

Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Society Inc

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

President's report

August started with our **monthly meeting**, which was once again well attended with a great display of all varieties, but especially the **display of Asian Species**, with several huge specimen plants of coelogyne and rhynchostylis. We were then treated to detailed **presentation by Sam Cowie on re-potting and growing tips for paphiopedilums** (see page 6), which in turn lead to additional plants for the raffle! Thank you once again to Sam for being such a great supporter for our club.

The following weekend was the **New Growers meeting** at **Ian and Lesley Skipworth's** (see pages 7-8). **A new record was set for attendance**, with 27 members there to inspect Ian's handiwork with two new bush-houses (already bursting with orchids), new covered patio etc, plus of course, the beautiful morning tea. It was obvious he needed that holiday to Cairns! In between all that we had a hands-on **workshop re-potting a dozen plants** of Wilsonara Orobino Coronal left from the donation by Sam Cowie for the re-potting workshop at our Mother's Day Show. Everybody went home with a freshly potted plant, many in flower or bud. We all had a great morning, thank you again to Ian and Lesley.

With spring fast approaching, we are coming to **the silly season of orchid shows** and re-potting activities.

The **Maroochy Show** was last weekend. Maroochy Club have always been great supporters for us, and no doubt many will once again support our show. This was our chance to return the favour (and show them how good are our growers!). As John Green said at our meeting, this is the opportunity to show off many of those beautiful plants displayed at our meeting that will probably not last till our show (see page 7, 9-10). John and several other members took home some prizes.

The **Nambour Show** is in three weeks on **4 - 5 September**, with set-up on Thursday 3. Several of our members are also members of Nambour, with many years of close connections between the two clubs. Again, **a great opportunity to support our friends at Nambour**, and this time bring out some of those plants you have been grooming for our show.

Speaking of our show (which will be two weeks after Nambour), **now is the time to start getting your plants into show condition** (clean up the pots, clean up the foliage, staking and pseudobulbs, check for pests etc). If you haven't already done so, let **Julie know how you will be helping at the show**; start collecting boxes and newspaper for the sales area; and, of course, make sure your membership is paid up so that you can enter plants and bring some for sale.

Regards,

Trevor Cook



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www.noosaorchidsociety.com.au



Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Society Members

Calendar of events 2026

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

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

November

7	NDOFS meeting – AGM	Tinbeerwah Hall
14	Nambour Species Show	Buderim Uniting Church Hall, Gloucester Road
21	New Growers' and Species morning	Shirley Flower TBA



**WELCOME
NEW
MEMBERS
Joe and Vicki
Motta**

REMINDERS

Memberships now due – you can't bench or sell plants unless paid up
Members selling plants pay \$1 commission to society
Library at meetings has lots of helpful books on orchids

BE READY FOR OUR SPRING SHOW

Please **save cardboard boxes and newspaper** for our plant-sales packing. A **cake, slice or biscuits** would be appreciated **for our café** area. And any **volunteer help** you can offer, **please see Julie** for times and duties needed. **Prepare your orchids and foliage** to make a good display for the show. **If you are new to benching plants** in a show, check your plant is healthy, not infested with ants, not dripping (water the day before) and weed-free. Wipe over leaves, if damaged trim into a natural leaf shape to remove dead material and cut out any dead stems. Wipe over the pot (preferably black) and check that any stakes are shorter than the flower/s being supported (safety for judges inspecting!). **New members are given a sheet of name labels and some wires to display the label** – write on the name of your plant on the blank side (or unknown, if not known). Bring in your plants on **Thursday from 3-5pm along with your bank details** in a sealed envelope (for any prize payments) and you will be given a number to stick on the label. If in doubt about anything, please ask.

JUDGES' CHOICE August 2026

Mini Cattleya under 70mm

Rlc. Hsinying Sunbeam

J & G Menkens



Cattleya Interm. 70-100mm

C. Mari's Love 'Taka'

T & C Cook



Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm

C. Rosella's Graceful Moon

T & D Lyons



Cattleya Cluster

Ctt. Tropical Trick 'Machado'

T & D Lyons



Cattleya Novelty

Bc. Yellow Bird 'Rothwell'

N Bettridge



Dendrobium Alliance

Den. Elegant Heart

B Prideaux



Australian Natives

Den. speciosum

B Prideaux



Species Asian

Rhy. gigantea

D & B Shield



Species American

Rlc digbyana

I Skipworth



Phalaenopsis

Phal. Unknown

T & C Cook



Vanda Alliance

V. Kulwadee Fragrance

T & C Cook



Oncidium Alliance

Bst. Tarantula 'Sweet Orange'

B & D Shield



Cymbidium Cym. Unknown A & G Gibson 	Other Genera Zygo. Debbie De Mellow B & D Shield 	Epidendrum Epi. Sunlight Valley 'Arkane' L Walters 
Novice Onc. Dancing Queen S Kilpatrick 	Bromeliad Nea Apricot Nectar T & D Lyons 	Antherium Antherium Unknown T & C Cook 
Ferns Adiantum Spp. A & G Gibson 	Foliage Aglaonema Lady Valentine A & G Gibson 	NEXT MEETING Saturday 5 September Socialising and plant sales from 12pm Benching complete by 12.40pm Don't forget your cup, any library books and cash for plant sales



The Maroochydore Show (14-15 August) included many entries from our society (see pages 9-10) and orchid judge Dave Lyons (left) and student Fay Knight assisted with the judging and awards. (More pages 9-10.)

