



Milton - Ulladulla

ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

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Messages:

- 1] Remember to bring your grow plant in at the April meeting. This is so we can see how everyone is going. You bought them at the February or March meetings. They are Lc Miss Wonderful "Bright Spark "
- 2] The advertisement for the orchid auction has been included in this send out of newsletters. It will be of interest to most members.
- 3] An invitation to come and join the Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society—Floral Art Group is also in this newsletter [page 1]
- 4] A price list for George & Mike Orchid Supplies is also included— email your order and they will be able to bring it with them, to our April meeting.
- 5] Remember, **COVID procedures** to be observed—safe distancing, stay home if unwell and wash your hands often. A.M.

MARCH 2021

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, April 12th, 2021



Speaker— George and Mike from George & Mike Orchid Supplies— what's new in orchid growing.

WHERE:- Civic Centre Ulladulla

[main street].

There is parking available around the back. :)

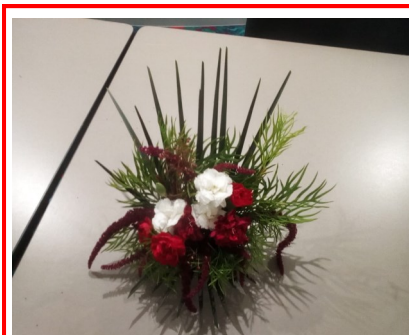
Plants are benched when the area is ready and please fill out your benching cards carefully.

March raffle results

A. Moody 4, J. Church 3, R. Thomas 3, B. Harper 3, L. Cleaver 3, F. Sheil 2, D. Slye 2, M. Hughes 2, M. Martin 2, T. Scott 2, H. Douglas 1, F. Sikora 1, M. Higgins 1, J. Verdino 1, S. Grant 1, D.Hogan 1, A.M. Collins 1, and Y. Young 1.

Well done to all who regularly buy tickets.

A big thank you, to those who bring in items for the monthly meeting raffle or auction. :)



Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society

invites any member of MUOS to come along to our

Floral Art Group

get togethers. We have guest teachers plus a number of experienced floral art teachers, at our get togethers. We learn, we have lunch and we chat [lots of chat]. Everything is supplied and there is a lucky draw

each time, of potential floral art items. **When—4th Monday of the month, 11 a.m..**

Where—Batemans Bay Soldiers Club. Contact—Anne-Marie, at any MUOS meeting.

MILTON ULLADULLA ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2021

VENUE FOR ALL MUOS ACTIVITIES - DOWNSTAIRS CIVIC CENTRE, ULLADULLA, unless otherwise stated

8TH February	General Meeting -	Speaker - Jim Cootes - Orchids of the Phillipines.
8th March	General Meeting	Speaker - Ron Boyd - Fertilizing
14th March	Presidents Meet & Greet	22 Lomandra Pl, Ulladulla. 11.00am - 3.00pm. Bring chair
12th April	General Meeting	Speakers George Birss & Mike Hitchcock. Orchid Supplies by George & I Mike. 'What's new in orchid growing'. Order now
10th May	General Meeting	Brian & Lynne Phelan - 'Preparing plants for Show benching'
22nd May	Roving Day	27 Jubilee Ave. Ulladulla then to 43 Voyager Cr. Bawley Point BBQ lunch, bring chair
14th June	General Meeting	Speaker - Mitch Karnaghan
3rd/4th July	MUOS Winter Show	
10th July	Shoalhaven Orchid Society - Winter Show	Bomaderry Community Centre. 19 Birriley St.
18th June	Bunnings Orchid Display -	Bunnings Store, Ulladulla
8th - 10th July	Eurobodalla Orchid Club - Winter Show	
12th July	General Meeting: - Novice Hour - Presentation of Winter Show Trophies.	Novices bring any 2+ plants for general discussion and assistance from members.
17th - 18th July	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society - Spring Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
9th August	General Meeting: Bric a Brac Auction	
28th - 29th August	Eurobodalla Orchid Club - Spring Show	
4th-5th September	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Spring Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
4th September	Shoalhaven Orchid Society - Spring Show	Bomaderry Community Centre, 19 Birriley St.
11th-12th September	MUOS Spring Show	
13th September	General Meeting: Speaker Gary Hodder 'Pollination of Dendrobium Orchids'	
11th October	AGM & General Meeting: Presentation of Trophies Spring Show	
16th October	MUOS Native Show: Presentation of Awards	
23rd October	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society - Native Orchid Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
8th November	General Meeting: Anything Orchid Auction	
13th December	Christmas Party	

