



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

Newsletter

WEBSITE: eurobodallaorchidclub.com.au

March, 2022

From President Diane...

Greetings to all our Members! At the time of sending out this newsletter NSW Covid restrictions have eased, however, who knows what may occur by the time we meet. We will abide by the NSW Covid rules. We hope that all Members will take extra care as we have several Members whose health situation makes them particularly vulnerable and if a Member is wearing a mask please respect that they need space and and definitely no touching. ~ Diane

NEXT MEETING

March 11

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

At the last meeting.....

Ron Boyd spoke to us about Multifloral Paphiopedilums, a group which require more warmth than other Paphs. Ron is a self-confessed Paphiopedilum tragic and in following his passion for these orchids he has acquired some very valuable knowledge which he generously passed on to those Members who attended the February meeting. The plant which he benched at this meeting, *Paphiopedilum* Saint Aeithin x *sanderianum*, came in a flask from Wally Rhodes 8 years ago. It very deservedly won 'Plant of the Day' in the Popular Vote.



Ron talked about several species and showed photos of them. His challenge is to flower *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*. In discussing *Paphiopedilum sanderianum* which grows on the limestone cliffs in Borneo and has petals up to a metre in length, Ron related the story coming from locals, that these petals will continue to grow on plants in nature until they touch something. He indicated that *Paphiopedilum* St. Swithin (a primary hybrid) was the easiest of the Multiflorals to flower. Ron's plants grow in a house where he used to grow Phalaenopsis. There is no heat now, but they rest on a heat bed. There are exhaust fans moving air in and out and the concrete floor is always wet. Mistlers are used as well. Some practical advice from Ron based on his experiences and current practices:

Never overpot. Do not use squat pots. Ron uses medium sized Orchiat bark which has been soaked for 4 to 5 days in water with 'Wettasoil' added 2 caps to 100 litres of water. Nothing else is added to the mix. He adds 'Calciprill' (a 2-6 mm. lime granule) to the top of the pot every 2 months. Larger collections would benefit from liquid concentrate of lime using a product such as Eco-Flo-Lime. Ron currently fertilises with Pot Plant Special from Garden City Plastics. It has the appropriate NPK balance. He recommends avoiding fertilisers with urea and stresses that a very weak fertiliser mix is used. Ron fertilises every second watering. He sprays with 'Epsom Salts' once a month. 1 level teaspoon (5grams) to 10 litres of water. He also uses 'Go Go Juice' once a month as a pro-biotic

spray. Made by Neutrog, it is found in Bunnings. When re-potting, he adds 6 to 8 pellets of 'Organic Life' or 'Rooster Booster' to the mix and waters with 'Plant Starter'. If it is practical, Ron recommends yearly re-potting, though he is happy with Orchiat bark as it does not easily break down and allows him to re-pot less frequently. He uses 'Plant Starter' with seedlings. Ron uses rain water and waters when the mix is getting close to drying out. Under his conditions this could be every 4 days in Summer and every 7 to 10 days in Winter.

Thanks to Ron for sharing his knowledge and hopefully inspiring Members to try their hand at growing these spectacular orchids. His very useful advice can be applied to any orchid which grows in bark.

Members were also able to add to their Cymbidium collections with plants being sold by Ron.

At the next meeting.....

Steve Morgan doesn't grow Orchids, but he does grow **Bromeliads**.... very well.

He is coming back to share his interest with us. Steve is always happy to give advice and tips and his entertaining presentation should not be missed. He will also have plants for sale.

***EOC Members are also invited to place their own orchids on a FOR SALE table by the front door....Label all plants with your name and asking price and give a copy of your list to the Treasurer. 10% of all sales will go to our Club.**



President:

Diane Hay
0409911087

Vice President:

Garry Evans
0448121064

Treasurer:

David Hay
44739547

Secretary:

Glenda Clapin
0414721655

Committee:

Anne-Marie Collins
Sue Nash

Una Roberts

Barbara Williams

Show Marshall:

Jean Swindley

Monthly Maintenance.....

- If an orchid in your collection has a yellow leaf, check it out. It could be just a natural shedding of leaves due to ageing or it could be the sign of something more sinister such as root rot from over watering or broken down potting mix, the presence of mealy bug, shock after re-potting or a number of other problems. When you remove the yellowing leaf be sure to treat the area with cinnamon to prevent further fungal problems and make sure you address the cause of the yellowing if you can.
- Autumn in the Orchid House can be a very productive time especially on days that are mild. Sarcophilus can be repotted at this time as can Masdevallia and other members of the Pleurothallid group.
- It is an ideal time to examine plants individually to check on their overall health and make a note of those which need dividing or re-potting in Spring.
- Plants can be tidied up and cleaned in preparation for the colder months ahead when you might not be spending as much time in the Orchid House.
- Tags can be checked and rewritten if they have faded or the plastic has become brittle.
- Keep looking out for Cymbidium spikes to mark with a stake.

