

GYMPIE & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY Inc.



NEWSLETTER October 2021

www.gympieorchidsociety.com

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Vanda curvifolia

Welcome to our October newsletter for 2021. Our AGM was held on the 30th at Mel & Judy Wheeler's place. The meeting was well attended with only a few apologies. Jim Evans read the president's report which included a brief review of our successful orchid show in May marking the commencement of orchid shows north of Brisbane after a lull due to Covid restrictions. He also commented on our participation in the other orchid societies' shows which followed, finishing with a thank you to Sharon Stretton for organizing our bus trip to the Hervey Bay Show.



Cymbidium Little Black Sambo
(*C. madidum* X *C. caniculatum*)
is a primary Australian hybrid.

The winner of the popular vote for benched orchids at our meetings this year was Gary Walker while Jim Evans was the winner of the Judge's Choice category. Jim thanked the outgoing office bearers for their service during the year and declared all positions vacant.

John Rees conducted the election of new office bearers. The results are as follows:

President - Jim Evans
Vice President - Gary Walker
Secretary - Leanne Evans
Treasurer - Shirley Downing
Auditor - Lavina Rees
Show Steward - Mel Wheeler
Bulletin Editor - Joe Tramacchi
Librarian - Lynn Wilson
Orchid Supplies Provider - Ted Mann

You may have noticed we have a new treasurer. Kay Donnelly has stepped down this AGM after fulfilling this role in an exemplary manner for 20 years. President Jim Evans formally thanked Kay and presented her with a present in recognition of her diligent service. Kay has always been in the front line when it comes to planning and catering for club events, together with Ted. Shirley Downing has stepped up to the mark and we wish her every success.

The vandas and cymbidium on pages 1 & 2 were flowering at Mel and Judy Wheeler's place. The information provided on these plants comes from the latest version of Orchidwhiz courtesy of John Rees. It is always interesting to see the influence of species in our hybrids as in the case of *V. Pralor*.

As you can see from the photos of our benched orchids, the judge's choice also went to a species *Den. ananosum* which is native to India and New Guinea. The canes which are normally pendulous have been staked and the flowers were well arranged. It is a fine example of excellence in culture.

Malcolm Ellis's *C. Jungle Gem* was also a standout at our meeting. The guest speaker at the S.T.O.C.Q meeting held on the weekend at Morayfield, Robert Reitano, informed us that the yellow colour comes from the influence of *C. esalqueana*. Other plants in the lineage are *C. aclandiae*, *C. coccinea*, and *C. cinnabarina*. The topic of the slideshow was the breeding of spotted cattleyas. COS did a great job hosting the meeting.



V. Pralor (*V. Medea* X *V. miniata*) has 25% *V. curvifolia* in its lineage.



V. miniata



V. Pine Rivers
(*V. Peggy Foo* X *V. coelestis*)

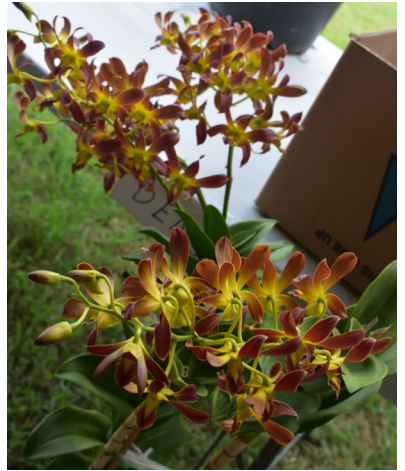
Popular Vote

These orchids won the popular vote at our May meeting

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Cattleya | <i>C. Jungle Gem</i> | Malcolm Ellis |
| Dendrobium | <i>Den. CK-A1-CKA</i> | Ted Mann |
| Species | <i>Den. ananosum</i> | Mel Wheeler |
| Any Other | <i>Paph. Golden Dollar</i> | Gary Walker |
| Judges' choice | <i>Den. ananosum</i> | Mel Wheeler |



Den. ananosum



Den. CK-A1-CKA



Paph. Golden Dollar



C. Jungle Gem

For our new members, you may have noticed we use all italics when writing the names of species, with a capital for the genus name and lowercase for the species name. If the plant is a hybrid, we still use italics and a capital for the genus name but the hybrid name is written with regular type and capitals at the start of each word of the name as in the name of this cactus at Mel and Judy's place or the *Cattleya* Jungle Gem previously mentioned.



Continuing with the business of our meeting, Jim Evans asked members to let him know before our next meeting if they needed club name tags.

Ted Mann raised a motion to donate \$1000 to a local palliative care organization.

Epiphyllum German Princess

The matter is to be further discussed and voted on at our next meeting.

The Hervey Bay bus trip was reviewed. It included a visit to Les Napper's (always impressive) and then John and Narelle Hopkins' place where the bromeliad collection was greatly admired. Jim advised members our club had received a letter from the Hervey Bay Club thanking us for the bus trip.

It was suggested our January meeting next year might be at Tiaro as Ken & Kay Christiansen will be relocating there in the near future.

At our previous meeting, Kim Martin gave a presentation on her line of organic orchid fertilizers which some of our members are trialing. Sauers Nursery Supply Shop in Gympie has the fittings for dispensing these organic fertilizers.

Our last meeting of the year will be at Jim & Leanne Evans' place on Saturday, November 27 th. The address is 106 Pine Valley Drv., Pie Creek. The meeting starts at 3 pm. This will be followed by our annual Xmas party.