



Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966

Patron Neil Symes MP



E.D.O.S. NEWSLETTER

Print Post Approved PP405737/00004

PO Box 60 WYNNUM CENTRAL QLD 4178

The equipment used to publish this Newsletter funded by



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FEBRUARY 2013

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Members are invited to attend the next General Meeting to be held on **Thursday 28 February, 2013** commencing at **8.00 pm** at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

RED SPOTTERS CLUB

Ken Webster will be doing a session on "Preparation of Orchids for Benching at the Autumn Show". This is important for anyone who plans on benching plants at the Show.

FEATURE ITEM

Our Feature Item is being presented by our own John Hutchinson, who will be giving a presentation on the Native Orchid Conference held last year at Kempsey.

The following members are requested to make themselves available for the next meeting:

Judges: Reg Illingworth, Bill Williams, Les Vickers, Maree Illingworth. (Other Judges co-opted as required on the night)

Observers: Please see Eric if you are interested

Scribes: Volunteers required please.

Supper Stewards: Marian Samuels, Daphne McKell

Hostesses: Margaret Rieck, Dot Rooks

Library : Helen Vickers

Plant Registrar: Ann Kable

Plants Worth Noting: Michael Tervo

Trade Table: Pauline Webster

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 7 March, 2013** at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

2013 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that Annual Subscriptions are now due – Family \$16, Single \$15. They can be paid at the February General Meeting, or a cheque can be mailed to the Secretary, PO Box 60, Wynnum Central Q 4178.

It is great to see that EDOS Inc Fees have not increased for many years, thanks to the hard work put in by our members at our Autumn and Spring Shows, and other fund-raising events.

Please take note that any members who have not paid their Subscriptions when the March Newsletter is due will not receive their copy, as they will be deemed to be unfinancial at the end of February (as per our Constitution).

Please also remember that you need to be a financial member to be able to table plants or have plants in Plant Sales at the upcoming Autumn Show.

EDOS AUTUMN SHOW

Don't forget that our Autumn Show will be held on 6 and 7 April, 2013, with judging on Friday night 5 April 2013.

There have been some changes made to the Show Schedule (in particular the Classes) and General Conditions, so it would be timely for ALL members, old and new, to have a read of these to ensure that they are aware of any changes that have been made.

One change to note is that Entries must be tabled and available for Judging by 7.45 pm

If you have any queries please feel free to contact either the Show Captain Brent Nicoll, Chief Steward Eric Locke, or the President Barry Kable.

Plant Tags will be available at the February and March Meetings from Roy Jope— If you need more Tags or are unable to attend the meeting to collect please contact John Rooks. **Please ensure that you use EDOS sale plant tags only.**

Craft Sales Tags will be available at the February and March Meetings from Pauline Webster.

Member Number - Your EDOS Member Number is on the newsletter envelope following your name, or available from the Plant Registrar. This number needs to be used if you are benching and/or selling plants.

Plant Labels - For any members who are unsure of, or would like to confirm that their plant labels are correct **before** benching, (either spelling or registration of crosses) EDOS will have available on Friday night prior to benching of plants, the Orchidwiz database for members to check their labels. Please see Ann Kable or Janelle Girdlestone

Fire Ant Register – Legislation requires that Members **MUST** sign the Fire Ant Register before Plants can be accepted into the Hall for either showing or Sales. Please remember that **Plants MUST NOT be placed on the ground or floor at the Hall.**

Condition of Sale Plants – Please ensure that any plants you may present for sale are virus free, clean and NOT recently potted. Plants need to be stable in the pots and not show any insect damage, etc.

It has been noted that some plants presented for Sale at recent EDOS Shows were below the standard and quality that this Society considers acceptable. If a plant is not of the standard that you yourself would purchase, then it should not be presented to Plant Sales

As per our By-Laws, -refer in particular to EDOS By-Laws 5.6 and 5.7 - in the future such plants which are deemed to be of an unsuitable standard will be removed from the Sales Tables.

Cut Flowers and Greenery – The Ladies from the Floral Arrangement section of our show are requesting contributions of any orchid flowers, bromeliad flowers and Anthuriums, and also greenery for their floral arrangements, especially on Saturday, as these Floral Arrangements are very popular, and supplies usually run low by lunchtime.

The leaves from the cordylines, flax, anthurium, camellia bush, magnolia, strap leaves and crotons are great for greenery, along with all the others you kindly bring. We would also be very grateful for containers (small or large) suitable for flower arrangements.

Many thanks in advance to all who help us out. If in doubt please ask Brent Nicoll.

