



# Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966

Patron Neil Symes MP



## E.D.O.S. NEWSLETTER

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### MAY 2014

#### **NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

Members are invited to attend the next General Meeting to be held on **Thursday 22 May, 2014** commencing at **8.00 pm** at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

#### **RED SPOTTERS CLUB**

Reg McIlwain will be doing a presentation on Orchids on Mounts and their Culture. Reg has a lot of experience in this area, and is happy to pass his expertise on to other growers.

#### **FEATURE ITEM**

Ken Webster's topic for the Feature Item this month will be "My Culture for Vandaceous Orchids". Many of our members will have seen Ken's plants on the benches at both meetings and shows, and I am sure we will all be interested to know what his "secrets" are!

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

- Judges:** Eric Locke, Les Vickers, Les Burow, Brent Nicoll  
**Observers:** Student Judges Greg Webb and Ray Girdlestone  
**Scribes:** Volunteers required please.  
**Supper Steward:** Marion and Colin Samuels  
**Hostesses:** Margaret Rieck, Janelle Girdlestone  
**Library:** Helen Vickers  
**Plant Registrar:** Ann Kable  
**Plants Worth Noting:** Sharyn Kann  
**Trade Table:** Michael and Nikki Tervo

#### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 29 May, 2014** at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

#### **Ballina Bus Trip**

Around 40 EDOS Inc members enjoyed a Bus Trip to Ballina on Saturday 10 May, leaving the Hall at 6.30 am. After a "comfort stop" just over the border, we arrived in Ballina in time to partake in an absolutely delicious Morning Tea, provided by the local CWA Ladies (homemade soup, freshly made scones, sandwiches and lots of cakes and sweet things), then on to the Ballina Orchid Show to be greeted by their friendly members. Not too many purchases at this stage.

We continued on to Woodburn to visit Easy Orchids. Murray and Jean welcomed everyone with their usual good cheer – and in Murray's case cheek. The storage area on the bus was much fuller when we left there!!!

We then returned to the Ballina RSL for an enjoyable lunch (and a Birthday cake for Leanore).

On the way home we visited Bob Sullivan's private collection at a place called Stoker's Siding in the hills behind Murwillumbah. This was a "Drive with a Difference!!!" In order to get to our last stop, the members enjoyed a leisurely walk through the paddock (and around the cowpats) to get to the orchid houses, whilst our bus driver Jeff, Barry and some others figured out how to turn the bus around, as the road proved to be "Not Bus Friendly" for the last few hundred metres!!

VERRRY INTERESTING!!!! Fortunately Bob was there with his ute to transport anyone who couldn't handle the walk. After looking around Bob's orchid houses (and some members making purchases) Bob's wife provided us with a cuppa and pikelets, and it was then off for another stroll back through the paddock (and around the cowpats), over the little causeway and back to the bus, complete with jokes and laughs, many carrying their purchases.

We arrived back at the Hall around 7 pm, after an enjoyable day with lots of laughter and camaraderie (and for some emptier pockets).

**Many Thanks to Allan McKell for all his work in organising the trip.**

## Date Claimer



Once again we will be holding our Christmas in July. This year the function will be on 26 July 2014 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, so keep this date free and come along and have a great night.

(One member is so keen to attend again this year he has already paid his money so that he won't miss out!!!!)

More information will be available in next month's Newsletter.

### **HORTICULTURAL SOLUTIONS**

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### **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - SHOW CAPTAIN VACANCY**

**EDOS Inc is looking for Nominations for a Show Captain to replace Brent Nicoll who has decided to retire from the position after many years.**

If anyone is interested in taking the position on, please contact either Barry Kable or Ken Webster for more information on the Roles and Responsibilities the position entails.

## **Cultural Award March 2014**

### **Dendrobium Topaz Dream**

Plant was purchased about 12 months ago from Burbank Orchids. As I do with most purchases it was repotted into my own mix of small bark, jumbo perlite and small charcoal using a 100mm pot. Dens love to be pot bound.

Topaz Dream is made up of 6% *Den. canaliculatum* and 94% *Den. Bigibbum*

This orchid is grown in a large shade house with solar weave and shade mesh on the roof at total 60% shade and shade mesh at 50% shade on the sides. The solar weave allows for watering to be controlled and this is very important in winter especially for dendrobiums. One of the best tips ever given to me, when I first started to grow Dendrobiums was to grow them under a solid roof.

