



# Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966

Patron Neil Symes



## E.D.O.S. NEWSLETTER

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### MAY 2015

#### ***NEXT GENERAL MEETING***

Members are invited to attend the next General Meeting to be held on **Thursday 28 May, 2015** commencing at 8.00 pm, at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

#### ***NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING***

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 4 June, 2015** at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

#### ***RED SPOTTERS CLUB***

Commencing at 7.30 pm, Secretary Ken Webster's presentation will be "Bedding Down Your Orchids for Winter". This is something many of us don't do very well.

#### ***Trade Table***

As has been the practice for the past few years, the Trade Table will be **in recess** for the May and June Meetings. However, if you require any items, please contact Michael or Nikki on 3245 1383 to organise delivery or collection.

#### ***FEATURE ITEM***

Secretary Ken Webster will be taking on this item as well for this meeting. Ken's topic will be "My culture for growing *Rhynchostylis gigantea*". Ken does this quite successfully, so we should all be able to learn something new.

#### ***Xmas in July***

This year our 'Christmas in July' function will be held on Saturday 18 July 2015 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club.

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

**Judges:** Eric Locke, Les Vickers, Lynda Rapkins, John Rooks, Brent Nicoll

**Observers:** Student Judges Helen Vickers and Janelle Girdlestone

**Scribes:** Volunteers required please.

**Supper Steward:** Daphne McKell and helper

**Hostesses:** Dot Rooks and Margaret Rieck

**Library :** Helen Vickers

**Plant Registrar:** Ann Kable

**Plants Worth Noting:** Greg Webb

**Trade Table:** In recess for next 2 months.

Doors will be open at 6 pm, with nibbles at 6.15 pm, and the main meal to be served at 6.45 pm. (If you have any special dietary requirements let John Rooks know at the May or June Meetings please.)

Tickets will be available at our May and June General Meetings. Cost will be \$20 per head for Members, and \$35 for Non-members. Soft drinks will be included, however any alcoholic drinks will be at your own cost.

**For catering purposes it would be great if you could put your name on the list at the May Meeting, however we will still take names up to the June General Meeting.**

If you are planning on coming along, please bring a prize (one per person attending) for the Cent Auction – preferably something “Orchid” (please bring something you would be happy to win yourself) Cent Auction tickets will be \$5 per sheet.

There will also be a great Raffle prize (this will include one of Daphne McKell’s famous Puddings) Tickets will be on sale at our next meeting. There will also be a Lucky Door prize.

It will be a great night, (no official business will be done on the night), so keep this date free and come along and relax, enjoy a great meal, have lots of laughs, and enjoy yourselves with your fellow society members.

## **Fame *Orchids* Nursery**

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## **Toowoomba Bus Trip**

EDOS Inc is organising a Bus Trip to the Toowoomba Orchid Show on Saturday 25 July, 2015. This is always a great show to visit, and this year will be even better as it is their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Alan is also organising a visit to a couple of local growers on the day, as well as an enjoyable lunch.

The cost should be available after the next Committee Meeting when final arrangements are confirmed.

**There are still a couple of seats available, so if you would like to go, but have not yet put your name down, please do so at the May General Meeting.**

## ***Assistance Required Toowoomba Orchid Society Conference and Show***

EDOS will be participating in the upcoming Toowoomba Conference and Show on Friday 24 and Saturday 25 July by putting on a Tabletop display.

**As most of the Committee members will be involved with judging and other aspects of the Show and are unavailable on this occasion, we are looking for some of our members who would be able to assist with taking up the plants, setting the display up, manning the display, and bringing it all back. Setup would be around 10 am until 4 pm on Thursday, to allow for judging on Thursday night. Even if you can't be there for the whole time, please consider helping out, as this is another opportunity to showcase our Society (and help them celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As an added incentive the Prize money is excellent for this show.)**

We will also be looking for plants for the display. If you are able to identify any plants you may have in flower during this time, we will need to know prior to the show, as the TOS organisers have requested a list of the names in order to print labels. If you are able to assist in any way, or would like more information, please contact President Barry Kable.



## ***Attendance at QOS Meeting***

EDOS was invited to be the Guest Society at the Queensland Orchid Society Inc's Meeting on Monday, 11 May, 2015.

