

# The Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Inc.

JUNE NEWSLETTER Next Club Meeting 7.30pm Monday 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2013



PO Box 3334 Batehaven NSW 2536  
President: Garry Callaghan 44711848  
Vice-President:  
Secretary: Ron Boyd 44721934  
Treasurer: Margaret Turner 44725771  
Editor, Newsletter: Ron Boyd  
Club Website <http://batemansbayofs.weebly.com/>



**Hi Members welcome to our June 2013 newsletter.**

**Guest Speaker: sorry but no guest speaker for June meeting.**

This month speaker Paul Bester from Neutrog was booked in but now not available, Paul's position was made redundant and they no longer have a rep over in NSW, Perhaps have a general discussion !

## **Plant of the Night May 6th**

### **OPEN section.**

**Species orchid; 1<sup>st</sup>, Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Phil & Jill Bailey**

### **Cymbidium 60 to 90mm.**

**1<sup>st</sup>, Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube**

### **Cymbidium under 60mm**

**1<sup>st</sup>, Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube**

### **Australian Native Orchid**

**1<sup>st</sup> Pat & Garry Callaghan**

### **Laeliinae (Cattleya)**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sylvia Hawkins**

**Cattleya under 70mm 1<sup>st</sup> Sylvia Hawkins**

### **Vandaceous**

**1<sup>st</sup> Ron & Rose Boyd 2<sup>nd</sup> Maria Kacarovski**

**Oncidiinae Alliance 1<sup>st</sup>, Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube 2<sup>nd</sup> Phil & Jill Bailey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Phil & Jill Bailey**

**Seedling 1st Phil & Jill Bailey, 2nd Phil & Jill Bailey**

## **Plant of the Night; OPEN SECTION**

**Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube with  
*Encyclia cochleata* X *cochleata***



## **NOVICE SECTION**

**Oncidiinae Alliance 1<sup>st</sup> Alan Bird**

## **Plant of the Night NOVICE**

**Alan Bird with *Miltassia* 'Aztec Tony'**



**Bunnings BBQs**, new dates for the rest of the year are; Saturday **1st. June**  
**July Sunday 7th. September Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>.**  
Thanks to all the volunteers; we are doing very well with the helpers with the BBQs. We also have the chance to pick up dates when others cancel their dates!  
President Garry will be making up a list of helpers next meeting

**Can all winners of 2012 perpetual trophies of the Winter & Spring Shows return them to the Secretary at the June meeting; they can then be ready for the 2013 show season.**

**What's up in the 'Greenhouse?'**

The show season is rapidly approaching and we should be looking at keeping all flower spikes trained to show off the flowers to perfection, one of the things judges do like to see are arching type flowers left to arch, Phalaenopsis, Oncidiums and Odonts are a classic example. When the new spike is developing, stake it upright and train the spike upright, tie off the spike just below the bottom flower then train the rest of the spike to arch out and over in natural arch

Do not leave it all to nature, then after all the flowers have opened then try to stake it upright as most of the flowers will be either upside down or not on the horizontal position and will look all out of order, makes the Judges grumpy

In the Cymbidium house, seems we are having a great flowering season after another rather mild summer and very warmish autumn.

Keep an eye on the flower spikes, for the upright flowering ones I like to place a Yo Yo on them as soon as possible, this helps keep the spikes nice and straight & helps to arrange the flowers evenly around the spike, just so it will catch the eye of the judges and maybe another Champion.

**Grumpy's shed.**

Run by Dorothy at her home in Mogo, its main aim is to have supplies of pots, potting mixes of several different types, flower stakes, and fertilizers etc. available for all members. All are welcome to come and look at what is available to buy, please give Dorothy a ring first on 44740884.

**Currently Dorothy is restocking with new stock of orchid pots & 2 pallets of new orchid bark has just arrived, stock up now for your spring repotting**

**Display at the Village Centre Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**  
May went very well, handed out pamphlets about our upcoming Winter Show, sales tables was depleted quickly along with many of Joy's posies. In all a very good and enjoyable day and thanks to all the volunteers who help out!

**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.**

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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.

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**Grow Comp** plants still in the run are; Sarc, Dend. Ellen and Cattleya. Could all members bring in their plants that are still alive please.

**Wanted** used egg cartons, a dozen eggs each month to go on the raffle table for someone to win! See Ron

**Humor.** On the outskirts of a small town, there was a big, old pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence. One day, two boys filled up a bucketful of nuts and sat down by the tree, out of sight, and began dividing the nuts.

