

TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



September 2026 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website

<https://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

Postal Address:

PO Box 836 D.C.

AITKENVALE QLD 4814

Email: townsvilleorchidsociety@gmail.com

Patron: Mr. Warren Sewell

President: Troy McGill Ph. 0474 305 864

Secretary: Jan Allen

Treasurer: Janelle Stevens

Bulletin Editor: Noel Grant Email: grantnml@bigpond.com

Technical Officer: Reg Dix Email: regdix509@bigpond.com

Hall Location:

Joe Kirwan Park

Charles Street, KIRWAN

Annual Membership Fees are due **1st September** each year

Family \$20.00

Single \$15.00

Details for paying membership fees: BSB: - 064823

Account Number: - 0009 0973

Name of Account: Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

Commonwealth Bank, Aitkenvale.

Please advise your name and membership number.

Are you currently un-financial? To remain a member of the Townsville Orchid Society Inc. and to continue to receive the TOS Bulletin, you MUST pay your annual membership.

**The next Management Committee Meeting will be held from 1pm Saturday 26th September.
The September General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 27th September.**

It would be appreciated if members would donate food items for the **afternoon tea**.

It would also be appreciated if members would donate some items for the **raffle table**.

Quality items appreciated!

Judges for September 2026:

Novice/Species

Peter, Lisa

Open

Reg, Marie, Stacey

The Townsville Orchid Society Annual General Meeting will be held just before our October General Meeting. Nomination and Proxy Forms can be found in this Bulletin.

Don't forget to renew your membership (due 1st September) or you will not be able to vote at the AGM in October. Payment details are at the top of Page 1. Or you can pay at the September meeting (be early to avoid the crowd).

President's Thoughts

So, what's going on in the world of Orchids?

Hello, and a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped at the Spring Show. Personally, I think it was a big success. There were plenty of new members showing plants, assisting in the setup, judging as scribes and working during the event. Again, thank you all for your efforts.

Congratulations have to go to Warren and Clara with their Grand Champion, *Cymbidium canaliculatum*. Congrats to all the other winners. The Spring Show wouldn't be what it is without your efforts. I was pleased to see there were more species this year, which flowed onto a second table.

Unfortunately, on Monday we had to say farewell to one of our members, Lyn Ryan. She's going to be missed. She loved to bake cakes and slices for the club, was always helping out in the kitchen and not afraid to let me know if something wasn't right. Thank you to all the members who supplied orchid flowers from the Spring Show for her farewell and thank you to the ladies who joined me, showing our respect and wishing her a sad goodbye.

As I have been constantly reminding everyone, our 2026 Annual General Meeting is fast approaching. So, here is the point- there will be vacancies on the Committee, including for the President and Secretary, as

both Jan and I will have completed three years - under the constitution, we must retire. Other club members need to nominate for those positions and be elected. Please consider - if you have the time, let's not leave it up to the last minute. If you're not sure what happens on the Committee, please come and ask.

The shop has been re-stocked, if there's something you want that we haven't got in stock please approach Ruth or myself and we will see what we can do. Just a reminder we don't sell certain items like pesticides, but you can get these from our sponsor Project Plants - show them your membership card for a discount and advice on using it, including the use of Personal Protection Equipment.

There's not much time till the end of the year. On Wednesday 7th October (11am to Noon), we will be at North Shore Bunnings, doing potting demos and answering questions.

We have a club BBQ coming up, (date to be advised) with the idea of members actually gathering and asking questions, introducing themselves and generally just having a nice day. No pressure, if you've got a sick plant or need help repotting, or listen to orchid experts, bring in your plant and potting media and ask for some help.

Don't forget to renew your membership prior to the AGM and also pay your fees for the Christmas Lunch. If you haven't been to one before, I'm sure you will enjoy the day. All we ask is you bring a raffle prize fitting the day and you bring your Christmas Spirit. And there's only one Grinch allowed, that's me.

Finally, the December Plant Sale (date to be advised). If you are interested in selling or buying orchids and plants, here's your last opportunity for the year. Buy your family and friends an orchid and see if you can get them hooked.

Thanks, Troy

Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held Saturday 22nd August 2026.

Meeting opened: at 2.56pm by President Troy McGill

Present: Troy McGill, Tony Kapcelovich, Noel Grant, Jan Allen, Ruth Whiting, Janelle Stevens, Joseph Walker,

Apologies: Lynette Johnson, Samantha McGill, Robert Rasmussen

President report: Leann has officially stood down with the submission of her letter of resignation. In the last week we have supported three events. Firstly, Troy spoke to the Laurel Ladies Legacy group at the Vale Hotel. We held an information stall at the Bluewater Fair and today, before coming here, we had a spot at the PPS Green Space Day, where we promoted the Club. Some members have also been helping at the Council. Troy thanked everybody who had assisted in those events. Bunnings at North Shore has invited us to host a talk in October.