Generally this orchid is watered ever 2 to 3 days in summer and about once per week in winter. This depends on how hot or how cool the weather is and I supplement this watering with misting especially the aerial roots that will develop with good culture.

When watering or fertilising I make sure to water the top of each pot and water until water or fertiliser runs through the pot.

This dendrobium is fertilised all year round alternating between foliar feeding and deep water fertilising. Horticultural solutions HSO 12 and HSO 22 is used for deep water fertilising and each is used alternately once per fortnight. With foliar feeding the same products are used adding Hy-san, Amino K and Seasol. This is sprayed over the foliage on alternate fortnights to deep water fertilising.

This orchid is positioned hanging high in the shade house where it gets maximum light and heat and good air circulation.

The fertilising regime described above is quite complicated to put on paper and if anyone wishes to discuss further then please approach me and I will be happy to discuss further.

### **Ken Haase**

### **Increase in Postage**

Australia Post is increasing the price of postage to 70 cents. In an effort to save EDOS Inc some costs, we would like our members to consider having their Newsletter sent electronically (via email).

If you are happy to receive your Newsletter via email, please let John Rooks know your email address.

## Plants Worth Noting

Firstly I would like to comment on the Dendrobiums over the last couple of months, they have been exceptional and of very good quality and a real credit to their growers.

On display at the last meeting was a *Bulbophyllum longissimum* which is always eye catching with the petals growing to about 11 inches long. Native to Thailand, Burma and Malaysia at low elevations, it is epiphytic with conical pseudobulbs. The flower stem is about 8" [20cm] long and produces 5-10 fragrant flowers with long cream coloured petals with pink stripes. This orchid likes to be moist all summer and never let dry out with reduced watering in winter. Also there were several specimens of *Bulb. medusa* on show, a striking little orchid with its head of flowers looking a bit like a mop head. It also comes from the South East Asian region and likes Phalaenopsis type conditions .

On display was a member of the Catasetinae group namely *Cycnoches Jumbo Puff*. We don't see many of this group on the benches but hopefully they will become more popular. The 2 beautiful sprays of 5cm plus flowers in bright yellow was very nice indeed. They like lots of water and fertilizer in the growing season and a lot of neglect in winter as they are deciduous and go dormant. Just keep a close eye on them in summer as spider mite seem to particularly like the soft leaves and can decimate them rather quickly as I have now learnt.

That's all for now, happy orchid growing.

**Greg Webb**

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## Cultural Award for April 14

### *Bulbophyllum longissimum*

*Bulbophyllum longissimum* is a native of Burma and Thailand. Once established it is extremely easy to grow, it has a semi-rambling habit and seems to prefer to grow out of the pot. This is not such a bad thing as the pendant habit of the flower spikes makes a better presentation of the 40cm plus blooms. One must be watchful as the flowers are developing as the long petals can easily get caught up on the bench and will never straighten up properly.

The mix is 1/3 jumbo perlite, 1/3 small bark and 1/3 small coconut chip, please note that the coconut chip must be treated with Cultiplex prior to potting. The mix is kept moist at all times, only reducing the watering during winter.

The open roof is 75% shade cloth and fertilising is once a week with whatever I have to hand. The plant seems free of any vermin and mould problems and has never received any preventative treatment in any way.

Happy growing,

**Tony Beck**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- What:** Southport & Districts Orchid Soc Qld Inc  
**Where:** Albert Waterways Community Centre, Sunshine Bvd, Broadbeach  
**When:** 31 May, 1 June, 2014
- What:** North Moreton Qld Orchid Council Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 28 and 29 June, 2014
- What:** Caboolture Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Morayfield Community Complex, Morayfield Rd, Morayfield  
**When:** 4, 5 and 6 July, 2014
- What:** John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 26 and 27 July, 2014
- What:** Maroochydore Orchid Society Inc Annual Show  
**Where:** Millward Road Community Hall, Millwell Road East  
**When:** 9 and 10 August, 2014
- What:** ANOS Kabi Group Inc  
**Where:** Bald Hills State School, 2156 Gympie Rd, Bald Hills  
**When:** 23 and 24 August, 2014

**What:** North Brisbane Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 23 and 24 August, 2014

**What:** Logan & District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Logan Central Community Centre, Cnr Jacaranda & Wembley Rd, Logan Central  
**When:** 30 and 31 August, 2014