'One for you, one for me, one for you, one for me,' said one boy. Several dropped and rolled down toward the fence.

Another boy came riding along the road on his bicycle. As he passed, he thought he heard voices from inside the cemetery. He slowed down to investigate. Sure enough, he heard, 'One for you, one for me, one for you, One for me...'

He just knew what it was. He jumped back on his bike and rode off. Just around the bend he met an old man with a cane, hobbling along.

'Come here quick,' said the boy, 'you won't believe what I heard! Satan and the Lord are down at the cemetery dividing up the souls!'

The man said, 'Beat it kid, can't you see it's hard for me to walk.' When the boy insisted though, the man hobbled slowly to the cemetery.

Standing by the fence they heard, 'One for you, one for me. One for you, One for me.'

The old man whispered, 'Boy, you've been telling' me the truth. Let's see if we can see the Lord...

Shaking with fear, they peered through the fence, yet were still unable to see anything. The old man and the boy gripped the wrought iron bars of the fence tighter and tighter as they tried to get a glimpse of the Lord.

At last they heard, 'One for you, one for me. That's all.. Now let's go get those nuts by the fence and we'll be done....'

They say the old man had the lead for a good half-mile before the kid on the bike passed him.

## Major sponsors of our club Batemans Bay Soldiers Club



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## Batehaven Garden Centre & Thrifty-Link Hardware



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**VISIT PLANTS PLUS IN EDWARD RD  
BATEHAVEN- FOR ALL YOUR  
GARDEN SUPPLIES!**



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## Bunnings of Batemans Bay

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**Elizabeth Richardson** Sponsoring;  
The cost of printing our Club's  
Newsletter

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## **Finer Foods:**

The Gourmet Food People  
**Mark Hood** 0244729514  
5/35 Cranbrook Road Batemans Bay  
NSW Sponsors of our BBQ Sausages  
for Bunnings BBQ

**Canberra hosts the 2013 South and West Regional Orchid Show and Conference** which rotates between the orchid societies of Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Albury-Wodonga, the Sapphire Coast, the Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Batemans Bay.

**Venue.** The Show and Conference will be held at the Wesley Centre, 20 National Circuit, Forrest

**Setup** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am to 5pm

**Judging.** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 6pm

**Show open to Public** on Saturday 5 October 2013 (9:00am - 5:00pm) and Sunday 6 October 2013 (noon - 4:00pm).

**Show Breakdown** from 4.00pm Sunday

The show will be different to last years in that Canberra and surrounding societies will be presenting orchids in displays, as well as benching plants individually. We expect to see many more orchids on display than in previous shows. The theme for the displays is '**Anniversary**' to celebrate the Centenary of Canberra, 30 years of the formation of the Orchid Society of Canberra and the 175th anniversary of Queanbeyan.

The conference will include presentations by specialists in orchids. People wishing to attend the conference will need to register. The \$20 registration fee covers attendance at all sessions of the conference on Saturday, morning and afternoon tea, unlimited entry to the show and participation in the field trips on Sunday morning. Details and registration form will be available shortly.

**Plant Sales** Orchids from commercial growers, Dendi Orchids, Ulladulla Orchids & Royale Orchids as well as local hobby growers will be on sale.

There will be demonstrations of repotting orchids, and the opportunity to talk to Society members so you can learn how to care for your orchids and have them flower over many years.

We also aim to have the next edition of our book released at the show.

Refreshments will be available, so come along, relax and admire the many fabulous orchids in full flower or for those wishing to get a grasp of the finer details of orchid growing, enrol for the Conference.

Admission: \$5.00 Adult, \$2.00 Concession and Children (14 years or less) free.

Visitors to Canberra add to the pleasure of our show with a visit to Floriade.

For further information visit their website at <http://www.canberraorchids.org>

### **Minutes for Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May meeting 2013 of Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Soc.**

President Garry Callaghan opened the meeting at 7.30pm

Minutes from April meeting have been circulated, Move they be accepted, Ron Boyd, Seconded by Robyn Baker

**Incoming correspondence** read out, newsletters from Eurobodalla Orchid Club, Sapphire Coast Orchid Club, NSW Orchid Society, Orchid Society of Canberra and Southern Riviera Orchid Society.

