

TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



June 2025 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website

<https://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

Postal Address:

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Email: townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com

Patron: Mr. Warren Sewell

President: Troy McGill Ph. 0474 305 864

Secretary: Jan Allen

Treasurer: Leeann O'Neil

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.

Please advise your name and membership number.

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 1pm Saturday 21st June.
The June General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 22nd 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 2025:

Novice/Species

Allison, Stacey

Open

Peter, Marie, Lisa

Hello everyone,

So, it's June already, the year is moving along fast.

First, we must wish condolences to the family and friends of Helen Steel, whose funeral occurred recently.

Improvements to the Hall: The roof capping is currently being fixed and will be finished before the June meeting, and the upgraded PA System is complete and sounds heaps better. There are still a few things around the hall that need attention, but we are trying to fix everything without blowing the budget.

Please - if you haven't collected your name badge, could you approach Jan.

The club ran the "Ask the Expert" Day at Jan's on Saturday 14th June, hopefully we saw some novices turn up.

The object was to bring along any orchid that may need help, find out how to prepare your orchid for a show, including staking, with an opportunity to ask questions and get some help. We will hold another 'Ask the Experts' later in the year at the hall, but it will be open to the public as well.

We are still looking for volunteers to join one or two subcommittees. The first, to look at the point scoring system for the monthly general meetings, and the second to plan what would be appropriate for the club's 80th birthday.

So, what else is coming up soon? we have the Bunnings potting demonstration and the Bluewater Gardening Fair event. Jan will update everyone at our June monthly meeting.

Our next Show will be in July, so it's approaching rather quickly. You should be preparing your plants now!

Remember - this is everyone's club, so if you have any questions or concerns, please approach a member of the Committee or just send an email to townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com; this way we can address any problems before they become larger issues.

I hope everyone is enjoying the weather change, personally I prefer the heat. But some of my orchids seem to like the change and have thrown out some flower spikes.

Thanks, Troy

Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held Saturday 24th May 2025.

Meeting opened: at 1pm by President Troy McGill

Present: Troy McGill, Jan Allen, Leann O'Neill, Samantha McGill, Lynette Johnson, Janelle Stevens, Noel Grant, Robert Rasmussen, Tony Kapcelovich

Apologies: Joseph Walker, Reg Dix (guest)

Guest: Jeff Knowles

President: A few people from the Association have been in hospital. Hopefully they are all on the mend.

Minutes: Minutes have been published in the May bulletin.

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

M: Jan Allen

S: Leann O'Neill

Carried

Business arising: Nil.

Correspondence In: Apology – Malcolm and Mary Triebel; Volunteer offer; Samantha McGill – food safety course certificate; Troy McGill – food safety certificate; Greg Kelly – Show issues; John Rutledge – donation 4TTT; Troy McGill – Constitution and use of cheques; Ausnorth Plumbing roof maintenance quote – query regarding start date; Member of public – plant issue; Bunnings Mothers Day family night follow up; Complete TAG – statement; NQAV Tax invoice; Bunnings reply to query; Field Day Cancellation – Proserpine; Gary Miles- Sedgwick – query; C-mobile account; Team Earth Food – Offer to speak at meeting; Supporters Newsletter – 4TTT; Flaming North Statement; Bluewater Gardening Fair and Flower Show; Bunnings reply; Ausnorth Investments Contract; Hall Hire query; Vicki Katthagen –photographer; AOS Corner – AOS newsletter; National e-deposit; Canva invoice; Phone Call – TAG solutions; Ausnorth Plumbing– Admin; Monthly Meeting Judging – Troy; Woolgoolga AOC Conference -Early bird registration; PC Medico – Change of address; Woolgoolga AOC Conference – information; Gary Miles – query of timeline for repairs; Hervey Bay Spring Orchid & Garden Spectacular; TOS Bulletin; TQOC Affiliation Invoice; Member of Public query; Green Space Open Day; National e-deposit survey; Ergon Energy e-bill; Volunteering Network; AOF – Gold Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show; Marion Davey – Photographs from 1992; Committee meeting run sheet.

