

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

Newsletter-April 2017

P O Box 5949

Red Hill Rockhampton 4701

Founded 1955

Editors notes

As I start writing this it is the day after our Easter Orchid Egg-stravaganza Show and what a presentation our members put on. With Rockhampton in the grips of major flooding from ex-cyclone Debbie, the mighty Fitzroy River peaking at 8.85 metres on Thursday noon and holding that level until Saturday, it was amazing that our show came together so well.

We were fortunate with the flood mitigation work building up of the Yeppen Crossing entrance that the Bruce Highway remained open from the south and also remained clear to the north, unlike previous floods when our city would be isolated. Our out of town judges were able to attend and assist in the judging early Saturday morning and our new barcoding system appeared to work well with judging over quicker than usual. It was good to see everyone's labels were uniform.

Our visitor numbers were down slightly on previous shows but still a good attendance, raffle winners are following in the newsletter. The orchid entry numbers were down but quality plants were still presented in the show.



Congratulations must go to Bernard Hilse on his Grand Champion awarded *Paph. Helvetia* and to Jenny Scott on her Reserve Champion *Den. Fraser's Mosaic Spiral*. (photos to right)

Our Saturday night presentation dinner went well and the large multi-draw raffle saw many members take home a plant or two.

Our upcoming trip to the Townville Orchid Conference is just on two months away, currently the coach and all accommodation is booked at full capacity with only vacancies available should there be any cancellations. If you are interested in attending and haven't nominated please contact Jeff Bloxsom and he will put your name onto a waiting list. (100)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Our next general meeting will be Anzac Day – Tuesday 25th April.

Notice to Members - please assist with cleaning the hall after the meeting

The closing date for articles to be included in the next newsletter are to be received by the 5th May 2017; articles received after that date will be included in the following month. *Ed.*

Rockhampton Orchid Society - Orchid Store

Property Officers - Faye & Barry English

110 Murray Street Rockhampton 4700

PHONE 4922 2637

Email - englishf@aapt.net.au

Closed Thursdays & Daily 12pm to 2pm

LARGE RANGE OF ORCHID SUPPLIES

FOR ROSI MEMBERS ONLY

SALES BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



With the closing of Webber's Retravisation there is the opportunity for another business to be the sponsor of our Society. If you are interested & know someone who would be interested please contact the editor on svpsli@bigpond.net.au

Sponsors of the Rockhampton Orchid Society

Judges for the Meeting

Terry, Jeff & Bernard

Assistants – Trish Craig,

Peter Jenkinson, Doug

Chippendale

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday. 25/04/17

at 7.30pm

Plants to be tabled by

7.15pm

President: Jeff Bloxsom_ bloxsom123@optusnet.com.au 4928 6582

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Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

General Meeting Tuesday 21st March 2017

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

New Members: Nil

Visitors: Nil

Lucky Number: 16 Allan White

Lucky Exhibitor: Jeffrey Glover

Minutes of previous monthly meeting were approved as correct and accurate.

Moved Ellie Dean Seconded Margaret Lyons **Carried**

Correspondence:

IN – NEWSLETTERS

EMAILS

OUT

In the absence of the Secretary no correspondence was tabled.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Richardson read the Treasurer's report. This was seconded by Ken Smith **Carried**

New Growers Report:

David Eggleshaw reported good positive feedback on the last new grower's meeting. This was the first one hosted by David in his new role of New Grower's Leader. The next meeting will be held at the home of Graham and Maxine Maunder Phone 4928 3212 at 184 Stamford Street commencing at 2.00pm. He reminded all to bring raffle prizes and hopefully all will be dry on Saturday.

General Business:

Bundaberg Field Trip – this was attended by 50 ROSI members out of the 200 people there. They are trying to encourage Maryborough & Harvey Bay into the field days. Rockhampton will host the 2018 event and it will be held around the same time of the year. Overall it was a great weekend.

Townsville Trip – Most seats are taken on the bus (35), but no more accommodation is available. There are 52 members registered for the conference. Most will be staying at the Mercure Resort. On the Friday night we will be visiting Alice's Nursery. Rego covers all meals for the weekend – Sat & Sun Dinners, Morning & Afternoon Teas, Lunches and all lectures.

