

HERVEY BAY ORCHID SOCIETY Inc

NEWS AND VIEWS

February 2022
THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ORCHIDS
No. 149

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Angraecum sesquipedale
Vandaceous Orchids.
'February Feature Plant'

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Our general meetings are held on the FIRST Monday of the month unless otherwise notified. They are held in the Presbyterian Church on the corner of Denman Camp Road and Freshwater Street, Torquay. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. **Plants to be judged need to be tabled by 6.45pm**

Unfortunately the General Meeting and AGM for February has been cancelled due to the Covid situation.

The next General Meeting is on **Monday 7th March 2022**. This will be preceded by the **HBOS AGM at 7.00pm**

The Guest Speaker for March is: Frank Fitzsimons. Speaking on the subject of **:T.B.A. Feature Plant for March 2022 meeting is - 'Hard-Cane Dendrobium'**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Our committee meetings are usually held on the FOURTH Monday of the month.

Next committee meeting is Monday 28/02/2022 at 6.30pm at Presbyterian Church hall. Please note- 'All executive Nominations are to be presented at this meeting

INTERESTED GROWERS MEETINGS:

These are informal gatherings offering cultural advice and information exchange which are usually held on the FOURTH Saturday of each month from 10am. The next one for the year will be on Saturday 26th February **10am at the Orchid House** at the Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring problem plants and brag plants.

COMING EVENTS:

HBOS Annual General Meeting - 7th March 7pm, followed by General Meeting STOCQ meeting 12/2/2022

AGM, followed by General Meeting. (This has been cancelled due to the Covid situation)

CIDOS Charity Orchid Show- set up 31/3/22 then 1st-2nd April

Gympie O.S. Show- Set up 29/4/22 then 30th.April- 1st May.

Bundaberg O.S.Show- Set up 12th May, then 13th- 14th May

Australian Orchid Conference - Logan, 31st August - 4th September 2022

Getting to meetings!

If you would like to attend any of our meetings but are unable to get there by yourself, then let one of the Committee know and we will see if we can assist or please contact -

Giles Blaber {President} ph. 0411721559

Daphne McKenna (committee) ph. 0408063343

HBOS Inc. Executive and committee members elected for 2021

Patron	Ted Sorensen	
President	Giles Blaber	giles.blaber@optusnet.com.au
Vice President	Heather Wehl	hwehl@yahoo.com
Secretary	Julie Taylor	_jat909@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Darcy Walker	darcy@fluidindustries.com.au
Committee/Editor	Darryl & Leanne Coombes	leadarcoo@bigpond.com
Committee/Social Sec	TBA	
Committee	Janine Blaber	Terri Bade
Committee/Assist Treasurer	Tony Russell	Kaj Holst
Committee	Kay Russell	
Committee	Daphne McKenna	
Committee & Assist Sec	Ross Skyring	

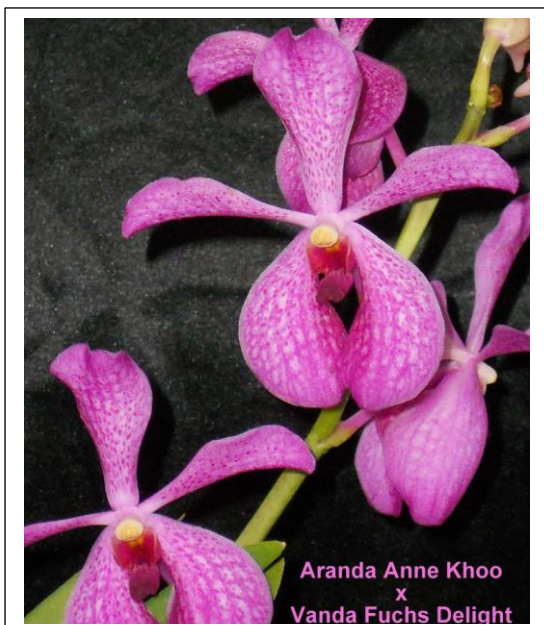
HBOS Shirts are available from 'TUFF STUFF' 2/109 Boat Harbour Dr.
Just go in, select your size, make payment (\$30 including embroidery, Pocket is extra \$5 and name included at no cost if desired) and shirts should be available 2-3 weeks
Contact Leanne Coombes ph.0418132175 for more information.
Please note limited supply of original shirts are still available at limited sizes, now reduced to \$20 each

