



Show-stopper orchids bring in the crowds



President's report page 7 >>



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Noosa District Orchid & Foliage Society Members

Calendar of events 2026

September

25	NDOFS Bus Trip to Hervey Bay	Hervey Bay Orchid Show, Orchid House tour and Boat Club lunch
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	Mel 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

December

6	NDOFS Christmas Lunch	Cooroy RSL
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Bunnings potting workshop

Trevor Cook and Julie Menkens ran a popular potting workshop at Bunnings Noosaville to promote our spring show and demystify caring for orchids. This store sells the most orchids in the Queensland group!



JUDGES' CHOICE September 2026

Mini Cattleya under 70mm
C. Otaora Hwa Huan Bay
'She Shu'
T & D Lyons



Cattleya Interm. 70-100mm
R/c. Redland Nugget 'Mint'
T & D Lyons



Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm
C. Rosella's Graceful Moon
T & D Lyons



Cattleya Cluster

Rth. Love Song 'Dogashima' x
Pot. Little Magician 'Tina'
T & C Cook



Dendrobium Alliance

Den. Roy Ziems
D Phillips



Australian Natives

Den. speciosum
Var. grandiflorum
D Hunter



Species Asian

Ludisia discolor
N Bettridge



Species American

Epi. stamfordianum 'Galaxy'
J Simmons



Phalaenopsis

Phal. Lianher Rainbow
T Forde



Vanda Alliance

V. Boonyarit Red 'Bright Red'
T & C Cook



Oncidium Alliance

Onc. Tiger Tail
A & G Gibson



Cymbidium

Cym. Unknown
T & C Cook



Other Genera

Phaius Lady Ramona Harris
 'Looking at You'
 B Wilson

**Epidendrum**

Epi. Pacific Candypops
 L Walters

**Novice**

Beallara Snowbird 'Sweet Spots'
 J Tulloch

**Bromeliad**

Till. Juncea
 J Murphy

**Anthurium**

Black Beauty
 T & C Cook

**Ferns**

Maiden Hair Adiantum
 J Whitbread

**Foliage**

Aglaonema Lady Valentine
 J & G Menkens



**DON'T FORGET: NEXT MEETING is
 second Saturday next month:
 Saturday 11 October**

- Socialising and plant sales from 12pm
- Benching complete by 12.40pm
- Bring your cup, any library books and cash for plant purchases
- Afternoon tea items also welcome



**WELCOME
 NEW MEMBERS**

**Larry and
 Shirley
 Downing,
 Lyn Hardy
 David Young**

POPULAR VOTE September 2026

CLASS	1st	2 nd	3rd
Mini Cattleya Under 70mm	<i>C. Otaora</i> Hwa Huan Bay ‘She Shu’ T & D Lyons	<i>Rth.</i> Shinfong Little Sun N Bettridge	<i>Rth.</i> Dal’s Emperor N Bettridge
Cattleya Intermediate 70- 100mm	<i>Ctna.</i> Thuptim Thai No. 1 T & C Cook <i>Rlc.</i> Redland Nugget ‘Mint’ T & D Lyons	<i>Rlc.</i> Village Chief North ‘Green Genius’ J & G Menkens	<i>C.</i> Topaz Highlight ‘Zenith’ T & C Cook
Cattleya Exhibition over 100mm	<i>C.</i> Unknown D Jensen	<i>Rlc.</i> Noosa Botanic Sunshine T & C Cook	<i>Rlc.</i> Redland White Out ‘Marie’ D Black
Cattleya Cluster	<i>Rth.</i> Love Song ‘Dogashima’x <i>Pot.</i> Little Magician ‘Tina’ T & C Cook	–	–
Cattleya Novelty	–	–	–
Dendrobium Alliance	<i>Den.</i> Hawaii Princess N. Bettridge <i>Den.</i> Roy Ziems D Phillips	<i>Den.</i> Gian ‘Pink Lady’ N Bettridge	<i>Den.</i> Golden Blossom ‘Sunset’ x <i>Den.</i> Yellow Ribbon J & G Menkens
Aus. Natives	<i>Den. speciosum</i> ‘Australian Beauty’ J Simmons <i>Den. speciosum</i> Var. <i>grandiflorum</i> D Hunter	<i>Den.</i> Jonathon’s Glory ‘Dark Joy’ L Walters	<i>Den.</i> Delicatum T & C Cook
Species Asian	<i>Ludisia discolor</i> ‘spiderman’ J. Murphy <i>Ludisia discolor</i> N Bettridge	<i>Den nobile</i> V <i>ballianum</i> D Phillips	<i>Den. keithii</i> J & G Menkens
Species American	<i>V. coerulescens</i> N Bettridge	<i>Epi. stamfordianum</i> ‘Galaxy’ J Simmons	<i>C. intermedia</i> f. <i>amethystine</i> J Simmons
Phalaenopsis	<i>Phal.</i> Lianher Rainbow T Forde	–	–
Vanda Alliance	<i>V.</i> Boonyarit Red ‘Bright Red’ T & C Cook	<i>V.</i> Unknown T & C Cook	<i>V.</i> Kulwadee Fragrance J & G Menkens
Oncidium Alliance	<i>Brs. Tarantula</i> ‘Sweet Orange’ J & G Menkens <i>Onc.</i> Tiger Tail A & G Gibson	<i>Onc.</i> Fran’s Nymph M Maclachlan	<i>Brat.</i> Royal Robe D Phillips
Cymbidium	<i>Cym.</i> Unknown T & C Cook	<i>Cym.</i> Bim Bam Bolla Bim T Forde	<i>Cym.</i> Pee Wee B Quinn

