM Phalaenanthe	1st 2nd	Den Nopporn Pink Den Supernova Red No. 2	L&G Johnson L&G Johnson
DENDROBIUM Spatulata	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Gloucester Charm 'Gordon' Den Frazer's Elite Dragon Den Red Embers x discolor x ?	L&G Johnson J. Richardson K. Owens
DENDROBIUM Intermediate	1st 2nd	Den Rose Marie Den Bangkok White	K. Owens G. Watt
DENDROBIUM Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den x thrysiflorum</i> Den Hsinying ? Den Little Green Apples	W. Hughes J. Richardson L&G Johnson
VANDA Over 65 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V Adisak Happiness V Thailand Gold x V Udom x V Kultana	J. Cairns J. Cairns
VANDA Under 40mm	1st 2nd	Prra Bangkok Sunset <i>V tessellata</i> var blue x 'Blue India'	R. Whiting N&M Grant
VANDA Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	V Blue Star 'Royal Blue' V Twinkle <i>V denisoniana</i> x V Kenny Gold	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
ONCIDIUM Full Shaped	1st 2nd 3rd	Trt Nathakhun 'Lakeland' x 'Maxi' Tricentrum hybrid 'Unknown' <b>Oncsa</b> Taka	L&G Johnson L&G Johnson McCulloch/Weaver
TOLUMNIA	1st 2nd 3rd	Tolu Golden Sunset 'Brownie' Tolu Capalaba Primrose x Far Beach Tolu Appleton	McCulloch/Weaver McCulloch/Weaver K. Owens
PAPHIOPEDILUM Multi Floral	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph praestans x parishii</i> Paph Coos Paph Willian Ambler	L&G Johnson L&G Johnson S Fidler
PAPHIOPEDILUM Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd	Paph (St Swithins x <i>rothschildiana</i> x Pinocchio Paph Pinocchio	McCulloch/Weaver S Fidler
BULBOPHYLLUM	1st	Bulb <i>ornatissimum x putidum</i>	L&G Johnson
ANY OTHER ORCHID Under 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Spa Little Charmer Phaius Kryptonite 'Parkside' Calanthe Vestita 'William Murray'	N&M Grant J. Richardson L&G Johnson
<b><u>NOVICE</u></b> CATTLEYA	1st 2nd 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rth Alyssa Valmadre C. Unknown Rlc Mem. Buranapan Nikom	H Shelley J Walker J Walker
PHALAENOPSIS	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal Unknown Phal Unknown Phal Unknown	J Walker J Walker J Walker
<b><u>SPECIES</u></b> AUSTRALIAN NATIVE	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den bigibbum</i> <i>Den discolor</i> <i>Den bigibbum</i>	A&J Knowles K. Owens L&G Johnson
CATTLEYA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Encyclia thienii</i> <i>Barkeria dorotheae</i> <i>Epi. ciliare</i>	L&G Johnson N&M Grant J. Richardson
VANDA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Gastrochilus obliquus</i> <i>V. luzonica</i> <i>Gastrochilus obliquus</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant W. Hughes
BULBOPHYLLUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Bulb pingtungensis</i> <i>Bulb longissimum</i> 'Orange' <i>Bulb longissimum</i>	A&J Knowles A&J Knowles A&J Knowles



ANY OTHER	1st	<i>Den bracteosum</i>	J. Richardson R. Whiting L&G Johnson
	2nd	<i>Gongora grossa</i>	
	3rd	<i>Miltonia bluntii</i>	

## Points Tables after May 2024

Name	Open	Novice	Species	Aggregate
Barlow H&M	17			17
Blanchard D	21			21
Bloom M	4		15	19
Cairns J	22		3	25
Cooper H	5		4	9
Dundas R&E	6			6
Fidler S	11		7	18
Fighera B	20			20
Grant N&M	74		56	130
Gibson C	6			6
Hilder G&R	4		2	6
Horn J	12			12
Hughes W	18		24	42
Johnson L&G	121		38	159
Kelly G&S	69		4	73
Knowles A&J	5		22	27
MacIntyre J	1			1
McCulloch/Weaver	87		9	96
Nicholson J	2			2
Owens K	58		12	70
Richardson J	9		7	16
Serra P&J			15	15
Sewell C&W	4			4
Shelley H		4		4
Triebel M&M		12		12
Walker J		7		7
Watt G	18		6	24
Whiting R	94		21	115