Please consider being nominated for our committee, especially executive committee as new people and new thoughts are urgently required. To all prospective new committee members, you can be assured that your efforts will be highly appreciated and much support will be given to you. (Ed.)

An Orchid Book Library is available at the Church Hall for all members to use. Please see our librarian **Thuy Dolkens at the General Meetings to sign out borrowings. Check out the many Orchid books and magazines available.**

More Vandaceous Orchids

Aranda Anne Khoo x Vanda Fuchs Delight



Trichoglottis atropurpurea



Tips for Deflasking your Orchids by Trevor Heitman

Patience is necessary when deflasking to allow the plants in the flask to mature with strong root systems. It is necessary to keep the flask after purchasing until this has occurred.

When deflasking, try to take the orchid plants out of the flask when the type you are deflasking is in its growth stage, not in dormancy. The orchids being deflasked in this exercise are plants of the soft cane, Dendrobium.

My equipment: Pot size 125mm diameter, PVC pipe 65mm diameter (cut PVC into lengths taller than the pot), thin cheap paper towel (so it will dry out quickly), potting mix, Rootex or Ezi-root, plastic bowl, 2 pegs, seedling tray.



After removing the plants from the flask using tweezers, wash the medium from the roots.

Place the plants in prepared solution of Rootex, (follow the instructions on the bottle for quantities) for 10-20 minutes.



After removing the plants from this solution, grade them according to size and place on a single layer of paper towel which has been spread on trays. Peg the paper to the tray, as a gust of wind can blow them away. (It has happened).

Remember to place name tags in the trays.



Allow the orchid spray them plants to dry then with water regularly, allowing them and the paper towel to dry out between sprays. Depending on the type of orchid You usually pot them up the next day, but they can be left up to 2 weeks in the trays. Do not wet after 2:30pm and recommence the next morning. Grading your plants allows you to pot the large ones singularly and the rest into compots.

This article kindly provided by Darcy Walker

Part 2 of this article, re- 'creating compots' shall be included in March Newsletter – Ed.

If you have an interesting article on orchids to share in our newsletter, please feel free to contact the Editor and we will hopefully include it in a future newsletter.

Vanda, abbreviated in the horticultural trade as *V.*,^[2] is a **genus** in the **orchid** family, **Orchidaceae**. There are about 87 **species**,^[3] and the genus is commonly cultivated for the marketplace. This genus and its allies are considered to be among the most specifically adapted of all orchids within the Orchidaceae. The genus is highly prized in horticulture for its showy, fragrant, long-lasting, and intensely colorful flowers. *Vanda* species are widespread across **East Asia**, **Southeast Asia**, and **New Guinea**, with a few species extending into **Queensland** and the South Pacific Islands.

Cultivation

This genus is one of the five most horticulturally important orchid genera, because it has some of the most magnificent flowers to be found in the orchid family.[†] This has contributed much to the work of **hybridists** producing flowers for the cut flower market. *V. coerulea* is one of the few botanical orchids which can produce varieties with blue flowers (actually a very bluish purple), a property much appreciated for producing interspecific and intergeneric hybrids.

The color blue is rare among orchids, and only *Thelymitra crinita*, a terrestrial species from Australia, produces flowers that are truly "blue" among the orchids, the other being *Aganisia cyanea*, a lowland species from northern South America that is difficult to cultivate, but has metallic blue flowers. Both of these species, much like *Vanda*, also have a bluish-purple tint towards the inner petals of the flowers.