POPULAR VOTE August 2026

Class	1ST	2ND	3RD
Mini Cattleya Under 70mm	<i>Rth.</i> Topaz Suitor 'Butterfly' A & G Gibson	<i>Rlc.</i> Hsinying Sunbeam J & G Menkens	<i>C.</i> Unknown A & G Gibson
Cattleya Intermedia 70-100mm	<i>Rlc.</i> Maris Magic 'Chief Satisfaction' I Skipworth	<i>C.</i> Cariad's Mini-Quinee J & G Menkens	<i>C.</i> Mari's Love 'Taka' T & C Cook
Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm	<i>Rlc.</i> Chief Journey '1 st Choice' T & C Cook <i>C.</i> Rosella's Graceful Moon T & D Lyons	<i>Rlc.</i> Deception Royal Song 'Topaz Fully Loaded' A & G Gibson	<i>C.</i> Unknown J & G Menkens
Cattleya Cluster	<i>Epicatanthe</i> Hsiang Yu Gold Coast A & G Gibson	<i>Ctt.</i> Tropical Trick 'Machado T & D Lyons'	–
Cattleya Novelty	<i>Bc.</i> Yellow Bird 'Rothwell' T & C Cook	<i>*Bc.</i> Yellow Bird 'Rothwell' N Bettridge	–
Dendrobium Alliance	<i>Den.</i> Elegant Heart B Prideaux	<i>Den.</i> Unknown N Bettridge	<i>Den.</i> Fire Wings L Walters
Aus. Natives	<i>Den.</i> Australian Rhubarb Pie L Walters	<i>Den. speciosum</i> B Prideaux	–
Species Asian	<i>Rhy. gigantea</i> D & B Shield	<i>Coel. wenzellii</i> D Hunter	<i>Coel. cristata</i> L Walters
Species American	<i>Rlc digbyana</i> I Skipworth	<i>Stenorrhyncos speciosum</i> M Maclachlan	<i>Laelia rubescens</i> J & G Menkens
Phalaenopsis	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown T & C Cook	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown D & B Shield	<i>Phal.</i> Ruey Lih Queen D & B Shield
Vanda Alliance	<i>V.</i> Pedro Bonneti G & A Gibson	<i>V.</i> Kulwadee Fragrance T & C Cook	<i>V.</i> Luzonica I Skipworth
Oncidium Alliance	<i>Onc.</i> Unknown T & C Cook	<i>Onc.</i> Deganmoara Ponot Friacess N Bettridge	<i>Bst.</i> Tarantula 'Sweet Orange' B & D Shield
Cymbidium	<i>Cym.</i> Unknown A & G Gibson	<i>Cym.</i> Show Girl x Pepper Blaze T & C Cook	<i>Cym.</i> Unknown A & G Gibson
Other Genera	<i>Zygo.</i> Debbie De Mellow B & D Shield	<i>Paphiopedilum gratixianum</i> M Maclachlan	<i>Paph.</i> (Anjay x Winston Churchill) X Dazzling World 'A' A & G Gibson
Epidendrum	<i>Epi.</i> Unknown (mini lilac) D. Jensen	<i>Epi.</i> Sunlight Valley 'Arkane' L Walters	–

Novice	V. Darwinara Charm 'Blue Star' J & V Motta	<i>Onc. Dancing Queen</i> S Kilpatrick	<i>Lc. Little Saigon Sunset</i> G Creemers
Bromeliad	Till neglecta J & G Menkens Nea Apricot Nectar T & D Lyons	Till lonantha B Prideaux	Till lonantha J & G Menkens
Anthurium	Unknown T & C Cook	Black Beauty N Bettridge	Vanilla T & D Lyons
Ferns	Fern Asplenium bulbiferum N Bettridge Adiantum Spp. A & G Gibson	Fern Maidenhair B Quinn	Fern Tassel Fern S Morrell
Foliage	Aglonema Lady Valentine J & G Menkens	Syngonium Mini Pixie T & C Cook	Aglonema Lady Valentine A & G Gibson

Paphiopediliums tips

- Maudiae type (blotched leaf) are one of the easiest to grow
- Require low light - 80-85% shade
- Sam's mix: 3 parts bark (12-15mm)
2 parts Perlite (coarse)
1 part charcoal (10mm, if you can source it)
- Don't like stale mix - re-pot after 18 months
- Water every 2-3 days in winter; daily in summer
- Fertilise once to twice a week with liquid fertiliser, such as CalMag
Don't use slow release
Don't over fertilise - won't form roots properly, will burn leaf tips
- Don't over-pot; pot the plant deep. Place in centre of pot.
- Plants with Charlesworthii genes will clump well.
- Sometimes will sucker off the old root

Paraffinic Oil:

- Good treatment for mites
- Mix at rate of 10mls per Litre
- Use once every 4-8 weeks
- DON'T spray on oncidiums - will cause leaf splitting

Sam Cowie

Sam demonstrates how to repot and care for paphiopediliums



PLANT OF THE MONTH: *Rhy. gigantea*

These plants are native to Borneo, Myanmar, Thailand peninsula, Malaysia, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, China (Hainan) and the Philippines. Commonly called foxtail orchids because their long, thin, densely-packed inflorescences can reach 15" (38cm), these fragrant blooms flower in autumn and winter.