The Committee would like to Thank those members who attended on the night and took plants along for tabling. The EDOS table was quite impressive, with a good variety of plants on show, almost outnumbering the QOS members' plants.

## ***Cultural Award April 15***

***Dendrobium Memoria Kip McKillop x Dendrobium Mighty Mite***

This plant is 8 years old, grown for a seedling purchased from Aranbeen Nursery. It is grown hung high in the shadehouse under a solar weave roof &

receives high light, heat & good air movement. The plant is potted in a 15cm pot with large coconut bark & perlite as the growing medium.

Watering is once weekly through the warmer half of the year then tapering to once every 2 to 3 weeks in winter. Fertilising is HSO22 once per week during spring & the first half of summer then changing to HSO12 once per week for the second half of summer & autumn. The plant foliage is sprayed in mid May with Envy for cold weather protection & to stop leaf drop.

The plant produces a number of flower spikes with up to 20 flowers per spike & then a second flowering of less vigour. This plant appears easy to grow & flower, the only disappointment is the flowers tend to look down.

Thanks

**Graham Walker**

## **Annual Points Competition Vouchers**

Anyone who was lucky enough to win vouchers in EDOS' Annual points competition please note that these vouchers **expire on 30/06/2015** and therefore must be redeemed **before** then.

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## **EDOS Inc Show Vouchers**

For those Members who are lucky enough to win Prize Vouchers at any of our EDOS Shows, please be assured that these vouchers CAN be used at the EDOS Trade Table at any time before the expiry date shown.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**What:** Southport & Districts Orchid Soc Qld Inc  
**Where:** Albert Waterways Com Centre, 91 Sunshine Bvd, Broadbeach  
**When:** 6 and 7 June, 2015

**What:** North Moreton Qld Orchid Council  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 27 and 28 June, 2015

**What:** John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 18 and 19 July, 2015

**What:** Toowoomba Orchid Soc Inc Conference and Show  
**Where:** USQ Toowoomba Berghofer Recreation Centre  
**When:** 24 and 25 July, 2015

**What:** ANOS (Qld) KABI Group Inc  
**Where:** Bald Hills State School, 2156 Gympie Rd, Bald Hills  
**When:** 22 and 23 August, 2015

**What:** North Brisbane Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 22 and 23 August, 2015

**What:** Nambour Diamond Jubilee Spring Show  
**Where:** Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour  
**When:** 28 and 29 August, 2015

**What:** Logan & District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Centre for Aging, Cnr Jacaranda & Wembley Rd, Woodridge  
**When:** 29 and 30 August, 2015

**What:** Ballina & Dist Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** RSL Club, Ballina  
**When:** 29 and 30 August, 2015

**What:** Gold Coast District Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Albert Waterways Community Centre, Cnr Hooker & Sunshine Bvds, Broadbeach Waters  
**When:** 4 and 5 September, 2015

**What:** QOS Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 12 and 13 September, 2015

**What:** Beaudesert Districts Orchid & Foliage Society Inc  
**Where:** Canungra School of Arts Hall, 37 Pine St, Canungra  
**When:** 12 and 13 September, 2015

**What:** West Brisbane Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 19 and 20 September, 2015

**What:** Orchids in Paradise – 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Orchid Council Conference & Show  
**Where:** Hosted by Mackay & District Orchid Society  
**When:** 18 to 23 September, 2015

**What:** Glasshouse Country Orchid Society Inc

# Wanted to Buy

- Where:** Beerwah Community Hall, Peachester Road, Beerwah  
**When:** 25 and 26 September, 2015
- What:** EDOS Spring Show  
**Where:** Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West  
**When:** 3 and 4 October, 2015
- What:** Bribie Island Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** The Orchid House, 15A First Ave, Bribie Island  
**When:** 3 and 4 October, 2015
- What:** Ipswich Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Silkstone State Primary School  
**When:** 3 and 4 October, 2015
- What:** Redlands Orchid Society Inc  
**Where:** Donald Simpson Centre, 172 Bloomfield St, Cleveland  
**When:** 17 October, 2015
- What:** Boonah Charity Show  
**Where:** Boonah State High School  
**When:** 17 and 18 October, 2015
- What:** Tweed District Orchid Society Inc Annual Orchid Fair  
**Where:** Tweed Civic Centre, Brett St, Tweed Heads  
**When:** 31 October and 1 November, 2015
- What:** Orchid Species Society Inc  
**Where:** Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha  
**When:** 14 and 15 November, 2015