Pumpkin Beth - horticulturalist and garden writer.

Pumpkin Beth is British and much of the information on her site may have little relevance to us. However if you work through the menu, from plants to orchids, you will find an interesting list of miniature orchids. Some are familiar and others not so well known. Click on the photographs and you will find associated links. If these little gems appeal to you, this is well worth a few minutes of your spare time or a lot of your spare time if you follow the links <https://www.pumpkinbeth.com/>



EOC Club Library

If you would like to borrow books on any topic that is of interest to you at the moment please phone David & Diane: 0409911087

They will bring a selection to the next meeting for you and you can return them at the following meeting.



You are also welcome to visit the Library and make your own choices.



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



*We hope you are soon feeling much better.
Please keep in touch...*



Editor's Orchid Spotlight

Vanda Boonyarit Beauty 'Boonyarit'

This striking plant belongs to Garry Evans and was benched at the February meeting. Garry purchased it on a bus trip to St. Ives six years ago and this is the first time it has flowered. It hangs in his Orchid House under 70% shade cloth. The flowers are long lasting and such a lovely colour. Well done Garry .

From the Treasurer: Membership Fees

Annual Membership fees are now due and payable to Treasurer David Hay. He'll accept dues at the March Meeting or they can be posted to him. Fees are \$10 single Membership and \$15 for a family Membership. Those wanting hard copy Newsletters/Minutes , which will be sent by Australia Post, should add the additional fee of \$10.

Newsletters will cease for those not renewed by 31st March 2022.

Preferred method of payment is Direct Deposit: BSB 082 739 ACC 131636113 Don't forget your name.

Cheques made payable to Eurobodalla Orchid Club

**From the Treasurer...
EOC banking details for all
payments
NAB Moruya
BSB 082 739
Account No. 131636113
Don't forget your name!**



2022 CLUB ACTIVITIES



- March 11** Club Meeting: Steve Morgan 'Bromeliads'
- April 8** Club Meeting: Sue Carroll 'Compact Orchids When Space Is Limited.'
- April 16** Growers Workshop: Gordon & Jean Workshop
- May 13** Club Meeting: Round table Problem Plants: Tony Groube
- June 10** Club meeting: 'Jean Swindley 'Plant presentation & transportation for Show'
- June 18** Orchid Crawl: Tony & Liz Sue Carroll
- July 7** **Set up for EOC Winter Show ...CWA HALL Moruya**
- July 8 & 9** **EOC Winter Show - CWA HALL Moruya**
- August 12** Club Meeting: Garry Evans: My Orchid House



Orchid Photography Basics

The beauty of an orchid in full bloom can leave you speechless. You might think you can never capture its stunning beauty with a mere photograph unless you are a professional photographer or have a fancy camera. Think again...Although taking the perfect picture does require a bit of skill and practice on your part, it can be done. In this article we'll give you a few basic tips and tricks for getting the perfect picture of your orchids with the digital point and shoot camera that you probably already have.

Tip 1: The first tip is to try and keep the camera as steady as possible. In order to get the crispest picture possible, you will need to keep the camera still in order to take the highest-quality shot. To do this successfully you might want to invest in a tripod. They allow you to easily adjust the height and angle of the camera which can result in a much better picture. If you don't want to purchase a tripod, you can easily make a stack of flat items, such as books or DVDs to set your camera on to take the pictures.

Tip 2: The second tip is to beware of your background. Since you are trying to capture the beauty of your orchid, you will want the orchid to be the star of the picture and not a distracting background. Many photographers like to use a plain background such as a cloth, curtain, sheet, or tablecloth in order to focus all of the attention on the orchid itself. Generally, dark coloured orchids look best against a white or light-coloured background and lighter coloured orchids look great against a black background. If you do decide to use a plain background, be sure to place it at least two feet behind your orchid so that the auto-focus on your camera doesn't focus on tiny details in the background such as wrinkles or dust.

Tip 3: The third tip is to get the perfect lighting. Lighting is a very important element in any photograph and can greatly differentiate a good photograph from a great one. The key is to diffuse a light source onto the subject you are photographing. Professional photographers use reflectors and umbrellas in order to bounce and diffuse light, although it is not necessary to buy these items. You can easily bounce sunlight off of a large white wall or sheet onto your orchid for a nice, naturally lit look. Always try to use sunlight whenever possible, because it will allow you to turn the flash off and get a more natural-looking picture without any of the odd shadows that a flash can sometimes create.