**What:** Gold Coast District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Albert Waterways Community Centre, Sunshine Blvd, Broadbeach  
**When:** 30 and 31 August, 2014

**What:** West Brisbane Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 30 and 31 August, 2014

**What:** Redlands Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Donald Simpson Centre, 172 Bloomfield St, Cleveland  
**When:** 6 September, 2014

**What:** Nambour Orchid Society Inc Spring Show  
**Where:** Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour  
**When:** 5 and 6 September, 2014

**What:** Beaudesert Districts Orchid & Foliage Club Inc  
**Where:** Canungra School of Arts Hall, 3/7 Pine St Canungra  
**When:** 13 and 14 September, 2014

**What:** Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc Spring Show  
**Where:** Centenary Hts School Hall, Ramsay St, Toowoomba  
**When:** 19 to 23 September, 2014

**What:** Glasshouse Country Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Beerwah Community Hall, Peachester Rd, Beerwah  
**When:** 26 and 27 September, 2014

**What:** Eastern District Orchid Society Inc Spring Show  
**Where:** Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Rd, Manly West  
**When:** 27 and 28 September, 2014

**What:** Queensland Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 19, 20 and 21 September, 2014

**What:** Ipswich Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Silkstone State Primary School  
**When:** 4 and 5 October, 2014

**What:** Orchid Species Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 18 and 19 October, 2014

**What:** Nambour Orchid Society Inc Species Show & Trade Fair

**Where:** Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour

**When:** 31 October and 1 November, 2014

**What:** North Moreton Qld Orchid Council Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 1 and 2 November, 2014

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## *EDOS Inc Display QOS Meeting*

EDOS Inc was invited to attend the QOS meeting on Monday night 12th May as the Guest Society. Many Many Thanks to the 13 members who travelled to Red Hill, benching a diverse variety of 22 plants between them for EDOS' display. It's always great to show other Societies what EDOS members can achieve!

## *Annual Points Vouchers*

Please note that the Vouchers won by EDOS Inc Annual Points Winners for 2013 will expire on 31 May, 2014.

## *Date Claimers*

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**49<sup>th</sup> Tropical Queensland Orchid Council Inc Conference and Show - to be held in AHERTON on June 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> 2014**

If you would like further information please contact Secretary Ken Webster.

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## Combined 20<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference and Show and 50<sup>th</sup> Tropical Orchid Council Regional Show,

Below is an excerpt from the letter sent out in relation to the upcoming Conference and Show:

*“On behalf of the Mackay & District Orchid Society Inc., (MDOS) we would like to supply you with some basic information about the 20th Australian Orchid Council Conference (AOC) and Show. We have called the Event “Orchids in Paradise” and it will be held in Mackay, North Queensland from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015. We have chosen the award winning Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC) as the venue. ([www.mackayecc.com.au](http://www.mackayecc.com.au))*

*Mackay & District Orchid Society are delighted to be offered this opportunity to host the 20th AOC Conference and Show, which in 2015 will also be incorporating the 50th Tropical Queensland Orchid Council Conference and Show (TQOC). This conference will, for the first time, be integrating a foliage section into the Show Schedule. This was a requirement from the TQOC and will add an extra, appealing visual dimension to the Show.*

*Delegates and visitors to the Show are going to have a unique and memorable experience as they indulge in 1000m<sup>2</sup> of the best of Australian growers’ award winning Orchids, and Orchid Displays, giving them a unique and memorable experience. Even at this early stage, a number of Orchid Societies have indicated their interest in submitting a display. There will be over 50 vendors from Australia and Overseas, Photography Displays, Art Exhibitions and Floral Art Displays. In addition, there will be classes for both the Beginner Orchid grower and Master Classes for the experienced grower. The Conference delegates will have the opportunity to listen to International orchidaceous speakers from Kew Gardens UK, the USA, Asia and Papua New Guinea, as well as the cream of Australian experts. We are calling for papers from Australian*

*speakers and would like to present a broad, informative and stimulating conference for Orchidaceae lovers. There will also be an array of social events, including an Awards Dinner at the MECC, a Social BBQ at the Blue Water Lagoon and a Post Conference bus tour to Eungella.”*

If you would like more information, or the “Expression of Interest” Form please contact our Secretary Ken Webster, who will be able to help you.

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### **WEBSITE**

[www.edos.org.au](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:editor@edos.org.au)

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