Correspondence Out: Reply to Malcolm T. Expression of Thanks to John Rutledge re donation; Acceptance of Mother's Day family night; Request for photograph; Response to Greg Kelly; Bunnings re potting demonstrations; Ausnorth Contract Documents forwarded; Acceptance of roof maintenance contract; Bunnings reminder to committee members; Reply – re Hall Hire; Letter of thanks to Cr Geaney; Letter of thanks to Governor Janette Young AC PSM; Bank details to TAG – refund; Sedgwick query; TOS Bulletin; Green space day information; May financials; New membership welcome packs x 3; Replied - Repotting volunteer

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

M: Jan Allen

S: Lynette Johnson

Carried

Business arising: 1. Team Earth Food offer; 2. Vicki Katthagen – photographer -request – send invitation to come along to June meeting, Woolgoolga AOC Conference – information; Hervey Bay Spring Orchid & Garden. Other business referred to General Business.

Treasurer: Leann O'Neill

Treasurer Leann reported that our major income came from the Hall Rental of \$ 900.00. Major expense this month was NQAV for upgrading the hall audio system, equating to \$ 4 224.00. Special mention needs to go to Mr John Rutledge who generously donated payment for access to Media coverage at our next show.

Funds available to TOS as at 22/05/25: TOS available funds are healthy. Details are available at monthly meetings.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted, and accounts be passed for payment

M: Leann O'Neill

S Janelle Stevens

Carried

Vice President Reports:

Show Report: Tony Kapcelovich

- Need a bigger cashier sign.
- New booklets need to be ordered from Bundaberg.
- Send invitation to vendors.
- Remind members that we need boxes.
- Selling tables – in exercise book
- Perspex holders – A4 wall mounted sign holder for the shows. Instead of sticking signs on with Blu-tack as they fall down.

- Troy and Samantha have done the Health and Safety Course – certificates to be laminated and placed in kitchen.
- Rosters to go out this meeting.

Hospitality Report – Samantha

Rosters to go back out this meeting.

Got a new display fridge.

Hall Report – Tony and Troy

- Improvement to the audio system. No-one to touch the PA system.
- Still working with the insurance company, roof to be fixed first then the ceilings. Need to do internals after maintenance done on roof.
- Ted to text Leann instead of Tony re Hall usage.
- Pest inspections done again and pest control has been redone. There were still spiders in the Hall. Need to do every 12 months. (Around January)
- Rentokill– how do we know that they are coming in to do their service? Suggest they leave a calling card when they are done or maybe email us.
- Repaired 30 tables – new clips
- Tree, pit and gates – Tony has contacted Council – need to have gates done before start of July.
- Pit – on inspection, Council worker decided that the problem belonged to the Orchid Society – Tony has refuted that and confirmed with Council administration.
- Front sign needs new dates and times of shows – Robert suggested to take it to Gracie Signs with information and they will do it professionally.

Publicity Report – Joseph Walker (absent)

- Are we happy having 4TTT here? General Business.

General Business –

1. **APOC** – 2028 Conference will be in Malaysia not Thailand.
2. **TQOC** – Next meeting will be in Townsville on the weekend of the Winter Show at the Bowls Club (Kirwan Sports Club) – invite TQOC members to come and look at our show.
3. **Name Badges** – There’s heaps of badges. We need to make sure people collect them. Will go back to the system Jeff was using.
4. Agreed we should have our **Members Only ‘Ask an Expert’** day sometime soon. Especially for Novices and new members who will have the opportunity to ask more experienced members questions and get practical advice with repotting and division of plants etc.
Jan has agreed to have it at her place again, on 14th June. Everyone welcome. Invitation will be sent out to all members via email.
5. **Public ‘Ask Expert’ day after Winter Show** – ‘Ask an Expert’ open to the Public on 2nd August in the Hall– advertise at the Winter Show. Need to work out times. Jan will look at last years. Will be asking members to do presentations and potting demonstrations.
6. **Council Outdoor Event** – 15 June 2025 Anderson Gardens, Jan missed registration cut-off date.
7. **Bluewater Fair** – News or updates. 16th August.
8. **Mother’s Day** -Thank you to everyone who helped.
9. **Bunnings Domain Potting Demonstration** – now 2nd July (no longer 4th Jun). Timings to be confirmed. Jan to contact to confirm date.
10. **Green Space Open Day** – PPS NQ, 30th August 8am – 2pm.
11. **Points Scoring for 2026** –
 - Troy - some members have again asked us to look at how we score our monthly meetings, putting the emphasis on the quality and not scoring on quantity, which I believe is a fair point. So can we address this again please. Also, it would be good to look at getting members to be involved in judging plants and learning what makes a quality plant. The question is how we go about this.

