

TAN BARK

Newsletter of Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc.



July
2018

Next Meeting

27th July

7.30pm

Winter Show

Sat. 14 July 8.30am - 4.00pm

Sun. 15 July 8.30am - 3.00pm

Meetings:

Fourth Friday of each month at 7.30pm, except September and December.

Venue:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Hall
Cnr. James and Phillip St, Toowoomba

Annual Subscription:

Due January—Family \$25.00 / Single \$25.00

Mail: P.O. Box 7710

Toowoomba Mail Centre Qld. 4350

Email:

tanbark_toowoomba@hotmail.com

ABN: 32603296231

Patron:

Les Lobley

President:

John Terry 0428 383 403

jht.orchids@gmail.com

Vice President:

David Woolf 0429 882 191

woolfman@bigpond.net.au

Secretary:

John Terry 0428 383 403

tanbark_toowoomba@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Bernie Breuel 0424 644 068

bernhardbreuel@yahoo.com.au

Newsletter Editor:

Russell Anderson 0402 785 246

tanbarkeditor@gmail.com

Committee:

Cec Crees Lyn Pemberton

Jim Brown Bernie Breuel

TOOWOOMBA ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

Meeting Minutes dated 22nd June 2018

The President opened the meeting at 7.25pm and welcomed members.

HOUSEKEEPING: - Toilets, Evacuation Procedure – mentioned. Also members asked to ensure they had signed the attendance book for fire safety reasons...

GUEST SPEAKER: Clayton Thomas, an agronomist from Norco Rural.

JUDGES FOR TONIGHT Peter, Andrew, Val and Roger.

NEW MEMBERS - Roger and Davia Nicholson have been approved and were warmly welcomed.

VISITORS: nil

SICK LIST: Our editor, Russell, is having a knee replacement on Monday. We wish him a speedy recovery.

MINUTES: Moved Steve Keen, seconded Len Cherry that the minutes of the May meeting as printed in Tanbark are correct.
All those in favour – carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A brief report on the correspondence for the month;

Correspondence – Last month's Management Committee minutes available.

Various newsletters. Emails re Insurance quotes. Kay Pimm Garden Mag. Advert. ABC gardening magazine regarding Spring Show advertising. Various quotes re club shirts. Letter from Barry Kable asking for assistance with the EKKA display.

Secretary moves that correspondence be accepted and outward endorsed, Seconded Ann Breuel. Carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: - Treasurer will give us an insight into our finances.

Credit balance in working account of: \$8,843.23

Total Income for the month: \$525.70

Total expenses for the month: \$1,684.18

Bernie moved that the financial report be accepted and all accounts tabled be passed for payment. Seconded by Murray Ferguson. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. New growers group is at Bernie & Anne's on Sunday 24th June at 2.00pm. Don't forget a chair and a plate for afternoon tea.
2. Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings West on 29th July – 2 days after our next meeting. Roster here tonight for members to nominate.
3. Bank Details for plant sales. Forms here tonight – fill them out and drop them back to Bernie ASAP.
4. Club shirts. Some progress. Bernie showed two very nice shirts available for \$49 & \$40 respectively for Men & Ladies. Also a range of Polo type shirts priced at \$15.50. These shirts have no pockets and pockets cost approximately \$5 each. Both shirts need embroidery at a cost of \$5. Members were asked to think about their preferences
5. Winter Show – Members were reminded show dates are 14th & 15th July from 8.30 to 4.00pm on the 14th & closing at 3.00pm on the 15th. Plant lists in to David or John by 7.00pm on Monday 9th July at 7.00pm. Don't be late please. Labels will be delivered hopefully on Wednesday 11th. These will be on perforated card so fold along lines before ripping off.

5. cont'd. Setup will commence at 3.00pm on Friday 13th – helpers needed.

Exhibition plants in by 6.00pm & judging to start by 7.30pm.

Same rules as last show; if you're not involved as a scribe or runner you will be asked to leave the hall. Nomination sheet available tonight.

Members were reminded that if they have a plant that requires hanging, please bring the device to hang it along with the plant.

Plant sales – again we need quality as well as quantity. Quality last show was good – let's keep it that way.

We will be supplying morning and afternoon tea to patrons so help will be required in the kitchen.

Plant sales cards available here tonight.

6. The president asked if anyone would be travelling near Fernland Agencies at Yandina in the next fortnight as an order is waiting to be picked up.

7. Bark order. 90 bags to the pallet - members who will need larger quantities of various sizes let us know soon please. This will help with trying to pre-empt members requirements.

Clayton Thomas then gave us a very interesting presentation on just some of the products Norco Rural in Toowoomba has available. He spoke about insecticides, fungicides and fertiliser and urged members who have a query of this nature to contact him on 0467 666 994 or email claytont@norco.com.au Clayton stayed on through supper answering questions.

