



GYMPIE & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY Inc. NEWSLETTER



Date/Month of Meeting:

28th October 2023

Website:

www.gympieorchidsociety.com

Facebook:

Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc.

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Welcome

This month's meeting (and our last for the year) was held at Kent and Sharon Bartlett's place in Tin Can Bay and members had a lovely breezy afternoon. Thankfully it was not as hot as some of the days have been lately.

This month the Club is pleased to announce the Life Memberships of Doug Wilson, Lynne Wilson, and Corrie Sheaffe for their contributions to our club over the years. Congratulations to them all on receiving this recognition for their loyalty and service. A proper presentation of certificates will be given by our President at the Christmas Party.

Christmas Party: Our Christmas party on 25th November, will be at Sublime (previously known as Silky Oak Tea Gardens) at 1.00pm. There will be no meeting at this event, but we will be having multiple raffles and of course, a brain-teasing trivia game. See you all there!

Winners of the Popular Vote at monthly Meeting:

GENRE	Plant Name	Owner of Plant
Cattleya	C. Pink Spice 'Ziva'	Sharon Stretton
Dendrobium	Den. Jairak Griffith	Mel Wheeler
Species	Asctm. Curvifolium	Mel Wheeler
Vanda	V. Dorothy Bennett	Mel Wheeler
Novice	Rlc. Parfait Bells X C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua'	Barry Grainger
Any Other	Unnamed Phalaenopsis	Larry Downing



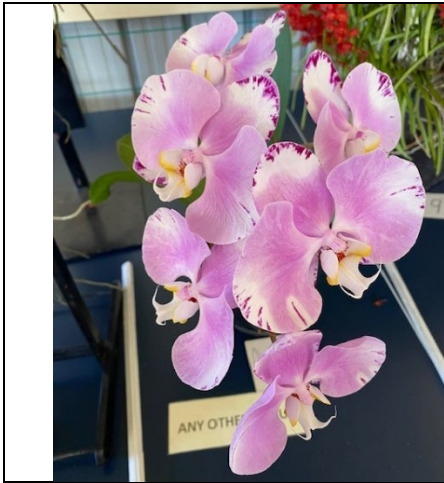
Cattleya: C. Pink Spice 'Ziva'



Dendrobium: Den. Jairak Griffith



Species: Asctm. Curvifolium



Any Other: Unnamed Phalaenopsis

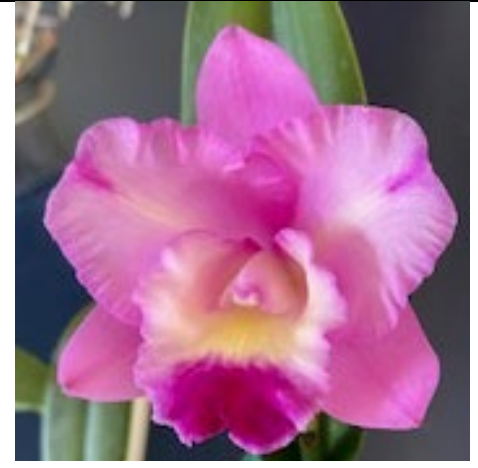
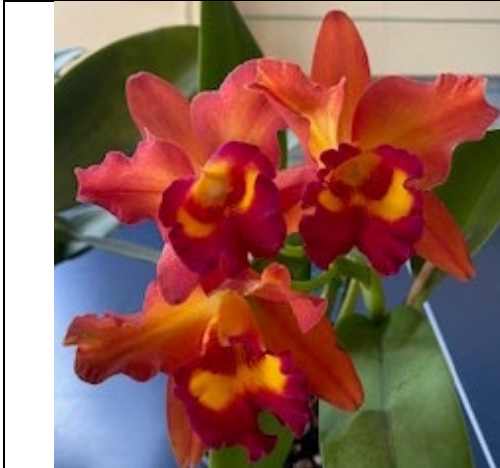


Vanda: V. Dorothy Bennett



Novice: Rlc. Parfait Bells X C. Aloha Case 'Ching Hua'

Other Plants tabled at the meeting and photos from meeting



Winners of the Raffles for the day were: Lois Thornley, Sharne Toop and Corrie Sheaffe who all won a new orchid. (Lois's flowering orchid will be given to her at the Christmas Party).

