

# HERVEY BAY ORCHID SOCIETY Inc

## NEWS AND VIEWS

September 2022

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ORCHIDS

No. 156

P.O. Box 26, Pialba Qld 4655

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September Feature Plant-

Soft Cane Dendrobium- *Den. nobile*

### 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**

The next General Meeting is on **Monday 3rd October 2022.**

The Guest Speaker for September is: TBA

". Speaking on the subject of: ". TBA

Feature Plant for October 2022 meeting is - '*Phalaenopsis*'

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

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

Next committee meeting is Monday 26<sup>th</sup>

September at **5.30pm** at Presbyterian Church hall.

**Please note - start time change.**

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> October **10am at the Orchid House** at the Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens.

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

### COMING EVENTS:

**Marybough District O.S. Spring Show**

Set up Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, Show -15-15<sup>th</sup> September

**Hervey Bay OS Spring Show Fri. 23-Sun. 25 September.**

**Set up Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Pull down and clean up Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September.**

**HBOS show Helpers 'Thank you bus Trip' 15<sup>th</sup> October. More info October Newsletter.**

### 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.**



HBOS Inc. Executive and committee members elected for 2021			
Patron	Ted Sorensen		
President	Graham Semmler	<a href="mailto:semmler@iinet.net.au">semmler@iinet.net.au</a>	
Vice President	Heather Wehl	<a href="mailto:hwehl@yahoo.com">hwehl@yahoo.com</a>	
Secretary	Julie Taylor	<a href="mailto:_jat909@bigpond.com">_jat909@bigpond.com</a>	
Treasurer	Darcy Walker	<a href="mailto:darcy@fluidindustries.com.au">darcy@fluidindustries.com.au</a>	
Committee/Editor	Darryl & Leanne Coombes	<a href="mailto:leadarcoo@bigpond.com">leadarcoo@bigpond.com</a>	
Committee/Social Sec	TBA		
Committee	Janine Blaber	Terri Bade	
Committee/Assist Treasurer	Miriam Garnham	Lyndal Semmler	
Committee	Giles Blaber	Barbara Neumann	
Committee	Sandra Twomey		
Committee & Assist Sec	Ross Skyring		

## Hervey Bay Orchid Society

### President's Report September 2022

As you know, we are well into Show season now. Hervey Bay members made a strong contribution to the Childers Orchid Show last weekend, with a number of first places in the Orchid and Foliage sections. Congratulations to Neville Smith, who won the Reserve Champion prize for his Fdk. After Dark.

The AOCC Conference starts soon in Logan, and I understand a number of you will be attending that.

Set-up for Maryborough Orchid Show is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, and I expect everyone with good plants to contribute to their Show. A number of people will be taking plants, so if you have plants but can't take them to Maryborough (or can't collect them on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>) please contact our Secretary, Julie Taylor, and she'll be able to put you in touch with someone who can help.

You should also be hard at work making sure your display and sale plants are ready for our Show. We have a reputation to keep up, as the Premier Show in the area! We will need all hands-on deck during our Show. There are jobs which suit people of all abilities and all degrees of mobility.

We have the Show Helpers' Bus Trip to look forward to, in October. We are also expecting a couple of local Societies to make a bus trip to us in October as well.

Hopefully our orchids will start to enjoy the Spring weather and will recover quickly from the chilly Winter we've just had. Looking forward to seeing you at our show.

**Regards Graham Semmler, President HBOS.**

Reserve Champion CIDOS Show  
Fdk. After Dark ( N. Smith)



Champion Orchid CIDOS Show

*Rhy. Gigantea* ( B & D Shields)





**NOVICE:**

**1 st** *Aranda* Christine x *V. Piswong* D. Walker →

**2 nd** *Mltnps.* Country Puna' Keaaau Star'

D. Shawcross

**3rd** *Rth.* Varnt Startrack

D. May



**INTERMEDIATE:**

← **1 st** *Brassia* Data Cosa' Coos Bay'

H. Wehl

**2nd** *Bllra.* Tropical Lily ' Hilo Spaceship'

H. Wehl

**3rd** *Wils.* Sunlight' Pesky Panther' H. Wehl

**OPEN:**

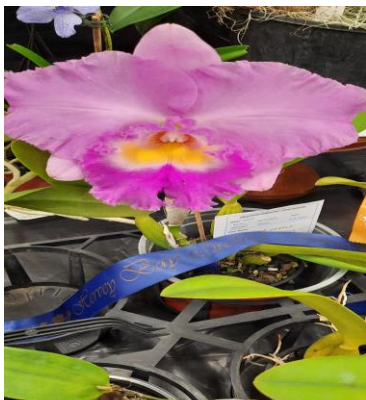
**1st** *Rlc.* Memoria Robert Strait ' Blue Hawaii

