

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au



Newsletter January 2013



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. PO Box 5949 Red Hill Qld. 4701
Founded 1955

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 22/1/13

at 7.30pm

Plants to be tabled by
7.15pm

President: Jeff Bloxson 49286582
jmbloxson@hotmail.com

Vice President: Terry Dean 49282278
terryellie@optusnet.com.au

Secretary: Gloria Wakefeild 49224289
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Treasurer: Bill Richardson 49275759
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Jeff Glover 49287701
Peter & June Shelton 49266889
Joy Dwyer 49283551
Ellie Dean 49282278
Trish Craig 49226621

New Grower's Leader:
Keith Marsden 49282752

Public Relations: Ellie Dean

Technical Advisers: John Frisch
Jeff Glover

Registrar: Terry Dean

Providers: Terry & Gwen Breingan

Door Monitors/ Hostesses:
Ellie Dean / Lorraine Weaver

Librarian: Jack Martin

Raffle Plant Caretaker: Terry Dean

Property Officers:
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sheltonpj@optusnet.com.au

Asst Editor: Trish Craig
trishcraig@bigpond.com

Webmaster: Kev Logan 49396581

Judges for the Meeting

J. Glover J. Shelton.

B. Hilse Sharon Frisch

**Notice to
Members
PLEASE assist
with cleaning**

Editors notes,

A Happy and prosperous New Year to all.

Well there's another one gone, hopefully we have all survived fit and well, we unfortunately lost a few off our good friends and growers but with that all behind us we shall go into the year 2013 full of confidence knowing that all our Orchids will be Grand Champions or at the least win us a judges choice.

We had our 2012 Xmas break up when the trophies for excellence were handed out, I think here we must give accolades to Rosie and Ken, they scooped the pool and deservedly so, as Ken will readily admit without his Rosie he would not be in the hunt. So especially to you, Rosie congratulations. To all the other trophy winners congratulations also and keep trying you never know what 2013 may bring.

The night was spent with trivia games and much light hearted frivolity so much so that it seems everybody had a great time (we might do it again next year). The enormous multi draw at the end of the night saw a couple of people win so many prizes they would need a ute to take them home, (Wasn't me).

As you will all be aware next month is our A.G.M. (came round quick didn't it), all positions are declared vacant, so please give some serious thought to nominating for one of them, new people bring fresh ideas and formats to the society which make things interesting. The people who have been running your society for a good many years need a spell, so think about it. June and I have enjoyed being your news letter editors for the past year but maybe you would like to try this, we'll step down for you, it's not that hard, just consistent. Maybe you'd like to try a place on the committee, once again it isn't that hard just consistent and with the years flying like they do your term will be over in no time.

To all you new growers who have just joined our society, you'll not be sorry believe you me it's a great little club of people with the same thing in mind to grow and nurture the beautiful flowers we all love – Orchids.

Pete & June

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

General Meeting Tuesday 27/11/2012

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

Lucky Member: 22

Minutes: of previous monthly meeting approved as correct and accurate, Moved Keith Marsden second Clary Smith Carried.

Correspondence: In = Newsletters, Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc, Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc, Blackwater & District Orchid & Foliage Club, Caboolture Orchid Society Inc, Rockhampton Horticultural Society Inc. Mackay & District Orchid Society Inc, Maryborough District Orchid Society Inc. Capricorn Orchid & Foliage Club Inc. Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Society Inc. Nightcliff Orchid Society. Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc. Central Queensland Bush House & Orchid Society, Townsville Orchid Society Inc. Orchid News NSW. Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc, Alices Orchids, Jim Shaughnessy, C Q Party Hire, Big Colour Works.

OUT = Moved Gloria Wakefield Second by Peter Jenkinson Carried.

Treasurers Report: Read and moved by Bill Richardson Second Trish Craig Carried.

