

Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Society Inc

NEWSLETTER

JUNE-JULY 2026

President's report

Hi Members

As previously advised, this will be a **bumper edition** of the Newsletter, **covering both June and July**. This goes to show how dependent we are upon Fay; thank heavens she is back home safe and sound from her adventures in Central Asia. No doubt she will have lots of stories to intrigue us with.

June meeting started with double presentation. Firstly, **Sam Cowie delivered the tropical cymbidiums** – Go Salinas – that many members had ordered, and then gave us **a wealth of information on the development of cymbidium hybrids** using our local native cymbidiums – *Cym. madidum* and *Cym. canaliculatum*, including donating a large pot of *Cym. Joseph Schmidt 'Song of Israel'* with six to eight inflorescences for our raffle. Although *Cym. canaliculatum* comes from the drier areas west of the Dividing Range, Sam has found this hybrid does well in our wetter climate.

We were then treated to a very professional PowerPoint **presentation by Peter Young (page 6)**. Peter began collecting orchids as a boy, and has continued that passion throughout his career in horticulture and then retirement. He has researched and experimented thoroughly **the fertilising requirements of orchids in the wild and then in cultivation**. He presented us with so much professional advice that left us with our heads spinning! Fortunately, he also left us his presentation, which Julie has distributed.

Two weeks later at our **New Growers and Species meeting**, a dozen or more members were treated to tour of **Sue and Tony Forde's magnificent 10-acre property (page 12)**. We were amazed how clean and tidy were the miles of pebble paths. Tony let on his secret was to drive over them with the ride-on mower. The neighbours first thought he was mad, but then saw the result. Running an extensive irrigation system from his dam has enabled Tony to create **an oasis of gardens filled with bromeliads, palms and all nature of shrubs**. As always, we were given a wealth of information on caring for orchids by the more experienced growers there.

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Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Society Members

Calendar of events 2026

August

1	NDOFS meeting – Rob Trost from Rolin Orchids on growing orchids on mounts, plus plants for sale	Tinbeerwah Hall
1-2	Port Curtis Orchid & Foliage Show and STOCQ meeting	Phillip Street Community & Families Precinct, Gladstone
8	New Growers' and Species morning	Ian Skipworth TBC
14-15	Maroochydore Orchid Society Show	Buderim Uniting Church Hall, Gloucester Road & King St

September

4-5	Nambour Orchid Society Spring Show	Nambour Uniting Church Hall, 37 Coronation Avenue
5	NDOFS meeting – show prep	Tinbeerwah Hall
17	Set up, bench orchids, Judging	Memorial Hall, Cooroy
18-19	NDOFS Spring Show	Memorial Hall, Cooroy
25	NDOFS Bus Trip to Hervey Bay	Les Nappers, Boat Club lunch, orchid nursery
25-26	Glasshouse Country Orchid Society Spring Show	Beerwah Community Hall, 25 Peachester Road

October

3	NDOFS meeting – potting on seedlings from plugs last year	Tinbeerwah Hall
9-10	Bribie Island Orchid Show	Orchid House, 156A First Avenue, Bongaree
17	New Growers' and Species morning	Mal and Judy Wheeler TBC

Orchid show sparks photography homecoming



PROFESSIONAL photographer Christopher Allery has returned to Cooroy, reconnecting with his creative roots and drawing inspiration from the recent Mother's Day Orchid Show at Cooroy Memorial Hall.

Raised in Cooroy, Christopher later moved to Brisbane to complete a Bachelor of Visual Arts at Queensland University of Technology, and went on to study a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film Production in 2012 before returning to Melbourne. After six years working in Melbourne as studio manager at jewellery studio Gorky Saint Clair, he returned to his hometown to focus on his photography practice.

Christopher said the decision to visit the orchid show was spontaneous, prompted by memories of earlier community events held in the same venue. "I remembered the show being held in Cooroy when I was young, and I decided to just see if I could go and take some photos. Now it was back here," he said. "I returned once the display was completed to take photos before the judging took place. The beauty, strangeness, and complexity of orchids and their relationships with their owners truly fascinates me."

South East Queensland, a place where street lights are sparse and there is minimal light pollution, inspired me and I wanted to come back here to live and work. I am happy to be home again and looking forward to the Spring Orchid Show in September."