Milton Ludlow would like to purchase the following orchids:

*Catasetum Dentigranum* (*Ctsm. denticulatum* x *Ctsm. Tigrinum*)  
*Rlc. Penny's Spot* (*Rlc. Waianae Leopard* x *C. Penny Kuroda*)

If you have either of these please see Milton at the next meeting or contact him on 3245 5428

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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 if you have any Cultural advice or articles relating to orchid growing 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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***Phragmipedium* Peruflorea's Cirila Alca**  
(A primary hybrid of *Phrag. kovachii* and *Phrag. dalessandroi*)

**Now known as:**

***Phragmipedium* Fritz Schomburg**  
(A primary hybrid of *Phrag. kovachii* and *Phrag. besseae* var. *dalessandroi*)



Whilst I find all primary hybrids interesting because the influence of the parents is still very evident, this plant was chosen as Plant worth noting because of the story surrounding the discovery of its *Phrag. kovachii* parent. Back to that in a moment though.

For crossings utilising the parents involved in this instance, made in say 2007, *Phrag. Peruflorea's Cirila Alca* was the registered hybrid name (grex). But, a seedling of a crossing made today with the very same parents, would be a *Phrag. Fritz Schomburg*. This arises because the non-*kovachii* parent of this primary hybrid was known as *Phrag. dalessandroi* up until 2007. The currently accepted name for that parent is *Phrag. besseae* var. *dalessandroi*. The grex of the primary hybrid resulting from a crossing of *Phrag. kovachii* and *Phrag. besseae* is *Phrag. Fritz Schomburg*. If we update a Cirila

Alca to the grex Fritz Schomburg, it might be a good idea to note that the non-*kovachii* parent is *Phrag. besseae* var. *dalessandroi* as it could be that in the future it might be *Phrag. dalessandroi* again. While the grex Fritz Schomburg has been in use for the crossing of *Phrag. kovachii* and *Phrag. besseae* for quite some time, it has in recent time been "gate-crashed" by what would previously have been seedlings of *Phrag. Peruflorea's Cirila Alca*. Phew! somewhat difficult to follow at times.

While *Phrag. kovachii* and *Phrag. besseae/dalessandroi* are both promising parents, it is *Phrag. kovachii* that has considerable intrigue attached to it and is linked to orchid enthusiasts being charged in the USA with federal crimes for illegally importing and possessing an endangered species under the CITES convention.



*Phrag. kovachii* would undoubtedly be the most exciting orchid discovery of recent time - this remarkable new orchid with by far the largest flower of the *phragmipedium* genus has flowers that are a bright pink colour (perhaps peach and raspberry) and of very good shape, with wide petals and dorsal sepals. Awarded cultivars in excess of 180mm are common. The discovery of this species generated such excitement that many wild populations in Peru were soon decimated by illegal collection. There are reports that plants were being offered for sale for \$US5,000. In May 2002, James Kovach, a nurseryman of Virginia, USA went to Peru with a friend, Lee Moore, an orchid trader. While there, James Kovach was offered a big colorful *Phragmipedium* of which he bought 3 pots. His mate Lee Moore proclaimed, "You've got the Holy Grail of orchids."

Kovach arrived back in Miami in early June 2002 and took his new discovery to Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota for identification. It was subsequently named *Phragmipedium kovachii* after the discoverer. As all species of *Phragmipedium* are protected under the CITES Convention, the Peruvian Government, in June 2002, asked the USA Fish and Wildlife Service to investigate Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. In June 2004, the Tampa District Court in Florida, found Kovach guilty of violating the *Endangered Species Act* and gave him two years' probation and a \$1,000 fine for bringing an endangered flower into the USA. Selby Botanical Gardens and one of its top scientists formally pleaded guilty to accepting and handling a rare orchid that the federal government claimed was smuggled in from Peru. A plea agreement meant the gardens would pay a \$5,000 fine and submit to three years' probation for the misdemeanour charge under the *Endangered Species Act*. Their horticulturist, Wesley Higgins, agreed to a plea deal specifying house arrest for six months, probation for a year, and a \$2,000 fine.