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK:

Hi everyone

The first meeting of the year in March was well attended and we all enjoyed the talk by **Ron Boyd** on fertilizers and fertilizing generally. Thank you, Ron, it was very informative and hope all attendees went home with a bit of extra knowledge.

Twenty-five hardy souls attended the Presidents Meet & Greet on Sunday 14th March. It was a really good day, despite the terrible weather. The BBQ lunch was beautifully cooked by our resident chef **Bruce McIntosh**, who cooked chicken wings and pork ribs in lovely marinade along with the snags and kebabs. Some salads completed the menu. Thank you, Bruce, great job! He also came up with a couple of pavlovas to boot, yummy. It was good to catch up and have a chat to members out of the orchid meeting environment.

Please do not forget to bring in your Gro-Comp plants for benching this next meeting.

Our guest speakers in April will be 'Orchid Supplies by George & Mike' proprietors, George Birss & Mike Hitchcock, who will enlighten us as to 'what is new in orchid growing'. Send any orders at least a week before the meeting.

For the next three meetings, I am going to reserve some time just before afternoon tea for Novices to ask any questions to members in attendance. Novice members may also bring in any plant that they need some assistance with, and idiotic questions are allowed. This will be a practical way for Novice members to expand their knowledge and in particular, their own plants. If you have disease or pest issue, please place the plants in a plastic bag. If Novice members use this time, we will continue it for all meetings.

MUOS sends congratulations to the President, Committee and all the members of Shoalhaven Orchid Society on achieving 65 years of their founding in April. Something worth celebrating - Well done!

Rod



MARCH BENCHING AWARDS

OPEN:

Cymbidium Intermediate:	1st	1	T. Groube & L. Cleaver	
Cattleya to 70:	1st	2	H. Douglass	
Cattleya over 70:	1st	5	M. McIntosh	NO 6
Dendrobium:	1st	41	M. McIntosh	
Native Hybrid:	1st	7	M. McIntosh	
Native Species	1st	11	B. & L. Phelan	
Onc Alliance:	1st	17	L. & B. Phelan	
Miscellaneous:	1st	33	L. Cleaver & T. Groube	
Species:	1st	26	B. & L. Phelan	
Vanda :	1st	38	M. McIntosh	
Phalaenopsis:	1st	40	M. McIntosh	
Seedling:	1st	42	M. McIntosh	

INTERMEDIATE

Cymbidium STD	1st	48	G. Douglass
Paphiopedilum:	1st	50	W. Hamilton
Cattleya to 70:	1st	51	I. Sikes
Cattleya over 70:	1st	52	F. Sikora
Native Species:	1st	57	W. Hamilton
Onc Alliance:	1st	60	G. Douglass
Oncidium Species	1st	65	J. Harriman
Species:	tie 1st	61 & 62	W. Hamilton

NOVICE:

Oncidium Alliance:	1st	70	K. & A. Moody
Species:	1st		
Phalaenopsis:	1st		
FERN:	1st	43	M. Martin
FOLIAGE :	tie 1st	46 D. Hogan & 47 M. McIntosh	

Popular Vote:

Open:	1st	6	H. Douglass
Intermediate:	1st	52	F. Sikora
Novice:	1st	70	K. & A. Moody

Well done to all who benched.