Kev's Corner:- a short discussion on Paph. insignis and some of its many cultivars. President John told members just how hardy these plants are as they survived some bitter cold last Monday while at least 50 plants surrounding these plants perished.

Andrew Neylon introduced the winners on the bench tonight.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

How to Grow Phalaenopsis Indoors

The genus *Phalaenopsis* comprises about 35 species of tropical orchids that originate mostly in the hot and humid lowlands of the Philippines, India, Indochina, Indonesia and northern Australia. Many of their hybrids produce long arching sprays carrying ten or more white, pink, candy-striped or even yellow blooms. *Phalaenopsis* orchids are ideally grown within the temperature range of 18-28°C. However, they can be grown and flowered successfully indoors on a window sill if the pots are stood on (not in) a tray of wet gravel in order to maintain a high level of humidity; a low overnight temperature of 12°C will not set them back.

POTTING

Plants grow well when potted in an open pine bark mix (10-18 mm), producing firm, thick, healthy, creamy-white roots with olive-green tips. Care should be taken when re-potting because these active roots are very brittle and easily broken. Don't be concerned if the roots climb out of the pot. Re-pot at about three-year intervals, after removing dead and damaged roots and leaves.



LIGHT, AIR, WATERING and FERTILISING

Exposure of the plants to subdued light (for example behind a muslin or lace curtain on a window sill), good air movement and daily watering will keep the plant actively growing and healthy. Water early in the day, so that the leaves dry by nightfall. Most fertilisers are beneficial, provided that they are used at low concentration (say, one teaspoonful of Aquasol® per 10L water) every week or two.

FLOWERING

Well-grown plants flower twice each year, usually in autumn and spring. The flowers continue to grow in size after the buds first open. There are usually three or four blooms when the plant first flowers but in the second and subsequent seasons you can expect a tall, arching spike carrying up to ten blooms, sometimes more. If your plant is growing well, you may choose not to remove the old flower spike (it usually lasts for two months) but to cut it above a node, thereby initiating a secondary spike, which will flower about 90 days later.

PESTS and DISEASES

Check the underside of the leaves occasionally for mealy-bugs and scale, which can be killed by brushing with methylated spirits. Brown spots, caused by airborne fungal spores (Botrytis), occasionally disfigure the flowers. This spotting is a temporary, seasonal hazard induced when the flowers remain wet in cool conditions overnight. Water lodging at the conjunction of the leaves under these conditions may also lead to the development of brown rot in the crown of the plant. Use a paper tissue to remove water lodged in the crown before it can cause problems. Rots are best treated with the fungicide Natriphene®.

Reprinted from OSCOV

These cultural notes are kindly provided by the North-East Melbourne Orchid Society

From the President's Desk

Well the Winter Solstice is now in the past, so days should be lengthening and the temperatures warming - in theory.

I certainly hope so as the Monday morning prior to the longest night was the coldest we've experienced since we've live here at Cabarlah.

As I mentioned at the meeting, losses were high in one of my shade houses. Over 60 Lycastes have met their maker along with about 15 Cattleyas – looking very sick also are Brassia, Dendrobiums; both Aussie natives hybrids and Indian - (including a large plant of Mousmee), several Rossioglossum and a fairly large bunch of Oncidium alliance.

Surprisingly some Cattleyas in the house seem ok; some Zygopetalums that also live there are still with us but the most surprising are the Paphs. In amongst this carnage is a group of insigne, gratixianum, hirsutissimim and a couple of others that are untouched. Even the flowers are in good condition as opposed to all other flowers and buds in that house which are mush. Seems there's always a reality check waiting just around the corner.

I guess to look on the bright side I'll have plenty of space when I can bring myself to throw the deceased plants out.

The colder weather didn't deter too many members as we had a fairly good roll up at the June meeting and enjoyed an interesting presentation by Clayton Thomas, an Agronomist from Norco Rural. It's always good to get a professional opinion on pesticides and other growing aids and Clayton provided just that.

Our New Growers group of 20 members enjoyed a lovely afternoon at the Breuel's home and I believe we all came away a little the wiser. Thanks to Bernie and Ann for their hospitality and allowing us to comb through your neat and tidy greenhouses.

Andrew Neylon showed us two trays of Sarcochilus hybrids that have been grown in community pots and individual pots respectively and with good results. Some plants were showing signs of early flower spikes so we can look forward to seeing some on the show bench in the future.

Thanks Andrew.

John Terry then led a discussion on growing some of the easier plants in this region such as Cymbidium, Zygopetalum and Softcane Dendrobium. We also spoke of several suitable Coelogyne Hybrids namely Coel. Jannine Banks and Coel. Unchained Melody, both worthwhile and lovely orchids. Another enjoyable afternoon.

Winter Show is fast approaching so start grooming plants in preparation.

See you all there.