Christopher has been exhibited and named a finalist in several Australian photography prizes in recent years. His work is also gaining international recognition, with a portrait from his 'Folio X' collection currently featured in the Lowe Contemporary photography exhibition in Paris.



Light and shadow with orchids

Professional photographer Christopher Allery took some orchid photos while our May show was being set up and they have recently appeared in a story I did on his career in the *Cooroy Rag*. Christopher (*left*), who grew up in Cooroy, returned here last year.

He recently exhibited in a Paris gallery and looks forward to our next show, where he is interested in doing some portraits of orchids and their owners.

Fay Knight

JUDGES' CHOICE June 2026

Mini Cattleya under 70mm

Sgr. Yokosuka Story
L Walters



Cattleya Interm. 70-100mm

R/c. Toshie Aoki X C. Tiny Titan
L Walters



Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm

R/c. Rosella's Graceful Moon
'Hannah'
T & C Cook



Cattleya Cluster

Ctt. Highland Bauble 'Murphy'
J Crulci



Cattleya Novelty

Bc. Rustic Spots
D Phillips



Dendrobium Alliance

Den. Sakol Blue
T & C Cook



Australian Natives

Den. Gloucester Charm
D Jensen



Species Asian

Tuberolabium kotoense
B & D Shield



Species American

Catt. walkeriana.
L Walters



Phalaenopsis

Phal. Sunshower
B & D Shield



Vanda Alliance

V. Pachara Delight 'Pink'
T & C Cook



Oncidium Alliance

Wilsonara Pearberry 'Eye Candy'
D Jensen



Cymbidium Cym. Unknown D Jensen 	Other Genera Cycd. Taiwan Gold L Walters 	Epidendrum Epi.Comet Valley Red B Prideaux 
Novice Beallara. Snow Blind 'Sweet Spots' R Griffiths 	Bromeliad Brom. Unknown B Prideaux 	Antherium Anthurium Black Beauty T & C Cook 
Ferns Adiantum Fragrans T & C Cook 	Foliage Aglaonema Red Fountain J & G Menkens 	NEXT MEETING Saturday 1 August Socialising and plant sales from 12pm Benching complete by 12.40pm Don't forget your cup, any library books and cash for plant sales

VALE TERRY THOMPSON

Life member and former orchid judge Terry Thompson (*pictured with his life badge in 2025*) sadly died in early June. Terry and wife Hazel joined NDOFS in 2007. He started as a scribe, and from 2008-2011 was on Committee, and also did orchid judging and reviews at meetings. He became a fully-accredited judge in March 2011 and STOCQ delegate in 2012. He was on Committee again from 2011 to 2015.

In the past few years Terry was living at Carramar and still had a small collection of orchids. Even in recent times Julie Menkens says she would see him with a new purchase in hand. "I would ask 'Have you got room for another orchid'? He would smile and reply 'Oh yes I have'."



