



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

Newsletter

WEBSITE: eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au

JUNE, 2021

From the President.....

We've had good feedback on our Daytime Meeting format and will be continuing along the lines established. The emphasis on practical orchid culture information has drawn favourable comment and we'll try and maintain that momentum. At the June Meeting we'll try and play you a video that our Bairnsdale-based Member Bruce Dennett has produced for us, showing some of his collection. You'll recall Bruce's one-man display at the S&W Show at Moruya in 2019.

If you have a plant that is challenging you, bring it in for diagnosis, but not if it has a virus, or full of bugs unless sealed in plastic. We do ask that you continue to adhere to the Covid Guidelines, maintain social distancing, and enjoy what we have to offer. Bring a friend too, if you think they might be interested.

I look forward to seeing you all. ~ Tony Groube

NEXT MEETING

JUNE 11

Doors open 1pm
for set up, benching
& Popular Vote.
Meeting: 2pm

President:

Tony Groube

Vice President:

Jean Swindley
44736963

Treasurer:

David Hay
44739547

Secretary:

Glenda Clapin
0414721655

Committee:

Barbara Williams
Anne-Marie Collins
Garry Evans
Una Roberts
Gordon Marion

At the last meeting.....

May's meeting was full of practical ideas and tips. To get the ball rolling, Tony Groube brought along a selection of his many mounted orchids to demonstrate the materials on which orchids can be mounted successfully....iron bark, casuarina branch, banksia wood, apricot branch, bark, cork, non-treated hardwood and even an old piece of weathered lattice. Tony's message was to give mounting an orchid a try.



Michelle McIntosh introduced many of us to water-well orchid pots and showed us an example of Coelogyne Unchained Melody grown in a water-well pot and another in an ordinary orchid pot. The difference was amazing. The Coelogyne in the water-well pot had large, plump bulbs and was thriving and it had only been in that pot since September last year. Michelle uses gravel in the bottom of the pot before the bark mix, but a straight bark mix will still allow the extra level of moisture needed. Some genera will respond well to these pots.

Ray Huddleston had a problem with his much loved hard cane Dendrobiums. In early Autumn he moved them out of a glass house into a shelter with a shade cloth cover. Exceedingly heavy rain was followed by warm weather and dark marks appeared on leaves and seemed to travel through the stems resulting in some leaves browning off. Ray sprays regularly with Phosacid, so was puzzled. There were no definitive answers from Members, but the unseasonal weather in Autumn was labelled the culprit. Let's hope that Ray can cut out the affected parts, treat the cuts with cinnamon or sulphur and halt the progress of this destructive problem.

Finally Jean Swindley showed us what to do with an overgrown Oncidium. Having retained several parts herself, Jean generously shared the many remaining pieces with Members. Grower's note on pot tag, for those who might want a bit more history than "Oncidium unknown" :

Ex John Howlett (late President Southern Riviera Orchid Society, now MUOS) ex Liz and Tony, ex Jean Swindley, div EOC General Meeting 14.05.21.

If benching at any time, the benching card should simply read **Oncidium unknown**. The benches in both sections were filled with a wonderful selection of orchids.



Peter and Laurina Vanest's return was reflected in the colourful display of beautiful Masdevallia!

The Novice Bench in particular had some quality orchids on display. Michelle McIntosh won the Open Section Plant of the Day with a beautiful example of Dendrobium bigibbum 'Miss Molly' whilst Diane and Peter Griffith's very well-flowered Paphiopedilum insigne was a deserving winner of Novice Plant of the Day.

At the next meeting.....



Friday 11th June. Doors open at 1pm. Benching by 1.30pm. 2.00pm. start.

As Tony has mentioned we will be viewing the amazing orchid collection of Bruce Dennett, a Member who lives near Bairnsdale. Bruce was so good to the E.O.C. during last year when Covid prevented us from meeting. He garnered the support of his niece Megan to send us photos of orchids in flower, new constructions and words of wisdom. It will be great to see just what Bruce did to fill in his time during those lonely months.

