



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

Newsletter

WEBSITE: eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au

August, 2021

From the President.....

So disappointing that we have to cancel August's activities – we've been overrun as have been many other Clubs and their activities, even Local Government elections (deferred/bumped by three months.) The Committee met on 16 July and we thought we had all contingencies covered to enable us to have an August General Meeting. The pandemic has moved faster and has led us to play the cautious game and recognise that staying at home is the preferable option at the moment.

Sue and Diane have put in a tremendous effort to bring you a 'virtual' tour of what's happening around the traps – thank you both and to those who have contributed. Thanks to Sue and Diane for the creation of hobbyorchids.simplesite.com – you'll be amazed, and when coupled with one of my other favourite advice-sites

<https://staugorchidsociety.org> you'll have it all at your fingertips. Please stay connected by phone, email, Facebook or whatever means you may have mastered, but most importantly, Stay Safe and enjoy your orchids.

~ Tony Groube



NEXT MEETING

YET TO BE
ANNOUNCED

President:
Tony Groube
44712052
Vice President:
Jean Swindley
44736963
Treasurer:
David Hay
44739547
Secretary:
Glenda Clapin
0414721655
Committee:
Barbara Williams
Anne-Marie Collins
Garry Evans
Una Roberts

Water and Watering.....

Open the link below and scroll down almost to the end to Alvin Bryant's article 'Fertilisers and Magic Water'.

It was reprinted in the last Illawarra District Orchid Society's Newsletter and is well worth reading.
<https://nossaorg.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/vol-33-2009-06.pdf>

The link below, part of which was reproduced in the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society's Newsletter last month, is also worth reading.

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/WateringOrchidsDuringEachSeasonbySueBottom.pdf>

Sylvia Hawkins

Tony Groube is pleased to report that Liz Cleaver managed to get in touch with Sylvia Hawkins a few weeks ago. Sylvia has adapted to life in the Opal Nursing Home at Denhams Beach and has sold her house. Her orchid collection went with the house and she was happy that the new owner was a gardener and was looking forward to keeping the orchids going.



*We send our best wishes
to Members who are ill or
undergoing treatment.
We hope you are soon feeling much
better.*



Monthly Maintenance



- ◆ August is the time to start preparing for Spring re-potting by checking supplies of potting medium, pots and tags and making sure that pots, benches and tools are clean.
- ◆ Providing the weather is not too cold, re-potting can begin in August especially for those cool growing genera such as Masdevallias.
- ◆ Continue to watch out for pests as many seem to have sailed through the cold weather undeterred. Small snails are still about and as the weather warms other insects such as grasshoppers will start to emerge. Careful pot inspection will help with detection.
- ◆ Have your preferred treatment at hand and ready to use. A spray, granular or tablet application containing Imadacloprid should do the trick.

IN FLOWER NOW



From David & Diane Hay



From Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube



From Una Roberts

Top Ten Signs That Your Orchid Is Happy by Sue Bottom.

The headings below are from the above article by Sue Bottom from the St. Augustine Orchid Society.
If you wish to read the article in full, go to the link below.

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/TopTenSignsThatYourOrchidsAreHappybySueBottom.pdf>

1. You can pick up the plant by the vegetation and the plant doesn't fall away.
2. The newest growth is larger than the prior growth.
3. Your orchid has thick turgid leaves.
4. Pseudobulbs and canes are plump.
5. Plants in growth show long green (or red) root tips.
6. Plants are flush with new growth, trying to jump out of the pot.
7. You get multiple bloom spikes.
8. Your orchids don't complain about being hungry.
9. 'No Vacancy' for disease and pests.
10. All your friends want divisions.

A great quote from this article...

'You know you are a true orchid addict

when you are just as excited about a new root as you are about a new flower bud.'

As mentioned before the St. Augustine Orchid Society site abounds with orchid-related information and is well worth Bookmarking or putting on your Favourites Bar.

There is advice on all aspects of growing with seasonal tips, monthly tips, general cultural notes and information for particular genera plus an interesting question and answer segment.



Music for Plants



An article by Laurie Neverman, May 3rd., 2019

This article revealed some interesting facts.

When the author exposed plants in his greenhouse to music, 'it turned into a jungle' with vigorous growth from seedlings and vegetable plants.

He observed 'faster growth, earlier blooms, increased yields, improved nutrition and reduced pest pressure.'

He says the jury is out on how it works, but plants respond in different ways to different styles of music.

Below are just some of his findings:

1. Plants prefer stringed instruments.
2. Classical music, including Indian classical music, ragas and Vedic music encourages lush growth.
3. Heavy metal, New Age and Celtic music increase plant mass and fruit taste.
4. Jazz also increases growth.

I wonder how it would work with orchids? Not sure which style of music would boost flower production or create larger flowers, but a little Vivaldi playing softly in the Orchid House might be uplifting for the grower as well as the plants.

Maria Kakarovski's late husband, Branko, played 2EAR FM to all their plants when he was alive. At the Bay one night he gave Tony Groube the message, "Too much talk, not enough music" which remains one of the 'stings' they use at the station today.

IN FLOWER NOW



Cym. Ice on Fire 'Nikkietta'



Cym. Uluru "David"



Cym. Autumn Emerald "Royale"

From Sue Nash



Cym. Golden Embers 'Golden Teepee'



Drac. Swamp Fox 'Bella Corby'

From Garry Evans



Cym. Forest Palace "Queen Jewel"

Editor's Orchid Spotlight



Osmoglossum pulchellum

***Osmoglossum pulchellum* or the Beautiful Osmoglossum.**

Also known as *Cuitlauzina pulchella*.

With its dainty, pearly white flowers and its lovely perfume, this orchid species is a true delight. It comes from the high-altitude, mossy forests of Mexico and Central America and it grows best in a cool climate with humidity, good air flow and moisture all year round.

To survive our Summers it needs a cool spot in the Orchid House and no direct sunlight. Double potting it for the Summer may help keep the roots cool. The addition of sphagnum moss to the potting medium of fine bark and perlite will help to keep the plant evenly moist. It will grow well with Masdevallias.

When pot grown, the stems may arch with the weight of the flowers but this can add to the appeal of this lovely Winter flowering orchid. It may also be successfully grown mounted if the moisture levels are maintained. The flowers are long lasting and unusually have the lip towards the top of the flower.

This orchid is certainly one to be grown into a Specimen plant.

IN FLOWER NOW



Cym. Ruby Eyes 'Royal Show'



Cym. Little Sarah 'Princess'



From Sue Carroll

From Maria Kacarovski