



Maroochydore Orchid Society Inc. presents, *'The Observer'*

P.O. Box 382, Maroochydore 4558
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September 2017

Patroness - Rosanna Natoli
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CULTURAL MEETING

Cultural Meeting is held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Girl Guide Hall, Beach Road, Maroochydore, 7.30pm. AGM will be held at October meeting. Members and visitors are welcome. All plants to be tabled by 7.30pm for judging

The September meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th at 7.30pm.

Maroochydore Annual Show

In spite of concerns about poor attendance due to a lack of parking, our show was a great success, thanks to the support and dedication of our members and those of other STOCQ societies. There was a "Wow" factor as the public walked through the door and saw a table full of beautiful cattleyas.

Thanks for the success must go to the following:-

- The Sunshine Coast Council for the grant funding which covered the cost of the hall, prize cards and ribbons.
- The administration team led by the president, secretary and treasurer for the weeks of organisation prior to the event and manning of the entrance table etc., etc. during the show.
- The parking attendants! Their tireless work was crucial in getting people through the door.
- The kitchen workers who had everyone well fed for the duration – quite a feat!
- The plant sales team and potting demonstrations-lots of expert advice given freely to inquiring customers, and lots of attendees walked away happy with their new plants and knowledge of how to look after them.

- Our supporting STOCQ societies. Their members brought along so many beautiful orchids and contributed to the high quality of blooms.
- Rosanna Natoli, our Patroness, who always gives us wonderful support and helps with the presentation.

As signs etc. were packed away, we had a sense of a job well done amidst lots of fun and laughter!

Supper Roster for 2017

Please put 2 names beside each month. This makes sure we have supper even if someone is away.

September: Kev Rimmington, _____

October: Del Whittaker Marg Lenz

November: _____, _____

CULTURAL MEETING RESULTS

JUDGES CHOICE		POPULAR CHOICE
NOVICE		
1	Cymb unknown	Cymb unknown
Member	Richard Bryan	Richard Bryan
SPECIES		
1	Rhyncolaelia glauca	Rhyncolaelia glauca
Member	Loraine Hocking	Loraine Hocking
2	Bulb longiflorum	
Member	Duncan McMartin	
3	Dend niveum	
Member	Duncan McMartin	
FOLIAGE		
1	Fern	Fern
Member	Richard Bryan	Richard Bryan
2	Unknown foliage	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
3	Unknown foliage	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
CATTELYA		
1	Rlc Sylvia Fry	Rlc Sylvia Fry
Member	Bill Letcher	Bill Letcher
2	Rlc Fuchs Orange Nugget	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
3	Epi unknown	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
DENDROBIUM		
1	Den Carron Deb x Kuranda Blue x canaliculatum	Den Carron Deb x Kuranda Blue x canaliculatum
Member	Joe Mercieca	Joe Mercieca
2	Den Angel Baby	
Member	Joe Mercieca	

ONCIDIUM		
1	Onc Heaven Scent	Bakerara Sea Snake
Member	Loraine Hocking	Loraine Hocking
2	Onc Tsuku Marquerite	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
3	Paph Betty Bell x Paph Via Asi Asi	
Member	Joe Mercieca	
VANDA		
1	V Augusa River	V Lek x V Charles Goodfellow
Member	Loraine Hocking	Loraine Hocking
2	V Thailand Blue	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
3	V Lek x V Charles Goodfellow	
Member	Loraine Hocking	
OTHER GENERA		
1	Paph Leeanum	Paph Betty Bell x Paph Via Asi Asi
Member	Loraine Hocking	Joe Mercieca
2	Cymb Nip	
Member	Kev Rimmington	
3	Paph Betty Bell x Paph Via Asi Asi	
Member	Joe Mercieca	
OVERALL WINNER Paph Leeanum Loraine Hocking		

AUGUST MEETING TALK

Water and Nutrients for your Orchids by Wayne Harris

It should be obvious to all who grow orchids that to get the best from all plants you must provide them with the necessary requirements for life ie. food and water. However, these can be toxic to life if they are not delivered in a form that is not harmful to the original purpose, growing and flowering a praiseworthy exhibit.

The importance of watering.

It maybe stating the obvious, but living plants are mostly made up of water. The source of your water can be rainwater, town supply, or bore water. Of these, the first, is the purest with the least undesirable chemicals. It also usually has the most appropriate level of acidity, mostly referred to as pH; the best level suited to most orchids is 6-6.5, ie. slightly acidic. pH meters and test strips are available from most large plant nurseries. The frequency of watering is dependent entirely on your conditions. Try twice a week in summer as a guide. However, do not allow your plant's pseudobulbs to become shrivelled. When you make up your fertiliser solution, check your pH. The made up solution may have become a little more acidic.