POPULAR VOTE June 2026

CLASS	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
Mini Cattleya Under 70mm	<i>Sgr. Yokosuka Story</i> L Walters	<i>C. Unknown</i> B Prideaux	<i>Rlc. Mem. Warren Eggins X</i> <i>Rlc. Love Call</i> J & G Menkens
Cattleya Intermediate 70- 100mm	<i>Rlc. Toshie Aoki X C. Tiny</i> Titan L Walters	<i>Ctt. Susan Holcombe</i> 'Yellow Red' D Phillips	<i>Rlc. Topaz Love X Rlc.</i> George King 'Southern Cross' J & G Menkens
Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm	<i>Rlc. Rosella's Graceful Moon</i> 'Hannah' T & C Cook	<i>Rlc Dream Trader 'Colossos'</i> T & C Cook	<i>Rlc. Memoria Gordon</i> Valance 'Kaye' S Flower <i>C. Dal's Choice 'Rudak'</i> T & C Cook
Cattleya Cluster	<i>Ctt. Highland Bauble</i> 'Murphy' J Crulci	<i>Rlc. Deception Scarlet Lady</i> J Crulci	<i>Ctt. Unknown</i> B Prideaux
Cattleya Novelty	<i>Bc. Keowee 'Maria'</i> J & G Menkens	<i>Bc. Rustic Spots</i> D Phillips	–
Dendrobium Alliance	<i>Den. K. Blue X Den. Johannis</i> J Crulci	<i>Den. Sakol Blue</i> T & C Cook	<i>Den. Coleman's Big Red X</i> <i>Den. Red Dame</i> J & G Menkens
Aus. Natives	<i>Den. Gloucester Charm</i> D Jensen	–	–
Species Asian	<i>Tuberolabium kotoense</i> B & D Shield	<i>Angraecum.</i> J & G Menkens	–
Species American	<i>Catt. walkeriana.</i> L Walters	<i>Catt. percivaliana 'Summit'.</i> J & G Menkens	–
Phalaenopsis	<i>Phal. Sunshower</i> B & D Shield	–	–
Vanda Alliance	<i>V. Pachara Delight 'Pink'</i> T & C Cook	<i>V. Robets Delight 'Red Spot'</i> J & G Menkens <i>V. Unknown</i> I Skipworth	<i>V. Dr Anek Boonyarit X V.</i> <i>Ritz's Hearthrob</i> I Skipworth
Oncidium Alliance	<i>Wilsonara Pearberry</i> 'Eye Candy' D Jensen	<i>Wilsonara Pearberry 'Eye</i> Candy' J & G Menkens	<i>Lsz. Lava Burst 'Puanani'</i> AM/AOS T & C Cook
Cymbidium	<i>Cym. Unknown</i> D Jensen	<i>Cym. Khan Flame 'Tuscany'</i> S Flower	–
Other Genera	<i>Cycd. Taiwan Gold</i> L Walters	<i>Paph. Crossianum Album</i> B Prideaux	<i>Paph. Unknown</i> P Barry
Epidendrum	<i>Epi. Comet Valley Red</i> B Prideaux	–	–

Novice	<i>Beallara</i> . Snow Blind 'Sweet Spots' R Griffiths	—	—
Bromeliad	Till. Juncifolia Red J & G Menkens	Brom. Unknown B Prideaux	Till. Ionantha Fuego J & G Menkens Cryptanthus T & D Lyons
Anthurium	Anthurium Unknown T & C Cook	Anthurium Black Beauty T & C Cook Anthurium Congo King J & G Menkens	Anthurium Vanilla T & D Lyons
Ferns	Phlegmariurus Longibracteatus D Hunter	Adiantum Fragrans T & C Cook Adiantum J & G Menkens	—
Foliage	Geoppertia Orbifolia T & C Cook	Aglaonema Red Fountain J & G Menkens	Aglaonema Lady Valentine J & G Menkens

PRESIDENT's REPORT CONTINUED FROM COVER:

> I was privileged to represent NDOFS at the morning tea put on by Noosa Council on July 1 to **thank Lois Walters for her 23 years continuous volunteering at the Botanic Gardens**. Also present were volunteers Judy Robbins (20 years' service), Bronwyn Quinn and John Simmons.

The July meeting was a mass of colour, no doubt helped by the mild (so far) winter. Over 40 members and visitors were treated to **a very informative presentation from Nick Hutchinson, General Manager of Fernlands**. As well as his role as GM Fernlands, Nick is also president of Greenlife Industry Australia, the peak industry body working with member companies and government at all levels. Nick has spent his whole career in this industry, firstly in the UK, then Holland, then Australia. Thank you, Nick and Thea, for giving us your time and a very informative presentation.

As mid-winter is usually a fairly quiet time for orchids, we did not plan a New Growers meeting; however, we received an invitation from the Gympie club to join their **bus trip to the Caboolture Show** on the 18th. Several of our members were able to take up that offer. See the report later in this newsletter (*page 11*).

The **August meeting** will be one not to miss. **Rob Trost from Rolin Orchids** will be our guest speaker. Rob grows (and sells) magnificent orchids and will give **us the benefit of his experience in mounting orchids**. He will also be bringing some plants for sale. I look forward to seeing you then.

Regards

Trevor Cook



*Peter Young (above) presented to our June meeting on fertilising orchids. He began collecting orchids as a boy, and continued throughout his career in horticulture and then retirement.
PHOTO: DIANNE JENSEN*

JUNE Plant of the month: Anthurium Black Beauty

Cheryl has had this plant for five or six years now, buying it originally at the Yandina markets. It caught her attention being black, which was unusual for that time. It is a strong grower, and she continuously threatens to re-pot/divide it, but never seems to find the right time. As a result, it has developed into quite a specimen plant. It lives in my original bush house under 50% shade cloth, along with the rest of her collection of anthuriums, plus several of my cooler growing orchids – sarchochilus, and zygopetalums etc.