Secretary: Jan Allen

Minutes: A copy of the minutes was posted in the July Bulletin.

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

M: Jan Allen

S: Joseph Walker

Carried

Business arising: Nil

Correspondence In: Resignation – Treasurer; Tweed District July Newsletter; Volunteer Workers Agreement x 4; Hand Dryer quote; Admin – Ausnorth Plumbing; Rentokil; AOS Corner; AOS Password; Work on Orchid Hall – insurance; Hot Toner - Order 5792390; Hot Toner: Cash Sale #CS2727629; Changes to cheque services; Allied Express Notification; C-mobile account; Flaming North Statement; Shell Club: Request for barcodes; Claim acceptance and settlement options; HROAPS Newsletter August; AOS password recovery; CDIOS August newsletter; Flaming North service fee; ROSI August Newsletter; Initial.C Holding P/L: Credit Memo #CM20790; Meetings Apology; OQI Affiliation; AOC Notice of Meeting; Garden Corner – North Shore Bunnings; Committee position details; Missing newsletter; TAG solutions- badges;

Correspondence Out: Welcome letters x 5; Details of Bluewater Fair; Death of Sam Scalia; AGM and Committee positions; PPS Saturday and General meeting Sunday; TOS August Bulletin

Motion: That the inwards correspondence be accepted, and the outwards adopted.

M: Jan Allen

S: Troy McGill

Carried

Treasurer: Janelle Stevens

Major income came from Hall hire.

Major expense this month has been paying the rates and the purchase of a new printer.

Funds available to TOS as at 22/08/26:

TOS available funds are healthy. Details are available at monthly meetings

Motion: That the Treasurer's reports be accepted, and accounts be passed for payment

M: Janelle Stevens

S: Ruth Whiting

Carried

August 2026 Management Minutes continued on Page 7

Nomination form for the election of Officers

We hereby nominate

for the position of

Proposer: Name..... Signature:

Seconder: Name: Signature:

I accept the above nomination
(Signature)

Nominations for the positions of Office Bearers and Committee of Management must be in the hands of the Returning Officer **fourteen (14) clear days** before the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations must be in a sealed envelope and marked "Nominations." This envelope must then be handed to the Returning Officer or placed in a second envelope and posted to the Returning Officer care of the Society's postal address.

The Postal Address of the Society:

Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

PO Box 836

Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Committee of Management:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 3 Vice Presidents:
 - Shows,
 - Hall,
 - Hospitality,
- Publicity Officer
- Committee members – 4

Other Officers (these officers do not need to attend the Management meetings)

- Patron
- Editor
- Librarian
- Technical Officer
- Programme Director
- Hosts - 3

Others to be nominated:

Auditor

Returning Officer

Scrutineers - 2

Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

Proxy Form

I,..... of
being a member of the above-named Society, hereby
appoint..... of.....
or failing them,
..... of.....,
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Society,
to be held on the twenty-fifth day of October 2026 and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this day of.....2026.

Signature.....

Unless otherwise instructed the proxy may vote as they think fit

PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2026

Bold Type indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
<u>OPEN</u>			
LAELIINAE 110mm and over A1	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Karen's Sunrise 'Waianae' C Mem Robert Strait 'Islander Delight' Rlc Orlglades Grand 'Yu Chang Beauty'	B Fighera G&L Johnson B Fighera
LAELIINAE 75mm to 109 mm A2	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Higher Multiplier x Golden Circle Rlc Redland Nugget 'Mint' C Mem Robert Strait x Angel Flare	G&S Kelly B Fighera G&S Kelly
LAELIINAE Miniature under 75mm A3	1st 2nd 3rd	Pcv Golden Peacock Bishopia Bushfire Dawn 'Lava Flow' Rlc Shin Shiang Diamond	N&M Grant B Fighera T Kapcelovich
LAELIINAE Cluster A4	1st 2nd 3rd	Ctna Starlyn x Why Not x Capri Lea Ctna Why Not 'Roundabout' Ctna Why Not 'Lea' x Sc Pink Love	P Slatter G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
LAELIINAE Any other Hybrid A5	1st	Epc Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower'	P Slatter
DENDROBIUM Spatulata B2	1st 2nd 3rd	Den (Lassy x Pioneer River) <i>X canaliculatum</i> Den <i>canaliculatum x helix</i> Den Red Jumbo World	K Owens L McCulloch L McCulloch
DENDROBIUM Soft Cane B4	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Cinderella No 1 Den Second Love Den Spring Dream 'Kumiko'	G&L Johnson L McCulloch W Hughes
DENDROBIUM Any other Hybrid B5	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Den Baby Hibiki Den Aprichart Rainbow	G&L Johnson J Horn
VANDA Any Other Hybrid C4	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	V Alice's Anie Pda Ambrosian Twinkle V Adisak Happiness	N&M Grant N&M Grant G&L Johnson
PHALAENOPSIS Any Other Hybrid D4	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Phal Fullers Miss x Sung Woei Rosaria Phal Ox Little Green Plum	B Fighera H Barlow
TOLUMNIA E3	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Tolu Sniffen 'Evie' Tolu Willowbank Wonder Tolu Willowbank Whirl	G&S Kelly G&S Kelly G&S Kelly
PAPHIOPEDILUM Multi Floral F1	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Paph (St Swithins x <i>rothschildianum</i>) x Pinocchio <i>Paph praestans x primulinum</i> Paph unknown	G&L Johnson G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
ANY OTHER HYBRID G5	1st 2nd	Zigonisia Cynosure 'Blue Bird'	G&L Johnson
<u>NOVICE</u>			
LAELIINAE E1	1st 2nd 3rd	Rlc Shia Shiang Diamond C Unknown Ctna Jamaica Red 'Chung Hwa'	S Woods J Walker K Skinner
PHALAENOPSIS E4	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal Magic Art Phal Unknown Phal Younghome Pringles	K Kybus J Walker K Kybus
ANY OTHER E8	1st 2nd 3rd	Brassia Rising Star Onc Unknown Onc Tariflor Ruby	K Kybus S Woods K Kybus

