

## TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



### September 2025 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website

<https://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

Postal Address:

PO Box 836 D.C.

AITKENVALE QLD 4814

Email: [townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:grantnml@bigpond.com)

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.

Please add 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 27<sup>th</sup> September.  
The August General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September.**

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 September 2025:

Novice/Species

Alison, Lisa

Open

Reg, Marie, Stacey

**The Townsville Orchid Society Annual General Meeting will be held before our October General Meeting. Nomination and Proxy Forms can be found in this Bulletin.**

**Don't forget to renew your membership (due 1<sup>st</sup> September) or you will not be able to vote at the AGM in October. Payment details are at the top of Page 1. Or you can pay at the September meeting.**

### Presidents Thoughts September 2025

Hello everyone,

So, the Townsville Orchid Society's Shows are over for the year. A big thank you to everyone who has helped.

The Spring Show had a very good display of plants. Congratulations to the winners of the Grand Champion and Champion Novice. Again, a big thank you goes to Tony as the person in charge of the Show. I'm hoping we can make another couple of the plant hanger stands for future events.

So, what's next? In the very near future, we have the BBQ at the hall, Sunday 19th October. 10.00am – 2.00pm, all club members are invited to attend and if you have plants, you will have the opportunity to sell them to other club members. If you wish a table, please inform Jan our secretary. The idea of the BBQ is so that members can mingle and introduce themselves to new members in a less formal environment. Fortunately for the club, we are getting new members regularly. Without new members, the club would fold in the future. So please, invite your friends to attend the monthly meetings and hopefully we can encourage them to join the Society.

Following this, we have the dreaded AGM "Annual General Meeting". Here's an opportunity to join the Committee. As usual, all positions become available, so if you would like to be involved in decisions and the

direction the Society is headed, please nominate. Again, Jan is sending out nomination forms and proxy votes if you cannot attend.

After the AGM, we are moving on to the Society's Christmas Lunch. We are going to charge the same as last year. You can pay at the September meeting or via internet banking. Please ensure you add your name, so Leann doesn't need to stress over who made payments. Timings on this will come out at the September general meeting and at the AGM. Remember your gifts for the raffle table. It doesn't need to be much but remember it should be something you would like to win yourself.

Don't forget the last occasion for the year is the plant sale in December. This is the second time we have arranged one, and we hope to make them a frequent occurrence. Vendors have already expressed interest. It will be held on the first Friday and Saturday of December, so the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 4pm. If you are interested, you can have a table by yourself or share with another club member. Every table is responsible for their own cash float and collection of payments - the cost of a table will come out soon.

Finally, please don't forget to pay your membership. Again, the cost has remained the same as last year. Thank you all for your efforts this year.

Troy

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### **Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2025.**

Meeting opened: at 1.00pm by President Troy McGill

**Present:** Troy McGill, Leann O'Neill, Samantha McGill, Tony Kapcelovich, Lynette Johnson, Janelle Stevens, Robert Rasmussen, Joseph Walker, Jan Allen.

**Apologies:** Noel Grant

**President report:** While Troy was away down south, he visited the Red Fox nursery and discussed the progress of flasks we have requested for our 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. Flasks have been seeded – still at the beginning stage.

**Minutes:** Minutes were included in the August Bulletin. Are there any concerns?

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

M: J. Allen

S: Robert Rasmussen

**Carried**

**Business arising:** Nil.

**Correspondence In:** Response re pots; Tweed District Orchid Society Bulletin; Notes from Committee meeting; C-mobile; Enquiry – Orchids; AOC & BOM Meeting Agenda, Reports; Natalie Faint – Flooring Quote; By-laws suggestion; AOS August 2025 Corner; NQOS Newsletter – August; Query – sale of orchids – member; Neutrog Speaker; Acknowledge cancellation of Field Day; Information – Troy; My Community Directory – information; POFPS response to Field Day cancellation; Orchid Expo update; Triple T – newsletter; Invoice – Facebook boost; Thai Flask list - OSCOV show; C-mobile account; My Community Directory – detail query; PPS – promotional details; My Community Directory – change of details; Safety x 3; OQI affiliation fee; Herbert River Orchid and Allied Plant Society – August; Query – dividing and repotting orchid; Next year's calendar of events; Green Space Day – PPS; Dalrymple Sheet Metal invoice; Penningh – unable to make Spring Show – dates; Bluewater Garden Fair query; NQIB – Campbell Proctor – invoice; Media release to media outlets re Spring Show x 8; Invitations to Councillors etc Spring Show x 11; Sale of orchids; Capral Proforma Invoice; Barcodes – Greg Kelly; Townville Orchid Society Inc Bulletin; Query – Poster from Facebook; 4TTT – invoice; Dalrymple Sheet metal; Rentokil acknowledgement of service; Ergon Statement; Nambour Newsletter; Expo update – Nambour; Media release – triple M