Autumn Show – Jeff asked who would put in a display and 2 nominated for large displays, 4 for small displays and 5 for Container Displays. The Show Marshall will be Jeff Glover. The Chief Stewardess is Moyna Richardson. Jeff read out the list of orchid stewards and they were to meet with Moyna after the meeting to discuss the show. The foliage judge will be Ann Oram as well as the Floral Art Arrangements and Corsages. Jeff asked that members consider doing entries for floral art as most shows it is the same couple of people entering and if this does not improve there is the possibility that this section will be dropped. Catering will again be by Dunlop Catering which is the usual buffet. Margaret Kydd moved that the society subsidise the meal cost which means members will only pay \$15 this was seconded by Peter Rankin and all agreed. Jeff mentioned that numbers need to be confirmed by the Thursday prior to the dinner and if anyone pulls out after that they will be liable to still pay the dinner cost. The dinner will commence at 7.00pm and the dinner cost to be paid on the night.

There will also be a working be at 2.00pm on the Sunday prior to the show 2-04-17 and they need helpers to shift chairs and party set up the room. Will also need helpers Friday 7-04-17 around noon. Display Set Ups and sales plants will be at 2.00pm and all must be finished by 8.00pm as the hall will close then. All sales plants must be disease free and they must have sale labels on them. The club retains 20% commission on all plants sold. This show will have the new labelling system and members plant lists must be sent to relevant person – Barry English or Trish Craig no later than Wednesday 5-04-17. If you can do this earlier it will make it much easier for these two. Member plant purchases must be Friday night or early Saturday morning well before the public start lining up and these plants must be taken out of the hall. For the lucky door raffle there will be a wheelbarrow and members as asked to donate items to fill it up. If you are supplying cut flowers for the arrangements please ensure that these are in water and not just left lying on the sink.

Plant Commentary: Jeff Glover gave an informative commentary on the plants tabled at the meeting.

General Raffle: M Handley, A White, J Glover, D Hughes, P Jenkinson and R Bertrand.

Meeting closed 9.22pm.

Next committee meeting – Sandra Rowcliffe's home 53 Constance Avenue Rockyview Phone 0438 130 360.

Jeff Blossom (President)

Sandra Rowcliffe (Acting Secretary)

Monthly Competition Results – March 2017

(Plants tabled; Advanced 39: Novice 17)

Judges Choice.

Van. Alice's Anie
Cyc. Brown's Passion
Paph. Helvetia

T&E Dean
K&R Smith
B&H Hilse

Popular Vote – Advanced.

Cattleya

C. Interglossa x *Bc.* Richard Mueller
'Capricorn's Star Performer'

J&S Frisch
T&E Dean

Vandaceous over 65mm

V. Pure's Wax

Vandaceous up to 65mm

V. Fuchs Sunset x *V.* Keereeboon

T&M Handley

Dendrobium

Den. "Airy Crimson" (not registered)

G&M Maunder

Oncidiinae

Brs. Rex x *Brat.* Goodale's Gift

K&R Smith

Miscellaneous

Cyc. Brown's Passion

K&R Smith

Novice.

Cattleya

Rlc. Mr. Chang 'Coach'

D&S Eggleshaw

Dendrobium

Den. "Airy Crimson" (not registered)

T. March

Miscellaneous

Ons. Succubus 'Night Shift'

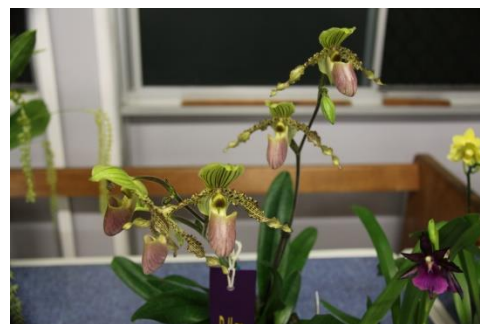
D. Hughes

JUDGES CHOICE WINNERS

< *Cyc.* Brown's Passion – K & R Smith

Van. Alice's Anie – T & E Dean(below)