Other Genera	<i>Phaius</i> Lady Ramona Harris 'Looking at You' B Wilson	<i>Phaius</i> Lady Ramona Harris 'Looking at You' S Morrell	—
Epidendrum	<i>Epi.</i> Miracle Valley 'Nodeshiko' L Walters <i>Epi.</i> Pacific Candypops L Walters	<i>Epi.</i> Wedding Valley J & G Menkens	<i>Epi.</i> Wedding Valley 'Sakura' D Jensen
Novice	<i>Ludisia discolor</i> J Blyth	Beallara Snowbird 'Sweet Spots' J Tulloch	—
Bromeliad	Till. Stricta J & G Menkens	Till. Juncea J Murphy	Nednegela Maeushla B Prideaux
Anthurium	Scherzerianum J & G Menkens	Livium Red T & D Lyons	Black Beauty T & C Cook
Ferns	Selaginella Emily J Murphy	Maiden Hair Adiantum J Whitbread	Adiantum Fragans T & C Cook
Foliage	Calathea Pink Stripe S Morrell	Aglaonema Lady Valentine J & G Menkens	Dieffenbachia Species N Bettridge

Our members take out prizes at Nambour show

Well done to those members who benched plants at Nambour Orchid Show, and congratulations to those who won prizes: Julie and Gav Menkens (foliage), Nita Bettridge (bromeliad) and Trevor and Cheryl Cook (anthurium). Dave Lyons and Fay Knight attended as part of the judging panel.



President's report

September was once again a very busy month for NDOFS. It started with **a potting workshop at Bunnings Noosaville**, conducted by Julie and myself (*page 2*). The feedback from attendees and Bunnings staff was very positive. Bunnings have offered us the opportunity to do the same next year as part of our promotion for the Mother's Day Show.

That was then followed by the **Nambour Society's spring show**, which was **supported by a number of our members** (*page 6*). It is important that we support our sister clubs if we want their support for our spring shows. Thank you to those members who benched plants and to Greg and Gavin who picked up our plants on the Saturday – which was also our meeting day.

Our meeting was well attended and we welcomed **new members: Lyn Hardy, David Young and Larry and Shirley Downing**. Final arrangements for the spring show were discussed, along with details for the **Hervey Bay bus trip**, and the **Christmas Party**.

The Spring Show was a great success, due in no small part to the tremendous effort put in by so many members, both beforehand and during the Show (*pages 9 and 10*). While Ian will give us the full details at our next meeting, **I heard it said that this was our best show in several years**. Visitors were blown away not only by the quality and quantity of plants on the bench, but by the volume of plants for sale. **Thank you again to everyone who contributed to that success.**

