

# John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc.

## August 2019 Bulletin



**Onc. Tsiku Marguerite**

### Society Founded 8<sup>th</sup> April 1970

Society meets at 7.30pm on the Second Wednesday each month at Oxley Bowls Club

**General Meeting**      **Wednesday 11 Sept at 7.30 pm**

**Committee Meeting**      **Monday 26 August 7.00 pm**

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**Patron:**      **Jessica Pugh MP**

### President's Report

The show has come and gone and I'm sure you're recovering like me at the moment. Congratulations to all those who won prizes. Thank you to all those who brought plants for sale. Especially thank you to all those who came and gave of their time. A Number of people who normally give us a hand were unable to attend, and it was hoped that people would put their hand up and just come along. As usual the people of John Oxley District Orchid Society did not let us down. Thank you again for the great work both the past loyal people have put in, as well as the people who have done things for the first time and did a great job.

One thing about our society which makes the show such fun, is that everybody seeks to make everyone else's time as pleasurable as possible. It is always a great time for everybody. Thank you to all those who volunteered their time and to those who just came and offered help. It is great how our ad hoc approach is so successful. People just turn up and the reliability of members is great to see. So, thank you whether we knew you were coming or you just turned up. The success of the show is vital to the running of the rest of the year for our society.

Although the show was a great success with the members coming and giving a hand, the numbers through the doors were low this year. Therefore the amount of profit that was made this year was quite down on previous years. This is disappointing given that part of the reason was lack of signage for the show to let people know we were there. This had a direct effect on the profit. As well the lack of flowers

for showing was down on previous years with a number of members reporting they just didn't have anything to bring.

Anyway, given that show profits are down this year we will be charging a small fee of \$10 per person for bus trip seating. A great bus trip is being planned this year and Sonia is excellent at this, although she would like to pass on the reins to someone who has more time to do it. The bus trip is Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September we hope it will be well patronized because we need to fill the bus of 48 seats to make this trip a success.

Tonight was to be our auction, but since I am hunting and gathering in Darwin and Robert our Vice President is also not able to attend we have decided to postpone till further notice. Sorry if you have brought money to buy quality auction orchids. Maybe you could buy some extra raffle tickets instead. Anyway hope everyone has a great night in my absence and I will catch up with everyone next month.

Thanks

Michael Byrnes

### From the Editor

Sam Cowie from Leaf and Limb wholesale nursery talked about Miltoniopsis hybrids in July. He argued that they are the most desirable orchids to grow in South East Queensland only coming behind Phalaenopsis in showiness and longevity. His fact sheet (along with many others) is available from <http://www.leafandlimb.biz/>. He gave permission for it to be published in the bulletin and so it is copied onto page 4 with a few additional comments.

The photograph is taken from the show. The plant selected is the champion specimen exhibited by T & J Lucas

