

# Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc.

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## Newsletter

P.O. Box 1173,

Bundaberg, 4670

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Ed. Graham Price

### Office Bearers.

President	Robert Shield	Phone 41550783
Secretary	Rene Thompson	Phone 41521619
Treasurer	Glenda Coster	Phone 41527980

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the third THURSDAY of each month at the Avenell Heights Hall, Thabeban Street.

**Visitors and past members are especially welcome to attend.**

### Date Claimers

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017 New and Interested Growers Group meeting - Potting Day and Supplies. A. & B. Heidke, 159 Heidke Road. The day will include potting demonstrations and hints. This is a particularly useful day for beginners and those having little success with their repotting. Please bring a plant for repotting – on which you can practise. Bring something for smoko and a hat and chair.

12/13<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Agnes Water Orchid and Foliage Show. The club will be putting in a stand. Anyone wishing to participate needs to have their plant names into Reg Dix by 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Set up is from 12.30pm to 5pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017. If you don't wish to travel to Agnes then Bob Shield will take your plants up but they need to be at his place by 11am on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August. Novices are encouraged to attend – contact a club member to find out how. This is the second year for this show with the inaugural show being very successful. All members are invited to attend.

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017. New and Interested Growers Group meeting. This month the club will visit John and Nancy Maughan's shade house and John and Leith Schouten's residence.

**Meeting Duty Roster:****August: B Group****July: A Group****September: C Group****October: D Group****Month: June****Raffle winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Bill Newton2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Bob Coster**Lucky Door:** Bob Shield**Exhibitors Prize:** Leith & John Schouten

**Bulk Booklet Orders and/or Enquires: Jean Williamson and Tony McGarry,  
Phone# 0448879969 Email: [jw.484@bigpond.com](mailto:jw.484@bigpond.com)**

**The Club merchandise is available only to BOSI members not the public.**

Please phone Bev on 41593291 to arrange a suitable time for you to collect any merchandise you require for your Orchid Potting. Bev can bring a small amount of merchandise to the monthly meeting, however, if you know there is something you would like to buy at the meeting could you PLEASE phone Bev with your requirements. This will enable Bev to not have to hire a pantechnicon to bring in merchandise.

The Noosa Orchid Club visited the Bundaberg district on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. The day went as well as could be expected once the GPS problem was sorted out. Judging by the response by Noosa members they were very pleased with the visit and to all those who helped make the day successful – THANK YOU!!!.

Seventeen members travelled to Howard for the annual workshop, in the club provided bus, together with thirteen others who chose to travel privately. This was a very informative day and for a change was not cold. It is our turn to host this event next year, in 2018. As it is always the first Saturday in July, you may mark your calendars now. The bus will hold 50 so there is plenty of room.

**SOUTHERN BUS TRIP** The club is tentatively organising an overnight trip to northern Brisbane for the weekend of 14/15<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The club will pay for the bus and \$100 per room towards accommodation. At the moment the Cabolture Motel can provide rooms for \$90.00. The visit will be to various shade houses in the Nambour and northern Brisbane areas. A book will be available for those who wish to indicate their intentions. The numbers will be limited to the size of the bus (approx. 50). The bus will leave Verdant Street at 6am and should be returning by 5pm on the Sunday.

## The Vanda Lifecycle

In this article we will discuss the basic lifecycle of the Vanda Genus of Orchids, and while being primarily about these beautiful plants the lifecycle of most orchids would be similar, however the time frames may differ significantly. Many orchids within the various genus grow quick or slower than the Vanda Orchids.

It is noted that we will only be referring to orchids grown from seed in this article and exclude the process known as mericloning.

So let's begin. When a hybridizer views their plants they are looking for certain characteristics from each parent that they believe may supply an improved overall result. The common aspects looked for may include the size of the blooms, the colour, the display or even the flower count. Whatever the decision is for selecting the two parents they must be cross pollinated to commence the process. This is done by taking the pollen from one flower known as the pollen parent and placing it onto the reproductive stigma of the other parent. This parent will carry the seed pod and is thus known as the pod parent.