There are a wide range of different clones, and flowers vary slightly in shape and colour (white to dark red, spotted and orange)

They need indirect light so mine are grown with the vandas in a high tunnel shade house under 70% black shade cloth. I try not to hang them on the western side. They will grow in little or no potting media in warm to hot conditions.

This particular specimen consists of two pups off the original plant, which was purchased years ago from who knows where. The original plant is still going strong and has been awarded. I named it Lesley after my mother.

Watering is less this time of year, but every day in summer. It is fertilised every week with whatever I have.



I have quite a few of different colours and these plants can grow large similar to vandas.

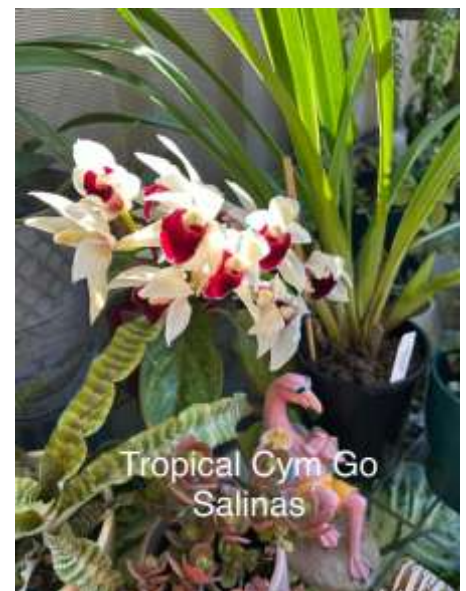
Deborah Shield

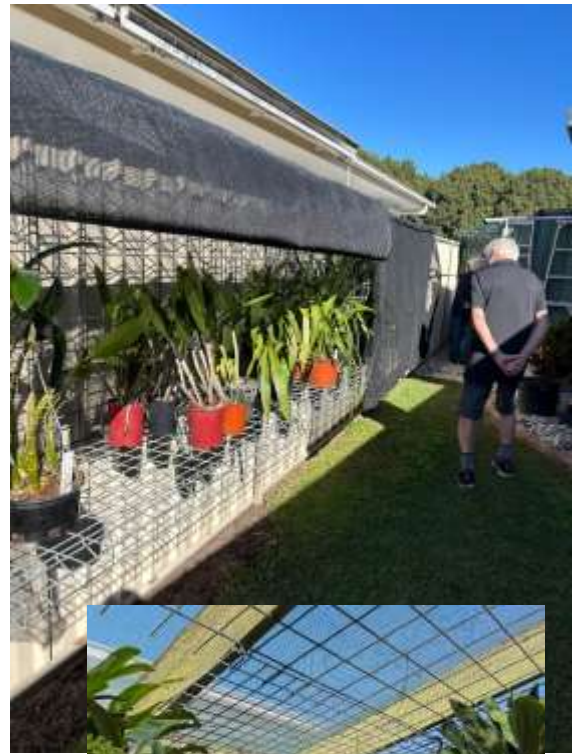
Record number at Skipworth's New Growers' meeting

More than two dozen members enjoyed seeing the Skipworth's Cooroy orchid set-up, which makes the most of every space, including the eaves for hanging vandas.

Morning tea was also popular and a repotting session gave participants a plant to take home. >>

Photos: Rodney Marr





Our members take out prizes at Maroochydore show

Longtime and well-respected orchid breeders and growers, John and Kaye Green, not only encouraged other society members to bench plants at the Maroochydore Orchid Show, but showed us all how it is done very economically.

Their *C. loddigesii* var *punctata* won RESERVE CHAMPION, CHAMPION SPECIES and CHAMPION SPECIMEN. The specimen has 66 flowers and was also awarded AM/AOC and ACM by the Australian Orchid Council; one and done.

Tables at the show were overflowing with entries which was good to see – they might need a bigger hall at this rate.

Congratulations to John and Kaye and to the other members who won prizes, and those who brought along plants to support the show.

Fay Knight



Prize-winning vandas, phalaenopsis and an oncidium grown by Bob and Deborah Shield, with antherium, at right, grown by Trevor and Cheryl Cook.

Photos: Julie Menkens





And more winners with ABOVE & RIGHT, Julie and Gav Menkens bromeliad and tillandsias collecting lots of ribbons.



BELOW: Leanne Evans had several wins with her cattleyas.

*BOTTOM: The Buderim hall just before judging. **FK***