Paph. Helvetia – B & H Hilse >



2017 Easter Orchid EGG-stravaganza

Champion's Table

Photo taken by Sue Eggleshaw



RAFFLE AND LUCKY DOOR WINNERS – AUTUMN SHOW

Show Raffle – First Prize	Mrs D Close
Second Prize	Wes
Third Prize	Mrs Bev Burton
Lucky Door - First Prize	Mr Darryl Metcalfe
Second Prize	Mrs Monnie Williams

Helen & Bernard Hilse with Champion Trophy



Jeff Glover, Jenny Scott and Jeff



AUTUMN SHOW 2017

Class	Place	Orchid Name	Grower
Class 1.00 Laeliinae			
1.01 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, predominately White	1 st	Rlc. Island Charm	R & G BILLS
	2 nd	Bc. Chesty Puller x Bc. Trudy Bo	J & J HOGAN
1.02 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, Mauve/ Purple shades	1 st	Rlc. Glenlee Delight	R & G BILLS
	2 nd	Rlc. Glenlee Treasure	J SCOTT
1.03 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, any other colour	1 st	Rlc. Sun Yah Green	J SCOTT
	2 nd	Rlc. Lui's Joyance	T & E DEAN
1.04 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, predominately White	1 st	N/A	N/A
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
1.05 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, Mauve/ Purple shades	1 st	Rly Topaz Dearest	S & M ROWCLIFFE
	2 nd	C. Lana Coryell	J SCOTT
1.06 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, any other colour	1 st	C. Mishima Flare x Rlc. Redland Trader	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	C. Dal's Tradition	J & N GLOVER
1.07 Standard shape, miniature plant size, bloom size up to 75mm	1 st	Rth. Warren's Jewel	J & J HOGAN
	2 nd	C. Tiny Titan	J SCOTT
1.08 Nonstandard, Cluster, not less than five (5) blooms per stem	1 st	Gur. Barbara Kirch	R & D CORNALE
	2 nd	Rlc. Hawaiian Passion	J SCOTT
1.09 Nonstandard, any other	1 st	C. Unknown	D HUGHES
	2 nd	C. Mark Jones x C. Jungle Elf	J SCOTT
Class 2.00 Vandae (excluding Phalaenopsis)			Orchid Name
2.01 Vanda, standard shape, bloom size over 65mm	1 st	V. Gordon Dillon	J SCOTT
	2 nd	Vanda Pachara Delight	S & M ROWCLIFFE
2.02 Vanda, standard shape, bloom size 30mm up to 65mm	1 st	Van. Alice's Anie	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	V. Fuchs Orange Sparkler	J SCOTT
2.03 Vanda, standard shape, bloom size under 30mm	1 st	Van. Sugar Baby	J SCOTT
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
2.04 Vandae, non-standard shape, bloom size over 65mm	1 st	V. Yerllow Pacific x V. Pimpoon	P & T JENKINSON
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
2.05 Vandae, non-standard shape, bloom size 30mm to 65mm	1 st	Pda. Arjuna	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
2.06 Vandae, non-standard shape, bloom size under 30mm	1 st	N/A	N/A
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
Class 3.00 Dendrobium			Orchid Name
3.01 Phalaenanthe type, predominately White	1 st	Den. Magic White Wanda	R & G BILLS
	2 nd	Den. Fraser's White Lady	J SCOTT
3.02 Phalaenanthe type, predominately Purple/Mauve	1 st	Den. Bubble Pink 'Bozo'	K & R SMITH
	2 nd	Den. Pearl Vera	K & R SMITH

