

GYMPIE & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY Inc. NEWSLETTER



Date/Month of Meeting:

March meeting held on 5 April 2025

Website:

www.gympieorchidsociety.com

Facebook:

Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc.

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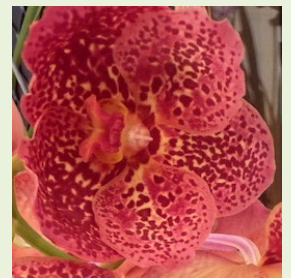
Message from the Editor – BUS TRIP TO BUNDABERG

Our Club bus trip to Bundaberg has now been organised for **5th July 2025**, leaving at 6.45am. This will include four orchid house visits to local Bundaberg growers and we will stop for a nice social lunch at Moore Park Tavern (to be paid by self).

Price of the bus will be \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. Phone Sharon Stretton on 0400168770 to reserve your seat/s – Don't miss out! Any seats left, will be opened up to other clubs or non-members.

Winners of the Popular Vote at monthly Meeting:

GENRE	Name of Orchid	Owner of Plant
Cattleya >100mm:	C. Chonburi Red	Jim & Leanne Evans
Cattleya <100mm:	Ctt. Cherry Song 'Hawaii' X C. Mini Song 'La Primera Morado'	Jim & Leanne Evans
Species:	Spathoglottis Caity-Brook	Ken & Kaye Christensen
Vanda:	TIE between: 1. Ascda. Fuch's Sunset 2. Ascda. Kultana Sunrise	Both owned by Shane Pope
Dendrobium:	Den. Red Dame X canaliculatum	Larry & Shirley Downing
Any Other:	Macleanara Pagan Lovesong	Lenske Family
Novice:	Den. Popey 'Two Tore'	Judy Ernst
 		
Cattleya 100mm +: C. Chonburi Red		Cattleya Less than 100mm: Ctt. Cherry Song 'Hawaii' X C. Mini Song 'La Primera Morado'



Dendrobium: Den. Red Dame X canaliculatum

Vanda: TIE: Ascda. Fuch's Sunset & Ascda. Kultana Sunrise



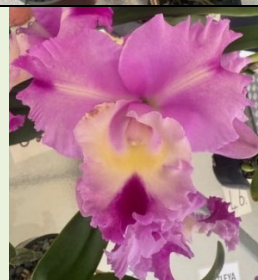
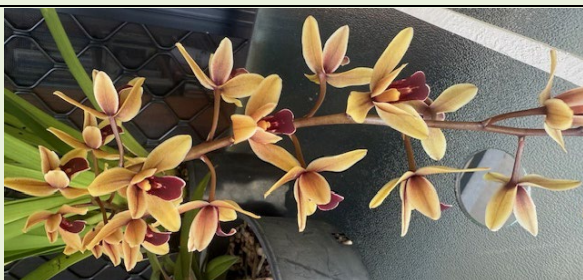
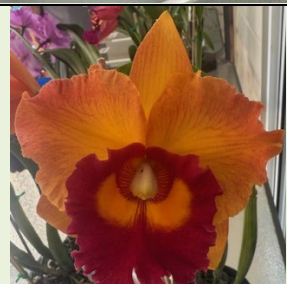
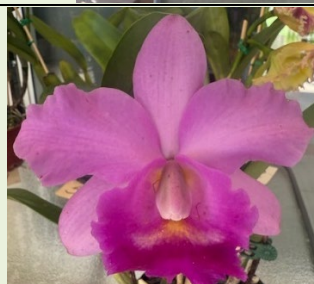
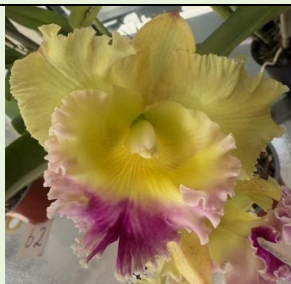
Novice: Den. Popey 'Two Tore'

Any Other: Maclellanara Pagan Lovesong



Species: Spathoglottis Caity-Brook

Other orchids tabled at the meeting:



Winners of the Raffles for the day were:

Raffle winners were Phil Langridge and Cristian Lenske. Phil is pictured below with his flowering orchid.