Monthly Maintenance

*By now you should have eased off watering and fertilising your Soft Cane Dendrobiums. Wait until Spring before ramping up the watering and fertilising. From Mother's Day to Father's Day has often been used as a guideline for this. (See more detailed info. in this Newsletter)

*Natural snail deterrents include the following: sand, egg shells, gravel, wood ash, cedar chips and diatomaceous earth. Whilst these are not specifically used on orchids, trialling a circle of one of these on top of your orchid pot may be preferable to using pellets. In the case of eggshells it may even be beneficial.

*As the days cool, it is advisable to water your plants in the morning as soon as the sun starts to warm the atmosphere. On a cold day with no sun, it is probably best not to water at all.

*As buds start to emerge from flower spikes, it is a good idea to put the plant under cover or inside in a light airy room. Remember to position your plant so that it faces the same way when you move it. Use the tag as a guide.

* With your emerging Cymbidium spikes, make sure you know if they are upright, cascading or arching and train them as necessary, but again be sure not to alter the position of the pot.

Double potting.....does it have a purpose?

The most obvious reason to double pot an orchid is for stability. If you choose a slightly larger black orchid pot there shouldn't be a problem. If you choose a decorative pot which doesn't have drainage holes, make sure you remove your orchid to water it.

Phalaenopsis are often sold in clear plastic pots inside a ceramic pot and obviously need to be removed for watering and then allowed to drain before replacing them back into their more attractive pot. This external pot seems to keep the medium (usually Sphagnum Moss) moist for several weeks.

Orchids such as Cymbidiums and large Dendrobiums which may be grown outdoors, can be protected from blowing over by double potting.

Double potting may be beneficial for newly deflasked seedlings and it may protect more delicate orchids from temperature extremes if you grow in a shade house without heating or cooling. Cool growers such as Masdevallia, Odontoglossum and Miltoniopsis could be double potted in Summer and warmer growers such as Hard Cane Dendrobiums, some Cattleyas, Vandas and Tolumnia may benefit from double potting in Winter.

To keep the roots cool, some growers use a terracotta external pot which they drench with water on very hot days.

Growing Soft Cane Dendrobiums.....

Love them or hate them, a Soft Cane Dendrobium in full flower is a magnificent sight.

Yes, they can be straggly and display unruly growth patterns. Their leaves brown off and often canes are bare but if you follow their yearly growth pattern and needs you will be rewarded. Some years ago Tony Groube spoke to E.O.C. Members about growing Soft Cane Dendrobiums and below is a summary of what he said: GROWING PERIOD Nov.-April- Water daily. Full strength fertiliser (Low Nitrogen) once new growth is 50-70mm long. REST PERIOD May-Oct. - Water weekly, no fertiliser, full light. STAKING Early July when nodes on older canes start to swell, stake to front of plant. Remove any old leaves from last year's canes and tie the current season's fresh canes to the back of the pot. All this is easier said than done!

KEIKIS Will occur if (i) roots are disturbed-repotting/root rot; (ii) if fertilised during rest period; (iii) if in too much shade.

The starting point at about 10ish is at Diane and David Hay's home at 2 Coila Avenue. Tea and coffee will be available here. The next stop is Maria Kacarovski's home at 108 Coogee Street, just across the road. Then it is a short walk or drive to Gordon Marion's home at 14 Oaks Avenue. The final stop is at Jean Swindley's home at 27 Meakin Street. Let's hope for some fine weather, so that these four great orchid collections can be seen at their best.

Seedlings, Clones and Mericlones

A Seedling, as the name suggests, is grown from seed in a laboratory. As with humans, siblings will develop individual looks and characteristics, thus seedlings of the same parentage, will not necessarily, 'look alike.' Seedlings are usually produced when a grower wishes to produce a new hybrid from two quality plants. For the purposes of benching, a seedling is a whole plant, grown from seed and flowering for the first time. After the first flowering they are no longer classed as seedlings.

A Clone is an exact copy of the parent plant and can be provided by a division or a keiki. Some genera produce keikis such as Epidendrum, Phalaenopsis and Dendrobium. Keiki paste rubbed on a node can be used to help this occur if you would like an exact replica of a favourite orchid. Clones can not be benched as seedlings.

A Mericlone is an exact replica of a plant produced in a laboratory using tissue culture. It is a method used to mass produce a popular flower. Most orchids sold in shops are Mericlones. A Mericlone can not be benched as a seedling.

