

The Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Inc.

JULY NEWSLETTER Next Club Meeting 7.30pm Monday 1ST JULY 2013



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Vice-President:
Secretary: Ron Boyd 44721934
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Editor, Newsletter: Ron Boyd
Club Website <http://batemansbayofs.weebly.com/>



Hi Members, welcome to our July 2013 newsletter.

This month, July, is the start of our show season. Last year the ladies won all three Grand Champions at our show. This year the men have to show the ladies we can grow and show orchids as good as they do. Men, we need to at least win one Grand Champion!

Guest Speaker: Robert Pollock will give a talk on preparing your orchids for the show and Joy Giust will give a talk on setting up your flower arrangements for the show.

Clubs display at the Village Center. We will be having our display on Thursday 18 July. Setup is around 8.30am, open to public at 9am and closed down around 3pm. Plants needed for display and sales table; flower need for Joy's posies; a few extra helpers needed to drop in for an hour or so throughout the day.

SHOW TIME, Our Winter Show, Friday 26 & Saturday 27 July. Drop in time for your show plants is from 2 - 5pm Thursday 25. Extra helpers needed on Friday & Saturday to drop in for an hour or so throughout the day to help on the raffle table and relieve others for their lunch breaks.

Joy needs orchid flowers for her posies!

Plant of the Night May 6th

OPEN section.

Species orchid:

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Cymbidium over 90mm

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Cymbidium 60 to 90mm.

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Cymbidium under 60mm

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Australian Native Orchid

1st Pat & Garry Callaughan

2nd Pat & Garry Callaughan

Laeliinae (Cattleya)

1st Sylvia Hawkins

Oncidiinae Alliance

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

2nd Rob & Sue Fish

Miscellaneous Hybrids:

1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Plant of the Night: OPEN SECTION



Sylvia Hawkins with
Blc Sanyang Ruby
'Kurnlong'

NOVICE SECTION

Oncidiinae Alliance

1st & 2nd Leanda O'Connor

Plant of the Night: NOVICE SECTION

Leanda O'Connor



With
Miltassia Aztec X
Milt. castanea

Can the winner of 2012 perpetual trophies of the Winter Show, return them to the Secretary ASAP; they can then be ready for the 2013 Show Season.

Indoor growing tip, check out this photo and see how easy it is to grow some orchids indoors...



Next Bunnings BBQ Sunday 7 July and then Sunday 1 September 2013. Thanks to all the volunteers to help out on the Bunnings BBQ days. We also have the chance to pick up extra days when other groups cancel their dates. **Extra News** Our club just picked up an extra Saturday of Bunnings BBQs on Saturday 22 June. Day started out a nice cool morning then the rain came and hung around most of the day. Despite this a group of hardy volunteers helped out and we had a great day. That is, making our customers a nice warm sausage sandwich! Thanks Rob F, Brian P, Sylvia H, Bill G, and myself. President Garry will be making up a list of helpers next meeting.

Grumpy’s shed.

Run by Dorothy at her home in Mogo, all are welcome to come and look at what is available to buy. Please give Dorothy a ring first on 44740884. While Dorothy is experiencing a bout of ill health she said with the help of Keith they will continue to operate Grumpy’s Shed.

John & Judy Baldock have their house under offer and would like to sell off the rest of their orchid collection of Cymbidiums, Aust. Natives, speciosums, Sars and soft canes etc. as well as their bonsai plants. Phone them on 4472913

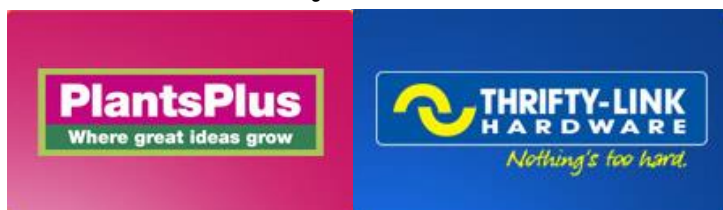
For all those not feeling well or in hospital we hope to see you all well and healthy soon. Back at enjoying what you do best, growing orchids.

Wanted used egg cartons, a dozen eggs each month to go on the raffle table for someone to win! See Ron and thanks to those who have helped out so far.

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5/35 Cranbrook Road Batemans Bay NSW Sponsors of our BBQ Sausages for Bunnings BBQ

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“The cultural information offered in this newsletter is intended as a guide only. Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Soc. Inc. cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage that may occur to plants as a result of using this information.”

Draft Minutes for Monday 1st June Club General Meeting 2013

President Garry Callaghan opened meeting at 7.05pm.

Apologies: Phil & Jill Bailey, Brian Perkins & Robin Baker

Secretary's report: Ron Boyd moved to pass May's Club Meeting Minutes, Seconded Sylvia Hawkins.

Incoming and Outgoing correspondence: read out by Secretary Ron Boyd & Ron moved it be accepted, seconded by Robert Fish.