Judges Choice  
May 2024

**Species Section:**

*Bulb. pingtungensis*

Jeff & Alison Knowles

74 points



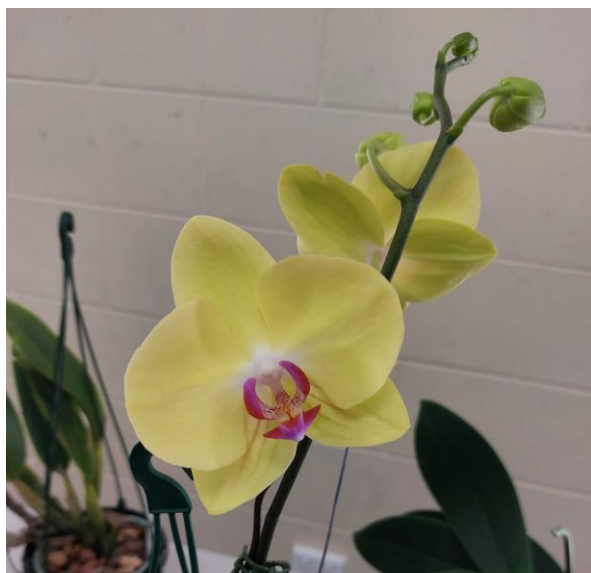
Judges Choice  
May 2024

**Open Section:**

*Bulb.*  
*ornatissimum* x  
*Bulb. putidum*

L. & G. Johnson

77 points



Judges Choice  
May 2024

**Novice Section:**

Phal. Unknown

J. Walker

72 points

## Farewell to Charlie Truscott

As mentioned in the last President's report, Charlie Truscott and his wife Sharon are leaving Townsville for greener pastures (well, that's not hard!!).

Since joining the Townsville Orchid Society in June 1989, Charlie has become very successful at growing and flowering orchids worthy of awards. Locally, he is well known for his quality orchids and has won many a Grand Champion at our Shows, as well as winning the Arthur Waddell trophy twice.

Charlie has been an active member of the Club, doing stints on the Committee as Show Chairman and Committee member. He has been more than willing to impart his knowledge of orchids through PowerPoint presentations at our monthly meetings, giving advice at 'Ask the Expert' days and at meetings from 2020 – 2022 as Technical Officer.

If you look at the TOS webpage, <http://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au> you will find some of his PowerPoints there (on the "Orchid Growing" page). Oh, did I mention he is also a qualified AOC Judge and has been training other members to be judges?

In 2023, Charlie was awarded Life Membership of Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

Well, when I went into OrchidWiz and the Australian Orchid Council Inc. webpage to find out more about Charlie's achievements, I realised that I would have to dedicate a lot of time to truly capture the essence of his journey with orchids. As I am not prepared to write a book about him, I will give you a brief outline of his accomplishments.



Figure 1 Den Charelle 'Charlie'

Between September 1999 and August 2021, Charlie has received 15 Australian Orchid Council awards!! His first award was an HCC (Highly Commended Certificate) for his *Den. Charelle* 'Charlie'.

In 2002, Charlie was awarded Australian Orchid Hybrid of the Year for his Phal. Carmela's Wonder 'Sharon' FCC/AOC and in 2004, his Rlc. Burdekin Dream 'DJ' FCC/AOC won the same award. As you can see, both also received the AOC First Class Certificate (FCC/AOC).



Figure 2 Rlc Burdekin Dream "DJ" FCC/AOC

*Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum* 'Elena' FCC/AOC (2006) and *Den. Memoria Joan Laffey* 'Pearlie' FCC/AOC (2019) also received an FCC.



Figure 3 *Den. Memoria Stan Laffey*

You know someone is a serious orchid grower when they develop their own hybrids. This requires greater technical knowledge and patience to be able to cross plants to achieve a truly unique flower. Not only has Charlie hybridised some twenty new orchids, some have gone on to receive AOC awards.

According to OrchidWiz, his first hybrid was *Den. Memoria Stan Laffey* (*Den. Brown Pixie* x *Den. canaliculatum*) (2003) and his latest creation (registered in 2022) is *Den. Charlies Angel* (*Den. Charelle* x *Den. Blue Mystery*).

We all hope that you and your family will enjoy your time together on the Sunshine Coast, Charlie. Best wishes from all your friends at Townsville Orchid Society.