

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 6

Nambour Orchid News

Meetings

The **Business** meeting is held on the 4th Saturday of each month at 12.45pm prior to the cultural meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

The **Cultural meeting** is held on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Nambour Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave., Nambour at 2pm. All members and visitors are welcome. *Plants are to be tabled by 1.30pm for judging.*

The **Species appreciation group** get together is held monthly from February to November at member's homes. Contact the Secretary for details. All STOCQ members welcome. Bring your flowering species plants, a chair, a cup and a plate to share for afternoon tea.

Supporters of



Cittamani Hospice Service

Judges Choice - 2015



Cattleya Lynns Beau 'Coya' AM/AOC
owned by **Mal Rivers**

Directory of Office Bearers

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From the Secretary

Happy New Year to all and welcome back to Orchid growing for 2016

We have had some very productive potting time in the Parkes household over the break so I hope the plants will respond to all their TLC with plenty of flowers come show time.

First meeting for 2016 is January 23rd. Wayne Harris will be our guest speaker, talking on Australian native plants. We will have an Australia day theme and an Aussie day afternoon tea. Hope to see you all there. Please feel free to bring something Australian to add to the afternoon tea.



Notification of Nambour Orchid Society Inc. AGM, Saturday 27th February at 2pm. All positions will be declared vacant at the start of the meeting. A nomination form for positions is attached to your newsletter, which requires a signature from a nominator and a seconder. Completed nomination forms can be emailed or posted to the Secretary to arrive no later than Saturday 13th February.

If you feel you can contribute by filling one of the positions, please fill in the form and send it in.

We have a fund raising sausage sizzle at Bunnings Maroochydore on



Australia Day Tues. 26th Volunteers would be appreciated if anyone can spare a couple of morning or afternoon hours. Please see me at the meeting. We would expect that it would be a fairly busy one.

Species afternoons for 2016. The first one for the year will be Sunday 14th February at Robertson Orchids at 2pm. The Sunday meeting is due to the STOCQ AGM being held in Gympie on the Saturday.



Sub-Tropical Orchid Council AGM & Orchids Queensland meetings will be held in conjunction with each other at the Albert Park Bowls Club, Bruce Highway, Gympie on Saturday 13th February.

The program for the day has been provided below:

9-00 am Judges meeting

10-30 am Morning tea

11-00 am STOCQ Annual Meeting

11-20 am STOCQ Meeting

11-40 am OQI Meeting

12 00 noon Lunch (cost \$10/ head). Please advise numbers by 5th February to:

leanne.jim.evans1@bigpond.com or mannted@skymesh.com.au

1-00 pm Guest Speaker will be in the form of a Power Point prepared by Laura Newton, Director of American Orchid Society on latest developments in the breeding of Spotted Cattleyas.

2-00 pm Shade house visits.

3-00 pm Afternoon Tea

Judges Choice - 2015 - Cattleya Lynns Beau 'Coya' AM/AOC

I received a piece of this plant from John Salway several years ago. This hybrid was made by crossing C. Lynn Spencer and C. Beaufort. The cross was made by Robertsons Orchids in 2003 and has not been used in hybridising, somewhat surprisingly I think. When this plant flowered, it had 3 inflorescences with 3 flowers on each. Prior to it being judged, one flower on a spike had gone off, so I cut off that spike. It was judged with the two remaining spikes and received an Award of Merit of 81.5 points. The plants cultivar name is 'Coya' which is named for John's much treasured cattle dog. It is grown in peat and perlite and is fertilised with 6 to 9 month osmocote. I have used Peters to fertilise on the very odd occasion. I have kept some pollen from this plant and currently have a nice mini cat in flower and may put the pollen from the Lynn's Beau onto it. Would be a good cross I think.
Mal Rivers.



Judges choice – November 2015 *Grammatophyllum rumphianum* Miq.



Grammatophyllum, is a [genus](#) of 13 currently known [orchid species](#). The name is derived from the Greek words 'gramma' (letter) and 'phyllon' (leaf), referring to the dark markings in the flower. This [epiphytic](#) genus occurs in dense [rainforest](#) from Indo-China, to [Indonesia](#), the [Philippines](#), [New Guinea](#), and the [Southwest Pacific islands](#). *G. rumphianum* occurs in Borneo and the Moluccas.