- Troy referred to his email about different Clubs and how they conduct their monthly event and how they allocate points for awards. Novice and intermediate section? How would that work? We should be pushing the idea of showing their plants rather than getting points. Possibly drop off the points for bringing extra plants
- Can we work with the Popular Vote section? Do we change the way it was done before?
- Consider an intermediate growing section - is it feasible?
- Cannot start until beginning of next year. Do we need to have a sub-committee to make a decision about this? Need to think of options and take it to the members.

12. Judging - Janelle would like to hear judges talk about what you need to do to become a judge. What are the criteria for becoming a judge?

13. Bill's repotting – Thank you to Judith, Leanne and Sam for helping.

14. Kitchen – Sam and Troy have done the Council's "Food Safety Course".

15. Bank Cheques – old cheque account will honor cheques. Still accepting cheques. We only use them for show floats and will not be giving out cheques for payment. We can still use the Deposit card at the ATM but not at the counter.

16. Facebook advertising – boost

Motion: Carolyn to spend \$55 on Facebook for the Winter Show.

M: Troy McGill

S: Janelle Stevens

Carried

17. Motion: We increase the Show Float to \$2000 for the next two show.

M. Leann McNeill

S. Robert Rasmussen

Carried

18. Janelle – new shirts have arrived. To be announced at meeting.

19. 80th birthday. Do we want it? What do we want to do? Form a sub-committee. 2027. Ask at a meeting. What are our options? Will need a sub-committee for this.

20. Show Issues – The Management Committee addressed several issues that were brought to their attention in an email, regarding the Autumn Show.

4TTT. The merit of having 4TTT at the Show was questioned. It was also noted that 4TTT were taking up 3 parking bays which should have been available to visitors to the Show. The Management Committee has agreed to invite 4TTT back for one day at the next show. They will be allocated one parking bay, close to the Hall, and we will conduct a survey of patrons to determine how they heard about the show. After that, we will discuss the merits of having a live feed from the show.

Sales Plants. The quality of some of the plants on sale was questioned. Tony (VP Shows) mentioned that there were some plants that he did pull out of the Sales area. As vendors are replenishing the plants on a regular basis, it is difficult to be aware of every unsuitable plant. Tony is committed to following the by-laws (By-law 19 (3)) and will continue to the best of his ability.

Vendor rules. It was stated that not all vendors were following the rule of putting 5 flowering plants into the Show. Tony will assess the situation at the time.

Show Signs. Put out too early and taken in too late. The Committee discussed the timing of putting out the Show signs and those with the arrows. We have agreed that, as normal, the Show signs are put out on the Sunday/Monday before the show. Directional signs will be put out on the Thursday afternoon before the show. The large sign on the fence at the basketball courts will be put out at the earliest convenience – it gives the dates and times of the show. We acknowledge that signs were not taken down as soon as they should have been. We are all busy people and try our best.

Close up times of the show. With regard to the closing of the show, this was discussed and we referred to By-law 19 – Sale of Plants at Show. Clause (12) states that – "No unsold plant may be removed from the sales area prior to the termination of the show. No member of the public will be allowed in the sales area while the show is being dismantled."

It was noted that there were still members of the public in both the Sales area and the Show area at 2pm. Member of the public who had arrived before 2pm were advised by the front desk that the show would be closing at 2pm.

The Committee agreed that in future, in line with the by-laws, the Sales area as well as the Display will not be closed until 2pm. Vendors will be advised of this before the commencement of the next show.

We agree that advice will be given over the PA ten minutes prior to closing time. Doors will close at

2pm.

21. Cancer Foundation Big Morning Tea – the Committee discussed the Constitution and agreed that we could not donate money to the Cancer Foundation. The Club will not be conducting their own raffle in June. Instead, Janelle will administer the raffle and bank proceeds directly into the Cancer Council account. She has all the paperwork, e.g. receipt books and tally sheets and banking details. No money will go through the Clubs hands. We believe that this will not contravene the Constitution. Members will be encouraged to bring donations for the raffle table.

New Members- Nil.

Meeting Closed: 2:50pm.

Troy McGill – President

Jan Allen - Secretary

Copy of Lyn Johnson's May Talk

Lyn has advised that she will be bringing her laptop to the June Monthly Meeting on Sunday 22nd June.