HELP NEEDED!!!

If you are available to help out at the Autumn Show please put your name in the Roster book at the next meeting, or contact either Brent, John or Barry and let them know when you would be available to help out.

EVEN IF YOU CAN ONLY SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS, WE NEED AS MANY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE TO HELP MAKE THE SHOW A SUCCESS!

We particularly need volunteers for the Front Door, and raffle sellers, and to set up on Friday afternoon around 4 pm, and clean up on Sunday afternoon.

Kitchen - Catering Convenor Marion would appreciate any donations of cakes, slices and cookies etc. Marion will also appreciate assistance in the kitchen.

Plant sales – Convenor Alan McKell will require helpers in Plant Sales. Alan would also appreciate it if anyone can bring in small boxes and shopping bags.

Request to Members

Is there any member who would be willing to put an EDOS Inc Orchid Show sign on their front fence for a few days prior to the Shows?

If you are please contact either Barry, John or Brent. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers Needed

EDOS Inc will be holding an EDOS Inc Promotional Orchid Display at Wynnum Plaza on 23 March between 9 am and 2 pm. If you are available please let John Rooks know ASAP. Once again the more members we can get, the shorter the length of time those volunteers will need to be there.

Bus Trip to Beaudesert Show

EDOS have organised a Bus Trip to the Beaudesert Orchid Show (plus more) on 9 March, 2013. Cost will be \$25 for members, and \$45 for non-members. This includes your entry to the Show and a 2 course Lunch. Please come along and enjoy the company of your fellow members. EDOS has subsidised this trip, so that everyone can have the opportunity to come along and enjoy. THE MORE THE MERRIER!!!

Names (with payment) will be required at the next General Meeting on 28 February. If you are interested but will not be at the meeting please contact Treasurer John Rooks.

HORTICULTURAL SOLUTIONS

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Plants Worth Noting

The January General Meeting initially did not have a 'Plants Worth Noting' scribe. To ensure this worthy section of the meeting and the completion of a newsletter article, I decided to undertake this task. Alas, I did not consider I would be required to do another article on the 'Cultural Award'.

Within the **Species Sympodial Section** there were two very noticeable and well-grown Brassavolas. One of these was (i) *B. cucullata* and the other (ii) *B. nodosa*. Whilst *B. nodosa* had a large number of flowering orchids open; *B. cucullata* took the eyes of the Judges and was awarded First Place.

This particular plant is nothing but 'sticks' for 11 months of the year however when late December to early January each year, the plant usually flowers and on most occasions has three to five flowers. This particular orchid has never been repotted in the past 15 years. Being the owner, I am surprised how well it flowers ever year without any real attention. It is grown in a clay pot in the same mixture of old decaying bark and charcoal.

One of the secrets is how well the root system has attached itself to the back of the pot. Watering occurs in the same manner as the other cattleyas in that part of the '**Den & Cat**' orchid house every 4 to 5 days in summer and 7 to 10 days in the cooler months. Past experience has taught me to withhold water from the majority of my orchids and this encourages the roots 'to go looking for moisture'.

The Manual of Cultivate Orchid Species (Helmut Bechtel, Phillip Cribb & Edmund Lavner) describe *B. cucullata* as an epiphytic plant, up to 40cm high, often growing in large clumps. Stems are self-ascending, slender, terete, jointed, up to 21cm long. Flowers from short stems which are showy, fragrant at night, sepals and petals yellowish or white tinged with red-brown on the outer surface; lip is white. The orchid originates from Mexico to Honduras, the West Indies and Northern S. America, in rain forests to 1800m altitude. *B. cucullata* can be distinguished from *B. nodosa* by its narrower, longer leaves and the longer peduncle.

Within the **Species Monopodial Section**, there was a number of well-grown Phalaenopsis Species on display. Four different varieties were tabled from (i) *Phal. violacea* 'alba'; (ii) *Phal. violacea*; (iii) *Phal. cornu-cervi*; and (iv) *Phal. pulchra*. Despite their small size, they were not over-rawed by the much larger vandaceous varieties on display such as *Aerides lawrenceae* 'alba' (the orchid Maurie commented on growing only on wire). Growing phalaenopsis species can be rewarding due to their ability to flower often and hold their flowers for a considerable period of time. *Phalaenopsis violacea* was well-grown and deserved First Place in this section.