Here's hoping we have a fuller benching , next meeting. :) A.M.



RON BOYD talk

Hi members I was supposed to give a talk on fertilizers at our clubs Monday April 13th meeting, then along came the Covid19 virus. So not to let you down I hope this can go into our clubs newsletter to give you some idea how I manage my fertilizer program.

This is aimed mostly at the newer members of the club to help them find their way into



growing Orchids

First up is my loyal friend the TDS meter, this one is the latest in line I have bought over the past 24+ years, I bought it from Tmart in China for around AU\$12 posted, best buy so far as it has been in use for the last 3 or so years and very easy to use.

Some Aussie nursery have it on sale for around \$25 + postage

The reason I use it is it gives a very accurate measurement of the strength of the fertilizer you are mixing, the old way of a spoon full per

10 litre bucket can be very strong mix as a spoon supplied by some fertilizer company in their packed is was smaller than the spoon we use to eat our food

This is accurate down to 1PPM, when mixing up powdered fertilizer for the first time I use a 10 litre bucket full of water, mix a measured amount of fertilizer in a old cup with a small amount of water, keep record, then pour this into 10 bucket of water and mix well and test for strength with the meter, more fertilizer may need to be added. Our town water currently runs around 90ppm For hungry and fast growing plants like Cymbidiums, Cattleya's, Natives etc it is recommended maximum reading of 250ppm so to get 250ppm you need the 90pm from the tested water added, thus giving a reading 340ppm. You then vary the strength depending on the seasonal growth or on small seedlings.

For slower growing plants such as Paphiopedilums, Masdevalias, etc I like to use strength of around 120-150ppm maximum, so with the PPM meter it is so easy to give a correct strength to whatever orchid you are growing.

Powdered Fertilizers; So easy to use and at correct strength using a TDS meter, my favourite fertilizer is "Campbell's Diamond Special T"



N 8.3 P9.32 K32.5 + 1.k M + micro elements

Best part of this fertilizer is the lower Nitrogen level thus giving you good growth but not excessive floppy leaf growth due to using a high Nitrogen type fertilizer

Using Slow Release type fertilizers; I find for my orchids the Scott's 5-6 MTH EXACT HI K Controlled Release Fertilisers N11 :P 4.8 : K14.9 Plus trace elements very good, you could use perhaps a 8/9 month type last longer but slower release of fertilizer.

These are modern types that start to release Fertilizer at 21 Deg. C. when watered, thus in warmer weather of spring / summer when new root and plant growth is starting, the plants get a nice feed without you having to mix and water with powdered types,

Ron continued.



I use it on all my orchids except Paphiopedilums, I find quick growing orchid such as Cymbidium and Cattleya family love them.

Usage, I use a pinch of the pebbles in a 100mm pot, perhaps about 15 or so pellets, in a 200mm pot of established Cymbidium a 4 finger pinch or as much as about 40 pebbles, that easy to use . I like to fertiliser around October long weekend, thus easier to remember the date and on St. Patricks Day 17 March each year.

Lime! Quite simply all plants need lime, the calcium is critical in the development in the leaf and bulb structure and also the potting mix to keep it sweet,

i.e. the PH does not drop below 5 and become acid and not to the plants roots likening, often caused the death of plants, I lime my plants in spring when applying slow release fertiliser around October long weekend, thus easier to remember the date and on St. Patricks Day 17 March. This will help in keeping the Ph in a reasonable good range of around 6 to 6.5 Ph. I use a pelleted lime so much easier to apply.

Organic type fertilizers; Rather large range of these available, some of the better types are combinations of animal manure and fish by products, all the better to use if they have been pelletised, these mostly last about a month or so in the potting mix but apart from fertilizer the plant, they also supply microbes and other good fungal bacteria to the potting mix and they help break down the chemical fertilizer to a more acceptable level for the plants roots to absorb. Over use of organic fertilizer can lead to rapid breakdown of the orchid bark.