3.03 Phalaenanthus type, any other colour.	1 st	Den. Kiilani Stripe	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	Den. Jade Junior	P & J MOORE
3.04 Phalaenanthus – peloric (Pansy or Ekapol type)	1 st	Den. Sonia 'Earsakul'	T & M HANLEY
	2 nd	Den. Grove Classic	T & E DEAN
3.05 Intermediate type	1 st	Den. Dark Desire	J SCOTT
	2 nd	Den. Name Unknown (3)	S & M ROWCLIFFE
3.06 Spatulata type	1 st	D. Fraser's Mosaic Spiral	J SCOTT
	2 nd	Den. Rita Leicester x Den. Ron Merritt	J SCOTT
3.07 Any Other type	1 st	Den. Green Elf	N & T CRAIG
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
Class 4.00 Oncidiinae		Orchid Name	Grower
4.01 Oncidiinae over 75mm	1 st	Brat. Shelob	D HUGHES
	2 nd	Brat. Charles M Finch	S & M ROWCLIFFE
4.02 Oncidiinae 40mm to 75mm	1 st	Onsca. Sweet Sugar	K & R SMITH
	2 nd	Ons. Wildcat	T & E DEAN
4.03 Oncidiinae under 40mm	1 st	Onsca. Sweet Sugar	J & M BLOXSOM
	2 nd	Onc. Chian-Tzy Yen	J SCOTT
Class 5.00 Paphiopedilum		Orchid Name	Grower
5.01 Standard type	1 st	N/A	N/A
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
5.02 Maudiae type characteristics	1 st	Paph. Hsinying Almachi	K & R SMITH
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
5.03 Brachypetalum / Parvisepalum type characteristics	1 st	Paph. Envy Green	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	Paph. Tinicum	T & E DEAN
5.04 Any other type	1 st	Paph. Helvetia	B & H HILSIE
	2 nd	Paph. Honey	T & E DEAN
Class 6.00 Other Genera		Orchid Name	Grower
6.01 Phalaenopsis	1 st	Phal. Sogo Yukidan	S & M ROWCLIFFE
	2 nd	Phal. Name Unknown (1)	S & M ROWCLIFFE
6.02 Phragmipedium	1 st	Phrag. Calurum	B & H HILSIE
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
6.03 Catasetum & alliance hybrid	1 st	Ctsm. Orchidglade	S & M ROWCLIFFE
	2 nd	Cygd. Jumbo Puff	T & M HANLEY
6.04 Epidendrum (reed stem type)	1 st	N/A	N/A
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
6.05 Any other hybrid	1 st	Bulb. Wilmar Galaxy Star	P & T JENKINSON
	2 nd	Zgt. Midnight Blue x Zgt. Cardinal's Roost	B & H HILSIE
Class 7.00 Species		Orchid Name	Grower
7.01 Laeliinae (Cattleya, Laelia, Sophronitis, or Brassavola only)	1 st	B. nodosa var. grandiflora	B & M RICHARDSON
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
7.02 Vandae (excluding Phalaenopsis)	1 st	<i>Aer. quinquevulnera</i>	J & M BLOXSOM
	2 nd	<i>Aer. quinquevulnera</i>	R & D CORNALE
7.03 Phalaenopsis	1 st	<i>Phal. pulcherrima</i>	P & T JENKINSON
	2 nd	<i>Phal. Pulcherrima v.cham</i>	P & T JENKINSON
7.04 Dendrobium, Australian	1 st	<i>Den. bigibbum f. album</i>	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>	J SCOTT