Editors Highlight – State of the world’s orchids revealed in new report

This month, I am including an *extract from the CSIRO, Australia’s National Science Agency*, about orchids worldwide, which I found both interesting and worrying for future generations.

Up to 45 per cent of all known flowering plant species across the globe could be under threat of extinction with the plant family *Orchidaceae* among the most threatened, according to a new report.

Kew’s *State of the World’s Plants and Fungi (SOTWPF) 2023* report, tackles the nature emergency by laying out the current condition of the world’s plants and fungi. Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO, contributed to the report with CSIRO orchid researcher, Dr Katharina Nargar, a senior author of the report’s chapter on orchids.

Australia has approximately 1600 orchid species. Around 90% are endemic, meaning they only occur in Australia. Orchids form specialised relationships with fungi and pollinators. Fungi are essential to them, providing nutrients that enable their tiny, dust-like seeds to germinate and grow. The incredible diversity in orchid flowers is driven by their adaptation to specific pollinators, which can be flies, moths, bees, wasps, ants, beetles or birds.

Orchid experts at the Australian National Herbarium, which is part of CANBR, have described, classified and named hundreds of Australia’s orchid species. “Plants and fungi sustain life on Earth and provide valuable ecosystem services, food, medicine, clothing, and raw materials. But the natural world is threatened by the dual crises of climate change and biodiversity loss,” Dr Nargar said. “With some 350,000 species of vascular plants – which includes trees, shrubs, ferns and flowering plants like orchids – already known to science, researchers are in a race against time to scientifically name and assess as many as 100,000 more.”

Worldwide, scientists name about 2,500 new plants each year. New estimates suggest as many as three in four undescribed vascular plants are already likely to be threatened with extinction.

The SOTWPF report sets an important international standard for researchers and conservationists to annually track trends in the global status of plant and fungal diversity. Dr Nargar said recent DNA sequencing had added to botanical knowledge based on physical characteristics and challenged previously held beliefs on the evolution and distributions of orchids. “New data suggests the orchid family did not originate in Australia as we thought. Instead, it originated in the northern hemisphere around 83 million years ago before it spread across the world,” Dr Nargar said. “However, Australia’s largest orchid lineage, which accounts for over 60 per cent of Australia’s orchid species diversity, originated in Australia and dates back more than 40 million years. “In contrast, most orchid species worldwide originated fairly recently in Earth’s history, within the last 5 million years.”

The Australian Tropical Herbarium and the Australian National Herbarium contributed approximately 20 per cent of the original DNA sequence data for the study, covering around 80 per cent of Australian orchid genera, through participation in the Bioplatforms Australia led Genomics for Australian Plant (GAP) Initiative, which sequenced over 90 per cent of Australian flowering plant genera. Unfortunately, more and more newly described species have narrow geographic ranges, with many new plants described from only a single location and are undergoing population or habitat decline.

“Last year we led a project to have 23 threatened orchids from Australia added to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species, bringing the total number of Australian orchids on the Red List to 51,” Dr Nargar said. “Almost all of the 23 species are terrestrial, meaning they grow on the ground, showcasing the rich diversity of terrestrial orchids found in Australia. In contrast, most orchids worldwide are epiphytic, meaning they grow on trees. “Their inclusion on the Red List serves to increase awareness about Australia’s orchid diversity and paves the way for international funding opportunities for those engaged in orchid conservation efforts.”

The orchid species added to the IUCN Red List are:

- *Caladenia attenuata* (Duramana Fingers)
- *Caladenia dienema* (Windswept Spider Orchid)
- *Caladenia granitcola* (Pingaring Spider Orchid)
- *Caladenia granitora* (Granite Spider Orchid)
- *Caladenia hopperiana* (Boddington Spider Orchid)
- *Caladenia leucochila* (Collie Spider Orchid)
- *Caladenia luteola* (Lemon Spider Orchid)
- *Calochilus cupreus* (Copper Beard Orchid)
- *Corunastylis insignis* (Wyong Midge Orchid 1)
- *Dipodium campanulatum* (Bell Flower Hyacinth Orchid)
- *Diuris aequalis* (Buttercup Doubletail)