A recently unearthed piece of information from a talk by Neville Roper some years ago; 'Dockrillia like terracotta pots with bark.'

At the EOC Spring Show in 2015, Tom Kelly sold a number of small terracotta pots of Dockrillia striolata. At least one of them is going from strength to strength, flowering well in Spring and to date has not been repotted. Just a thought.

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<https://staugorchidsociety.org/> Check out this site belonging to the Saint Augustine Orchid Society in North Florida. Much of the information is relevant to us as the climate is fairly close to ours. There are articles to keep you busy for hours and cultural notes to help you out whether you are a beginner or a long time grower.



Our Club Emblem

Blc. Malworth 'Orchidglade' FCC/ AOS

(Lc. Charlesworthii x Blc. Malvern)

This plant originated from Jones and Scully Co. back in the early 1960s. It is still considered one if not the finest yellow cattleyas ever. It can flower multiple times per year. Large flowers with a heavy substance are produced on this plant. They are very sweetly fragrant and an orange-sherbet yellow colour that is set off by a delicate pink edging surrounding the lip. Blc. Malworth was awarded an FCC/AOS by the American Orchid Society in 1969. The round full lip is variable depending on bloom season and culture.

Editor's Orchid Spotlight



This Masdevallia, belonging to Glenda and Tony Clapin, was an eye-catching addition to the Novice Section at the May meeting. Growing happily in a hollowed out stump, the flower was perfectly symmetrical and there is the promise of two more the same. Glenda has already worked out what will need to be done when it outgrows its home. The mesh from the bottom will be removed and the plant gently eased upwards. Some roots may have to be sacrificed but that may happen with plastic pots too. Whilst it would not be practical to grow all orchids this way, it certainly makes a statement and the plant is clearly thriving.

Milton Ulladulla Orchid Society	3&4 July Sat:10am-3pm Sun:9am-2pm	Ulladulla Civic Centre Princes Highway, Ulladulla
Eurobodalla Orchid Club	9&10 July Fri:9am-4.30pm Sat:9am-2pm	Moruya CWA, Queen St.,Moruya
Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society	17&18 July Sat:10am-5pm Sun:10am-3pm	Catalina Club, Beach Rd, Batemans Bay Batema
Sapphire Coast Orchid Club	13,14&15 Aug Fri&Sat:9am-5pm Sun:9am-1pm	Twyford Hall, Market St, Merimbula
Eurobodalla Orchid Club	21&22 Aug Sat:9am-4pm Sun:9am-2pm	Narooma Leisure Centre,100 Bluewater Dr, Narooma
Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society	28 &29 August Sat:10am-5pm Sun:10am-3pm	Catalina Club, Beach Rd, Batemans Bay
Milton Ulladulla Orchid Society	11&12 Sept Sat:10am-3pm Sun:9am-2pm	Ulladulla Civic Centre Princes Highway, Ulladulla
Sapphire Coast Orchid Society	23&24 Sept 9am-4pm	Bega Commemorative Civic Centre, Zingle Place, Bega
Canberra Orchid Society	18&19 Sept Sat: 10am-5pm Sun:10-4pm	Ainslie Football and Social Club, Canberra

ORCHID SHOWS FOR YOUR DIARY



A lovely cattleya benched at our last meeting by Ray & Gayle Huddleston

C. Hsinying Emperor Hsinying



Another lovely cattleya benched by Sue Carroll...

Cattleya wittigiana

Cattleya wittigiana



**EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC.
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
CWA HALL, MORUYA ON 14th May 2021**



The Meeting opened at 2:13pm with the President Tony Groube in the Chair.

PRESENT: Members: 27 Apologies:4 Visitors: 0

Minutes of April 9th Meeting, accepted as true copy of meeting.

