



Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966
Patron Paul Lucas



E.D.O.S. NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 2011

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Members are invited to attend the next General Meeting to be held on **Thursday 28 April, 2011** commencing at 8.00pm at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

RED SPOTTERS CLUB – 7.30 PM

Red Spotters this month will be the "Weigh-in" for both the New Members' Dendrobium competition (plants which were given to new members in 2009), and the Phalaenopsis growing competition (for members who received their plant in September 2010). ***Please bring your plant along so that members of the Committee can check its "progress".***

FEATURE ITEM

At the time of the Newsletter going to print, this month's Guest speaker has yet to be confirmed.

The following members are requested to make themselves available for the next meeting:

Judges: Eric Locke, Bill Williams, Arthur Cornell, Les Vickers

Associate Judges: John Rooks, Brent Nicoll, Adrian Bergstrum

Observers: Please see Eric Locke if you are interested

Scribes: Volunteers required please.

Supper Stewards: Marian Samuels, Daphne McKell

Hostesses: Margaret Rieck, Dot Rooks

Library: Helen Vickers

Plant Registrar: Ann Kable

Plants worth Noting: Adrian Bergstrum

Trade Table: Pauline Webster

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 5 May, 2011** at the Bayside Uniting Church Meeting Room, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

NOTE FOR MAY GENERAL MEETING!

Please note that there will be a change to our May General Meeting starting time. There will be NO Red Spotters, and our **Guest Speaker, Alan Merriman** from Miriam Ann Orchids in Sydney will be commencing his presentation at **7.30 pm**

Alan will be giving a very interesting presentation on "Pests and Diseases" (and having met Alan recently it will also be entertaining!)

Invitation from QOS Inc

Members of EDOS have been invited as guests at the QOS Inc meeting on Monday 9 May, 2011. The meeting is being held at Ithaca Bowls Club, 22 Fulcher Road, Red Hill, commencing at 8 pm.

There will be a special table set up for visiting societies to bench plants, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes of orchid seedlings.

It would be great if some of our members could accept this invitation.

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Date Claimer

Don't forget our combined Christmas in July and EDOS 45th Anniversary Celebrations on 23 July 2011 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club. It will be a great night, so keep this date free and come along and enjoy yourselves with your fellow society members.

More information will be available in coming months.

Plants Worth Noting

EDOS March 2011 meeting

Standing out in the Vandaceous species for me was a nice array of *Aerides lawrenceae*. This orchid is endemic to the Philippines and comes in a number of colour forms, such as var *fortichii* which is all white, var *punctata* which has a large number of fine spots, and var *sanderiana* which has lemon to yellow blooms with a showy purple patch on each segment.

Another eye catcher and rarely seen was *Bulbophalaenopsis* which picked up the Cultural Award for the evening, and from what Tony told us has been quite a challenge. The alliance comes mainly from New Guinea and through South-East Asia, and numbers up to 1500 individual family members.

Moving along the bench it is great to see a good number of Cooktown Orchids, which are our Floral emblem and will worthy of a spot in any collection. In the current latest breeding trends I am seeing striped, semi-alba, splash-petal and even peloric forms, which will soon be testing the Judges' eye. Hiding behind the front bench was a very well grown Den Enobi 'Purple Splash' with many many splashed petal type blooms. While made for the pot plant trade this mini-den is so prolific in its blooming it makes a specimen in a very short space of time, and some have already been given Cultural Awards here in Queensland.

Swapping to the other side of the hall, it was great to see so many *C. bowringiana*'s in the Novice section.

This willing plant is a very good option for the new grower and it is very forgiving and will tolerate heavy shade to almost full sun and still produce a good flowering around this time every year. Many hybrids have been produced over the years and a lot of very good clusters have shown up on the show bench and some are still sought after today.

Finishing off, the Plant of the Night was Den Masako Taki 'Blue' - a worthy winner with 2 tall upright sprays of well presented intermediate lilac blue blooms. Intermediate type Dens have become very popular in recent times as they have more compact growth and the flowers are very long lasting. Most of the clones in Australia have come from Taiwan and Thailand, but now our local growers are finding how to breed these beauties and in the coming years we will be seeing many new varieties.