For those members who would like a copy of her May talk, please bring along a USB memory stick (USB2 only, please) and Lyn will copy the talk to it.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF May 2025

Bold Type indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
OPEN CATTLEYA 110mm and over	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Rungnapha Fancy Blc Alma Kee 'Tip Malee' Rlc Village Chief Armani	G&L Johnson W. Hughes G&L Johnson
CATTLEYA 75mm to 109 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Chief Journey 'First Choice' Rlc Hsinying Scarlet 'Ching Hua'	K. Owens R. Scott
CATTLEYA Miniature under 75mm	1 st 2nd 3rd	C Mini Love C Elusive Heartbeat Vkt Goodbye My Love x Rth Dal's Jet	G&S Kelly G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
CATTLEYA Cluster	1st 2nd 3rd	Rtt Volcano Trick 'Orange Fire' Bct Sun Mei Gold Epi. Coleman's Big Pink	G&L Johnson A&J Knowles H Barlow
CATTLEYA Any other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	Bct Yuan Nam Mini Bc Hippodamia 'Hanabu' Bc Yellow Bird	N&M Grant G&S Kelly R. Scott
DENDROBIUM Any other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Mangosteen Den Roongkamol Vejvarut Den Green Dragon x <i>trilamellatum</i>	H Barlow G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
VANDA Over 65 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	V. Robert's Delight 'Ink Blue' V. Chantra	N&M Grant H Barlow
VANDA Any Other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	V Mimi Palmer V Twinkle V Blue Star 'Royal Blue'	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
TOLUMNIA	1st 2nd	Tolu Capalaba Queen x Rrm Swan's Statement Tolu William Thurston	G&S Kelly G&L Johnson

ONCIDIUM Any Other	1st 2nd 3rd	Brat Aztec 'Nalo' Mtssa Shelob 'Tolten' Onc. Wildcat 'Bob'	G&S Kelly G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
PAPHIOPEDILUM Multi Floral	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph praestans x parishii</i> <i>Phrag schroederiae</i>	G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
BULBOPHYLLUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Bulb ornatissimum x Bulb putidum</i>	G&L Johnson
ANY OTHER ORCHID Over 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Cycd Taiwan Gold Ctsm Susan Fuchs	G&L Johnson T&S McGill
<u>NOVICE</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Phalaenopsis No Name V Kulwadee Fragrance 'Black' V Granoch x (<i>Rhy coelestis x V coerulea</i>)	LB&H Oneill LB&H Oneill LB&H Oneill
<u>SPECIES</u> CATTLEYA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>C guatemalensis</i> <i>C bowringiana v coerulea</i> <i>C luteola</i>	L, McCulloch A&J Knowles N&M Grant
VANDA	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>V luzonica</i> <i>V tessellata 'Blue' x 'Blue India'</i> <i>V tessellata 'Yellow/Pink Lip' x 'Green'</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
PAPHIOPEDILUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph callosum</i> <i>Paph spicerianum</i> <i>Paph spicerianum</i>	G&L Johnson 148 G&L Johnson
BULBOPHYLLUM	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Bulb pingtungensis</i> <i>Bulb mastersianum</i> <i>Bulb lasiochilum</i>	A&J Knowles G&L Johnson 417
ANY OTHER	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Gastrochilus obliquum</i> <i>Barkeria dorothea</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant

Points Tables after May 2025

Number	Name	Open	Species	Novice	Aggregate
280	Barlow H	19			19
221	Blanchard D	42	3		45
316	Cooper H	2			2
190	Fighera B	8			8
226	Gibson C	5			5
213	Grant N&M	97	66		163
143	Horn J	6			6
87	Hughes W	3			3
240	Johnson L&G	140	59		199
116	Kelly G&S	94			94
193	Knowles A&J	9	32		41
322	McCulloch/Weaver	51	18		69
241	McGill T	3			3

148	Nuss J		3		3
344	O'Neill LB&H			9	9
63	Owens K	38	12		50
131	Richardson J&B	15	7		22
52	Ruxton T&S	4	4		8
168	Scott R	9			9
233	Serra P&J		6		6
172	Sewell C&W	3			3
220	Watt G	8	5		13
104	Woodhouse/Richards	4			4

Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday 25th May 2025

Meeting opened at 1.00 pm by President Troy who welcomed all attendees.

