



# EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

## Newsletter

WEBSITE: [eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au](http://eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au)

Sept. 2021

### From the President.....

We've had to admit that the Delta Strain has put paid to any chance of holding an EOC 2021 Spring Show, let alone any Club Meetings or get-togethers, for the time being. That's the NEGATIVE.

The positives are longer daylight hours, milder weather, maybe some rain, and lots of orchids doing what they do best! So enjoy the tranquillity and the fruits of your labours – we'll be able to get together eventually. Stay well and stay at home! Keep your photos coming in, it helps us to stay in contact. ~ Tony



### From Editor Sue,

Thank you very much to those Members who have contributed to this Newsletter by sending in photos, providing information and writing articles. Your input is greatly appreciated, as we endeavour to keep communication channels open without the face to face contact of Meetings or Shows. We look forward to your contributions next month. Every Member is welcome to send in something.

### Monthly Maintenance

**September is a very busy month for orchid growers with re-potting being the major focus.**

- ◆ Orchids recover best from re-potting if they are re-potted when new roots begin to emerge. However if the leaves look sickly or the mix has broken down it is best to re-pot anyway, even if new roots aren't present.
- ◆ Consider carefully before dividing your plants, as a Specimen plant is a wonderful sight if you can produce one. If you are dividing an orchid keep at least 3 or 4 pseudobulbs for each new plant.
- ◆ As plants are re-potted, a kick along in the form of slow release granules or organic pellets is a good idea, as is a drink of Seasol after re-potting. Try to keep your freshly re-potted plants in a cool shady spot for a couple of weeks to get them established before returning them to their permanent growing spot.
- ◆ It is time to restart your fertilising program for those orchids which were not fertilised during their dormant period. Watering will need to be increased. Be particularly aware of watering needs when our coastal Spring winds blow.
- ◆ Plants which have spent the Winter indoors can be returned to their outdoor growing area for those growers without heated houses.
- ◆ During September extra shade cloth will need to be added to orchid growing areas as the sun becomes more intense.
- ◆ If you haven't used the past quiet weeks to Spring Clean your orchid growing area, now is a good time to do so.
- ◆ Finally, the several warm days we had in August will bring out the insect population from their Winter rest. So watch out for any signs of activity and take action.

### FROM OUR SECRETARY & TREASURER

**Correspondence:** Cancellations of shows, Cub newsletters, Public Liability Insurance Certificate sent to CWA and ESC, AOC Board meeting agenda and Registrar General's report, Invoice for CWA Hall hire.

**Income :**\$0.16    **Expenditure :** \$344.20    **Loss YTD**    \$1871.25

**NEXT MEETING  
AS SOON AS  
COVID 19  
ALLOWS**

#### 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  
Gordon Marion



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

*We hope you are soon feeling much better.*

The **Mogo Orchid and Fern Nursery** is currently closed but Karen does have supplies of Orchid Bark. If you call her she will arrange to meet you outside with the bark . You can use your card on her portable machine or use cash.

**From Facebook...**

**'Need something to do in lock down. Mogo Orchid Nursery is classed as an essential business. If you are repotting orchids in the Eurobodalla (LGA) region and require bark give me a call on 44742291 or 0428883228 and we can make arrangements for pick up with minimal contact.'**



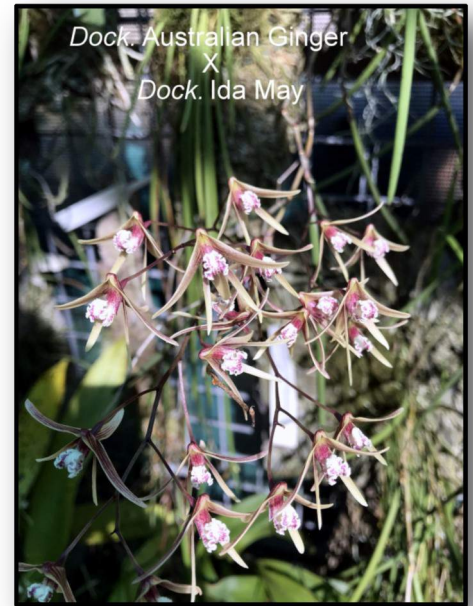
One Australian orchid which flowers in Winter/Spring is the Dockrillia. Our climate suits them well and a number of our Members grow them successfully; none more so than Jean Swindley.