One other orchid took my eye and that was within the **Cattleya Novelty Section**. Here there was a large plant with numerous growths however limited number of flowers. The plant was *Blc. Sweet Treat* by *B. nodosa*. Due to my interest in *B. nodosa*, it was interesting to see how this particular parentage can influence the flowering behaviour of orchids. In this case, the flowers initially open more white with a crimson lip however as time goes by, the white turns yellow which creates a nice novelty flower. Whilst this plant was well grown, the flowering behaviour was somewhat disappointing as one would expect more flowering orchids from the plant. I apologize for the shortness of this article however I had limited time to view all the orchids benched on the meeting night. See you at the next meeting –

Secretary Ken.

Date Claimer



Once again we will be holding our Christmas in July this year with a function on 27 July 2013 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, so keep this date free and come along and have a great night.

More information will be available in coming months.

Shade Houses
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- What:** Qld International Orchid Fair
Where: Beenleigh Showgrounds, James Street, Beenleigh
When: 1, 2 and 3 March, 2013
- What:** Beaudesert Districts Orchid & Foliage
Where: School of Arts Hall, Canungra
When: 9 and 10 March, 2013
- What:** Queensland Orchid Society Inc
Where: Auditorium, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 29 to 31 March, 2013
- What:** EDOS Inc Autumn Show
Where: Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West
When: 6 & 7 April, 2013
- What:** Brisbane Orchid Society
Where: School Hall, Mt Gravatt State School, 1263 Logan Rd, Mt Gravatt
When: 20 and 21 April, 2013
- What:** Redlands Orchid Society Autumn Show
Where: Donald Simpson Centre, Cleveland
When: Saturday 27th April, 2013
- What:** Aspley Orchid Society Inc Autumn Show
Where: Community Hall, Wavell Heights
When: 11 and 12 May, 2013
- What:** Gympie Golden Orchid Spectacular
Where: Gympie Showgrounds, Gympie
When: 8 and 9 June, 2013
- What:** 7th Australasian Native Orchid Conference and Show (hosted by ANOS Kabi Group)
Where: Strathpine Community Centre, cnr Gympie Rd and Mecklam St, Strathpine
When: 21 to 25 August, 2013

Congratulations!!



Photo: President Barry Kable presents Greg Webb with the Jack Fiege Memorial Trophy for 2012 at our January EDOS Meeting.

Cultural Award January 2013

Grown By Ken & Pauline Webster

Dendrobium stratiotes

Reference Source: *Dendrobium and its relatives* – Bill Lavarack, Wayne Harris, Geoff Stocker.

This spectacular epiphyte from the eastern part of the Indonesian islands occurs in the Moluccas, the Sunda Islands and possibly Sulawesi and Irian Jaya. It is a reasonably large plant, which grows epiphytically at low altitudes, and is related to *Den antennatum*, but with larger flowers. The pseudobulbs are up to 1 m long with a swollen base about 2 to 3 cm in diameter and a slender apex. There are leathery ovate leaves, 8 to 14 cm long, in 2 ranks along the apical half of the pseudobulbs. The inflorescences arise from the upper leaf axils and are to 40cm long, although slightly shorter, with 3 to 10 flowers. The flowers are large, up to 10 cm in length, but more commonly about 5 cm long. They last up to 6 weeks and, while the main flowering season is spring, flowers may occur at any time of the year. It is best grown in a large shallow pot with a well-drained mixture. It requires year-round warm and moist conditions. Watering should be kept up all year, perhaps a little less in cool weather. It responds well to regular application of a dilute fertiliser and should be grown in bright light with good air movement.

Discovered by August Linden in the Sunda Islands and described by H.G. Reichenbach in the Gardener's Chronicle of 1886. He named it *D. Stratiotes* as the mass of erect stems and petals reminded him of

soldiers and their bayonets (Ref: The Manual of Cultivated Orchid Species – Bechtol, Cribb & Lavnert).

Our Culture:

Pauline and I purchased this plant as a seedling from Alices Orchids (Townsville) in 2005. The plant then had a single growth with one new lead. One main reason for purchasing this seedling was due to our interest in **Spatulata Dendrobiums** – i.e. flowers which have (i) more or less erect petals; (ii) varying degrees of twisting, up to 2 to 3 times, and (iii) this easily-recognised character gives rise to the often used common name '**antelope Dendrobium**'.

We grow this orchid in one of our three orchid houses in our backyard. This particular orchid house is commonly known as '**The Cat & Den House**' and is on the northern and western side of the yard. In other words, this location receives the most sun during the day and is considered the '**hottest orchid house**' in our yard. The orchid house consists of weld mesh and cable roof. We use 70% shade cloth however have a layer of solar weave under the shade cloth so we can control our watering and fertilizing program.

