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CULTURAL MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7.00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Buderim Men's Shed 34 Advance Road Kuluin. Plants are to be tabled by 6.45 pm for judging.

THE NEXT CULTURAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 04 MARCH

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MOS is off to a fantastic start for 2025, with a solid roll up of members and plenty of new faces. To all our recent members: a warm welcome! To all the new faces: we're thrilled to have you with us and hope you enjoy sharing in the beauty of orchids, learning new growing tips, and making great connections. Your enthusiasm brings fresh energy to our group—welcome to the orchid family!.

We're always looking for ways to enhance the experience for our members, and after thoughtful discussion and feedback, we've made a small change to our meeting times. From now on, meetings will commence at 7.00pm, with all plants to be tabled by 6.45pm. This adjustment will help us get through the night's agenda efficiently—especially helpful during the cooler months when early finishes are always appreciated.

The weather lately has certainly kept us on our toes. With the mix of heat, humidity, rain, and wind, conditions have been ripe for pests and problems—particularly fungal infections, root rot, and the ever-persistent snails. It's important to stay vigilant: check your plants regularly, remove any signs of damage or disease, and treat problems early. Preventative care now can mean fewer headaches down the track—and healthier, happier orchids overall.

Despite the challenges, there's a silver lining: these same tropical conditions, paired with the care many of you gave your orchids during Spring and Summer repotting and fertilising, are starting to pay off. Blooms are beginning to appear, brightening benches and bringing smiles to faces. It's a great reminder of the rewards this hobby offers when we give it our attention and care.

To show our appreciation for all the hard work our members put into making the Society such a success—whether it's helping at meetings, assisting with shows, or sharing knowledge—we're excited to announce a special outing. The Society is sponsoring a bus trip to the Eastern Districts Orchid Show on Saturday, 5th April. It promises to be a fantastic day, including stops at the Hoya Garden Plaza and Fame Nursery, in addition to the show itself.

Whether you're after new plants, expert tips, or simply want to enjoy a day out with fellow orchid lovers, this trip is for you. It's a small thank-you to our dedicated members and a great way to immerse yourself in all things orchids. Spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your spot early!

KATHY HOWATSON
MOS President

PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance 'BlackSpot'

I bought this plant in June 2016 at the Diamond Festival of Orchids from Alice's Orchids from Townsville. I transferred it into the basket in 2017. It has grown steadily and flowers regularly. It is in the northeast corner of the same shade house as the cattleyas, dendrobiums and other orchids with 50% black shade cloth covering the house.. Hopefully, they get more sunlight and warmth from this position. In winter, it is rather cold in the shadehouse, so I put solarweave over that corner as well as the solarweave around the south and western sides.

I fertilise with a combination of products. HSO-12 Flower is the usual fertiliser and I add Hy-San, a bio disinfectant. Recently, I added Peter's Excel Cal/ Mag Finisher to the regime. I also spray with magnesium sulphate (Epson Salts) twice a year. I try not to over do the spraying for insects and diseases, but I do control problems when they appear.

by KATHY HOWATSON



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LIBRARY

An orchid book library is available for all members to use. Please ensure borrowed books are signed out by our Librarian Joe Mercieca.

IN BETWEEN FLOWERS

If you have a plant that's flowering beautifully in between shows and meetings, send a photo or two and a description under 100 words. Send your in between flowers by email to tarundea@bigpond.com.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have an interesting article to share in the newsletter please contact the Editor. See front cover for contact details.

DISCLAIMER

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



This project is proudly supported by
Sunshine Coast Council's grants program



Kathy runs us through the night's winners

JUDGING RESULTS – XXXX 2025 MEETING

CATTLEYA

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Cattleya Caudabec Candy | Loraine H |
| 2 | Cattleya Caudabec Candy | Ron S |
| 3 | Rhyncattleanthe Dal's Girl | Ron S |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Cattleya Caudabec Candy | Ron S |
|-------------------------|-------|

DENDROBIUM

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | Dendrobium French Rose ¹ | Loraine H |
| 2 | Dendrobium Kuranda Flare x Coleman's Frills | Gerry S |
| 3 | Dendrobium Blue on Blue | Gerry S |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|---|---------|
| Dendrobium Kuranda Flare x Coleman's Frills | Gerry S |
|---|---------|

VANDA

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance | Kathy H |
| 2 | Vandachostylis Gabrielle's Delight | Loraine H |
| 3 | Vanda NOID | Joe M |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance | Kathy H |
|--------------------------|---------|

ONCIDIUM

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Oncidium Witch's Jewels | Gerry S |
| 2 | Leomesezia Lava Burst | Gerry S |
| 3 | Oncidesa Possum Woolf | Peter H |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Oncidium Witch's Jewels | Gerry S |
|-------------------------|---------|

NOTES

1. This is possibly a clone of Dendrobium Anucha Flare

ANY OTHER GENERA

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1 | Paphiopedilum (Hilo Citron x Alma Gevaert) x Hsinying Citron | Joe M |
| 2 | Phalaenopsis Summer Rose | Gerry S |
| 3 | Catasetum NOID | Loraine H |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Phalaenopsis Charming Crystal Water | Gerry S |
|-------------------------------------|---------|

SPECIES

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Miltonia spectabilis | Gerry S |
| 2 | Dendrobium bigibbum | Loraine H |
| 3 | Dendrobium bigibbum | Gerry S |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Dendrobium bigibbum | Loraine H |
|---------------------|-----------|

NOVICE

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Cattleya NOID | Teddy G |
| 2 | Miltonia NOID | Mitzi |
| 3 | Procatavola Key Lime Stars | Mitzi |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|---------------|-------|
| Miltonia NOID | Mitzi |
|---------------|-------|

FOLIAGE

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------|
| 1 | Caladium | Rosemary S |
| 2 | Caladium | Mitzi |
| 3 | Tillandsia straminea | Peter H |

POPULAR VOTE

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| Caladium | Mitzi |
|----------|-------|

UNREGISTERED HYBRIDS ARE BOLDED

NAME CHANGES ARE ORANGE (please update your tags)

THE BENCHES



All the other hybrid genera



Dendrobium bigibbum dominated the species bench tonight



The *Phalaenopsis* Dens were on song tonight



Our Novices had a fine spread on offer tonight



The *Cattleyas*



A fascinating presentation on *Diuris*, an Aussie terrestrial genus

CATTLEYA



Cattleya Caudabec Candy



Cattleya Caudabec Candy



Rhyncattleanthe Dal's Girl



DENDROBIUM



Dendrobium French Rose



Dendrobium Kuranda Flare x Coleman's Frills



Dendrobium Blue on Blue

VANDA



Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance



Van. Gabrielle's Delight



Vanda NOID



Perreiraara hybrid

ONCIDIUM



Oncidium Witch's Jewels



Oncidesa Possum Woolf



Phalaenopsis violacea



Leomesezia Lava Burst

SPECIES



Dendrobium bigibbum



Miltonia spectabilis



Dendrobium bigibbum



Guarianthe bowringiana

OTHER GENERA



Paphiopedilum (Hilo Citron x Alma Gevaert) x Hsinying Citron



Phalaenopsis Summer Rose



Catasetum NOID



NOVICE



Cattleya NOID



Miltonia NOID



Procatavola Key Lime Stars



FOLIAGE



Caladium



Caladium



Tillandsia straminea