### **Growing Dockrillias on the N.S.W. South Coast.....Jean Swindley**

I like to mount my Dockrillias and the best mount I have found is a slab of pine bark. I have also used Casuarina bark, although this will break up after a few years. Old fence palings are also very good. I mount them with a bit of bush moss over the roots and this keeps a bit of moisture around the roots. They will soon grow out from under the moss and are quite happy hanging in the air. I fertilise them nearly every watering with a very weak solution; ¼ strength. In the summer I water every few days, I don't believe you can really overwater them when they are on a mount as the water runs off and only what the roots catch is what is left. Humidity is a good thing. When you see them growing in the wild they



*Dock. (Australian Ginger x convoluta)  
X mortii X teretifolia*



*Dock. Australian Ginger  
X  
Dock. Ida May*

are often near water courses which gives you the idea that they like to have that humidity around them. I find Dockrillias are, on the whole, quite hardy and they will reward you with a mass flowering once they are large enough to support flowers. Some take longer than others before their first flowers, but be patient and you will be rewarded.

Another Member has added this:

Dockrillias can be grown successfully outside on a fence providing they are not in full sun. The colour of the pencil canes will change to red if there is too much sun.

When the flower buds appear it is advisable to bring the plant into a protected area as the young buds are very attractive to chewing insects.





Ever wondered why your ***Oncidium Twinkle*** doesn't do as well as you would like?

A little research has indicated that they do have some specific needs, so below are a few suggestions gleaned from many sources which may be of use when growing this lovely plant.

They resent having their fine roots disturbed, so repot only when the mix breaks down or the plant outgrows its pot. They like to be pot bound.

Their mix should be open and free draining and they should be watered frequently during their growing season (Spring and Summer) and then almost allowed to dry out so that the roots do not rot. Watering should be continued throughout the rest of the year, but not as frequently.

Light should be bright and indirect, though they may tolerate morning sun. The light factor is vital to encourage good flowering.

They don't enjoy temperature extremes so give them some protection on very hot days or very cold nights.

Fertilise regularly during their growing season.

Some growers in the Northern Hemisphere successfully grow them indoors in Winter. Some sources suggest that the red form requires some extra warmth.

They are excellent candidates for Specimen plants.



## *Editor's Orchid Spotlight*

### ***Pterostylis curta***

Several years ago having re-potted my terrestrials in late December, my pots of *Pterostylis curta* corms failed to grow and on inspection had disappeared.

As I use Nita Wheeler's method of re-potting terrestrials, I also follow her advice about tipping spent mix into one area of the garden just in case a corm has been missed.

Last year in that area this little curta popped up. This is its second year and it looks healthy.

It could be a while before the pot is full of corms again, but it is lovely to have resurrected something I thought was gone. ~ Sue Carroll



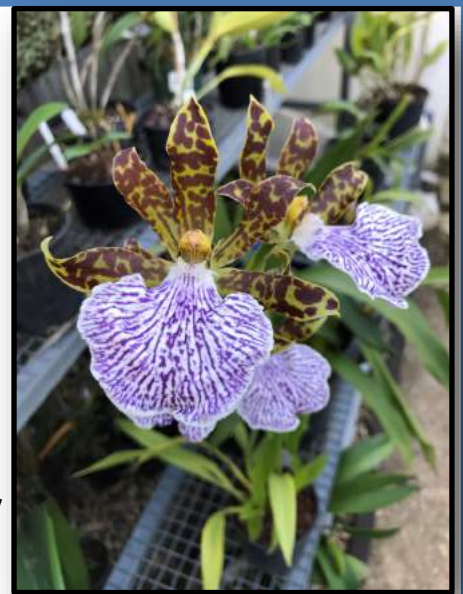
### **A blast from the past...**

Our last Spring Show was held at Narooma on 24&25 August 2019 with record-equalling benching numbers and public attendance commensurate with the quality of plants on display. Gordon Marion took Grand Champion with his lovely Bpl. Golden Peacock





Peter & Annette Stubbs



Glenda & Tony  
Clapin



(Verde Oro X Hondo Gold  
Emerald) X Magic Mood  
'Randwick'

Don & Margaret Hayes



Peter & Laurina van Est



Sue Carroll

## FLOWERING NOW

Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Michelle & Bruce McIntosh



Cym. Bennett Poei 'Atlantis' x  
Death Wish 'Speckled Spectre' (seedling)