**Judges:- JODOS Judges: John Buckley–Don Nitschinsk --, Emeritus Judge Les Lobley – Plus  
Q.O.S. Judges**

**Life Members :- Les Lobley - Margaret Lobley - Don Nitschinsk - Barbara Shooter**

**COMPETITION WINNERS for July 2019**

<b>CATTLEYA</b>	1	B & S Brown	<i>Rlc. Yen Surprise</i>
<b>Exhibition</b>	2	B & S Brown	<i>C. Irene Finney x Circle of Life</i>
<b>Over 100 mm</b>	3	R Kerr	<i>Rlc. Druinns Benjemin</i>
<b>CATTLEYA</b>	1	B & S Brown	<i>C. Elusive Dream 'No. 12'</i>
<b>Compact / Mini</b>	2	R Kerr	<i>Rlc. Lisa Taylor Gallis</i>
<b>Under 100 mm</b>	3	B & S Brown	<i>C. Elusive Dream 'No. 12'</i>
<b>CATTLEYA</b>	1	B & S Brown	<i>C. Hawaiian Wedding Song x Lc. Siamese Doll</i>
<b>Any Other</b>	2	R Kerr	<i>C. Chocolate Drop x C. Precious Stones</i>
<b>Cluster, novelty etc</b>	3		
<b>PAPHIOPEDILUM</b>	1	C & H Barker	<i>Paph. In-charm Gold x Clear Night</i>
	2		
	3		
<b>PHALAENOPSIS</b>	1		
	2		
	3		
<b>DENDROBIUMS</b>	1	L & J Abbate	<i>Den. Chao Praya Garnet x Noble Giant</i>
	2		
	3		
<b>ANY OTHER GENERA</b>	1		
	2		
	3		
<b>NOVICE</b>	1	M L Cole	<i>Cal. William Murray</i>
	2		
	3		
<b>FLORAL ART</b>	1	L & J Abbate	<i>Floral Art – Touch of Frost</i>
	2	S Cavalea	<i>Floral Art – Touch of Frost</i>
	3		
<b>VANDACEOUS &amp; OTHERS</b>	1	S Addison	<i>V. Charles Goodfellow x Ascda. Guo Chia Long</i>
	2	C & H Barker	<i>V. Princess Mikasa 'Blue'</i>
	3	S Addison	<i>V. Pine Rivers 'Narangba'</i>
<b>ONCIDIUMS ' &amp; OTHERS</b>	1	J Lamont	<i>Onc. ?? (Red)</i>
	2	J Lamont	<i>Onc. Twinkle 'CT White Strong'</i>
	3	B & S Brown	<i>Wils. ??</i>
<b>SPECIES</b>	1	S Addison	<i>Ddc. cootesii</i>
	2	M Lobley	<i>Ddc. luzonense</i>
	3	M Lobley	<i>Rhy. gigantea</i>
<b>AUSTRALIAN NATIVES</b>	1	M L Cole	<i>Ptst. ophioglossa</i>
	2		
	3		
<b>AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRID</b>	1		
	2		
	3		
<b>JUDGES CHOICE</b>	1	S Addison	<i>Ddc. cootesii</i>
	2	S Addison	<i>V. Charles Goodfellow x Ascda. Guo Chia Long</i>
	3	B & S Brown	<i>C. Elusive Dream 'No. 12'</i>
<b>POPULAR VOTE</b>	1	B & S Brown	<i>Rlc. Yen Surprise</i>
	2	C & H Barker	<i>V. Princess Mikasa 'Blue'</i>
	3	M Lobley	<i>Rhy. gigantea</i>

<b>Show Dates for 2019</b>			
<b>Society</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Australian Native Orchid Soc – Kabi Group 3399 9208	Aug	17 - 18	Strathpine Community Centre, 199 Gympie Rd, Strathpine
North Brisbane Orchid Society Inc. 3355 7175	Aug.	17 - 18	Auditorium Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens (Open)
Logan & District Orchid Society Inc. 0431 180 151	Aug	24 - 25	Springwood Rd State School Hall
Redlands Orchid Society Inc. 3824 5931	Aug	31	Donald Simpson Centre, 172 Bloomfield St., Cleveland
Beaudesert Districts Orchid and Foliage Society Inc.	Sept	7 - 8	Canungra Hall, 3/7 Pine St, Canungra
West Brisbane Orchid Society Inc. 3351 3251	Sept	14 - 15	Auditorium Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.
Eastern District Orchid Society Inc. 0438 223 880	Sept	21 - 22	Belmont Shooting Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd., Belmont
Toowoomba Orchid Soc Inc. 0428 383 403	Sept	20- 24	St Paul's Hall, Cnr James & Phillip St, Toowoomba
Ipswich Orchid Society Inc. 3201 8307	Sept	28 - 29	Silkstone State Primary School, Prospect St, Silkstone
Queensland Orchid Society Inc. 3824 5931	Oct	12 - 13	Belmont Shooting Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd., Belmont
Boonah Harrisville Anglican Parish Charity Show 0418 764 838	Oct	19 - 20	Boonah High School, Macquarie St, Boonah
North Moreton Qld. Orchid Council Inc. 3865 5615	Nov	2 – 3	Auditorium Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. (Open)
Orchid Species Society Inc. 3351 6138	Nov	23 - 24	Auditorium Mt.Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.
<b>Floral Art</b>			
<b>August: Double Delight</b>		<b>September: Welcome to Spring</b>	
<b>October: Horizontal</b>		<b>November: Night Before Christmas</b>	

**DISCLAIMER**

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# Miltoniopsis Culture

By Sam Cowie – Leaf & Limb

**Miltoniopsis** or Pansy Orchids are one of the most beautiful orchids in the world, with their wide range of colours, patterns and lush flower texture. Although not one of the easiest to grow, they do grow well if certain cultural practices are followed, even in the sub-tropical areas of Southeast Queensland where most people think it's too hot. As always watch your plant, make notes and learn from how it grows and reacts to what you do.