Figure 1

Once this process has been completed it only takes a few days, in most cases, to see the flower starting to collapse and the ovary commence to swell. This process can take a little longer in some plants and the difference may not be noticeable for a week or so. Over the coming period the ovary will continue to swell forming a seed pod (Figure 1). The size of this seed pod is dependant on the size of the parent flowers. Once formed on the plant they will continue to grow as the seed matures. This process will take between six and twelve months on Vanda plants dependant on the actual parents. Each seed pod holds up to approximately two million

# Popular Vote Results

## Cattleya



Pot. Hsinging Dream

I. & C. Neilson

## Species



*Liparis spathulata*

G. Reimer

## Vanda



Phal. (Hwafeng Red Jewel) x Taisco Carmine

B. & D. Shield

## Any Other



Cstm. Orchid Glade "David Ranches"

C. & G. Symonds

## Dendrobium



**Den. Caesar alba**

A. & B. Heidke

## Novice



**Castle-Issa**

C. Tholstrup

## Judges Choice



**Rsc. Goldenzelle Tokyo x Rsc. Burdekin Sunset**

C. Dawson

individual seeds, which in nature are dispersed by the winds. Only a very small percent ever germinate.

In controlled laboratory conditions however, the germination and success rates are much higher. At this point, it is important to note that many seed pods may contain none or few fertile seeds and it can be very frustrating when no germination occurs after such effort.



Figure 2

Successful harvesting of the seed pod and the careful placement of the seed on to a high nutrient mix inside bottles, known as flasks, follows (Figure 2).

If all goes well the seeds will start to germinate in a period of between one month and twelve months from when they are placed on the growing media.

As they commence their lives as orchids they appear as a green carpet as seen in figure 3.

Figure 4 is actually showing many baby



Figure 3

high nutrient mix.

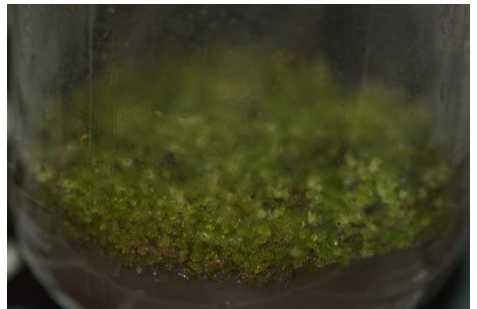


Figure 4

orchids inside the flask; the small plants will stay in this flask for a further six to twelve months before they need to be spread out and supplied with a new

By taking a small section of the baby plants and spreading them into a new flask they can grow larger and commence forming leaves and roots (Figure 5). This process all takes time and it is usually eighteen months or so from the initial seed gathering until you reach this stage.

Growth continues and the plants begin to look more like what we commonly see in small tube stock. By the time the plants are approximately two to two and a half years old they will be ready to be removed from the flask and commence life in pots.

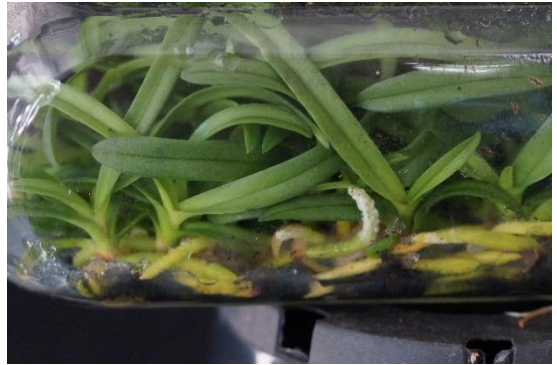


Figure 5

Thank you to Rick Emerson for the photos and text.



Species STOC Trophy

2017 BOSI Show

Awarded To:

**R. & B. Emmerson**

While the Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc. endeavours to ensure reliability and accuracy in this Newsletter's editorial content, responsibility for advice and views expressed is not assumed by the Society or the Management Committee.



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