The species produce several [racemes](#), arising from the base of the [pseudobulb](#), with many yellow-green to olive-green, waxy [flowers](#) with dark purplish-red marks. Sheaths envelop the pseudobulbs.

These are medium-sized to very large orchids, including the giant orchid (*Grammatophyllum*

speciosum), believed to be the largest orchid species in existence. Its [pseudobulbs](#) can grow to a length of 2.5 m. Plants can develop into gigantic clusters weighing from several hundred kilograms to one ton. The [roots](#) form spectacular bundles (litter traps).

The more modest [bell orchid](#) (*Grammatophyllum scriptum*) is another well-known species, with pseudobulbs of 20 cm, from which originate 3 to 4 stout [leaves](#) with a length of 1 m.

Grammatophyllum multiflorum is one of the longest-blooming orchids in existence: it can be in bloom for nine months. *Grammatophyllum* 'Tiger's Paw' is a hybrid from *G. elegans* and *G. rumphianum*. My plant of *G. rumphianum* grows with several other species of *Grammatophyllum* under 50% shadecloth (bright conditions) without winter heating. Feeding is with a well balanced product applied at a rate of 1 gm per litre of rain water weekly.

It has produced for me, in its first flowering, 3 large arching sprays to about 1.2m long and carrying 30+ flowers that are about 6cm wide. The lowest flowers on the rachis may be sterile and misshapen.

Flowers are long lasting, more than 4 weeks.

Wayne Harris

Cultural Plant - November 2015 - Milt. Breathless 'Brilliant'

About four years ago I wrote the following after this Miltoniopsis won plant of the month. The note is still relevant except for the potting mix used. I will discuss this at the end of this note.

This wonderful orchid was purchased from Robertson late 2010 for \$13.00, a bargain.

Our interest in this group of plants started when in 2009 Beryl gave Anita a plant of Milt. Vanity 'Red Shadow' which flowers with beautiful dark red blooms.

Thanks Beryl.



The Miltonias can be considered in two groups, the warmer growing Brazilian Miltonias and the cooler Columbian group. The Columbian group has been moved by some botanists into another new genus Miltoniopsis. This genus contains 5 species. This name is still being debated and could change again. The above plant is a hybrid of the Columbian group. These plants are commonly called pansy orchids.

Although these plants come from the tropics they grow at a high elevation in cloud forests and tend to like the same sorts of temperatures that we do. In general they tend to be happy in the conditions on the range where we live.

I found that the Miltoniopsis were relatively easy to grow once I worked out their requirements.

They require humid air around them, more water than most orchids and good air movement. The plants like a little more shade. I pot them into small bark in a tall 100mm pot with a little coarse bark in the bottom to help with drainage. I grow my orchids under shade cloth and water the plants perhaps more than I should. If you tend to water less, mini bark may be more suitable. As far as fertilizing is concerned, for a 100mm tall pot, I use Hi K 8-9 Month Osmocote at the rate of about a flat quarter of a teaspoon as well as a teaspoon of shell grit mixed through the bark. After a year since repotting I have repotted some and topped up the Osmocote with a few others. Considering the wet shady conditions they grow in, I repot after two years if not earlier. These compact plants like to grow in smallish pots with just enough space in the pot for a further two years growth.

The plants speak to you if you observe them. Some varieties will get a reddish tinge in the leaves when they are in bright, perhaps too bright conditions. If the leaves are droopy maybe they are getting too much fertilizer or possibly not enough light.

With regards to temperature not too hot or too cold suits them. Hot dry conditions can be a problem.

The plants bloom very late in the year and will hold the flowers for about six to eight weeks. Sadly they do not last as cut flowers. We have them in bloom for Christmas, when orchid blooms are scarce at our place. Although I haven't tried it I suspect they may grow in a bright spot in the house. If you can grow good African Violets then you should be able to grow and flower Miltoniopsis in the house.