Vanda dearei is one of the chief sources of yellow color in *Vanda* hybrids. *Papilionanthe Miss Joaquim*, a terrestrial *Vanda* variety and natural hybrid with terete (cylindrical) leaves, now recognized as a *Papilionanthe* hybrid between *Ple. teres* and *Ple. hookeriana*, is the national flower of **Singapore**.

The plants do not possess pseudobulbs, but do possess leathery, drought-resistant leaves. Almost all of the species in this genus are very large epiphytes found in disturbed areas in habitat and prefer very high light levels, the plants having large root systems. Some of these species have a monopodial vine-like growth habit, and the plants can quickly become quite massive.

These plants prefer consistent conditions day-to-day in cultivation to avoid dropping their bottom leaves. The epiphytic species are best accommodated in large wooden baskets, bare rooted, which allows for the large aerial root systems. Disturbing or damaging the roots of large, mature vandaceous orchid plants, and in particular, *Vanda* and *Aerides* species, can result in the plants failing to flower and going into decline for a season or more. These plants do not tolerate disturbance or damage of their root systems in cultivation when they become mature. The terete-leaved terrestrial species are very easy to cultivate.

When grown bare-rooted, the epiphytic species require daily watering and weekly feeding and are very heavy feeders in cultivation. They can be grown out-of-doors in Hawaii and the like provided they are given some shade.

This *Vanda* Article courtesy of Wikipedia

Papilionanthe Miss Joaquim





Activities and events 2021

***Note** All events may be subject to postponement or cancellation at short notice.

Due to Covid no events have been scheduled at this stage.

Anyone with flowering plants who would like to loan them to the Botanical Garden's Orchid House please contact the Orchid House on 4125 9715

INTERESTED GROWERS GROUP MEETING

Our first IGG of the year will be held at the Orchid House on Saturday 26th. February 2022 commencing 10.00am. There will be discussions on orchid cultural requirements, flowering orchid description and presentation. There is also the opportunity of having questions answered regarding your own problem plants and please bring along any plants you wish to show off with.

The event terminates around noon with a cuppa and orchid raffle. Please come along and enjoy.

Visitors and the public are welcome.

The IGG on Saturday 26th February 2022 will be held at the 'Orchid House' unless advised otherwise commencing 10am. Tea and coffee are provided but please bring your own seating arrangements, a hat, sun protection and your own personal food.

Annual Membership Fees are due in February.

If you have an interesting article on orchids to share in our newsletter, please feel free to contact the Editor and we will hopefully include it in a future newsletter.

Lucky Door Prize and Competition Results

- The lucky door prize winner for February was- **No meeting February**
- The lucky competition winners were: " " "



***Members must wear name badges to meetings to be eligible for the lucky door prize**

HBOS Facebook Page



Like us on
Facebook

Did you know we have regular competitions on our Facebook page. This is for two reasons, firstly to keep the page fresh and interesting and secondly to give members an opportunity to brag about their plants that are in flower. If you are not already a member of our Facebook Page, I would encourage you to join us and then you too can post photos of your favourite flower of the month, then you also have the opportunity to vote for your favourite plant, a bit like being an orchid judge but in the comfort of your own home. Voting is really easy, all you have to do is to pick your favourite photo that has been added to my comment and then

like it with the  icon or love with the  icon under the photo. The photo with the most “likes” will be the banner photo for the next month.

It's a great way to see other member's flowers that we are currently missing out on due to COVID restrictions. Julie Arthur

February Joint Banner Winners

Miltoniopsis Woody Carlson 'Enduring Ardor'
Owner Darcy Walker'

Cattleya Unk. - Owner' Karen Crosby'



Start planning for this major AOC
event.