Motion: Glenda Clapin Seconded: David Hay

PRESENTATIONS:

Plant of the Day Certificates. April. Open- Margaret and Don Hayes *Cattleya bowringiana*. Absent.
Griffiths *Cattleya Red Nelly Top Dog x Valley Champion 'Georgeous'*

Novice- Peter and Diane

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer read his report for March:

Income: \$282.17 Expenditure \$0.00

Profit for Month: \$282.17 Loss for Year: \$271.47

Motion for Report to be accepted: David Hay Seconded: Glenda Clapin



SECRETARY

Shirt orders ready to be placed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Update on Garry Evans, Graham Jackson and other members.
- S&W on at Wagga Wagga, long weekend in October. Theme "Australia in poetry and song".
- Brian and Lynne Phelan presentation at MUOS recap.
- Website developed by Diane and Sue is now live. eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au There is also a subsite which contains tips on growing for each month.
- Rules contain old meeting times. Motion to place new times in rules.
Moved: Tony Groube Seconded: David Hay Carried
- Motion- The club purchase a continuous ink printer to replace the aged and failing printer currently being used. This will entail a higher up front cost but significantly reduce the yearly printing costs and thus be a more economic "whole of life" cost. The purchase price will be between \$519.00 and \$655.00 range for continuous ink printer that will print back to back from \$519.17 to \$651.74.
Moved : Tony Groube Seconded: Peter Van Est. Unanimous
- Rod Thomas (President of MUOS) proposes taking a bus to St Ives in August for Eurobodalla, MUOS, Batemans Bay. 6:00 am to 10:00pm. Show of hands indicated fewer than five members interested.
- Newsletters from other clubs contain good material and great photos. Recent examples included North Shore Sydney, not to mention our own Newsletter. If you want to receive these please email the Secretary.
- Difference between seedlings and mericlones. Seedling, first flowering of entire plant (no bulbs removed) raised from seed (see definition in Show Schedule). Clone derived from original plant, either by division or cutting – Mericlone by tissue culture (a tiny slice of original plant).
- Michelle McIntosh gave a presentation and demonstration of Waterwell pots. Good for Coelogne. Cymbidiums. Purchased from Bob Bishop. Bunnings have them. Place pebbles in the bottom. Michelle and Bruce's plants look magnificent.
- Ray Huddleston asked for advice on his Dendrobium hard canes- yellowing leaves show die back- suggestion: Cut canes down to green and sprinkle with cinnamon or sulfur.
- Jean demonstrated dividing an Oncidium-one of John Howlett's. Pieces for members. Thank you Jean.
- President's and Vice President's critique of benched plants.

Plant of the day – Open Section: Bruce and Michelle *Dendrobium bigibbum* Novice: *Paphiopedilum insigne* Peter and Diane Griffiths

Raffles – Bob Harper x 2, Barbara Williams, Jan Boyce, Michelle McIntosh, Peter VanEst, Sue Nash.

Members Badge Draw - 26 Sue Carroll

Meeting Closed 3:54pm

Committee Meeting Virtual meeting via email.

Next Monthly Meeting: 11th June 2021 at 1:00pm

Glenda Clapin
EOC Secretary

EOC Secretary Glenda Clapin

PH: 0414721655

secretaryeoc@gmail.com



*We send our best wishes
to Members who are ill or
undergoing treatment.*

*We hope you are soon feeling much
better.*



**Open
Section**

Species Aust. 1st Michelle McIntosh

Species Asia 1st Jean Swindley

Species Other 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony G

2nd Tony & Sue Carroll

3rd Tony & Sue Carroll

3rd Jean Swindley

Std Cym 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony G

Int. Cym 1st Jean Swindley

Mini Cym 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony G

Cattleya 1st Tony & Sue Carroll

Masdevallia 1st Peter & Laurina Vanest

2nd Peter & Laurina Vanest

3rd Peter & Laurina Vanest

Aust. Native 1st Jean Swindley

Vandaceous 1st David & Diane Hay

Oncidiinae 1st Jean Swindley

2nd Helen Watson

3rd Liz Cleaver & Tony G

Miscellaneous 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony G

**Plant of the
Night**

Den. bigibbum Michelle McIntosh
'Miss Molly'

**Novice
Section**

Species 1st Jan Boyce

Masdevallia 1st Tony & Glenda Clapin

Oncidiinae 1st Tony & Glenda Clapin

Miscellaneous 1st Peter & Diane Griffiths

**Plant of the
Night**

Paph. insigne Peter & Diane Griffiths

JUNE POPULAR VOTE



Michelle McIntosh



Peter & Laurina Vanest



Sue Carroll



Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube



Jan Boyce



Jean Swindley



Peter & Diane Griffiths



Jean Swindley