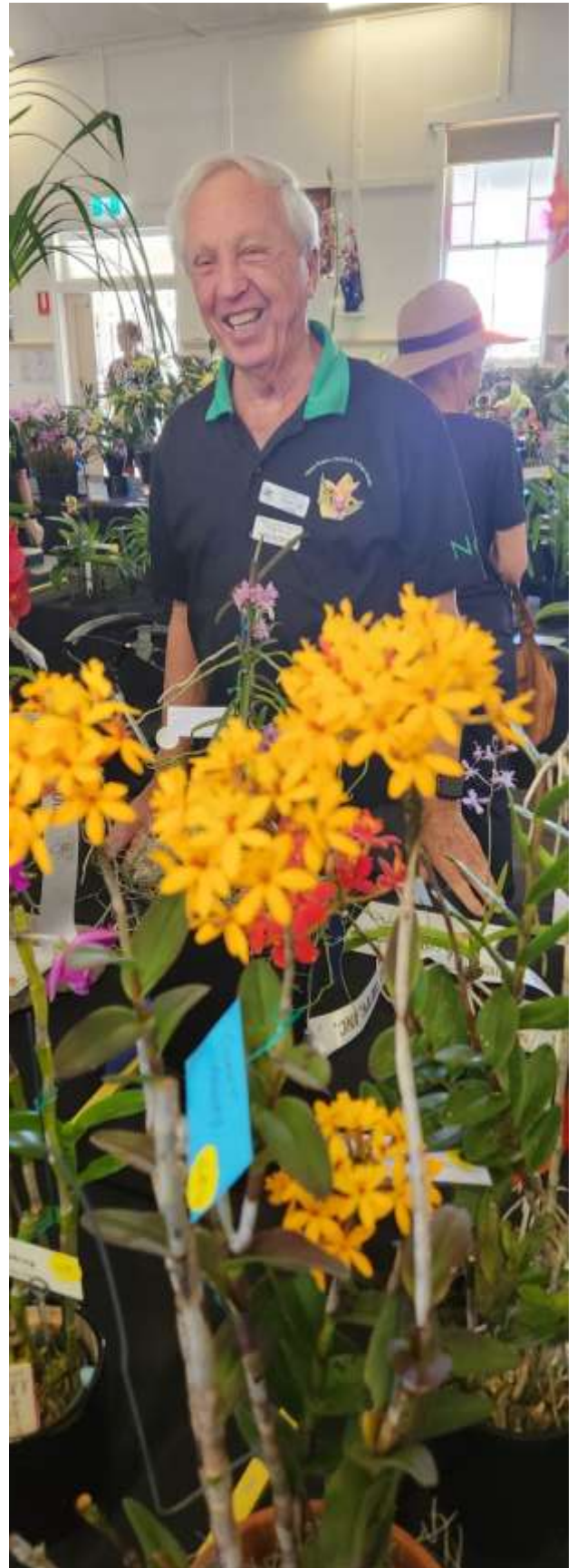
We have a full bus for the visit to the Hervey Bay Show on the 25th, which will be a lot of fun.

Don't forget the October meeting will be on the second Saturday, the 10th, where **John Green will guide us through potting-on the seedlings** we de-flasked this time last year. If you are at the meeting, you will be able to pot your own orchid to add to your collection.

I look forward to seeing you then, if not beforehand on the bus trip.

Regards,

Trevor Cook



PLANT OF THE MONTH: *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *curvicaule*

I purchased this plant via Gerry Walshe's website back in 2005 (probably around August). He specialises in breeding the 'King Orchid' (*Dendrobium speciosum*) and a few other southern Australian native orchids (website: <https://therocklilyman.com/>). He also has some very informative and hilarious cultural articles I highly recommend reading for invaluable advice.

It came as a 50 mm tube and had three tiny pseudobulbs, but good roots. I immediately potted into a 100 mm squat pot in a blend of; fine bark and small charcoal (50:50). Note no peat or fines! Then I top dressed with slow-release fertiliser and grew it on for two years, after that steadily increased pot sizes as required. I think it flowered in the seventh year for the first time, and I noted the shape was really good, showing excellent potential. Since then it has put on good displays each year, with inflorescence length increasing over time.

These dendrobiums are easy to grow; they require the same conditions as the Cattleya alliance but will tolerate more heat in summer. There are nine varieties of *Den. speciosum* over their distribution up the length of the east coast of Australia; and variety *curvicaule* occurs from Clairview (mid-way between Rockhampton and Mackay) then north towards Mt Dryander (near Airlie Beach), then west to the Eungella Plateau (80km west of Mackay).

I water heavily every second day in summer, then slowly ease watering to once weekly by May. Over winter I leave them dry, with an occasional fine misting in the morning only on warm days (above 24 degrees C). In early spring I apply a light dressing of lime to the top of the pots; this helps keeping the bark mix from becoming too acidic, I also commence watering then, only fortnightly at first, and slowly increase frequency till mid-December.

The main pest problems are occasional scale and dendrobium beetles. Keeping them inside a shade house will keep these beetles out, but you need to check all new growths as they're maturing. I treat with Imidacloprid, a systemic insecticide (can purchase from Fernland).

David Hunter



Our volunteers ensure the show is a success

Our members volunteered in so many ways – selling entry and raffle tickets and plants, setting up and packing down the show, giving potting workshops, running the kitchen café, giving orchid advice, manning Orchidaceous sales, door security as well as managing all the takings and so much more. Well done!



Show champion awards presentations

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT:

Grand Champion Orchid and Champion Species Orchid: John Robertson (Paph. Sukhakulii)

Champion Australian Native or Hybrid Orchid: David Hunter (Den. Speciosum)

Champion Specimen Orchid plant in bloom: B Grainger (Ctt. Trick or Treat)

Reserve Champion Orchid: R & J Hopkins (Den. Sunshine Smile);

Champion Foliage: Nita Bettridge (Aglaonema Thai Snowflakes).

NDOFS president Trevor Cook presented awards.