It does not receive any special attention but they all get regularly fertilised with a very weak liquid fertiliser each time I feed my orchids. Fortunately, we have the room to give it plenty of space which helps it retain its full round shape.



It is getting a bit 'leggy', so this spring it is likely to be re-potted. As Nita showed us at a meeting a few months ago, we will take it from its pot, cut off the bottom third of the roots and either divide it or pot it on into a slightly larger pot.
Trevor Cook

JULY Plant of the month: Cattlianthe Tropical

Trick 'Machado'



This orchid is famous for its clusters of bright orange flowers. It is a cross between two quick-growing and robust cattleya hybrids with red lips (C. Tropical Sunset X Ctt. Trick or Treat).

It was bred in 1973 and growers love it because it is tough, easy to care for and blooms heavily. It likes bright indirect light, so we put it high in the orchid house.

The plant that we have is a prolific grower. It now has two new inflorescences coming on – one with five flowers and the other with two flowers.

Dave Lyons

JUDGES' CHOICE July 2026

Mini Cattleya under 70mm

Bl. Hawaii Stars 'Only You'
J & G Menkens



Cattleya Interm. 70-100mm

Ctt. Tutankamen 'Pop'
J & G Menkens



Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm

Rlc. Young Kong
T & C Cook



Cattleya Cluster

Ctt. Tropical Treat 'Machado'
T & D Lyons



Cattleya Novelty

Bc. Yellow Bird 'Rothwell'
G & A Gibson



Dendrobium Alliance

Den. Burana Jade
D Phillips



Australian Natives

Den. speciosum (Hilda Poxan)
'Palmerston Mist Judy'
T & C Cook



Species Asian

V. miniatum
T & C Cook



Species American

C. intermedia
B & D Shield



Phalaenopsis

Phal. Secret Message
B & D Shield



Vanda Alliance

V. Falcaya x V. Coerulescens
T & C Cook`



Oncidium Alliance

Onc. Tsiku Marguerite 'NoF'
L Walters



Cymbidium

Cym. Unknown
T & D Lyons

**Other Genera**

Zygo. Adelaide Meddows 'Eli'
D Phillips

**Epidendrum**

Epi. Comet Valley
B Quinn

**Novice**

C. Ratsima Spots
S Kilpatrick

**Bromeliad**

Tillandsia lonantha Zebrina
J & G Menkens

**Anthurium**

Anthurium 'Black'
G & A Gibson

**Ferns**

Maidenhair Fern
B Quinn

**Foliage**

Aglaonema Chinese Evergreen
G & A Gibson



**Thanks to our
volunteers for all the
ways they make our
society a well-run
organisation. And yes,
our Spring Show is
going to need
volunteers soon 😊**

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

This double-edition is because I was away for six weeks overseas (yes, a wonderful holiday) and thanks to a travel friend with better eyesight than I have, I did see some Central Asian orchids (*at right*). Thanks, Dianne Jensen for photo of the Judge's Choice orchids, Julie Menkens for New Growers morning, and Trevor for the bus trip.