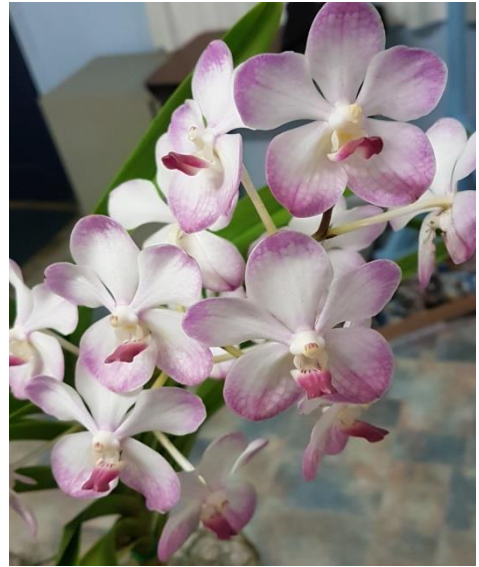
Fertilising your plants

All plants need food, some more than others, and so a balanced feeding program will enhance your chances of taking out that championship! Many of the readily available packaged products are suitable for domestic use. They have the essential macronutrients such as nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus together with a range of essential micronutrients. The amount of product to use depends on the manufacturer's recommendations but rates of 1-2grams per litre are common. If you can measure (use a conductivity meter) the total dissolved salts (TDS), use that value as a guide. I would recommend that you aim for a value of less than 1000 ppm (parts per million). You may find that you can reduce the amount of fertiliser by as much as 50 per cent of that recommended by the manufacturer

Cultural Meeting Photos



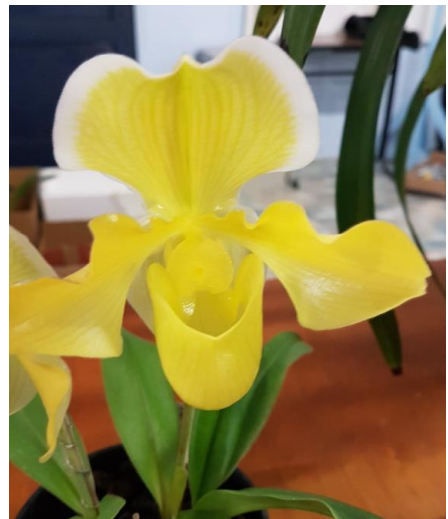
Pot How Yuan Gold



V Lek x V Charles Goodfellow



Vanda Thailand Blue



Paph Betty Bell x Paph Via Asi Asi

Memories of the Show



AOC Orchid of the Year & Award of Distinction & Qld Award of Distinction

Recipient, John Salway, Kathy Howatson, Secretary and Rosanna Natoli, Patroness



R & J Hopkins Champion Orchid



**R Aisthorpe Reserve & Species
Champions**



Agnes Waters Show

On the weekend of 12th and 13th Duncan, Marg and I visited and represented Maroochydore Orchid Society in their annual show and the STOCQ and Orchids Queensland meetings. We were rewarded with prizes in various classes. This show saw STOCQ societies from the northern area display a wide range of orchids of high quality in displays and benching. Several vendors from the northern area had a range of high quality plants for sale. The venue for the show was in the magnificent local community hall. The Agnes Waters Orchid and Foliage Society capably led by Debra Richards conducted the entire show in a very professional and socially friendly atmosphere. I recommend this show to members for 2018.

Agnes Waters Orchid Show



Fred & Marg's Champion Phalaenopsis



Duncan 1st prize



FUTURE INTERNATIONAL /AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCES AND shows

2017 8 – 11 November 22nd World Orchid Conference & Show, Guayaquil Ecuador

2018 18 – 22 July Orchids in the Foothills, 21st AOC Conference & Show, Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium, South Windsor NSW

2019 14 – 15 September STOCQ Orchidfest Rockhampton OS

2017 CALENDAR

Society Show Dates: Bold indicates, Maroochydore Shows

Glasshouse Country OS Show	Beerwah Hall	Set Up Friday, Saturday	21 st September 22 nd , 23 rd September
Bribie Island OS	Orchid House 156A First Avenue Bl	Set Up Saturday Sunday	29 th September 3-7pm 30 September 1 st October 8.30am 2pm
Nambour Species Show	Nambour Uniting Church Hall	Set Up Thursday Friday, Saturday	26 th October 27 th , 28 th October
STOCQ & OQI meeting	Glasshouse Sports Club 902 Steve Irwin Way	Saturday	4 th November

LIBRARY

An orchid book library is available at the Girl Guide Hall for all members to use. Please ensure borrowed books are signed out by our Librarian, Joe Merieca.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING ARTICLE TO SHARE IN THE NEWSLETTER PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR

Disclaimer: While the Editor endeavours to ensure the reliability of this newsletter, neither the Editor nor the Maroochydore Orchid Society Inc. can assume any responsibility for the information or advice given to readers of The Observer.