- *Diuris flavescens* (Pale Yellow Doubletail)
- *Genoplesium baueri* (Bauer's Midge Orchid)
- *Oberonia attenuata* (Mossman Fairy Orchid, the only epiphytic species among the 23 added to the list)
- *Prasophyllum bagoense* (Bago Leek Orchid)
- *Prasophyllum laxum* (Lax Leek Orchid)
- *Pterostylis oreophila* (Blue-tongued Orchid, Kiandra Greenhood)
- *Pterostylis psammophila* (Two-bristle Greenhood)
- *Rhizanthella gardneri* (Western Underground Orchid)
- *Rhizanthella johnstonii* (Southcoast Underground Orchid)
- *Thelymitra adorata* (Wyong Sun Orchid)
- *Thelymitra hygrophila* (Blue Star Sun Orchid)
- *Thelymitra jonesii* (Sky-blue Sun Orchid)

Based on the work of 200 international researchers based in 30 countries, the underlying scientific evidence in SOTWPF was published today in a special collection from the journal's *New Phytologist* and *Plants, People, Planet* entitled 'Global Plant Diversity and Distribution' and in a review of global fungal diversity and conservation published by the journal *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*.

The Australian National Herbarium is a joint venture between Parks Australia and CSIRO. The Australian Tropical Herbarium is a joint venture between James Cook University, CSIRO and the Queensland and Australian governments.

Below are some examples of the native orchids in Southeast Queensland.



Donkey Orchids (Diuris spp.) can be found in various ecosystems across SEQ, from wallum heathlands to eucalypt forest ridges. As the common name suggests, this Wallum Yellow Donkey Orchid (*Diuris unica*) grows on sandy soils in coastal wallum heathlands and flowers late winter to spring.



Blotched Hyacinth Orchids (Dipodium punctatum) grow in both wet or dry eucalypt forests. This orchid is also saprophytic (acquiring nutrients from dissolved organic matter) and has reduced leaves and up to 60 spotted bright pink flowers on a single stem. The flowers can be seen from November to March and often appear after rainfall. Keep an eye out for this beauty when walking through eucalypt forests throughout SEQ.



Christmas Orchid (Calanthe triplicata). These orchids have a tall flower stalk full of large white showy flowers (with yellow calli on the labellum). Known to bloom around December, you can see these orchids flowering from October to January. If you are lucky enough to be hiking through Conondale National Park at the right time of year, you may see the edges of walking tracks dominated by these orchids. The broad palm-like leaves of this species are easily spotted all year round and are a spectacle even when they are not in flower.



Pink Rock Orchids (Dendrobium kingianum) most commonly grow on large boulders and rocks in montane environments. A common orchid, this species is known to hybridise with other *Dendrobium* species. Pink Rock Orchids flower from August to October and can often be seen as pink flowering masses growing with other lithophytic ferns and groundcovers on the sides of steep cliff faces in SEQ.

Upcoming Events Schedule:

NOVEMBER 2023	
4 th & 5 th November	Brisbane Orchid Species Show at Mt Coo-tha Botanic Gardens Auditorium, Toowong
11 th November 2023	Nambour Species Show (set up 10 th), Buderim Uniting Church, Gloucester Rd, Buderim
25 th November 2023	Gympie Orchid Club CHRISTMAS PARTY at Sublime – 1.00pm start
JANUARY 2024	
27 th January 2024	Gympie & District Orchid Society monthly meeting – First meeting for the year. This meeting will be held at Jim and Leanne Evans – 106 Pine Valley Road, Pie Creek.
FEBRUARY 2024	
10 th February 2024	STOCQ AGM & ordinary mtg, hosted by Gympie at Indoor Bowls Hall, Graham St, Gympie
MARCH 2024	
1 st – 4 th March 2024	TIOS & WOC Tainan, Taiwan
16 th March	Maroochydore Orchid Society closed show, Uniting Church Buderim
29 th – 31 st March 2024	Gladstone OFS Show, Bill Robertson Toyota, Gladstone (Setup 28 th of March)
29 th – 30 th March 2024	Bribie IOS Show (Setup 28 th of March)
APRIL 2024	
5 th – 6 th April 2024	Sunshine Coast OS Show (Setup 4 th of April)
12 th & 13 th April 2024	Childers Isis District OS show set up 11 th .
20 th April 2024	South Burnett OS Show, Diggers Club, Wondai
27 th – 28 th April 2024	Gympie & District Orchid Society Show (Setup 26 th of April)
MAY 2024	
10 th , 11 th , 12 th May 2024	Bundaberg OS show, Civic Centre set up 9 th May.
11 th May 2024	Maroochydore Orchid Society closed show, Uniting Church Bli Bli
JUNE 2024	
June 2024	STOCQ Meeting, hosted by Calliope O & FS
AUGUST 2024	
8 th , 9 th , 10 th August 2024	Maroochydore Orchid Society open show, Uniting Church Buderim
30 th & 31 st August 2024	Childers Isis District OS show set up 29 th .
SEPTEMBER 2024	
20 th & 21 st Sept 2024	Glasshouse Country Orchid Society show, Beerwah Hall; set up 19 th .
OCTOBER 2024	
11 th – 12 th October 2024	Bribie Island Orchid Society (Setup 10 th of October)
NOVEMBER 2024	
November 2024	STOCQ Meeting, Hosted by Maroochydore OS
2025	
March 2025	15 th Asia Pacific Orchid Conference & Show, Taiwan
June 2025	STOCQ meeting hosted by Bundaberg OS.
October 2025	STOCQ meeting hosted by Nambour OS.

Next Event:

DATE: **Christmas Party** - Saturday, 25th November 2023

ADDRESS: Sublime (previously known as Silky Oak Tea Garden) at 33 Priddy Road, Kia Ora

START: Will commence at 1.00 pm.



Next Meeting:

DATE: Saturday, 27th January 2024

ADDRESS: Jim and Leanne Evans – 106 Pine Valley Road, Pie Creek

PLANTS: Benching of plants will commence from 1.30pm – 1.45pm.

JUDGING: Voting will be held prior to meeting (between 1.45pm – 2.00pm).

MEETING: Will commence at 2.00 pm.

Please bring your plants, chair and a plate to share for afternoon tea.



NOTE: Please think about what month you would be able to host a monthly meeting and advise Sharon Stretton to include below.

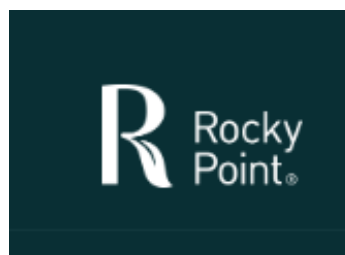
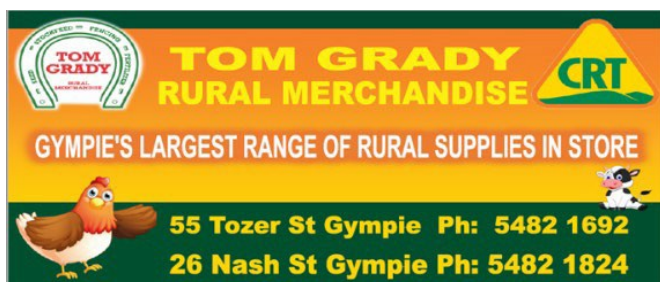
Club meeting	Meeting to be held at Club members residence:
24 th February 2024	
30 th March 2024	
20 th April 2024	
25 th May 2024	Sharon Stretton's – 16 Watt Street, Gympie
29 th June 2024	
27 th July 2024	
31 st August 2024	
28 th September 2024	AGM meeting
26 th October 2024	
30 th November 2024	Christmas Party – Location to be confirmed.

Newsletter snippets

Club members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter. Please email Sharon Stretton for inclusion (prior to the upcoming meeting, otherwise they will be included the following month). Email:

sharon.m.stretton@tmr.qld.gov.au

Our Sponsors: Sponsors are an important part of our Club. Their support allows us to pay the prizes we do at our Show. Please support our sponsors and let them know that we appreciate their support!



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Vendors:



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