7.05 Dendrobium, Exotic	1 st	<i>Den. phalaenopsis</i>	K & R SMITH
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
7.06 Oncidiinae	1 st	<i>Pyp. papilio</i>	K & R SMITH
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
7.07 Paphiopedilum	1 st	<i>Paph. concolor</i>	J & N GLOVER
	2 nd	<i>Paph. concolor</i>	T & E DEAN
7.08 Catasetum and Alliance	1 st	<i>Ctsm. pileatum x Ctsm. pileatum</i>	B & H HILSIE
	2 nd	<i>Cyc. cooperi</i>	K & R SMITH
7.09 Any other Australian species	1 st	N/A	N/A
	2 nd	N/A	N/A
7.10 Any other Exotic species	1 st	<i>Bulb.flabellum-veneris</i>	T & E DEAN
	2 nd	<i>Trgl.atropurpurea</i>	J & M BLOXSOM
Class 8.00 Foliage / Fern			
8.01 Anthuriums (var. andreanum or schizeraenum)	1 st	J SCOTT	
	2 nd	F & B ENGLISH	
8.02 Bromelaid	1 st	F & B ENGLISH	
	2 nd	R & D CORNALE	
8.03 Tillandsia or Cryptanthus	1 st	R & D CORNALE	
	2 nd	D CHIPPENDALE	
8.04 Succulent or Cactus	1 st	R & D CORNALE	
	2 nd	R & D CORNALE	
8.05 Bonsai	1 st	J SCOTT	
	2 nd	J & N GLOVER	
8.06 Any other foliage	1 st	J & M BLOXSOM	
	2 nd	J SCOTT	
8.07 Adiantum (Maiden Hair Fern)	1 st	J & J HOGAN	
	2 nd	J & J HOGAN	
8.08 Huperzia (Tassel Fern)	1 st	S & M ROWCLIFFE	
	2 nd	S & M ROWCLIFFE	
8.09 Nephrolepis (Boston Fern)	1 st	N/A	
	2 nd	N/A	
8.10 Any other fern	1 st	J & S FRISCH	
	2 nd	D MACKENZIE	
Class 9.00 Floral Art			
9.01 Arrangement - using predominately orchid blooms with embellishments	1 st	G & M MAUNDER	
	2 nd	J & M BLOXSOM	
9.02 Corsage – using predominately orchid blooms	1 st	K & R SMITH	
	2 nd	B & M RICHARDSON	
Major Prizes	Orchid Name		Grower
Grand Champion	<i>Paph. Helvetia</i>		B & H HILSIE
Reserve Champion	<i>D. Fraser's Mosaic Spiral</i>		J SCOTT
Best Specimen	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>		J SCOTT
Best Exotic Species (Class 7)	<i>Pyp. papilio</i>		K & R SMITH
Runner up	<i>Den. Phalaenopsis</i>		K & R SMITH
Best Aust. Species (Class 7)	<i>Den. bigibbum f. album</i>		T & E DEAN
Runner up	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>		J SCOTT
Best Orchid by Novice Grower	C. Unknown		D HUGHES
Runner up to Best Novice	Van. Blue Fairy		T MARCH

Class Champions (Classes 1 to 6 & 8)	Orchid Name	Grower
Champion Class 1.00 <i>Laeliinae</i>	C. Unknown	D HUGHES
Runner up	Gur. Barbara Kirch	R & D CORNALE
Champion Class 2.00 <i>Vandeae</i>	V. Gordon Dillon	J SCOTT
Runner up	Van. Sugar Baby	J SCOTT
Class 3.00 <i>Dendrobium</i>	D. Fraser's Mosaic Spiral	J SCOTT
Runner up	Den. Rita Leicester x Den. Ron Merritt	J SCOTT
Class 4.00 <i>Oncidiinae</i>	Onsca. Sweet Sugar	J & M BLOXSOM
Runner up	Oncsa. Sweet Sugar	K & R SMITH
Class 5.00 <i>Paphiopedilum</i>	Paph. Helvetia	B & H HILSIE
Runner up	Paph. Hsinying Almachi	K & R SMITH
Champion Class 6.00 Other Genera	Bulb. Wilmar Galaxy Star	P & T JENKINSON
Runner up	Ctsm. Orchidglade	S & M ROWCLIFFE
Champion Class 8.00 Foliage / Fern	Any Other Foliage	J & M BLOXSOM
Runner up	Anthurium	J SCOTT
Display Large	1 st	J SCOTT R & D CORNALE
	2 nd	T & E DEAN
Display Small	1 st	J & J HOGAN R & G BILLS
	2 nd	N & T CRAIG B & M RICHARDSON
Container Garden	1 st	J & N GLOVER
	2 nd	G & M MAUNDER

New Growers Report

David Eggleshaw

The last meeting was held at Graham and Maxine's place on the 25th of March. The usual afternoon tea and raffle was held with a good attendance of 34 members.

The topic of the day was growing hard cane dendrobium orchids. With the agreeance of the majority of the growers the hard cane dendrobium is quite an easy orchid to grow as long as you have plenty of air movement in your green house. This can be achieved by placing a fan in your green house to create the air movement required. The down side of growing hard cane dendrobium's seems to be the dendrobium beetle and the space they take up in your greenhouse but as breeder's are working on getting these orchids to a smaller plant in size this problem is being overcome. Unfortunately the dendrobium beetle is a problem you have to manage the best you can with making your greenhouse as bug proof as possible. I supplied two articles I used as references for this meeting; I gave the members that attended a copy of each. Following is a copy of one of the articles.