Present: 44 as per registration book

Visitors: Judith Brown, Andrew Young, Tom Martens, Alison Martens

Apologies: Robyn Dundas, Reg Dix, Edith Sim, Lynne Ryan, Lyn Howell, Joan Mitchell, Jan Richardson, Clara Sewell, Joseph Walker, Ruth Whiting, Tony Kapcelovich.

President Troy welcomed visitors and asked if any of the new members were present. He explained to new members that due to problems that had occurred with the plants, new members would receive them next month. Troy mentioned that one of our current members, Helen Steel, had passed away. Helen had been a member since 1995. A minute's silence was taken.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting were published in the May Bulletin.

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

Moved: J. Allen

Seconded: T. Ruxton

Carried

Business out of Minutes: To be discussed in general business.

Correspondence: All correspondence was tabled at the Committee meeting. A detailed copy is posted on the pinboard, showing actions taken with correspondence.

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

Moved: J. Allen

Seconded: R. Rasmussen

Carried

Business out of the Correspondence: Vicki Katthagen – photographic artist has made a request - Committee thought that we would send an invitation to come along to June meeting to explain what she would like us to do.

Treasurer's Report: Leann O'Neill

Treasurer Leann gave a breakdown of our main income and expenses. A more detailed copy of the finances was pinned to the noticeboard for anyone to scrutinise. She gave special mention to Mr John Rutledge who generously donated payment for access to Media coverage at our next show.

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

Moved: L. O'Neill

Seconded: J. Stevens

Carried

Vice President Reports:

Show: Tony Kapcelovich (absent)

Rosters going around for the Winter Show.

Hall: Troy

- Still working with the insurance company, roof to be fixed first then the ceilings. Need to do internals after maintenance done on roof.
- Pest inspections done again and pest control has been redone. There were still spiders in the Hall. Need to do every 12 months. (Around January)

Hospitality: Samantha McGill

Kitchen roster and food donations going around.

General Business:

1. **APOC** – 2028 Conference will be in Malaysia not Thailand.
2. **Name Badges** – please collect it if yours is there.
3. We've decided on dates for our '**Ask an Expert**' days. The one for the members will be held at Jan's on **Saturday June 14th** (more information will be sent out) and we will have one for the public on **Saturday 2nd August**. We will need people for presentations and potting demonstrations.
4. We advertise that the Shows will be open from 9-4 and 9- 2 on Sundays, so the doors need to remain open until those times. If people arrive close to the closing time, we will warn them that we are closing soon. Once people are out the door, we will then start packing up the Show on the Sunday.
5. Thank you to Judith, Sam and Leann who went with Troy to help Bill to repot his plants. Bill showed his appreciation.
6. **Bunnings** – Had a stall at Bunnings for the Mother's Day event where Lyn did potting demonstrations for the public. We had a lot of interest as they needed to get a stamp on their card for participating. We have also been invited to join Bunnings on Wednesday 2nd July in their Garden Centre, to do more demonstrations and talking about orchids. It is during the school holidays so they are doing something special.
7. **Bluewater Fair** – booked in for that - 16th August.
8. **Shirts** – a lot of shirts ordered by members of the Club. Now available if you want to collect them from the Shop.
9. **Kitchen** - some of our members have completed the Food Safe Handling course (certificates to be laminated) and we have got the refrigerator to ensure food on display remains below 5^o meeting the requirements of Health and Safety.
10. **Biggest Morning Tea** - Cancer Council – went through the Constitution. Can't give a donation, but we are allowing the Cancer Council to run a Biggest Morning Tea raffle at the June meeting. There will be no raffle for the Society.
11. Something affecting the Club will be **cheques**. They are being phased out by banks but Commonwealth Bank is still accepting them for now. We will be using cheques for drawing out floats for the Show but otherwise we will do our banking through funds transfers. Easier for the Treasure to keep a trace of, anyway.
12. **Sub-committees**. We would like to form two sub- committees. 1. To organise something for our **80th Birthday** in 2027. It could be a dinner out, or a Show to coincide with the birthday. Please let the committee know if you are interested in joining that subcommittee. The sub-committee could come up with some ideas to take to the members. 2. This subcommittee will be formed to look into whether we could do **Plant Judging** at monthly meetings better. Troy has contacted other Clubs around Queensland and has asked how they run their plant judging at their monthly meetings. Currently we give points for the number of plants brought in. Chances are, if you have a lot of plants you are more likely to win at the end of the year.
13. Warren asked that we remember **Caroline Swart** who had also recently passed away. She had been a member of the Club from 2006 until last year.