Fay Knight



POPULAR VOTE July 2026

CLASS	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
Mini Cattleya Under 70mm	C. Unknown J & G Menkens	<i>Bl.</i> Hawaii Stars 'Only You' J & G Menkens	–
Cattleya Intermediate 70-100mm	<i>Ctt.</i> Tutankamen 'Pop' J & G Menkens	C. Mari's Song T & C Cook	<i>Rth.</i> Rosella's 'Graceful Moon' T & D Lyons
Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm	<i>Rlc.</i> John Green J Simmons <i>Rlc.</i> Young Kong T & C Cook	<i>Rlc.</i> Burdekin Delight 'Dreamtime' L Walters	C. Magic Melody 'Southern Cross' G & A Gibson
Cattleya Cluster	<i>Ctt.</i> Tropical Treat 'Machado' T & D Lyons	<i>Ctt.</i> Unknown G & A Gibson	<i>Ctt.</i> Varut Startrade 'C.S' T & C Cook
Cattleya Novelty	<i>Bc.</i> Yellow Bird 'Rothwell' G & A Gibson	<i>Bc.</i> Yellow Bird 'Rothwell' J & G Menkens	–
Dendrobium Alliance	<i>Den.</i> Coleman's Big Red x <i>Den.</i> Red Dame J & G Menkens	<i>Den.</i> Burana Jade D Phillips	<i>Den.</i> Albattross x <i>Den.</i> Painted Doll D Jensen
Aus. Natives	<i>Den.</i> speciosum (Hilda Poxan) 'Palmerston Mist Judy' T & C Cook	–	–
Species Asian	<i>Coel. wenzellii</i> T Forde <i>V. miniatum</i> T & C Cook	<i>Rhy. gigantea</i> B & D Shield	<i>Coel. wenzellii</i> Caboolture Yellow John Simmons
Species American	<i>C. gaskelliana</i> Var. <i>alba</i> G & A Gibson <i>C. intermedia</i> B & D Shield	<i>Onc. onustum</i> B & D Shield	<i>Dinehma polybulbon</i> G & A Gibson
Phalaenopsis	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown T & C Cook	<i>Phal.</i> Secret Message B & D Shield	<i>Phal.</i> Charming Crystal Water B & D. Shield
Vanda Alliance	V. Somsri Glory Blue T & C Cook	V. Coerulea x V. Luzonica G & A Gibson	V. Falcaya x V. Coerulescens T & C Cook`
Oncidium Alliance	<i>Onc.</i> Tsiku Marguerite 'NoF' L Walters	<i>Onc.</i> Tsiku 'Chianz-tsy Yearning' T & Cook	<i>Onc.</i> Everglades 'Elegance' D Phillips
Cymbidium	<i>Cym.</i> Unknown T & D Lyons	<i>Cym.</i> Lileayanbury P Barry	–
Other Genera	<i>Phrag.</i> Noirmont L Walters	<i>Zygo.</i> Adelaide Meddows 'Eli' D Phillips	<i>Zygo.</i> Debbie De Mellow B & D Shield
Epidendrum	<i>Epi</i> Comet Valley 'Orange' L Walters	<i>Epi.</i> Comet Valley B Quinn	–

Novice	C. Ratsima Spots S Kilpatrick	-	-
Bromeliad	Tillandsia Gardneri J & G Menkens	Tillandsia J & G Menkens	Tillandsia Ionantha Zebrina J & G Menkens
Anthurium	Anthurium 'Scherzerianum' J & G Menkens	Anthurium 'Black' G & A Gibson	Anthurium 'Unknown' T & C Cook
Ferns	Huperzia Squarrosa PNG D Hunter	Maidenhair Fern B Quinn	Adiantum Maidenhair Fern G & A Gibson
Foliage	Begonia Coral Bells G & A Gibson	Alocasia x Mortfontanensis J & G Menkens	Aglaonema Chinese Evergreen G & A Gibson

Caboolture bus trip

Twelve of our members were able to join the bus trip to the Caboolture Orchid Show on the 18 July, thanks to the generosity of the Gympie Orchid Society. We were picked up at Cooroy and then whisked by coach to the show, where we were blown away by the range and quality of plants on show (and for sale).

After two hours at the show, we went to Red Fox Orchids where we were treated to a tour of their facilities, including a number of huge new bush houses, and of course, more beautiful plants to purchase. After lunch we went to Aranbeem Orchids, where once again we were impressed with the improvements made by the new owners, both in the facilities and quality of plants. Both businesses are investing heavily in facilities and stock, which will be beneficial to us in the future. A comfortable ride home capped off a great day. Thank you again to the Gympie club. All agreed, we should do more together.

PS. If anyone has difficulty breaking into a tour bus just give Deb Shield a call!

Trevor Cook

NDOFS and Gympie orchid society members shared a bus trip which included Caboolture Show (below) and a visit to Redfox (below) and Aranbeem Orchids. Dave (and Trish) Lyons and Fay Knight skipped the bus trip as they were at Caboolture on the Thursday night for the show judging sessions.



Tony and Sue's ten-acre oasis of gardens on show

The June New Growers and Species morning at Tony and Sue Forde's large property was enjoyed by more than a dozen members who noted the many features and learned the secret of weed-free pebble paths: mowing over them! Thanks Tony and Sue.

PHOTOS: J Menkens