Cheers for now

Eric Locke

WANTED

EDOS would like to issue a challenge to those members who have a keen eye and a way with words. (Technical expertise is not essential, just your thoughts) We are looking for members who would be willing to "put pen to paper" and make comment on what has caught their eye on our meeting nights, even if it is only one particular plant. All articles would be greatly appreciated, and if you would rather not have your name published, that's okay, please talk to Janelle (Editor) and maybe we can create a "pen-name". The Editor is happy to assist with these articles.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Congratulations

EDOS members would like to congratulate Stan and Thelma Rawlings on their recent 60th Wedding Anniversary.

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Cultural Notes

Bulbo phalaenopsis

This is one of the species from the *Macrobulbum* group of orchids from New Guinea and this is the largest of the group with leaves growing up to a length of 2 metres long with heads of flowers the size of footballs. The yellow hairs on the flowers identify the species which unfortunately has the odour of rotting meat.

I bought this plant about 6 years ago, it consisted of 3 smallish bulbs and 1 leaf, I potted it up in an open mix and watched it struggle for 2 years, I then put it onto a piece of tree fern and it has not looked back, producing bigger bulbs and bigger leaves each year. It is hung high under 2 layers of 50% shade cloth and it has loved the last 6 months with all the rain we've had, I normally water this plant every day and fertilise once a week.

Apart from the foul odour this has to be a worthy addition to any collection. These plants are rarely offered for sale if you do see one I would suggest you grab it with both hands.

Happy growing,

Tony Beck

What: Bribie Orchid Society
Where: Student Centre, Bribie Island High School
When: 22 and 23 April 2011

What: Queensland Orchid Society Show
Where: Auditorium, Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 22-24 April, 2011

What: Toowoomba Autumn Show
Where: Gardenfest, Lindsay Street, Toowoomba
When: 30 April, 1 & 2 May, 2011

What: Aspley Orchid Society Inc Show
Where: Community Hall, Edinburgh Castle Rd, Wavell Heights
When: 7 and 8 May, 2011

What: Pumistone Orchid Society Show
Where: Ningi Hall, Bribie Island Road, Ningi
When: 7 and 8 May, 2011

What: Oasis Orchid & Garden Expo
Where: Oasis Shopping Centre, cnr Surf Pde and Charles Ave, Broadbeach
When: 21 and 22 May 2011

What: 46th Tropical Queensland Orchid Council Conference and Show 2011 (Registration Form available on EDOS website)
Where: Bowen Showgrounds, Mt Nutt Rd, Bowen
When: 10, 11, 12 June 2011

What: North Moreton Qld Orchid Council Inc
Where: Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 2 and 3 July, 2011

What: Caboolture Orchid Society Inc
Where: Morayfield Community Complex, Morayfield Rd, Morayfield
When: 8-10 July, 2011

What: John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc
Where: Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 16 and 17 July, 2011

What: EDOS Christmas in July
Where: Wynnum Manly Leagues Club
When: 23 July 2011

What: Toowoomba Winter Show
Where: St Pauls Church Hall, cnr James & Phillip Sts Toowoomba
When: 30 and 31 July, 2011

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Dendrobiums

For the new growers who are a little confused about the groups of Dendrobiums, the following information may help. These descriptions are taken from "Dendrobiums. Their Description and Culture" written by Barry Paget for the Queensland Orchid Society Inc.

1. Phalaenanthé type – *hardcane*
2. Antelope Type – *spatulata* – *twisted petals*
3. Intermediate type – *hybrids from species or hybrid crosses of the 2 above*
4. Miniature Antelope type – *from crossing small growing Australian native species dendrobiums with normal size antelope and intermediate*
5. Eugenanthe – *soft canes*
6. Asian or Indian type – *includes the pendulous spring flowering dendrobiums*
7. Australian Natives

STOP PRESS

Once again EDOS has held their Autumn show and it has been an absolute success. Congratulations to all members who participated, and in particular those who worked to make the event a success. More details in the next newsletter.

WEBSITE

www.edos.org.au. Our Webmaster Ray Girdlestone would like you to have a look at our EDOS website and make comment – remember it is still a work in progress and any suggestions will be appreciated. If you have any Cultural advice you think may be useful to others please pass it on to Ray for inclusion – either on the website or in the Newsletter.

Ray can be contacted on email
webmaster@edos.org.au or phone 3823 4277

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

If anyone has any articles they would be interested in having included in the Newsletter please let me know
For anyone who is interested in receiving their Newsletter electronically, please let me know your email address and I will include you in our email group. My email address is editor@edos.org.au

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