I now use a different bark and I find it differs somewhat from the previous brand. When using small bark, after a year and a bit the roots below about 2 centimeters tend to rot and the only active roots are near the top of the pot. I have repotted the worst affected plants into 50% Jumbo perlite and 50% bark and hopefully this will help.

Marty and Anita

Diamond Festival of Orchids
Sub Tropical Orchid Council Queensland Inc.
Triennial Orchid festival 2016
Hosted by Nambour Orchid Society Inc.



Saturday June 11 & Sunday June 12, 2016

Featuring the best Orchids South East Qld has to offer

Vendors selling orchids and supplies Art, Craft & Photography Displays

Demonstrations of Potting, Craft & Botanical Art

Five Guest Speakers over two days

Catering by Caloundra Meals on Wheels

Lake Kawana Community Centre

114 Sportsmans Parade Bokarina, Sunshine Coast, QLD 4575

Find more details at www.nambourorchidsociety.com/dfo

Email Alison at diamondfestivaloforchids@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com

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Proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council's grants program

Show Dates 2016 – NOS commitment

Date & Show	Location
FEBRUARY	
Saturday 13, STOCQ AGM	Albert Park Bowles Club, Gympie
MARCH	
Friday 4, Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 Queensland International Orchid Fair	Showgrounds, James Street, Beenleigh
Saturday 19 Childers Orchid Show	Cultural Centre Childers
Friday 25 & Saturday 26 March (Set up Thurs. 24) Bribie Island Orchid Show (Easter)	The Orchid House 1 st Avenue, Bribie Island
APRIL	
Friday 1 & Saturday 2 (Set up Thurs. 31 st March) Sunshine Coast Orchid Society Show	Church Hall, Ulm Street, Caloundra
Saturday 16 South Burnett OS Orchid Show	RSL Hall Wondai
Sat. 30 & Sun. 1 May (Set up Fri. 29) Gympie Garden Expo & Orchid Show	Showgrounds, Southside Gympie
MAY	
Fri. 6, Sat. 7 & Sun. 8 Bundaberg Orchid Show	The Civic Centre Bourbong Street, Bundaberg
Sat. 21 & Sun. 22 Boyne-Tannum Orchid Show	St Francis Catholic Primary School. Francis Way, Tannum Sands
JUNE	
Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 (Set up Fri. from 3pm) Diamond Festival of Orchids Sub Tropical Orchid Council Queensland Inc. Triennial Orchid Festival Hosted by Nambour Orchid Society Inc	Lake Kawana Community Centre 114 Sportmans Parade Bokarina, Sunshine Coast
JULY	
Saturday 9 Combined Societies Social Day Out	Community Centre, Howard
Fri. 8, Sat. 9, Sun. 10 Garden Expo (Set up Thursday)	Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Ave. Nambour
Fri. 22, Sat. 23 & Sun 24 Caboolture Orchid Show (Set up Thurs. 21)	Morayfield Community Centre Morayfield Road, Morayfield
AUGUST	
Friday 4 & Saturday 5 (set up Thurs. 3) Maroochydore Orchid Show	Community Hall Millward Road East, Maroochydore
SEPTEMBER	
Friday 2 & Saturday 3 (Set up Thurs. 1) Nambour Orchid Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Avenue, Nambour
Fri. 16 & Sat. 17 (Set up Thurs 15) Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Show	RSL Memorial Hall, Maple Street, Cooroy.
Fri. 23 & Sat. 24 (Set up Thurs. 22) Glasshouse Country Orchid Show	Beerwah Community Hall Peachester Road, Beerwah
OCTOBER	
Sat. 1 & Sun. 2 (Set up Fri. 30 Sept.) Bribie Island Orchid Show	The Orchid House 1 st Avenue, Bribie Island
Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 Hervey Bay Orchid Show	PCYC O'Rourke Street, Pialba
Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 Boonah Orchid Show	Boonah High School Boonah
Saturday 22 & Sun 23 Orchid Species Show	Auditorium Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
Friday 28 & Saturday 29 Set up Thurs. 27) Nambour Orchid Species Show & Trade Fair	Uniting Church Hall Coronation Avenue, Nambour
Friday 4, Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 November Pumicestone Orchid Show	CT Williams Hall, Caboolture Showgrounds