The subject of cockroaches was discussed and Pam Marsden gave us her recipe to kill them.

Use an empty jam jar. Grease the sides of the jar with butter. Place in the jar a small piece of banana skin with equal parts of icing sugar and borax. Pam guarantees the cockroaches will come running to this mix and will die in the jar.

Our next meeting is on the 29th of April at Ray and Gay Bills 143 Emmerson Drive Glenlee starting at 2 o'clock please bring a share plate for afternoon tea, a prize for the raffle and a chair. The topic of the day will be growing Cattleya orchids. Once again thanks to Graham and Maxine for a great afternoon. Happy growing!!

David Eggleshaw
New Growers Leader.

Phone 4936 2293

Email sdegg@outlook.com

Dendrobium Orchids - Hard Cane

One of the main ingredients for growing good Dendrobiums is plenty of air movement. If you can achieve this you are half way there.



Den bigibbum v compactum

Housing your orchid house will require 70% shade cloth with a solar weave or fibreglass roof. A gravel floor dampened down 3 times a day in summer will provide good humidity. All my larger plants (90mm pots) are hung up to stop them from falling over also maximising airflow. During June, July and August cover the south and west walls with solar weave to stop the cold southwest and westerly winds. The reason for the roof come to the fore during winter, it stops the cold rain and drizzle from getting on your plants.

Pests and Diseases - I use Supracide and Cabaryl, these are compatible and will control all sucking and chewing insects. Apply end of October/November when new growths are away, and again early March-just before buds start to open. From mid-May to the beginning of spring I use 1 gram of Octave plus 2 grams of Mancozeb per litre of water to control Anthraenose = Colletotrichum/Glomerella which causes terrible leaf drop. This was recommended to me by the DPI after submitting affected leaves. I use this brew about 2 or 3 times during this period. Through the flowering season control flower spotting (Botrytis) by keeping the floor dry and clean and spray with a pool algicide e.g. Guardex. Spray plants and flowers with non-staining Rovril every 3 to 4 weeks depending on weather conditions. I do not recommend spraying plants with Guardex.



Den lindleyii

Watering One of the main ingredients for growing good Dendrobiums is plenty of air movement. If you can achieve this you are half way there. In winter water early morning, only on clear sunny days every ten to fourteen days. During September to November water once or twice per week and November to mid March 2 to 3 times per week.



Den bigibbum Alba "Alice"

Now that you have grown and flowered your prize Dendrobiums you will want to win first prize on the show bench. Try to train flower spikes by facing them to the north. Always display racemes to their best advantage and make sure you separate multi racemes with a styrene wedge. Phalaenanth Dendrobiums look best in their natural arching growth habit. If staking is required then stake in this manner. A well-displayed plant will always have a far greater chance of winning.

Fertilizer. Use at manufactures recommended strength. September fortnightly with high Nitrogen. October till end of December weekly with high Nitrogen. January till mid-February weekly alternating between high Nitrogen and low Nitrogen. This will harden up the canes and help with flower production. Mid-February to mid-April weekly low Nitrogen. May through to early September every 3 weeks with low Nitrogen.

Pots and Potting Mix. Medium size bark or bark and charcoal and super course perlite may be used. Pot size Plants straight from community pots should be potted into 50mm tubes using a fine mix. They should stay there for 2 years before being repotting into 75mm – 90mm pots. Repot in early spring keeping pot size to a minimum.

These notes have been used at our Cultural and New Grower's Meetings. They are from various sources and we thank the authors. All articles are supplied in good faith and the Bribie Island Orchid Society and its members will not be held responsible for any loss or damage.

APRIL MEMBER PROFILE

DAVID AND SUE EGGLESHAW



Sue and I married 15 years ago on the 20th of April. We have two fur children in our family - Cricket and Molly; our much loved and faithful dogs.

I was born in England and moved to Australia in 1968 at the age of seven and moved to Rockhampton in 1969 when dad opened Courts Furniture and we made Rocky our home.