**Correspondence Out:** Response to query about pots and bark; Request confirmation of order; Apology – Jan Allen – Committee meeting; Confirmation of meeting dates; Clarification of meeting dates; Club newsletters x 10; Professional Pump Services – Green Space Day; Response to request – Orchids; PPS – Phone call; Notification – Cancellation of Field Day; Welcome pack – new membership; Green Space Open day query; My Community Directory update; Facebook update – Green Space Day; Bowen Spring Show; Response to Doug & Eve; Bluewater Gardening and Flower Show; Response to 'Sale of Orchids'; Fwd to Ruth – Bar codes; TOS Bulletin – August; Agenda for Saturday meeting x 2; August financials; Hall Hire details x 5; Reply to query – pots and bark; Club newsletters x 11.

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

M: Jan Allen

S: Lynette Johnson

**Carried**

**Business arising:** Covered in General business

**Treasurer:** Leann O'Neill

Our major expense this month was for repairs and upgrades to the Hall with, again, re-stocking the shop a close second.

**Funds available to TOS as at 21/08/25:** 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: Leann O'Neill

S: Joseph Walker

**Carried**

**Business arising:** see **General Business**

**Vice President Reports:**

**Show Report:** Tony Kapcelovich

- Making some extra hanging frames.

**Hall Report** – Tony Kapcelovich and Troy McGill

- Gate has been replaced by the Council.
- Insurance work is now finished.

**Hospitality Report** – Samantha McGill

- Need more help in the kitchen for the Spring Show.

**Publicity Report** – Joseph Walker

- Sent out media statements.
- 4TTT to come on Friday. \$250 bill – use donation from John Rutledge.
- Bumped into Kate. Possibly having a live chat with that station.
- Can we try to get commitments from Kate and ABC.? Hoping to get Carina from Power 100 to talk as well.

**General Business** –

- **Bluewater Fair**

- It was a good day. Tony, Jan and Lisa manned the marquee, answering queries and Lisa gave many demonstrations. Tony talked about an encounter he had with two past members. Need to be more welcoming to visitors and new members.
- Hosts need to be more proactive. Need to greet visitors and new members. Hardest thing when joining the club – don't know anyone - need to buddy up with an existing member. Need hosts to be prepared to buddy up with a new member. Each Committee member has been asked to approach someone suitable to be a host.

- **Ask an Expert Day – Public.**

- Much fewer attendees compared to last year's event.
- Changed format to cater for small numbers – no presentations.
- Good set-up and attendees seemed to enjoy the day. Still worth having.

- **PPS – Professional Plumbing Services – Green Space Open Day**

- Need members to help on Saturday 9.00 – 2.00pm. Need flowering plants by 8.00am. Set up at 7.30am. Troy to take the marquee and tables there.

- **Bunnings** – still need to pick up vouchers from Sonia.

- **Point Scoring System** - need to put it into the by-laws. Some committee members to meet and make a final decision on wording, then take to the Committee. Should we do it before the AGM? The points system will work from January – October. Need to have it ready by November meeting.

- **Field Day Substitute**

- sent out email to allied clubs regarding cancellation of the Field Day. It was proposed that we have a club day instead of the Field Day. Have a BBQ, onions, sausages, tea, coffee, Sales Day, get together. Same day as Field Day Sunday 19th October. 10.00 – 2.00pm. Members may sell plants but need to organise their own cash floats.

**Motion:** Buy 8kg beef sausages from butcher, bread, onions, tomato sauce, 7 and 1 gluten-free.

M: Troy Mc Gill

S: Tony Kapcelovich

**Carried**

- **Membership Fees**

- Need to implement a better system to ensure all membership fees paid through the cash register are recorded. We will start a book in which a copy of the cash register receipt is stuck into a book.
- Need to be financial to be able to vote at the AGM.