Treasurer Report: Read out by Treasurer Margaret Turner, moved by Margaret, seconded Elizabeth Cleaver.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1: Show schedules were made available for members to pick up at this meeting from Secretary Ron Boyd.

2: Report back on Dorothy Kauffman health, improving and Dorothy will continue to operate Grumpy's Shed with the help of husband Keith.

3: President Garry Callaghan spoke on Dorothy's request to update Grumpy's Shed with new order of port pots. Secretary Ron displayed a range of pots they sell. The committee will order. Dorothy now has bulk Eco-oil in stock; you can buy any small amount you may need.

4: As our guest speaker had cancelled late, there was no guest speaker tonight. Ron Boyd spoke on using an activator on his Cymbidium orchids. This follows on from Scott Barrie's talk in February 2013. Ron has used a product called 'GOGO JUICE' which contains microbes that help break down the fertilizers so it can be more easily accessed by the plants' roots.

5: President Garry spoke on the need for members to enter floral arrangements in both shows or the section will be removed for the show schedule. Joy Giust spoke on it as well and said she was no longer entering so this gives the newer members a chance to win.

Coffee Break

6: President Garry handed out Plant of the Night certificates from the May meeting.

7: Robert Pollock read out the Plant of the Night results.

8: Lucky door prize of \$25 voucher, from Batehaven Garden Plus nursery, winner Robert Fish.

9: President Garry drew the raffles: Winners were Robert Fish, Sylvia Hawkins, Jim Quinlivan twice, Elizabeth Richardson, Liz Cleaver twice, Michael Grelck & Leanda O'Connor.

10: Being no further business President Garry Callaghan closed the meeting at 8.25pm



Ron Boyd
Secretary

Humor:

COMPLETE AND FINISHED

No English dictionary has been able to adequately explain the difference between the two words.

In a recently held linguistic competition held in London, attended by the best in the world, Samsundar Balgobin, a Guyanese man from Bachelors Adventure was the clear winner with a standing ovation lasting over five minutes. Here is his answer which won him an invitation to

dine with the Queen who decided to call him after the contest. He also won a trip to travel the world in style and a case of 25 year old Eldorado rum for his answer.

The question was this: "How do you explain the difference between 'complete' and 'finished' in a way that is easy to understand. Some people say there is no difference between the two words."

Mr. Balgobin's astute answer was: "When you marry the right woman you are complete. When you marry the wrong woman you are finished. When the right one catches you with the wrong one you are completely finished!"

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Beginners Advice for new members Part 2 of 2 parts (To answer "Can I grow orchids?" and "What kind?")

Certainly a new grower may lose a few plants but, in general, cymbidiums are hard to kill and will often survive poor culture for a surprisingly long time, which is a plus for someone on a learning curve and beginning with good healthy plants increases the chances of success compared to starting out with suspect plants

One of the most important aspects of orchid growing - and the one that trips up beginners the most - is that of understanding the balance between watering and keeping good air flow to the roots of the plants.

Orchids, for the most part, are epiphytes that grow with their roots attached to the bark of trees, not submerged in soil. In the wild, they generally get watered frequently, but dry out quite quickly. As you're not likely to be transplanting a huge tree to your living room so you can attach orchids to them, we have to find a way to simulate the conditions for the home. Most often, for growing plants in pots, we utilize pieces of fir bark, coconut husk or loose sphagnum moss - singly or in combination, and often with other additives - to provide a moist but airy environment for the roots. There are two aspects of the growing medium that you must pay attention to: the moisture-holding capacity and the degree of packing, which controls the air flow to the root system.

While you are researching your preferred orchids, pay attention to the recommended growing conditions and to the plant structure. If the plant has pseudobulbs, it can probably do fine if the medium is permitted to dry out between watering, while those without pseudobulbs should be kept evenly moist, but not sopping. It seems that everything about orchid culture is a matter of degrees, not a concrete rule. For example, both Cattleyas and Oncidiums have pseudobulbs, but have different watering needs: a Cattleya, with its thick rigid leaves can stand relatively long periods of "drought," while an Oncidium, having thin, strap-like leaves, will lose more water through transpiration, so requires more frequent watering.

When buying plants, and later in your ownership of them, check how densely the medium is packed. If it looks like it provides little room for airflow to the roots, avoid buying it, or re-pot.

4. Once you feel you're doing OK with that plant, consider buying more of that type - probably with different coloured flowers - and get really comfortable with them, especially proven by your ability to have them bloom again.

5. Housing your orchids, find orchids that do well outdoors in our climate, for newcomer to growing orchids a simple greenhouse of 3 meters by 6 meters can be built quiet cheaply out of treated pine logs and 50% shade cloth.

This will give you benches on both side and a nice walkway between!

In this then can grow Cymbidiums, Paphiopedilums, Australian Native Dendrobium hybrids & Sarcophilus orchids for example.

6. After that, then you might consider other genera, and really expanding your collection.

WATCH OUT! Orchid collecting can be wildly addictive!

Good growing

Editor: Ron Boyd