New Growers: Keith Marsden thanked to Terry & Gwen Breingan 50 members joined together at their home for a BBQ Tea and large raffle and a great night was had by all thanks Keith for all your work with new growers.

General Business: The Motion from last meeting re: a section for Phalaenopsis in the Novice section. Has now been rescinded new motion moved by Moyna if there are more than three there will be a separate section, 2nd Trish Craig Carried. Keith Marsden Moved Lionel Reeves 2nd that the letter from Bunnings with \$100 in \$10 Vouchers be given to people that were there to work, with the two spare ones being given two Keith as a thank you as he organized our part of the night, He then donated them back to the raffle on the night. The mike system has been sold to Jeff Glover's son for \$50.00 moved Bill Richardson 2nd Jenny Moore Carried.

Plant Commentary: John Frisch with lots of good information, thanks John.

Lucky exhibitor: Karen Wilkinson.

Raffle; Marg Handley, Nat Lakey, Jan Hogan, Trish Craig, Laurence Lucke. Terry Ahern, Laurence Lucke, Peter Jenkinson, Jill Howes, Sandra Rowcliffe, Lionel Reeves,

Meeting closed: 9.25 pm.

Next Meeting; 22 nd January 2013

Jeff Bloxsom President

Gloria Wakefield Secretary

New Growers Report

There is no New Growers report for this newsletter

The next meeting will not be held until the **2nd of March 2013**. It will be at the home of Keith & Pam Marsden, at **463 Crane Court, North Rockhampton**, please bring a chair & plate.

Monthly Competition Results. November 2012.

(Plants tabled: Advanced: 34. Novice: 17.)

<u>Judges Choice</u>	<i>Vasco.</i> Pine Rivers <i>Colm.</i> Sphacetante x <i>Onc. ornithorhynchum</i> <i>Paph.</i> Eerie Flame	B&N Lakey K&R Smith K&R Smith
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Popular Vote: Advanced

Vandaceous.	<i>Vasco.</i> Pine Rivers	B&N Lakey
Dendrobium.	<i>Den.</i> Salaya Gold (name not registered)	J&S Frisch
Phalaenopsis.	<i>Dtps.</i> Alice's Heart	B&N Lakey
Oncidiinae.	<i>Colm.</i> Sphacetante x <i>Onc. ornithorhynchum</i>	B&N Lakey
Species.	<i>Rhy. retusa</i>	T&E Dean
Miscellaneous.	<i>Paph. callosum</i> x <i>Paph.</i> Pop Monkhouse	T&E Dean

Popular Vote: Novice

Vandaceous.	<i>V.</i> Aribarg x <i>Ascda.</i> Yellow Pacific	P&J Moore
Dendrobium.	<i>Den.</i> Masoko Taki	P&J Moore
Species.	<i>L. purpurata</i>	G&M Maunder
Miscellaneous.	<i>Phal.</i> Sunflower	M&T Handley



Vegetative Propagation of Orchids --A Novice's Viewpoint

Although the origins of all orchids can be traced back to seeds, few of us are capable of using this method of propagation and instead leave it to the experts. However, once our favourites have been acquired they may be multiplied by novice or expert alike. All that is required for success is an understanding and application of a few basic principles relating to vegetative reproduction. There is however such a diversity of orchids, including terrestrial and lithophytic types, that it is not feasible to cover all scenarios in this article. Rather, the focus here is on vegetative propagation of some of the more popular genera of sympodial epiphytic orchids.

Potential Candidates

To multiply or not to multiply. That is the question. The answer should not relate to the ease of multiplication but rather to its desirability. A wide range of high quality orchids is now readily available to all enthusiasts and there is no merit in multiplying clones that lack desirable attributes. If we ignore sentimental favourites, before deciding to propagate any particular clone we should therefore ask ourselves whether it has the qualities we are seeking *eg.* is it well adapted to our cultural environment, did it have early sexual maturity, does it have good disease resistance, rapid growth and desirable growth habit, does it flower prolifically and consistently each season or year, are the flowers long-lasting and do they have desirable floral qualities including number, colour, shape and presentation? If the answers to these questions are overwhelmingly positive, the clone is a potential candidate for further multiplication.