J. Arthur →

**2nd** *Rlc.* Free Spirit

G. Blaber

**3rd** No entry



**MASTERS:**

← **1 st'** *Rlc.* Robert Napper L. Napper →

**2nd** *Phal.* Tying Shin New View x *Phal.*

Chianxen 'Super Idol'

G. Johnston

**2nd** *V.* Coerulescens x *V.* Manuvadee

R. Colbran

**SPECIES:**

**1 st** *Coelogyne glumaceum*' Francis'

D. McKenna →

**2nd** *C. loddigesii*

R. Skyring

**3rd** *Paph. glaucophyllum*

T. Bade





### AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

**1<sup>st</sup>** *Den. speciosum* K. Stockwell→

**2<sup>nd</sup>** *Den. Wow Paradisia* x Self J. Gaddes

**2<sup>nd</sup>** *Den. aemulum* D. Murley



## JUDGING RESULTS - JUDGES CHOICE

**NOVICE:** V. Christie x V. Piswong 70 Points D. Walker

**INTERMEDIATE:** .*Brassia* Data Cosa 'Goo's Bay' 69 Points H. Wehl

**OPEN:** .*Rlc.* Memoria Robert Strait 'Blue Hawaii' Mc. 71 Points J. Arthur

**MASTERS:** *Rlc.* Robert Napper 73 Points L. Napper

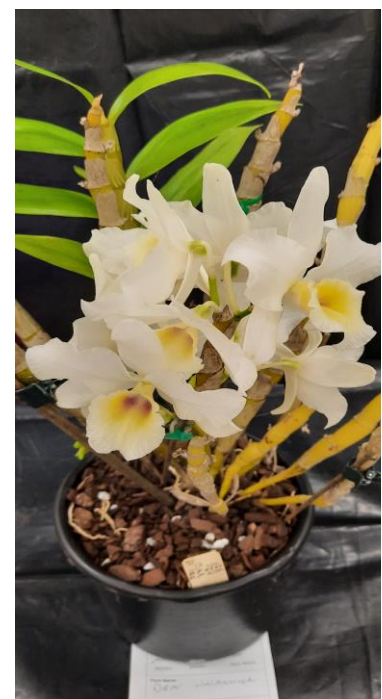
**SPECIES:** *Rl. glauca* 73 Points L. Napper

**AUST. NATIVE:** *Den.* Melbourne 71 Points N. Smith

**FEATURE PLANT:** *Den.* Unk. (Soft Cane *Den.*) G. Semmler



*Rl. glauca*

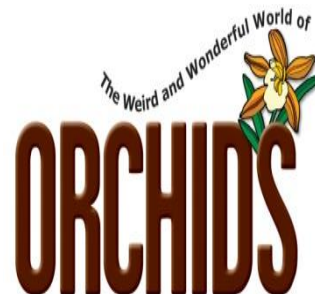


Feature Plant

Soft Cane *Den.* Unk.



## HERVEY BAY BOTANIC GARDENS AND ORCHID HOUSE



### Activities and events 2022

**\*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

The IGG for August was held at the Orchid House on Saturday 27th. An early finish was the order of the day as CIDOS Show presentation was conducted in Childers at 1pm. However, 32 enthusiastic members and 5 visitors attended on the day. President, Graham Semmler opened proceedings and then handed over to Terri, who once again did a great job of hosting the event, ably assisted by Darryl who spoke briefly on subjects including *Trichoglottis* and *Dendrobium* orchids. Darcy gave a practical demonstration on making wire pot hangers without cutting her fingers off. Several questions were raised, and answers given in relation to orchid issues by the attendees. The meeting finished with our customary raffle. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to those who assisted on the day. An enjoyable time had by all.

**The IGG for September 2022 will not be held due to the occurrence of the HBOS Spring Show. See you at the October IGG.**

**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.**

**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.**

#### Lucky Door Prize and Competition Results

- The lucky door prize winner for June was- Val Trace
- The lucky competition winners were – D. Hurley, R. Skyring, J. Chapman, D. Shawcross, J. Wilson & J.Arthur.
- **\*Members must wear name badges to meetings to be eligible for the lucky door prize**





## AOC. Orchid Conference

Why attend an Orchid Conference? There are plenty of reasons, from supporting the Orchid growing community and helping make the event a success to buying that special new addition for the shade house, or to meet old friends that share your interest and to make new acquaintances. What about to seeing fantastic flowering orchids and displays or share the wisdom of some of the best orchid growers in Australia? Often it is for all of the above reasons! The standard of orchid displays at AOCC22 was good and special mention should go to the Calliope Orchid and Foliage Society for their display and to Jenni Scott for displaying some excellent quality orchids that won many first prizes and a couple of Section Champions. A great effort Calliope, well done!