I work full time as assistant manager of Ideal Electrical. Most of my working life has been in the electrical wholesale industry. Sue works part time at the Allenstown Post Office. Previously Sue spent 30 years working at Woolworths.

We have been members of ROSI for four years. We became members after some of our orchids that we had in the back greenhouse flowered and we took the flowers to Sue's mother who was residing at Alexandra Gardens. She enjoyed them so much and I decided I needed to find out how to grow them better. After attending an autumn show I went along to a meeting and joined the club, Sue reckoned I needed a hobby.

I grow mostly Dens and Cats and a small amount of any other orchids that catch my eye. I have constructed my orchid houses myself out of steel and using 70 per cent shade cloth; we now have about 300 orchid plants in our collection.

We purchase most of our potting supplies through the clubs orchid shop using their potting mix and slow release fertiliser. I try to repot each autumn but working full time this takes longer than a few months and I have started to leave them in their original pots longer.



Sue and I have enjoyed our time being members of ROSI as we have found all members forthcoming with advice on how to grow and care for orchids. Keith Marsden has played a big part of our club experience and the new growers group. I hope to continue Keith's good work as the new grower's leader. Sue is enjoying being on the committee and now I get to go along too. We love the social aspect of being in the club, the trips away are great fun and very informative.

TRI-ANNUAL FIELD DAYS – COACH TRIP TO BUNDABERG

On Saturday 11th March almost 40 Rockhampton Orchid Club Members boarded the coach at Laurence's Holden for a very early 4.30am departure to this year's annual field days in Bundaberg. As well there were several car loads of members also making the trip. The day started off looking pretty glum weather wise with a couple of showers on the trip down but these eventually cleared for a very hot and humid weekend.

We arrived in Bundaberg just before 9.00am and met everyone at the hall for a lovely morning tea. There were members from Rockhampton, Gladstone, Boyne/Tannum, Agnes Water, Maryborough, Harvey Bay and our hosts Bundaberg. Our first two collection visits were to L & J Shouten at Black Springfield Road and A & B Heidke at 159 Heidke Road. Then it was back to the hall for lunch. After this the next visits were to R & D Shield 37 Hutchins Road Branyan and L & B Hughes 22 Dix Street. After afternoon tea we visited E & C Linderberg 19 Hargreaves Street and E Cross 30 Wilson Street. All of these collections were very neat and tidy and a credit to their owners, most had plants for sale and members eagerly purchased new varieties for their collections.

Dinner that night was at Rowers on the River and the meals and deserts were very nice. There were four members who celebrated their birthday on that Day – Jeff Bloxsom, Lyn Mann, Maxine Maunder and Neville Spencer from Gladstone,



they were all asked to come to the front of the room and their birthdays were acknowledged (photo to left),

Jeff Bloxsom went on to have a very lucky night winning over ten prizes from the Multidraw Raffle. Photos of members following. Photo to right of Jeff at Alwyn Heidke's place.



Sunday we had a later start leaving the motel around 9am and our first collection was to J Williamson 48 White Road, then onto C Dawson/J Fry 34 Pashley Road. Our last collection visited was R & B Emerson 2 Kenta Avenue Moore Park. This collection had three large igloo green houses and one was filled with many varieties of Vanda orchids for sale from which our members bought many plants for their collections.



Lunch was at the Moore Park Bowls Club and I was very fortunate to win the first of the three raffle prizes, I selected the bottle of whisky for my hubby Michael who is responsible for the construction of my many orchid houses.

Next year's Field Days will be hosted by our society in Rockhampton around the same time of the year, and our members are looking forward to putting on a great weekend for all. *Sandra Rowcliffe*







Ellie's Corner

Hello everyone – welcome to Ellie's Corner for April 2017. I am typing this column soon after our Autumn Orchid Show. With cyclone Debbie just passed and a massive flood looming in our Fitzroy River our Society "went forth in faith", led by our fearless leader Jeff Bloxsom, and presented our Easter Autumn Show. In spite of bizarre weather conditions, it was a show to be proud of and brightened the lives of all patrons who attended.