**Outgoing correspondence:** Letter to Bunning re sponsorship of the raffle tables at our 3 shows. Secretary  
Ron Boyd moved that all correspondence to accepted, Seconded by Sylvia Hawkins

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Margaret Turner read out Treasurer's report, Moved it be accepted by Margaret Turner, seconded Phil Bailey

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 1.** President Garry spoke on Mother's Day display at Village Centre, setup on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 9am to around 3pm, plants in flower for display and sale. Joy needs orchid flowers for her posies.
- 2. Bunnings BBQ** President Garry spoke on the next lot of BBQs coming up, first Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May and then Saturday 1st June, a list was on the table to place names, Robert Fish to supply esky and ice.
- 3.** President Garry & Dorothy Kauffman spoke on need for new supplies for Grumpy's Shed including Bark and a new order for Garden City pots. Dorothy moved motion 'Dorothy be allowed to order pots over \$401 from Garden City Plastics'. Seconded, Pat Callaghan
- 4.** Robert Fish then set about auctioning off a rather large array of orchids, books and other interesting items.

### **Coffee Break**

- 5.** President Garry presented Plant of the Night certificates from the April meeting to the winners.
- 6.** President Garry Callaghan drew the lucky door prize, certificate for \$25, sponsored by Batehaven Plants Plus & Thrifty Link Hardware, which was won by Maria Kacarovski.

Then the raffle tickets, winners were Dorothy Kauffman, Susanne & Manuel Del Nido, Ron Boyd, Robyn Baker, Megan Quinlivan, Phil Bailey. President Garry thanks all for supporting the raffle.

- 6.** Show Marshall Robert Pollock read out the winners of plant of the night competition and results of Open winner, Sylvia Hawkins and Novice winner, Alan Bird.  
No further business, President Garry Callaghan thanked all for attending the meeting and closed the meeting down 9.15pm



Ron Boyd  
Secretary  
Batemans Bay Orchid & foliage Soc. Inc.

### **Beginners Advice for new members Part 1 of 2 parts.** **(To answer "Can I grow orchids?" and "What kind?")**

To the first question, "**Can I grow orchids,**" the answer is "**Of course you can!**", but as in the old psychologist jokes, "**you have to want to.**" Most people kill orchids simply because they don't understand what the plant needs. That will be more understandable as we address the follow-up question, "**What kind of orchids can I grow?**"

One of the biggest problems novices get themselves into is that of buying plants they like the looks of and hoping

they can grow them, rather than understanding the conditions they can readily provide, and then buying the plants that are well suited to those conditions. That sounds like it's asking a lot, but with some 20,000-30,000 natural species and countless million [hybrids](#), with very few exceptions, there are bound to be orchids that will grow under your conditions.

Another common problem is that of folks buying one or two of each a wide and disparate variety of plants before they become an experienced grower of one or two types. Orchids, being a very highly evolved group of plants, have become developed for very specific cultural niches, so conditions that are great for one may be totally wrong for another.

I typically recommend a conservative, multi-step process:

1. Read, read, and read some more. Start with the culture guides on our website, and then hit the library to learn more [details](#). The Ortho book "All about Growing Orchids" is a pretty good basic reference, and at about \$11 at most book shops or the like, it's not too bad on the budget, either. Remember our club library has many good books in it to read, current librarian is Robert Pollock, ask him what is currently available

The key items to consider are the amount (intensity and duration) of available light, whether that's outdoors, through windows, or from artificial sources, the maximum and minimum temperatures in the growing area, and the humidity.

For most people growing in the home, the Phalaenopsis, or "Moth Orchid" is a good choice, as they do not need a lot of direct light or high humidity, and prefer temperatures similar to those that people do.

2. Talk to local growers, both commercial and hobbyists. If you point your web browser to <http://www.orchidsocietynsw.com.au/About.htm> NSW Orchid Society website, you can look up local orchid societies and vendors. They're both great resources, as they'll know more about your local conditions than I. The <http://www.orchidsaustralia.com/index.html>, website for Orchids Australia magazine, is another great resource for identifying nearby vendors, and asking questions directly of me or of folks in our Orchid Club is always available to you.

3. Then, and only then, I would go and buy 4 or 5 of the same **species e.g.** take Cymbidiums for example, one of the easiest orchids to learn how to grow and grow well outdoors in our local climate. Local orchid Club shows are a great places to look and buy, check out what types are on the champions table and seek out the owners and ask for a division of it.

One of the most important aspects of orchid growing and showing is that any old orchid will most likely never win on the show bench table. There is a big difference from show bench (Orchids) Cymbidiums and commercial pot plant orchid sold to the public as such, pot plants! Both most likely will cost you the same so ask for and buy show quality orchids. I've always had a strong belief that novice growers need good healthy plants from day one. Some people adopt the view that any old things will do as a new grower will likely kill them anyway.

Cheerio and good Growing

Editor: Ron Boyd