Procedures

(1). *Division.* Sympodial orchids including dendrobiums, cattleyas, oncidiums, catasetums and paphiopedilums can be propagated by division. As well as increasing the number of plants, regular division prevents overcrowded growth. Overcrowding results in poor overall growth of the plant and may contribute to shrivelling or premature death of the older growths resulting from the loss of roots. It is generally true that the decision to divide is made when the plant is due for repotting. To minimise any setback to growth and subsequent flowering, repotting and dividing should occur when the plant is in an active growth phase *ie.* just as new roots start to emerge from the front growth and when the older root tips are green. To again minimise any setback to growth and flowering, dendrobiums, cattleyas and oncidiums are best divided into three- or four-bulb divisions. Catasetums and paphiopedilums may be divided into single bulbs or plants respectively. However, regardless of genus, unless the plant has been well grown, back-bulb divisions may have few or no live roots and if repotted into standard medium may die. In this situation, strong, well grown divisions are best trimmed of all dead roots and temporarily potted into long-strand sphagnum moss. Once the new pseudobulb has matured (generally in the following year), the plant should be repotted into your standard medium. Alternatively (and particularly if the division is somewhat weak), wrap the rhizome in well dampened sphagnum, place the entire division in a plastic freezer bag (which allows oxygen transfer but prevents water loss) and hang the sealed bag in a protected position such as under the bench. Repot into your standard medium when the new front growth is starting to produce new roots. For either method and for all genera, improved strike rates can be achieved by dusting the rhizome (or bulb base for catasetums) with root stimulating hormone (*eg.* Rootex-P, Root Strike) before wrapping it in damp sphagnum. For those who think ahead, dendrobiums, cattleyas and oncidiums may be divided (again, into three- or four-bulb divisions) while still in the pot and well before the plant is due for repotting. This is best done just as the buds on the front pseudobulb start to grow. Using a pair of sterilised, sharp, sharp-pointed secateurs, completely sever the rhizome. This allows the buds at the base of the backbulb to grow so that when the plant is due for repotting, a well-grown division with a new front pseudobulb is already well established. To minimise the risk of fungal infection, the freshly cut rhizome should be treated with a wound sealant (*eg.* SteriPrune) or a fungicide paste or powder (*eg.* Mancozeb). The fungicide can be pushed into the cut with the tip of a new plastic tag on which is

recorded the date at cutting. The tag should be left in the cut as a reminder that the division has been made.

(2). *Keikis*. Under certain conditions, dendrobiums (including hardcane, softcane and Indian types) and sometimes oncidiums and catasetums will spontaneously produce plantlets (keikis) from buds that occur at the nodes or apices of the pseudobulbs. Under most circumstances, these buds lie dormant but act as a survival mechanism if the plant is subject to severe stress. Stress may result from lack of water (either directly or from root loss), loss of leaves (which may result from cold stress or disease), prolonged high ambient temperature (particularly when combined with lack of water), damage to, or removal of, the apical bud of the pseudobulb, or rotten roots or rhizomes. Some dendrobium clones are particularly prone to producing keikis even when grown under what may seem to be non-stressful conditions. For some dendrobiums (eg. *Den. loddigesii*) this is their normal growth habit but for others it is undesirable. As an example - Figures (A) and (B) show a pair of sibling softcane dendrobiums that have been grown together and treated alike since being de-flasked. Plant (A) has multiple keikis while its sibling, (B), has none. This difference in propensity to produce keikis is genetic in origin, not the result of environmental stress. Plant (A) should therefore be consigned to the compost bin. Multiplication of these sorts of plants, while very easy, results in multiplication of the problem. However, it is normal for softcanes to produce keikis at terminal nodes that have failed to produce flowers in either the immediate or previous spring. These keikis are ideally suited for propagation. When their leaves and roots are fully developed (generally in the following autumn), and the roots are in an active growth phase (green root tips), the keikis may be removed (I use sterilised, sharp, sharp-pointed secateurs) and potted. Keikis that form on other types of dendrobium or on other genera can be treated in a similar manner. Again, removal for the purpose of multiplication should occur only when the roots of the keikis are in an active growth phase. Some dendrobiums rarely produce keikis but can be forced to do so by using the 'cut-cane' method. This is best done in the first few weeks of spring and involves removing a well grown, fully mature cane from the parent plant and placing the entire cane on a bed of damp, long-strand sphagnum moss. When selecting a suitable cane, ensure that it has dormant, undamaged buds at the nodes. A bud that is damaged or diseased is not capable of developing into a keiki. Dusting the cane with root stimulating hormone will improve strike rate but is not always necessary for success. Keep the cane in about 30% filtered sun in a protected position and keep the moss moist. Keikis that develop at the nodes may be removed and potted when they are mature and in an active growth phase.