Our members worked together to create a beautiful Show. I am sure all our patrons felt welcomed. I felt we were in a "cocoon of happiness" during the Show. Sandra Rowcliffe and Maxine Maunder added greatly to our Easter Theme by their creativity by making Easter Eggs and decorating the venue. These clever ladies also worked in many other areas for the Show. I loved being on the Information Booth with Lorraine Weaver, greeting people, selling the lovely orchid arrangements our ladies were making, and hearing all the excited comments.

Our Treasurer, Bill Richardson, had keyhole knee surgery at the end of March and it was great to see him at the Show. It was quite an effort for him. He assured me that he is recovering well. All the best to Bill. Peter Jenkinson had an apparatus on his shoulder and arm for torn ligaments among other problems. He also made a great one armed effort to assist with our Show. Another "wounded warrior" was John Frisch who has been most unwell in recent times. We were all pleased to see him at the Show and Dinner.

Our longest serving member, Fred Rosel turned 86 on March 24th. Happy Belated Birthday to Fred. Allan White is one of the kindest people I have ever met, and he brought Fred to the Show and also to the Dinner which Fred greatly enjoyed. Allan also brought his mother to the Dinner.

It was lovely to catch up with Alice and Thomas at their Stall. Thomas told me that they had just returned from a Sales Event in Sydney – Castle Hill Orchid Fair. There were over 20 vendors from all over Australia. It was a very successful event for them. They were only home two days and then packed up to come to us. It was very nice to catch up with Joy Dwyer at the Show. (Joy is a former valued member of our Society who moved to Toowoomba with her husband Dennis four years ago). She was at the Show with her daughter Robyn and three grand-children.

Trish and Neil Craig holidayed in March. Trish attended Grampian Texture – a week of workshops with 20 tutors to choose from. Trish found it to be a great learning experience. The workshop she chose was on Botanical Dyeing. Trish and Neil then had a great time visiting Neil's family in Swan Hill and Geelong.

Laurie Lucke travelled to Brisbane in March for heart surgery (stents). Hopefully he will keep better health from now on. All the best Laurie.

Lorraine and Bryan Weaver's great grand-daughter, Maddison aged 7, recently raised nearly \$2000 for the Cancer Fund. She had her beautiful long hair cut really short, ran fund raising functions, and sought donations. She attends Blackwater North School and on a special day the pupils coloured their hair and wore wigs, the headmaster and teachers did also. What a wonderful effort by a caring lovely little girl.



Happy Birthday to those celebrating in May: Lorraine Weaver 3rd; Ray Bills 6th; David Clarke 7th; Sue Eggleshaw 13th; Tom Robb 14th; Ellie Dean 19th; Tony March and Margaret Kydd 27th;

Till next time – my love and prayers are with you. *Ellie*

Below winner of Large Display – Jenny Scott and Richard & Diane Cornale



In next month's newsletter there will be more photos of our Autumn Show both award dinner photos and various orchids and floral art.

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Your 2017 ROSI Orchid Diary

14th to 16th April – Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Club Easter
Display and Plant Sales

15th April – South Burnett Orchid Show - Wondai

6th & 7th May – Gympie & DOS Show & Garden Expo

12th to 14th May – Bundaberg Orchid Society Show

3rd & 4th June – Boyne Tannum Orchid & Foliage Show

9th to 12th June – **Bus Trip to Townsville Orchid Spectacular
& TQOC Conference**

21st & 23rd July – Caboolture Orchid Show

4th & 5th August – Maroochydore Orchid Show

12th & 13th August – Agnes Water Orchid Show

12th August – STOCQ Meeting Agnes Water

1st & 2nd September – Nambour Orchid Show

1st & 2nd September – Childers Orchid Show

14th, 15th & 16th September – Maryborough Orchid Show

23rd & 24th September – **ROSI Spring Show**

22nd to 23rd September – Glasshouse Country Orchid Show

27th & 28th October – Nambour Species Show

4th November – STOCQ Meeting – hosted by Glasshouse
Country Orchid Club

8th to 12th November – World Orchid Conference Ecuador

Date to be advised – ROSI Christmas Barbecue

**Date to be advised – ROSI Christmas Dinner & Award
Evening**

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

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

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