Highlight – Care of your orchids during wet weather

The rain recently has invigorated your orchids to produce new growths and roots in abundance and given some respite from our regular watering and fertilising. Most orchids in their natural habitat grow in the rainforest where there are frequent downpours and a predominantly humid environment, but in their natural environment, epiphytic orchids have their roots spread out usually on tree trunks and are exposed to air, they tend to dry off quickly and do not rot between downpours. Also, the breeze following a downpour quickly dries off the plants, preventing collection of water and microorganisms in the crown and other nooks and crevices.

In your greenhouses, extended wet weather can cause issues of rot. Some commonly faced issues our orchids face with long periods of rain are:

Crown rot: This is one of the most common issues faced when orchids are exposed to rain. When the plant collects in the crowns of monopodial plants such as phalaenopsis or vanda orchids, the long exposure to moisture along with the bacteria and fungi that are on the surface of the leaves, tend to create an unhealthy environment for the orchids, where the bacteria and fungi start multiplying due to excessive moist conditions. This leads to rotting of the tender tissue in the crown of the plant. The infection spreads to the other portions of the stem and the plants slowly begins to lose its leaves.

Rotting of leaves: Rain drops often collect in the base of the axil of the leaves. These regions are snugly bound to the stem and allow moisture to accumulate. This again leads to an environment conducive for bacterial and fungal growth. Since the leaves are arranged on either side of the stem or pseudobulb in the case of vanda, phalaenopsis, oncidiums dendrobiums and other such orchids, the infection spreads quickly to the stem and other parts. Sometimes soft water-filled black spots appear on the leaves. If left untreated, they quickly spread and destroy the whole leaf and subsequently the stem.

Root rot: Moisture retentive medium such as sphagnum moss, when added to the potting medium tends to hold copious amounts of water. This is utilised by the plant and the moisture dries off after a couple of days. But when your orchids soak up rainwater, the medium remains damp for prolonged periods, then fungal and bacterial infections become rampant. The roots become soggy and begin rotting. The first sign of root rot is when the leaves become thin and dehydrated despite moisture in the pot. This is indicative of a damaged root system. The infection quickly travels up the foot to the rhizome and the pseudobulbs to cause further leaf and stem to turn yellow and black, and decay.

Rot of new growths: Just as with crown rot, rainwater that remains trapped in new growths of oncidiums and cattleya orchids can also lead to bacterial and fungal rot. As the water travels into the crevices, it collects bacteria and fungi on the surface of the plant and its narrow vertical structure does not allow air to enter and dry up the moisture. The prolonged dampness promotes bacterial and fungal attack on the roots leading to rotting of the delicate tissue. Losing a new growth to rot can lead to setback for the plant as these new shoots are the ones that would mature and bloom in the coming season. Moreover, orchids put out new roots through these new growths. If the orchid doesn't have a healthy root system, then this could prove to be a major setback for the plant. So, these new delicate growths need to be protected from rainfall.

Advantages of rainwater. If there is so much of risk involved then why you should even consider placing your orchids in the rain? Well, for the simple reason that rainwater has multiple benefits on your orchids.

Firstly, it has the right pH of around 6.5, which is suitable for healthy orchids growth and blooming. During rain, Nitrogen and Phosphorus are released and are readily absorbed by the plants resulting in instant greening effect on plants. Rain can also help your dehydrated orchids become hydrated and healthy once again.

While most of your orchids will thrive in the rain, below are six care tips for your orchids during the rainy season:

1. Prepare your orchids for the wet season.

- Remove medium that will give excessive moisture retention (sphagnum moss), which would lead to rotting of the orchid roots and stems.
- Clean up the leaves of the orchids with a soft cloth and allow them to dry under a fan. This removes any superficial dust and mites.
- When it begins to rain, cover the new growths to protect them.
- Tilt the pots slightly to allow excess water to run off along the axil of the youngest leaf to allow minimal moisture to remain the crown, which can easily be dried up by air drafts.