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- *See event details
- *View speaker profiles
- *Organise accommodation
- *Register for the conference
- * And much more

**PLEASE AIM TO SUPPORT THIS
IF YOU CAN**



AUSTRALIAN ORCHID CONFERENCE

In 2019, Southeast Queensland Orchid Societies combined to bid for the 2021 event. **This has been postponed to late Aug/Sept 2022.**

The event will now be held at the **Logan Sports and Events Centre from 31st August 2022 to 4th Sept 2022.**

Hervey Bay Orchid Society Member Profile

Presenting Keith Lydiate

Keith's first foray into the world of orchids began in New Zealand (his home then) around the year 2000 with the purchase of a few Dancing Lady Oncidiums and a few Dendrobiums. Keith found the cool and wet winters were not conducive to growing these orchids with the exception of *Den. kingianum* which tolerated the cooler weather.

Fast forward to 2012 when Keith and his wife Anicia emigrated to Brisbane, where Keith started off with a tiny 4 shelf shadehouse and things progressed from there. Keith met a friend of Anicia's (Anicia was a nurse at the Royal Brisbane Children's Hospital) who was buying flasks of Vandas from Arambeen Orchids. This friend convinced Keith to have a go at growing Vanda's and so it began. Keith would purchase several seedlings from each flask and soon his collection grew with an emphasis on *Vanda* Orchids. (Keith has around 120 varieties of Vandaceous Orchids).

In 2014 Anicia applied for a position on the nursing staff at Hervey Bay Hospital and Keith likes to reflect that they made the decision to relocate whilst sitting outside the Orchid House in the Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens (after being convinced by the Orchid House Host and long time HBOS member ' Sylvia Hendstock' that it was in their best interest to do so. 'Well done Sylvia' - Ed.)

Keith began his dream of looking after orchids as a retirement hobby whilst also joining the HBOS and becoming a volunteer at the OH. (I had the pleasure of working here with Keith before my own retirement- Ed.)

Keith has owned many genera of orchids over the years but has found that you must grow the plants that suit your specific conditions. (no two backyards are the same). He has also ventured into hybridising and flasking, of which he has had good results. (with a little assistance from Terri Bade to get him started).

Around 5-6 years ago Keith ventured into growing Pathiopedilums which as he says ' take up little space, are easy to transport and have an attractive flower. Keith notes that after buying his first *Paph.* (Path. Michael Koopowitz) at Gympie he showed his purchase to Terri who said 'nice plant, pity it will take 20 years to flower'. Moving on to 2021, 6 years later, Keith takes out HBOS Show' Grand Champion Orchid' with that plant . Well done Keith. He also makes mention of the fact that he notes that Gordon Manski of Maryborough Orchid Soc. (over 90 years of age) buys *Path.* Seedlings when available, so you can never be too optimistic.

Keith has been a hardworking committee member of the HBOS for several years and also acts as 'Official Photographer and Sound Man' along with a good technical knowledge to assist in sorting out those sorts of issues.

In 2021 Keith also took out MDOS 'Reserve Champion' with '*Paph. fanaticum*' and has progressed up to the 'Masters' Section in HBOS plant judging. Well done Keith.

At home Keith has 3 Shadehouses full of orchids(but still wants more- Ed) built by himself and performing well.

Keith's tip to novice growers is to try a variety of plants but then concentrate on the ones that do best in your own unique situation. Once again ' Well done Keith and Anicia'



Sender: Hervey Bay Orchid Society, PO Box 26, Pialba QLD 4655

ORCHIDACEOUS SUPPLIES

Suppliers of a wide range of Orchid Accessories

For all your orchid growing needs, from pots and media to grow your orchids, stakes and clips to support your plants and flower spikes, hangers to hold your pots, trays to carry your orchids, labels and pens to identify your orchids to fertilisers to make your orchids grow, - we stock almost everything you might need.

**We are importers and distributors of Kiwi Orchid Bark
We are distributors of RCRA graded Orchid Char**

Grahame and Margaret Muller --- Mobile 0408 076 511