- **AGM October**

- Have Nomination forms/ Proxy votes available tomorrow.
- Confirm John Nuss and scrutineers / returning officer available

- **Box Day** – this Wednesday 27th August. 9.00am

- **Facebook advertising**

**Motion:** Propose that Carolyn spends \$50 on Facebook boost.

M: Troy McGill

S: Tony Kapcelovich

**Carried**

- **Cleaning Hall** – our intention to have a cleaner clean the Hall ended before it started, as the proposed cleaner became ill and has not been able to fill the position. We need someone once a month – preferably on the Monday after the meeting. We need to prepare a list of duties – and amount of time we need them to work. Tony and Troy are coming in every Monday to do it.
- **Template letter**
  - Troy has penned a letter, requesting a discount for members using local businesses. He has so far spoken to Project Plants, PPS, the Watering Can, NQ Hydroponics and Bunnings. Waiting for replies.
  - **Project Plants** would like proof of membership. Leann has drafted a card – will print and laminate.
  - reinforces our need for a membership card.
- **Next year's Shows**
  - We need a calendar of events. Need to make a decision on Shows - check with Alice when Rockhampton is on. Try to fit dates around the larger growers/vendors. Financially prudent to have them at the shows.
  - Karate group – we set up on Thursdays. If we have our Shows in the holidays it works for them. Make sure we inform Owen Brooks well ahead.
- **Repairs and Maintenance**
  - It is important that the Committee sanctions all proposed major work before it commences.
  - Need to pay CAPRAL before we receive goods to complete the plant racks.
  - Would like to complete the floor restoration and repairing doors before the end of the year.

**Motion:** That we hire NQ FLOORING PTY LTD to strip and seal the floors on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September at the cost of \$4224.00.

M: Tony Kapcelovich

S. Robert Rasmussen

**Carried**

**Motion:** We proceed with repairs of the doors and other building works to the value of \$3487.66

M: Tony Kapcelovich

S. Robert Rasmussen

**Carried**

- **Garden Club**

Special rates for allied clubs. Considering using the hall for a plant sale. Garden Club – recommend \$150 a day.
- Tokelau - used Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> August and will again on 30<sup>th</sup> August – bill to be sent.
- **Raffle Table Prizes** – occasionally getting broken items and expired food items. Request that members bring items that they would like to win themselves.
- **Business arising- Treasurer**

All major bills need to be passed by Committee before accepting. Discuss with Treasurer whether work has been completed or goods received, before payment.

Restocking Shop – Leann has requested that she be notified beforehand, when restocking of the shop is required as it is quite a considerable expense.

Term deposit – has matured. Need to make a decision as to whether we continue to invest in term deposit. Should we increase investment? Currently rolled over amount is \$25 924.27 Need around \$9000 for current maintenance commitments. Suggested that we should look into reinvesting before term deposit matures in future. Need to look at best options available.

Proposed that we reinvest the money and interest. Decisions about maintenance to be made after each show so that we know how much money is available.

**Motion:** Propose that we continue to bank money in a term deposit, increasing the amount to \$30000.

M: Joseph Walker

S: Leann O'Neill

**Carried**

Debit card no longer works. Bank misinformed us. Leann has created a card with information on the card for when we go to the Bank.

Float for the show will remain at \$2000.

**New Members-** Sue Gallagher – single – Novice 377  
Paul Slatter – single – Open 378

**Meeting Closed:** 2.56pm

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Troy McGill – President

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Jan Allen - Secretary

## Nomination form for the election of Officers

We hereby nominate .....

for the position of .....

Proposer: Name..... Signature: .....

Seconder: Name: ..... Signature: .....

I accept the above nomination .....  
(Signature)

Nominations for the positions of Office Bearers and Committee of Management must be in the hands of the Returning Officer **fourteen (14) clear days** before the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations must be in a sealed envelope and marked "Nominations." This envelope must then be handed to the Returning Officer or placed in a second envelope and posted to the Returning Officer care of the Society's postal address.

The Postal Address of the Society:

Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

PO Box 836

Aitkenvale QLD 4814

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### Committee of Management:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 3 Vice Presidents:
  - Shows,
  - Hall,
  - Hospitality,
- Publicity Officer
- Committee members - 4

### Other Officers (these officers do not need to attend the Management meetings)

- Patron
- Editor
- Librarian
- Technical Officer
- Programme Director
- Hosts - 3

Others to be nominated:

Auditor

Returning Officer

Scrutineers - 2

**Townsville Orchid Society Inc.**

**Proxy Form**

I,..... of .....

being a member of the above-named Society, hereby

appoint..... of.....

or failing them,

..... of.....,

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Society,

to be held on the twenty-sixth day of October 2025 and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this .....day of.....2025.