2. Check on your orchids after a downpour. Check every day for signs of infections and rot. Catching infections early on will help you save your orchids by taking appropriate preventative measures. Look out for soft, damp dark spots on the leaves. This is an indication of leaf rot. Also, yellowing and soft rot in the crown region or the stem indicates crown rot and stem rot, respectively. These require immediate remedial action.

3. Ensure a good wet-dry cycle. Limit the exposure of your potted orchids to rainfall. Let your orchids reach near dry conditions before allowing them to soak up rainwater again. If they are already moist, do not expose them to rain again as excessive moisture in the medium will promote rotting of roots and new growths. Cover your greenhouse temporarily with plastic to reduce more rainfall reaching your plants.

4. Take quick remedial action if you observe signs of rotting. Treat them at the earliest sign. In the case of stem, crown and leaf rot, you may have to remove the rotted tissue by cutting or scraping away the affected portion and applying a fungicidal spray.

Another reason for spread of infection can be attributed to the use of unsterilised equipment for trimming your orchids leaves and roots. Always sterilise your cutters regularly.

Events Schedule:

2025	
3 rd & 4 th May 2025	Gympie OS Show (to be benched 2 nd May)
June 2025	STOCQ meeting hosted by Bundaberg OS.
21 st June 2025	Gympie OS Winter Closed Show
6 th & 7 th September 2025	STOCQ meeting hosted by Nambour OS in conjunction with STOCQ Orchidfest at 114 Sportsmans Parade, Bokarina
1 st – 5 th October 2025	Australian Orchid Conference and Show at Wiggulga Sports Complex, Woolgoolga NSW (<i>Orchids from the Mountains to the Sea</i>)

Next Meeting:

DATE: Saturday, 26th April 2025

ADDRESS: Barry & Jennifer Grainger's, 50 Diamondfield Road, Amamoor

TIME: 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.



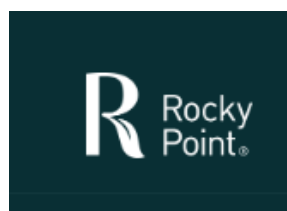
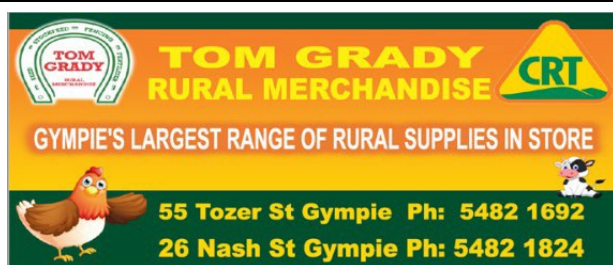
2025 Club Meetings

31st May 2025	Sharon Stretton – 16 Watt Street, GYMPIE
June 2025	John & Kaye Green – 785 Mary Valley Road, Lagoon Pocket, GYMPIE
26th July 2025	Sharon Stretton – 16 Watt Street, GYMPIE
30th August 2025	Gary & Julie Walker – 26 Palmer Court, The Dawn, GYMPIE
27th September 2025	AGM – Kent & Sharon Bartlett at 6 Tailor Street, TIN CAN BAY
25th October 2025	TBA – If you would like to host for Oct, please advise Sharon Stretton
29th November 2025	Club Christmas Party - TBA

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!



keepgrowing@rockypoint.com.au



2025 SHOW EVENTS

SUNSHINE COAST ORCHID SOCIETY CALOUNDRA

PROUDLY PRESENTS

ORCHIDS IN APRIL 2025

CALOUNDRA UNITING CHURCH HALL
(Cnr Queen & Ulm Sts)

Friday 11 April | 9am - 4pm
Saturday 12 April | 9am - 2pm

ORCHIDS, PLANTS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR SALE!