This orchid had 11 flowering spikes with approximately 12 to 13 flowers per spike. Approximately 2 months before flowering I removed the plant from a clay pot which it had over-grown and placed it into a large squat spot to control the root system. This assisted in transporting the orchid plant to the meeting as this was the most difficult part in growing this orchid.

We appreciate the kind comments provided by Maurie (Page) during his commentary on the night. For those who did not hear him – Maurie said "**this orchid grows well in NQ – it is a credit to the owner to grow this particular orchid so well in SE Qld – well done**"

Beginning with Orchids

EDOS Inc will be holding the next "Beginning with Orchids" following our Autumn Show on 13 April, 2013 at Fame Orchids.

There will be more details later.

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AOC President's Newsletter February 2013

To all members and orchid clubs, I hope that you enjoyed Christmas and New Year and that all that is going well.

In my travels around, I find that one of the most often asked questions is "What does the AOC do for us?" Remember that the AOC is owned by the membership of orchid growers, but here are some things that the AOC does for all growers and clubs.

The AOC is the national forum for the coordination of orchid growing across Australia and for the resolution of issues brought to it by the personal members or societies, often through the Area Representative Organisations (AROs).

The AOC publishes the magazine 'Orchids Australia' which provides a wealth of information on aspects of orchid growing, historical articles, awards, and what is happening at club level. The publication committee welcomes relevant contributions from personal members – for example on culture, show reports and any other articles of interest to orchid growers not only in Australia but overseas as well. May I encourage people to become personal members of the AOC by subscribing to 'Orchids Australia.'

The AOC provides a comprehensive program library for AOC-affiliated clubs free of charge except for return postage. The complete catalogue may be downloaded from the AOC website which is another service to

Only six months away!



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Register to come to the
**7th Australasian Native Orchid Society
Conference & Show.**

Held at Strathpine (Queensland, Australia).

Hosted by Kabi Group(Inc).

Full Conference - 22-25th August

2013

Public show days - 23-25th August

NOTE: Programme update

**ANOS Gen. Meeting for affiliated members
23rd Aug**

**For fuller details see www.ourshopfront.com/kabi
and follow the Conference link.**

orchid growers in general. The current AOC Secretary can also email it to you as she is also the Program Librarian.

We also provide a unified national judging system, granting awards of excellence to growers. Over many years the system has been developed, headed by the Registrar General in conjunction with the Registrar from each State who train judges to a high standard so that they are able to judge at orchid shows wherever they may be required.

During my tenure as President I encourage personal members and clubs to share ideas that they have had success with, either at a personal level or at club level. For example, you may have a successful way of attracting new members to your club, or a member may have done something different that resulted in growing his/her orchids better. You can email or post your suggestions to me which I will share in future newsletters. (Please let me know whether you want your name/club mentioned.) I don't care if I am overwhelmed with emails! If you have any articles that could be printed in 'Orchids Australia' I would also be pleased to receive them.

As many of you are aware, there have been horrific fires and floods in Australia in the last month or so, and I would assume that there are orchid growers who have been affected by these disasters. I believe, that as orchid growers, we need to support such people. I suggest that if clubs in the affected areas could let me know, we may be able to put out an appeal for growers who have surplus plants to donate them to those affected so that they may be able to continue their interest in the hobby that we all enjoy so much.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the clubs and personal members for the support and encouraging comments that I have received whilst making contact by email, phone or personally. As a result of these contacts we are now able to be in touch with most clubs via the internet which will help immensely to cut the operating costs of the Council.

Until the next newsletter, goodbye for now.

Jim Shaughnessy, AOC President

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Gympie Golden Orchid Spectacular

The Gympie Golden Orchid Spectacular will be held at the Gympie Showgrounds, Gympie on 8 and 9 June, 2013. Entry Fee is \$5 which includes parking. There will be 20 vendors, as well as Guest Speakers. For further information contact John Green on 07 5483 2764 or johnandkayegreen@southernphone.com.au

WEBSITE

www.edos.org.au. Our Webmaster Ray Girdlestone would like you to have a look at our EDOS website and make comment – remember it is still a work in progress and any suggestions will be appreciated. If you have any Cultural advice you think may be useful to others please pass it on to Ray for inclusion on the website.

Ray can be contacted on email webmaster@edos.org.au or phone 3823 4277

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

If anyone has any articles they would be interested in having included in the Newsletter please let me know
For anyone who is interested in receiving their Newsletter electronically, please let me know your email address and I will include you in our email group. My email address is editor@edos.org.au

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