Signature.....

**Unless otherwise instructed the proxy may vote as they think fit**

PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF August 2025

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

Section			TOS No.
<b>OPEN</b> CATTLEYA 110mm and over	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Brunswick Bonanza Rlc Burdekin Lustre Rlc Burdekin Storm	B Figuera B Figuera Unknown
CATTLEYA 75mm to 109 mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Rth Rosella's Horace C Dal's Choice Rth CRB's Success	G&S Kelly G&L Johnson G&S Kelly
CATTLEYA Miniature under 75mm	1st 2nd 3rd	C Elusive Dream 'Mathew' C CRB's Jewel 'Tina' C Tokyo Life #1	G&S Kelly G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
CATTLEYA Cluster	1st 2nd 3rd	Ctt Varut Startrack Gct Dash of Napalm 'Red Bouquet' Rth Shinforg Little Sun	J. Stevens G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
DENDROBIUM Spatulata	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Sally Koh Seiw Aye #2 Den Gloucester Charm 'Southern Cross' Den Stan Laffey	B Figuera K Owens K Owens
DENDROBIUM Soft Cane	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Cindarella No 1 Den Tropical Flare Den Mild Yumi	G&L Johnson G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
DENDROBIUM Any other Hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den carroni x speciosum</i> Den Australian Tetrasheen <i>Den speciosum x discolor</i>	B Figuera Woodhouse/Richard B Figuera
VANDA Under 40mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Aer Korat Koki x Van Pine Rivers = <b>Prra Marilyn Broeman</b> <b>Pda Nicholas Keith</b> <b>V Alices Anie</b>	G&S Kelly K Owens B Figuera
ONCIDIUM Starry Shaped	1st	<b>Ons Wildcat</b>	B Figuera
TOLUMNIA	1st 2nd	Tolu Waianae 'Sunset' Tolu Mem. Ralph Yagi x Willowbank Strawberry	Woodhouse/Richard G&L Johnson
PHALAENOPSIS Under 60mm	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal Unknown Phal Unknown Phal Taida Sweet 'TK33'	J Walker J Walker G&L Johnson
PAPHIOPEDILUM Multi Floral	1st 2nd 3rd	Paph Transvaal Paph Toni Sample ( <b>Name not Found</b> ) Paph unknown	B Figuera Woodhouse/Richard B Figuera
PAPHIOPEDILUM Any other hybrid	1st 2nd 3rd	Paph Golddollar Paph Cocoa Motto Elect x Enzan Rose Crown Paph Yi Ying Twinkling Stars	G&L Johnson P&J Lucke P&J Lucke
ANY OTHER ORCHID Under 75mm	1st	Cym Maureen Carter #5	G&L Johnson
<b>NOVICE</b> Any Other Orchid	1st 2nd	V Oranooch x ( <i>Rhy coelestis x</i> <i>V coerulea</i> ) <b>Rlc Hsinying Sunbeam</b>	O'Neill, LB&M D. Beasley
<b>SPECIES</b> AUSTRALIAN NATIVE	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den bigibbum v bigibbum</i> 'Pink' <i>Den johannis</i> <i>Den canaliculatum</i>	P Serra B Figuera G&L Johnson

ANY OTHER SPECIES	1st 2nd	<i>Rhy gigantea</i> 'Chang Red' <i>Trich. wenzelii</i>	G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
PAPHIOPEDILUM	1st	<i>Paph callosum</i>	G&L Johnson
ANY OTHER	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Ddc cobbianum</i> = <b>Coelogyne</b> <i>Acriopsis liliifolia</i>	B Fighera G&L Johnson

## Points Tables after August 2025

Number	Name	Open	Species	Novice	Aggregate
280	Barlow H	19			19
356	Beasley D			3	3
221	Blanchard D	61	3		64
316	Cooper H	2			2
190	Fighera B	49	8		57
338	Genrich L			4	4
226	Gibson C	5			5
213	Grant N&M	106	75		181
143	Horn J	17			17
87	Hughes W	3			3
240	Johnson L&G	231	93		324
116	Kelly G&S	153			153
320	Layton R	4			4
71	Lucke P&J	9			9
193	Knowles A&J	9	43		52
375	Martens A			3	3
322	McCulloch/Weaver	55	18		73
241	McGill T	3			3
148	Nuss J		3		3
344	O'Neill LB&H			15	15
63	Owens K	77	13		90
131	Richardson J&B	20	15		35
52	Ruxton T&S	4	4		8
168	Scott R	9			9
233	Serra P&J	1	15		16
172	Sewell C&W	3			3
258	Stevens J	12			12