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Australian Orchid Conference was staged at Logan a few days ago. I attended as a registrant and was involved in the judging, which was all very interesting, but the value to me was in the few 'light bulb' moments and snippets of knowledge that came from the various speakers in the lecture program.

Of note was Prof. Kingsley Dixon speaking on the efforts to conserve native orchids in Western Australia, particularly terrestrials, and how we might be able to tap into that knowledge here.

Dr Marion Davies (the new AOC President) from Darwin spoke on growing *Bulbophyllums* in the top end particularly using plastic 'gutter guard' fashioned into poles which are filled with growing media. A good way to grow the rambling types of *Bulbophyllums* which are often otherwise grown in shallow pots. She also gave another talk on growing non-standard *Vandas*.

Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in USA is always entertaining, easy to listen to and very informative. He spoke on new directions in breeding of 'Catasetums' particularly the black *Catamodes* that he is working on. He gave 4 talks in all, with the second on breeding 'blue' *Cattleyas*, the third on "Becoming an 80<sup>th</sup> percentile grower" emphasizing the need to get the basics right, and finally a talk on breeding Mini - *Cattleyas*. Some fantastic mericlones will be hitting the market soon.

Michael Coker spoke on growing *Phragmipediums* and *Paphiopedilums* which was of particular interest to me, and something he said will probably solve a problem that I had been having.

Scott Barrie of Barrita Orchids spoke on growing modern *Epidendrums*. It was interesting to hear how he grows them on a commercial scale in a medium of basically just polystyrene.

I consider the effort and cost of getting to an orchid conference well worth it and encourage members to consider a holiday in Perth in 2025 for the next Australian Orchid Conference!

Conference report and photo kindly supplied by Terri Bade.





**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**

### *Soft Cane Dendrobiums*

Soft cane dendrobiums originated from Asia. They are part of the very large Dendrobium genus and are a little different to most peoples' idea of orchids. Every year they produce new "canes", between 40-100 cm long, with alternating pale green leaves. The flowers are generally produced on the previous year's leafless canes, although the latest breeding has produced plants that flower on the current cane. Why these orchids are so popular then becomes immediately obvious. Their colour ranges from pure white to yellow, pale pink to purple, all depending on their parentage. Often the lip is a deep purple with shading to paler petals. The effect is very attractive. Clever crossing of orchids has increased the colour range and Sydney has an ideal climate for them.

Soft cane dendrobiums will grow happily in most back yards. They need to be potted in a mixture of treated pine bark or orchid mix. The mix needs to be rapidly draining or the roots will not grow, and they like to dry out between waterings. This does not harm the plants at all and in fact they seem to thrive on neglect. For feeding they need half-strength fertiliser every one to two weeks; any fertiliser will do. In winter, watering and feeding should be decreased or ceased depending on their situation. Older hybrids tend to produce plantlets instead of flowers if over watered in winter. As with most orchids they should be watered frequently when in active growth or in flower and much less when dormant.

Light is important to induce flowering but preferably filtered light in summer, so the foliage does not burn. Under trees or open bushes is ideal and the plants grow very well in hanging pots where there is good air movement. They can also be grown in a shade house under 50% shade cloth. Once the plants are in bud, move them to a sheltered area such as a veranda to keep rain off the buds. Water sitting on the buds can induce fungus with spotting or even bud drop. Good results have been achieved by hanging the plants on eastern facing fences and the clothes lines.

They also grow very well on host trees (trees that don't shed their bark). Softcane Dendrobiums make ideal landscaping plants in the Sydney area particularly in the frost-free areas.

Large plants can have hundreds of flowers every year and survive for many years with a minimum of care. These orchids are readily available from orchid nurseries or through societies. Several Australian nurseries are amongst the world leaders in their culture.

**Article extract courtesy of 'Orchid societies NSW.'**



*Dendrobium Snowflake*



*Den. Pink Kiss 'Comet Queen'*



**Sender:**

Hervey Bay Orchid Society, PO Box 26,

Pialba QLD 4655

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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