**Watering** The simple rule is keep them moist but well drained. The easiest way to kill your Miltoniopsis is to let it dry out or to sit it in water. Miltoniopsis like to have a cool humid environment around their roots, so the pot in pot technique works well to maintain that. As a general rule we water in the morning every second day in summer and every 4 to 6 days in winter, adjusting as per the weather conditions, potting mix, size of plant and light levels.

**Growing Conditions** Miltoniopsis prefer to be grown undercover and don't like to have wet foliage going into the night, this minimises leaf diseases and helps to keep the potting mix moisture levels even. We grow our Miltoniopsis in a greenhouse with a white solarweave cover that provides a 50% shade factor. From mid-spring to mid-autumn, or during hot weather, it's best to increase the shading of your Miltoniopsis to 75%, which can be achieved by pulling across a 50% shade cloth over the top of your greenhouse (if covered in white solarweave). You want enough light to keep the foliage nice and firm, as too much shade creates long lanky and weak foliage, but not too much light that the plant overheats and stresses. Although Miltoniopsis love high humidity you still want air flow around the plant foliage to minimise leaf diseases. Our greenhouse where the Miltoniopsis grow has experienced temperatures up to 42 Celsius and down to 5 Celsius without any major effects on the plants or their growth. As a general rule during hot weather they need increased shade and humidity with good ventilation to stop the plant from stressing too much.

**Fertilising** Miltoniopsis should and will be in active growth year round, so a regular fertilising program helps. Each spring apply a 12 month controlled release fertiliser like Osmocote. Supplement every second watering with a half strength liquid fertiliser high in potassium that contains calcium and magnesium, like Peters Calmag Finisher. An additional application of magnesium sulphate (Epson salts) at 1 gram per litre once every 3 or 4 weeks will also help, as Miltoniopsis like magnesium.

**Repotting and Potting Mixes** Miltoniopsis prefer to be root bound in a pot, as overpotting can create moisture levels that are too wet for them. They will grow and flower in a 105mm pot and I generally don't recommend anything bigger than a 150mm squat pot for even big plants. We grow ours in a coco husk/peat and perlite mix, with a little bit of 10mm charcoal added. This mix retains more moisture than a bark mix but still needs watering every second day in summer for us. If your pH starts to drop top dress the pot with a bit of dolomite.

**Pest and Diseases** The major pest is little bush snails that burrow into the potting mix and eat the root tips. Boissduval scale will bother them if the plant is in poor condition, otherwise the occasional mealy bug or caterpillar will cause damage. Your garden centre usually stocks the appropriate insecticide.

**Flowering** Although most Miltoniopsis flower in Spring and Summer, we find that Miltoniopsis will flower sporadically year round. Well grown Miltoniopsis will have 2 spikes per growth with 5 to 8 flowers on each spike.

*Disclaimer This information provides general information and may not cover every growing/pest/disease/potting mix/flowering situation that may occur.*

Sam showed photos of many crosses including *Mps.* Breathless 'Brilliant', *Mps.* Banana Fandango, *Mps.* Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto', *Mps.* Woody Carlson, *Mps.* Sunglow 'Amazing', *Mps.* Golden Snows 'White Light'. He drew attention to the different markings on the labellum from the waterfall pattern on Breathless 'Brilliant' and others to the masking or halo effect giving a less varied labellum.

In answering questions, Sam commented that seaweed is an enhancer not a fertilizer and is best used in conjunction with a fertilizer. The mix he uses consists of coco husk/peat in the ratio of 50/50% which he buys and coarse perlite in the ratio of 2 coco to 1 perlite.