Figure A above
& Figure B below



Vegetative multiplication is simple and effective and not only allows us to hedge against the inadvertent loss of our favourites but also provides plants that can be appreciated by others. Go do it!!!

Friendii.

Your Orchid Diary 2013

March Childers & Isis Autumn Show
March Tannum Sands O&FS Show
March Capricorn O&F Society Show
March 23 & 24th Bundaberg Field Day
April Gladstone Orchid Society Show

2013 STOC Orchidfest Gympie
2014 TQOC Atherton
2015 TQOC Mackay

Be My Valentine

A bloke walks into a post office one day to see a middle-aged balding man standing at the counter methodically placing “Love” stamps on bright pink envelopes with hearts all over the them. He then takes out a perfume bottle and starts spraying scent all over them. His curiosity getting the better of him he goes up to the balding man and asks him what he is doing. The man says ”I’m sending out 1,000 Valentine cards signed ’Guess who?’” “But why?” asks the man.

”I’m a divorce lawyer,” the man replies.

Don’t forget our **SOCIETY - STORE** (members only)

For all you Orchid Supplies



49222637 Barry & Faye English

Hours of Business: 8am -12 – 2- 5pm (Closed: ‘Thursdays’ and ‘Lunchtime’ each day)

No cheques please

Please note !!!

The annual fees are \$15-00; they are due and payable prior to the February meeting. Disregard the time of the year you joined the society, all fees are due and payable each February.

Unfinancial members are disallowed voting at the A.G.M. If you cannot attend a meeting please forward your subscription to the treasurer.

Nominations from the floor will fill the following Non-Executive positions. --

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| * Librarian | * Host / Hostess |
| * Asst' Librarian | * Technical Advisors |
| * Door Monitor | * New Growers Leader |
| * News Letter Editors | * Registrar |
| * Provedore/s | * Asst' Registrar |
| * Public Relations | * Plant Caretaker |
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**NOMINATIONS FORM FOR COMMITTEE MEMBER
ROCKHAMPTON ORCHID SOCIETY INC**

We the undersigned financial members of the Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

Hereby nominate.....
(Please Print)

For the position of.....

Proposer..... Signature.....
(Please Print)

Secunder..... Signature.....
(Please Print)

I,.....being a financial member of the Society, accept the above nomination.

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE.....

Retiring

We will require somebody to take over the catering for the 2 shows, as Shirley and Lorraine have decided to retire.

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

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Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding December) at St Stephens Presbyterian Church Hall, Burnett Street, Nth. Rockhampton. Meetings commence at 7.30pm and plants must be tabled by 7.15pm

Disclaimer

Rockhampton Orchid society Inc. disclaims all responsibility for any losses or damage, which may be attributed to the use or misuse of any material published in this Newsletter

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