Magnesium sulfate or Epsom Salts; Another important trace element not supplied in large amounts to the general fertilizer mix due to it not being compatible and breaking down in general fertilizers mixes, best used separately, very important in the formation of leaf cell structure and the greening of the leaves, scientist regarded it as important to plant growth and structure as Iron is in the haemoglobin of the humans blood.

I use it about 1 large big spoon full per 10 litre bucket, if using the TDS meter around 180ppm and spray over the orchids leaves regularly in the growing season say every 2 to 3 weeks.

These are some of the methods I now use to grow my orchids successfully, ideas I have learnt from professional orchid growers and trailed and adapted to suit my growing conditions and I hope they can help you grow the champion orchid.

Ron Boyd



Society Polo Shirts

Society Polo Shirts can be ordered from the Secretary.

These are coloured purple with a white logo and are available in the following sizes.

Ladies 8-24

Mens to 5xL

See the Secretary if interested in one.



FOR SALE

Do you have an orchid to sell or orchid related item.

Send in the details to Anne-Marie and it will go here. :)

Contact Michelle McIntosh—she has Dendrobium speciosum divisions for sale—well named and very well grown.



" For those wanting Bob Bishops bark please phone John Harriman on 44439462 - . John will be bringing bags to the meetings each month or you can collect from his home - please phone and ask him if you require bags brought to the meeting .

TIPS for April / May [Autumn].

The weather has given us an excess of rain—check pots for drainage and fungus out breaks.

Sap sucking insects and their helpful ant friends are not wanted. Deal hard and fast. Isolate and be vigilant.

Sarcs, should be potted by now. Place where you control their watering—excess water will lead to fungus out breaks.

Cymbidiums are starting to show spikes, know your orchid—do you stake it, yoyos? Or allow to trail. Plenty of places on line to google—standard, miniature or intermediate. Each kind needs different show preparation from when the spike first shows till you walk into the show hall.

:)



WISH LIST

Bob Harper—Sarc. George Coulthorpe X Bessie

Sam Burton—yellow Psychopsis

Michelle McIntosh— Oncidium cheirophorum.

Liz Karacsonyi— Dock. Aust. Ginger

Dianne Slye— [Zygoneria Adelaide Meadows X Zygopabista Beenak Jester] X Zygote Arthur Elle 'Essendon' AM-AD/AOC

Anne-Marie Collins- Ming fern, foptail fern, aspidistra [variegated and normal] [for floral art], also an alba stanhoepa or any Oncid. Twinkles or a psychopsis [any variety].

Plus bamboo, both clumping and non-clumping, and a small Christmas bush [Australian native] .

Rod Thomas—Den. Enobi Purple 'splash'

Let Anne-Marie know if you have a special orchid you are after.

We stock an extensive product range for all your orchid needs.

Take advantage of your V.I.P. Customer Pricing.

Come in and visit us at 21 Bellevue Street, South Nowra or ring 44232359



5% discount—show your card.



Get Well Wishes

to any club member recovering from treatment, surgery or sickness . :)



The committee would like to thank those generous members that provide the goodies for afternoon tea and also the members who bring in plants etc. for our monthly raffles. Also we thank the people who help set up and clean up the hall as with many hands it doesn't take very long.

-REMEMBER -

Please do not water your plants before benching them, at our meetings or shows, as it makes quite a mess. Thank you. :)



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Luke Forster - Manager



Disclaimer:

The Milton-Ulladulla Orchid Society Inc., is not responsible for any information given by a member, visiting speaker or material printed in the Club's Newsletter. 2021

Did you know?

If you receive your newsletter by email, we are now sending to you [interesting reading] newsletters sent by other clubs that the Secretary receives. If you don't want this to happen, please let Anne-Marie know by email Thanks A.M. [arimaneeorchids2020@gmail.com].