310	Walker J	13			13
220	Watt G	8	5		13
104	Woodhouse/Richards	15			15

### **Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

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

**Present:** 58 as per registration book

**Visitors:** Heidi Smith; Cheryl Jones

**Apologies:** Carolyn Gibson, Lyn Howell, Noel Grant

President Troy welcomed visitors and welcomed new members Sue Gallagher and Paul Slatter. New members were asked to come up and get a welcome plant.

**Secretary:** Jan Allen

The minutes of the previous meeting were published in the August Bulletin.

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

**Moved:** Jan Allen

**Seconded:** Kerry Turner

**Carried**

**Business out of Minutes:** Nil.

**Correspondence:** All correspondence was tabled at the Committee meeting. A detailed copy is available on the board if anyone needs to see what actions were taken with correspondence.

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

Moved: Jan Allen

Seconded: Ron Scott

**Carried**

**Business out of the Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Leann O'Neill

Treasurer Leann gave a breakdown of our main income and expenses. A detailed copy of the finances is available on the noticeboard for members to read.

Major income came from rental of the Hall with sales from our shop a close second. Major expense this month was for repairs and upgrades to the Hall with, again, re-stocking the shop a close second.

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

**Moved:** Leann O'Neill

**Seconded:** Joseph Walker

**Carried**

**Business arising:** The Term Deposit account matured on the 21/08/2025. We got \$429.84 in interest for the 6 months. At the Committee meeting we voted to reinvest \$30 000. We will take the excess needed from the Investment Account.

Will need to keep around \$9000 in our cheque account for proposed building renovations.

### **Vice President Reports:**

**Show:** Tony Kapcelovich

- Box Day – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August at 9,00am.
- Show rosters are being passed around. Please consider helping.
- Show set-up at 9.0am Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**Hall:** Tony Kapcelovich & Troy McGill

- Gate has been replaced by the Council.
- Insurance work is now finished.
- Work will be done on the floor and doors before the end of the year.

**Hospitality:** Samantha McGill

- Kitchen roster and food donations rosters are going around– please fill in.

**Media/Publicity** – Joseph Walker

- Everything is in order. Newspaper ad is organised and photographer will be coming in on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> to take photos for the feature article on Friday 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Have contacted all radio and tv stations.

### **General Business:**

- **Ask the Experts Open Day** – was held on 2 August at the hall. Thanks to all those who participated (*potting demonstrations, display plants, kitchen, baking, ANOS display, presentation preparation, general organisation*) We didn't get as many people as last year but it was still good and we're getting better at it.
- **Membership Fees** – now due. \$15 single, \$20 family. Can go to the shop and pay that today
- **Requests for bar codes for shows** – See Ruth as soon as possible so that she can get them printed out before she goes away.
- **Christmas Lunch** – waiting for White's to get back to us with a fixed price.

- **AGM** – coming up in October. There is a list of positions available. Please consider nominating for a position. Jan has a list of what jobs entail so if you want to come on the Committee, ask Jan for a more information.
- **Helping at the Show** –we still need helpers for the Spring Show. There is paperwork out that explains what is involved in each job e.g. security, kitchen raffle etc.
- **Green Space Open Day, PPS** – This Saturday (30<sup>th</sup> August) we will have a stand at the PPS Open Day. Members will be setting up at 7.30am and finishing around about 2pm. If you are interested in coming and having a look, there will be lots of Ag. businesses on display, a sausage sizzle etc.
- **Membership Cards** – we are going to produce our own membership cards, which will be a laminated card with your name and number on it. You will receive it once you are financial. Troy has spoken to various local suppliers and Project Plants will give 10% discount on showing that you are a financial member. Troy has also spoken to NQ Hydroponics and the Watering Can and several other local businesses. If anyone can think of any other similar businesses you would like Troy to approach, please see him.
- **Raffle table** – thank you to those who are bringing in raffle prizes and food for the afternoon tea. We make the money that goes back to the club. Remember to bring in prizes that you would like to win yourself.
- **Field Day Substitute** – we are going to have a BBQ on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October (10am – 2pm) instead of the Field Day. We'll put on free sausages and drinks but if you want alcohol, you'll have to bring it yourself. It's a good opportunity for members to meet each other. If you have plants you want to sell (they don't have to be flowering), we will put tables aside. You'll have to handle the money yourself.