MORNING & AFTERNOON TEA & LUNCH AVAILABLE

RAFFLES! **TALKS FROM ORCHID EXPERTS**

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES 2:30pm Saturday

ENTRANCE FEE:
Adults \$5
U12 free

ENQUIRIES CONTACT MARY 5437 3199

IPSWICH GARDEN SPECTACULAR

12th April 2025
8:30am—3:00pm
13th April 2025
9:00am—1:00pm

Silkstone State School
Prospect Street, Silkstone

Admission = \$5.00
Under 18's = Free

Pine Rivers Orchid Society Inc

EASTER Orchid Show

Sat. 19th and Sunday 20th April 2025

**At Kallangur School Hall,
Old Gympie Rd (near Storey Rd)**

- Large Orchid display!
- \$4 entry, kids **FREE**
- **Orchids for SALE**, including plants from specialist orchid nurseries!
- Tea, coffee, cake for sale
- Open 8.30am to 2pm Saturday 19th
- Open 8.30am to 1pm Sunday 20th
- Wheelchair friendly venue

BRIBIE ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

2025 Easter Orchid & Foliage Show

Proudly supporting
The East Pumicestone Community Support Assoc.



The Orchid House & Indoor Bowls Club
Entrance 3 – 156A First Ave,
Bongaree, Bribie Island Q 4507

Admission \$5pp (EFTPOS available at Entry)
Groups of 10 or more \$4.50pp - (Children under 15 free)



Good Friday 18th April 8.30am—3pm
& Easter Saturday 19th April 8.30am—2pm

Refreshments available for purchase
Please note EFTPOS will only be available at some vendors

VENDORS: Pacific Beach Orchids, RoLin Orchids,
Red Fox Orchids, Kingfisher Orchids, Fong Ping Orchids,
Aaron's Air Plants and Orchidaceous

Contact Teresa Watson, Secretary Mobile 0491 158 104
bribieorc@gmail.com
www.bribieorchidsociety.au



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
Est: 1955

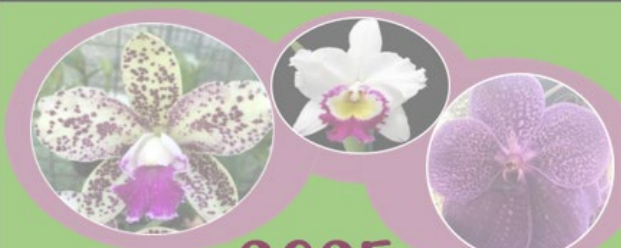
ROSI 70th Anniversary
Autumn Show 2025
Saturday 26th April Open 8am - Close 4pm
Sunday 27th April Open 8am - Close 2pm



Spectacular Orchid Display
Members Orchid & Foliage Sales
Alice's Orchids - M&S Orchids
Pacific Coast Orchids
Foliage Plus (Paul Smith)
Orchid Potting Supplies
Rockhampton Cake Decorators
Devonshire Teas

Show raffle: Garden cart full of goodies
Door Prize: A Beautiful Orchid - Entry \$5 Children Free

2025 Venue
Robert Schwarten Pavilion
Rockhampton Showgrounds



2025 GYMPIE ORCHID SHOW

35 Graham Street (Indoor Bowls Centre)

3rd and 4th May 2025

Saturday: 8.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday: 8.00am – 2.00pm

- Huge display of benched Show Orchids & Foliage plants
- Multiple Vendors for sale plants & accessories
- Refreshments
- Expert Advice
- Raffle prizes (\$1 a ticket)
- Assessable to all



Admission
 Adults - \$4 each
 Children under 12 Free

Web: www.Gympieorchidsociety.com
Facebook: Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc.

Phone President Gary Walker on 0407 640 516 for any questions



GYMPIE WINTER ORCHID CLOSED SHOW

Indoor Bowls Club

26 Graham Street, Gympie

Saturday, 21st June 2025

Plants to be tabled before 8.30am
 Judging at 9.00am

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 9.30am – 3.00pm

FOR SALE: Orchids * Tea * Coffee * Slices * Scones



Enquiries: Gary Walker (President) on 0407 640 516



Nambour Orchid Society

SPRING ORCHID EXPO 2025

6-7 September

**Venue 114, 114 Sportsmans Parade,
Bokarina, Sunshine Coast**

Entry only \$5 | Eftpos Available

- ✦ 15 Orchid Nurseries selling a wide range of orchids and orchid supplies
- ✦ Guest speakers
- ✦ Arts & Craft Sales
- ✦ Refreshments available

For more information please contact
nambourorchids@gmail.com

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