Tip 4: The fourth tip is to utilize the self-timer option on your camera. The self-timer greatly helps reduce the amount of movement and shakiness that occurs when you push the button. It is also a great way for you to move out of the way in case you may be producing shadows on your photography subject. Whether or not you have access to a tripod or some other stabilizing surface, try using the self-timer and compare those pictures to those taken the standard way and see which way gives you the better results.

Tip 5: The fifth tip is to use your camera's macro setting. This allows you to capture a very detailed close-up shot. You may want to go through your camera's manual and find out how to best use the macro setting for your particular camera, including how far away to take the picture for the best results. The use of tripods and self-timers are very convenient when using the macro setting because even the slightest of movements can cause the picture to appear blurry. The great thing about digital photography is that you can take as many pictures as you want and are only limited to your camera's memory space.



Experiment with different angles and lighting and remember to have fun!

Ryan Levesque "The Orchid Guy"





EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC.,

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Held at CWA hall, Moruya on the 11th February 2022

The Meeting opened at 2:00pm with the President Diane Hay in the Chair.

Present: Members: 21 Apologies: 4 Visitors: 1

Minutes of 22nd October 2022 Meeting, accepted as true copy of meeting.

Motion: Glenda Clapin

Seconded: Una Roberts

Welcome to our Member Speaker Ron Boyd and his wife Rose.

Member Phone calls: Diane reported on a much improved situation with Don & Margaret Hayes who are now at their own home, & Graham Jackson's health has improved & he is selling his home and moving to near Kempsey.

Library: In future please let Diane & David know what topics you are interested in and they will bring books for you to a meeting. The books can be returned at the next meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer read his report for January:

Income: \$85:14 Expenditure \$71:00

Profit for Month: \$14:14 Loss for Year: \$45.44

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

SECRETARY

- **Correspondence:** Request from NAB regarding signature verification, Cert. of Incorporation, Minutes of AGM; Orchid Wiz update, Auditors' Report, President's Annual Report, Destination NSW- regional event funding, Financial statements, Committee approval for reinvesting our term deposit, Updated Membership list, AGM Minutes, January Committee Meeting proposal and cancellation; Compendium of Miniature Orchids £199, Trade Space at Moruya Show, Hall Hire Agreement CWA; Issues with February Newsletter not reaching all Members; Paid annual subscription to Orchids Australia; Coffs Harbour Show Dates, AOC show flyer; Sent show dates to other local clubs, OSNSW and AOC. RHSV AGM, Confirmation of Booking at Narooma Leisure Centre and confirmation that charges have increased.
- The Secretary has shirts to be distributed.
- Please let Secretary know if you haven't received January Newsletter.

Moved: Glenda Clapin

Seconded: Ron Boyd

EOC Member Ron Boyd spoke on Multifloral Paphiopedilums.

• **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- No afternoon tea till Covid settles down.
- Let other Members know to inform the Secretary if they didn't receive the last newsletters.
- Thank you Diane for taking on the President's role.
- Growing Orchids in Cool Climates \$20 available for sale. See Librarians.

Plant of the Meeting –Open Section: Paph. Saint Aeithin x sanderianum- Ron Boyd **Novice Section:** No Novice plants

Raffles – Helen Marshall, Una Roberts x 3, Liz Cleaver, Ray Huddleston, Jean Swindley, David Hay x 2, Gail Huddleston, Sue Nash.

Members Badge Draw- 37 Garry Evans, 26 Sue Carroll

Meeting Closed 3:18 pm

Next Committee Meeting: Friday 18th February Next Monthly Meeting: 11th March 2022 at 1:00pm



Open Section	
Species	Australia
1st	Jean Swindley
Species	Asia
1st	Garry Evans & Vicki Douglas
Species	Other
1st	Jean Swindley
2nd	Gordon Marion
2nd	Tony & Sue Carroll
2nd	Una Roberts
2nd	Jean Swindley
2nd	Gordon Marion
2nd	Liz C & Tony G
Cattleya	
1st	Jean Swindley
Paphiopedilum	
1st	Ron Boyd
Aust.	Native
1st	Jean Swindley
Vanda-ceous	
1st	David & Diane Hay
Oncidiinae	
1st	Liz Cl & Tony G
Seedling	
1st	David & Diane Hay
Miscellaneous	
1st	Helen Marshall
Plant of the Night	
Paph. Saint Aeithin x sanderianum	Ron Boyd



Benching Results for February Meeting

Plant of the Night