#### Judges Choice – Reg Dix

**Open Hybrid** – Rth Rosella's Horace 'Valley View' G. & S. Kelly 74 points

**Species** – *Coel.cobbianum* Bruno Figuera 81 points

When this plant gets bigger, it is going to be a magnificent plant. It has 13 inflorescences, flowering from the top to the bottom without any dead flowers – a great achievement. As it received 81 points it will receive and Award of Merit.

**Novice** – V. Oranooch x (*Rhy coelestis* x *V. coerulea*) Leann O'Neill 70 points

Reg noted that when he joined the club 6 years ago, he never saw any Paphiopedilum until the last few years when there has been an influx of Paphiopedilums which are being grown very well - some complex plants as well.

#### Jeff Knowles – Technical Officer

- Jeff invited John Nuss (President of ANOS, Townsville) to speak about the Australian natives on the table. John noted that there were 4 species and a couple of native hybrids and spoke on each. One was an alba form of *Den bigibbum*. If you are interest in native plants, ANOS (Australasian Native Orchid Society Inc) hold their monthly meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each Month commencing at 8pm at the Townsville Orchid Society Hall.
- Jeff spoke about the plant on the wall. Easy to grow here. Perfumed and lots of racemes. Flowers will change from yellow to orange *Dendrochilum cobbianum*. He noted that the Paphs are flowering late.
- **Dendrobium soft canes**. They usually need cold weather for them to flower. This one comes from Alligator Creek and climatic conditions are different there -cooler. No leaves on the canes, just flowers. Lyn doesn't water them after the 25<sup>th</sup> April. She puts them on the clothes line and just mists them occasionally.

#### Presentation – Novice grower asks the experienced Grower: Janelle and Jeff

Firstly, Janelle talked about some of the books that are available for members to borrow from the Library when Noel (our Librarian) is here.

#### Janelle: What are the most common pests and diseases for Orchid growers? Is there an easy way to treat them?

**Jeff:** Pests - Try to identify what pests you have. Rats - if a raceme is eaten off, it is probably rats or mice. Cockroaches – usually if your plant media is very dry- treat them as you would in the house. Ants – usually there to feed off the nectar. Get rid of with insecticide or icing sugar will supposedly get them. Specialist insects such as the Dendrobium beetle and grasshoppers damage plants. You can go for 'safe' insecticides or the more poisonous ones (remember to cover up). Mites are more prevalent and as the hot weather approaches the mite lifecycle gets shorter and shorter so you will have an infestation. Sulphur will kill mites. Probably need something systemic (which is taken up into the leaf). Do your research.

Fungi – If you have a fungus e.g. black spot, yellow spot, you will need a fungicide. Firstly, try to prevent it by spraying a preventative such as Mangozeb Plus over the surface. Cinnamon is a great preventative. If it is inside

your plant you will need to cut off leaf/roots, then spray with a fungicide. If you buy a plant from a market or someone's house, or the Show, quarantine new plants before putting them in with your collection. Lots of 'poisons' also available. If you are starting a new product, (fungicide, insecticide, miticide) test it first. Don't spray your whole collection – could kill it all.

Keep your orchid house clean. No leaves or weeds on the floor. Weeds in orchid pots - use tweezers to get in and pull out the roots e.g. military fern.

**Janelle: Is there a fertiliser that I can use that is suitable for both growth and flowering? Or do I have to use different ones?**

**Jeff:** No matter which fertiliser you use, it will always improve your orchid. There are some that are better than others. Jeff rotates his fertilisers as he has a lot of different varieties. It is too difficult to have a different fertiliser for every type of plants. Use it regularly. Once a week is fine. Dissolves in water and uses slow release. Make sure you avoid spraying the flower.

**Janelle: Can you fertilise when plants are in flower?**

**Jeff:** Yes. Plants still require the nutrients. Make sure you avoid spraying the flower itself. Still require nutrients to produce healthy leaves and flowers. Seasol – is a kind of tonic rather than a fertiliser. Spray once a month.