Technical Report: Jeff Knowles

How to avoid transference of viruses between your plants.

- Firstly, sterilise your secateurs. One way to do this is to use Trisodium Phosphate which we sell in the shop.
- It is a white powder. Not a fertiliser. You mix up a saturated solution and you can put your secateurs in it and it will kill viruses that may have gotten onto your secateurs.
- The most common way people transfer viruses from one plant to another is by using either their hands or secateurs when cutting a virus affected plant, getting sap all over them, then transferring the sap when you cut the next plant.
- One way to avoid the transmission of viruses is to sterilise the secateurs. Put secateurs in the mixture of water and Trisodium Phosphate. Wipe or wash them down to get any loose material off before putting them in the solution – this will keep it clear and clean for longer. If you don't clean them, you will get a build-up of grit and your mixture will get dirty looking.
- Jeff has about 5 secateurs that sit in the one container. When he has used one set, he puts it to the back of the jar, and leaves it there for around 30 minutes to sterilise. He then uses a new set for the next cut.
- Trisodium Phosphate does not rust secateurs and can be stored in plastic, glass and metal containers. This was confirmed by several members who have used a variety of containers to hold this solution. They can be in there for 12 months and still not rust.

- What strength is needed? Get enough water to cover the secateur blades, pour the Trisodium Phosphate into the water and stir. Continue until you have some crystals on the bottom that don't dissolve. This becomes a saturated solution which is what you want.

Staking plants early

- Jeff showed the members a Phalaenopsis that was developing a spike. He explained that it is when the spike is young that you need to start staking the plant to get it ready for the Spring Show in September. It is too late to do it just before the show. When staking, make sure the wire is loose around the inflorescence as it is still growing and if you squash it too much it will stop its growth.

Judges Choice – Peter Lucke

Open Hybrid Section: Rlc Chief Journey 'First Choice' Kevin Owens 76 points.

Novice Section: Phal No ID Leann O'Neill 72 points

Species Section: *V. luzonica* Noel Grant 74 points

Presentation: Lynette Johnson 'Caring for My Dendrobium'

Lyn offered some practical information about how she grows Dendrobium. She has three types of Dendrobium – mini, Hardcane and Softcane Dendrobium.

Softcanes – Lyn showed an example of a softcane Dendrobium, pointing out their characteristics and went on to explain how she cared for them.

- Outside of the orchid house, receiving full sun until midday.
- They are watered the same as all other orchids except in winter when they only get watered once a fortnight. Some orchid growers do not water them at all during winter.
- Repotting is done every 2 years or if they outgrow their pots.
- Flowering – after Winter (around September) as they need the cold to make them flower.
- Watering times for all orchids – early morning in Winter, and late afternoon in Summer.

Hardcane Dendrobium – Phalaenanthe, Spatulata and mini dens

Lyn explained the difference between softcane and hardcane characteristics. You can tell by the different types of leaves and the stems.

- Watering times – Summer – every second day late in the afternoon
Winter – about every 6th day early in the morning.
- Repotting about every 2 years.
- Flower at different times of the year.

Dendrobium beetle.

Lyn spoke of the method she uses to get rid of the Dendrobium beetle. It is cheap and effective.

- 5 grams/mls of *Permethrin 25: 75* to one litre of water. To this mix add about 8 drops of *Eucalyptus Oil*.
- Decant into plastic bottles and use when required. Make sure you shake the bottle before using.
- Spray the entire plant about once a month or when needed.
- Permethrin 25:75 can be obtained from nurseries.
- Eucalyptus Oil can be found in any supermarket.

Lyn gave an example of other spraying she did on her plants. An interesting one was using Molasses (1 cup to 13 litres, 2 tbspn to 5 litres) is good to keep ants away.

Lyn gave examples of fertilisers she uses and explained what she uses as a potting mix, providing a diagram of her potting method.

Meeting closed 3.30pm.

Troy McGill – President

Jan Allen – Secretary



Judges Choice
May 2025

Open Section

Rlc Chief Journey 'First Choice'

Owner: K. Owens

76 Points



Judges Choice
May 2025

Species Section

Vanda luzonica

Owner : N&M Grant

74 Points

Judges Choice May 2025

Novice Section

Phalaenopsis Unknown

Owner

Leann Oneill 72 Points

I must apologise to Leann, because I forgot to take a photo of her orchid at the meeting.
Whoops! Noel Grant