John

Happy Diners: For further information, see Kev Baker or phone 4632 4952

2nd August 2018	Withcott Hotel, Warrego Hwy, Withcott	11.45am
6th Sept 2018	Gowrie Road Hotel, 208 Bridge St, Newtown	11.45am
4th October 2018	Meringandan Hotel, Main St, Meringandan	11.45am

June 2018 Meeting Results

Class	Plant Name	Owner
Novice Hybrid	<u>Lc.</u> Australian Frangipani	J Lack
Novice Species	<u>Bulb.</u> <i>rothschildianum</i>	V Reid
Novice Seedling	<u>Den.</u> Louise's Rainbow x <u>Den.</u> Brimbank	R & R Barnett
Judges Choice Novice	<u>Lc.</u> Australian Frangipani	J Lack
Open Hybrid	<u>Den.</u> Beryl Wuth	T Deans
Open Species	<u>Coel.</u> <i>massangeana</i>	H Guppy
Open Seedling	<u>Rlc.</u> California Girl x <u>Rlc.</u> Karangie	T Deans
Judges Choice Open	<u>Rlc.</u> California Girl x <u>Rlc.</u> Karangie	T Deans
Master Hybrid	<u>Lyc.</u> James Miller 'Birthday Surprise'	P & G Neylon
Master Species	<u>Paph.</u> <i>sukhakulii</i>	J & C Terry
Master Seedling	<u>Phrag.</u> Waunakee Sunset x Rosalie Dixler	J & C Terry
Judges Choice Master	<u>Lyc.</u> James Miller 'Birthday Surprise'	P & G Neylon
Judges Choice Overall	<u>Lyc.</u> James Miller 'Birthday Surprise'	P & G Neylon
Popular Vote	<u>Lc.</u> Australian Frangipani	J Lack

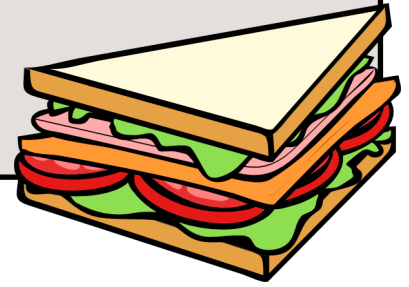
***Member Prices* Note: Cash only for Heather and Neville please. Phone : 46356868**

Squat Pot 100mm	\$0.20	Standard Pot 100mm (Tall)	\$0.25
Squat Pot 125mm	\$0.30	Standard Pot 100mm	\$0.20
Squat Pot 140mm	\$0.35	Standard Pot 125mm	\$0.25
Squat Pot 175mm	\$0.50	Standard Pot 140mm	\$0.30
Squat Pot 200mm	\$0.60	Standard Pot 180mm	\$0.50
Orchid Pot 70mm	\$0.25	Standard Pot 200mm	\$0.60
Orchid Pot 100mm	\$0.40	Standard Pot 250mm	\$1.20
Orchid Pot 125mm	\$0.55	Saucer 200mm	\$0.70
Orchid Pot 150mm	\$0.70	Saucer 300mm	\$1.55
Orchid Pot 175mm	\$1.20	Pot Hangers 360mm (Pack)	\$3.00
Orchid Pot 200mm	\$2.20	Pot Hangers 500mm (Pack)	\$3.00
Butterfly Clips Small (Pack)	\$3.00	Bamboo Stakes 45cm (Pack)	\$3.00
Butterfly Clips Medium (Pack)	\$3.00	Bamboo Stakes 60cm (Pack)	\$3.00
Butterfly Clips Large (Pack)	\$3.00	Bamboo Stakes 90cm (Pack)	\$3.00
Labels 100mm (Pack)	\$3.00	Pencil- Stabilo 8008	\$3.50
Labels 140mm (Pack)	\$3.00	Coco Husk	\$16.00
Orchiata Bark 40L	\$25.00	Cymbidium Mix (Pack)	\$8.00
Perlite Super Coarse (Pack)	\$8.00	Sphagnum Moss (Pack)	\$8.00
Orchid Mix 6-9mm (Pack)	\$8.00	Charcoal Fine (Pack)	\$8.00
Orchid Mix 9-12mm (Pack)	\$8.00	Charcoal Medium 20L	\$20.00
Orchid Mix 12-18mm (Pack)	\$8.00	Plantacote Fertiliser Top K 1kg	\$8.00
Rutec Root Booster 1L	\$8.00	Plant Stand-Short	\$20.00
Rutec Growth Booster 1L	\$10.00	Plant Stand-Long	\$22.00



Supper at the meeting

Please bring along a small plate of nibbles for our general meetings.



Thought for the month!

The orchid's association in Chinese culture with such virtues as elegance, good taste, friendship, and fertility goes all the way back to Confucius himself, who was said to have a particular attachment to the flowers.

Lawrence Osborne

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Remember - Next Meeting

27th July 2018