**Janelle: Once my plant has flowered, what should I do with the cane that was flowering?**

Jeff explained what he does with his own plants, especially his Phalaenopsis. He gave examples of two different ways he might approach the old cane. Basically, there are no specific rules about that.

Afternoon tea was taken.

The continuous raffle was held.

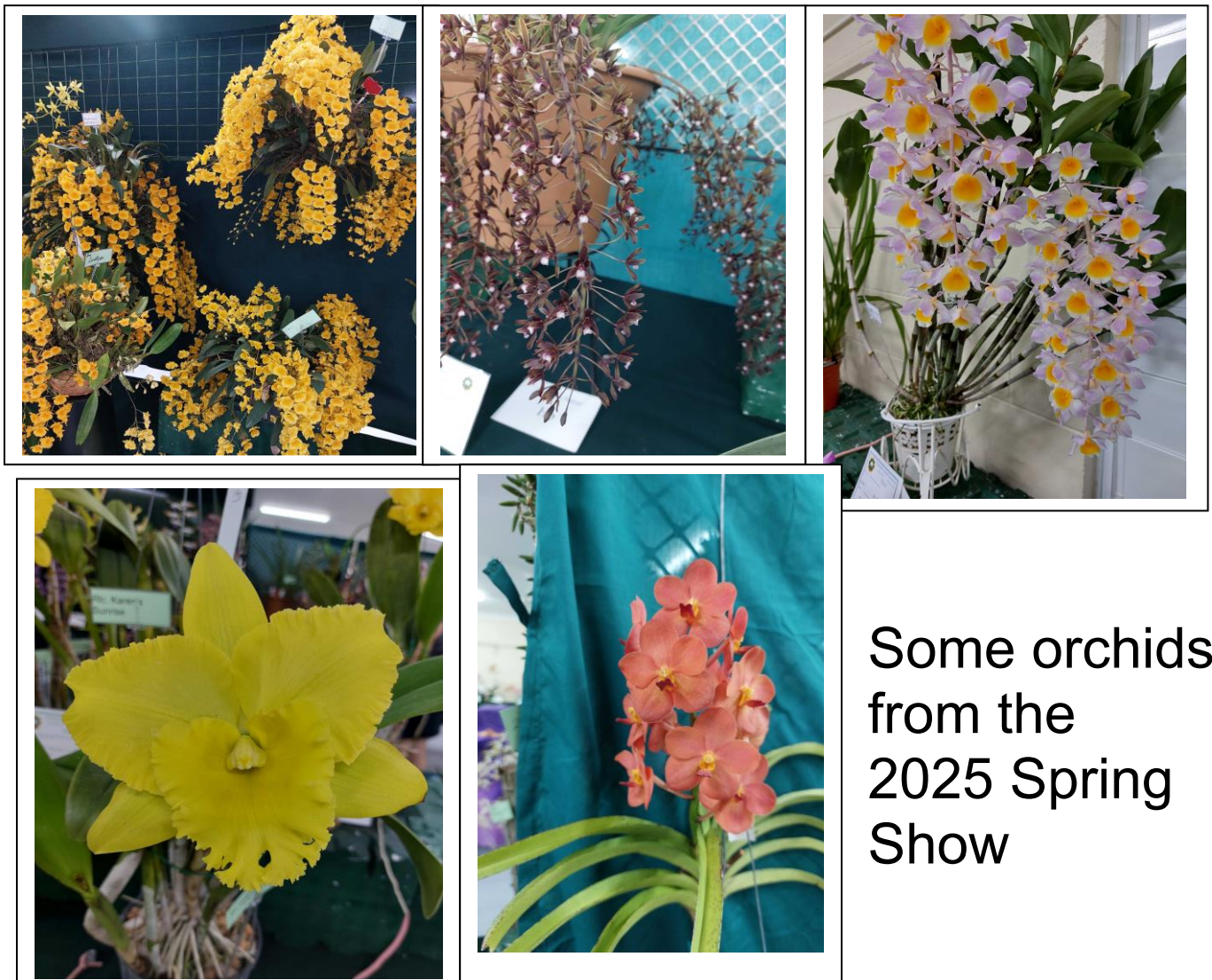
Meeting closed 3.30pm.

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Troy McGill – President

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Jan Allen – Secretary



Some orchids  
from the  
2025 Spring  
Show