<u>SPECIES</u>		<u>AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES</u>	
DENDROBIUM SPATULATA H1	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den canaliculatum</i> <i>Den johannis</i> <i>Den speciosum var boreale</i>	L McCulloch L McCulloch L McCulloch
DENDROBIUM Any Other H2	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den farmer</i> <i>Den spectabile</i> <i>Den nobile</i>	L McCulloch T&S Ruxton L McCulloch
		<u>EXOTIC SPECIES</u>	
LAELIINAE I1	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>C nobilior var amaliae</i> <i>C nobilior var amaliae</i> <i>C nobilior var coerulea</i>	N&M Grant N&M Grant N&M Grant
PHALAENOPSIS I4	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Phal schilleriana</i> <i>Phal schilleriana</i> <i>Phal amabilis var variegated</i>	B Fighera K Kybus A&J Knowles
PAPHIOPEDIUM F3	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph exul</i> <i>Paph roebellinii</i>	G&L Johnson B Willis
ANY OTHER HYBRID F4	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Chysis limminghei</i> <i>Bulb nasseri</i> <i>Den wenzellii</i>	G&L Johnson A&J Knowles B Fighera

Points Tables after August 2026

Number	Name	Open	Species	Novice	Aggregate
183	Allen J	1			1
280	Barlow H	14			14
356	Beasley D			3	3
221	Blanchard D	16	3		19
337	L Craill & J Dow			3	3
268	Della F&J	5			5
369	Doble L&G		1	10	11
215	Dolan M			5	5
190	B Fighera	48	9		57
226	Gibson C	3			3
213	Grant N&M	120	84		204
143	Horn J	4			4
87	Hughes W	1			1
240	Johnson L&G	134	59		193
223	T&J Kapcelovich	14			14
116	Kelly G&S	82			82
368	Kybus K		5	25	30
73	Liang E	1			1
367	Ludvigsen L		1		1
193	Knowles A&J	3	9		12

322	McCulloch/Weaver	12	10		22
63	Owens K	25	3		28
131	B&J Richardson	28	12		40
52	T&S Ruxton		4		4
233	Serra P&J	8	17		25
168	Scott R	5			5
358	Skinner K			1	1
378	Slatter P	36	5		41
310	Walker J			4	4
336	Willis B		2		2
121	Woods S			21	21

August 2026 Management Minutes continued from Page 2

Treasurer: Janelle Stevens:

Business arising: Audit fee is quite high. May need to look at using a different auditor.

Need to revisit membership fees next year. After October, no surcharge can be passed on to buyers, so we need to address this issue before the next Show, as the bank is still going to charge us a Merchant fee for use of the EFTPOS service. Do we increase the vendor percentage from 10% to 12% or increase the entry cost?

Vice President Reports:

Hospitality – On behalf of Samantha

- Rosters for the kitchen for the Show to go around
- Christmas Party sheet to go out
- Need to decide on the Field Day/BBQ.

Shop report – Ruth

- Shirts have arrived.
- Calcium nitrate has been bagged up
- Kiwi bark has been ordered and paid for but has been getting the run around - Bunnings to re-order it.

Publicity –Joseph Walker

- Checking on the cost of advertising in the Townsville Bulletin. Depends on the cost as to whether we advertise one day or two.
- Most of our publicity comes from Facebook and all the events in which we participate.
- Radio stations – Joseph has lined up with them to promote the show.
- Townsville Bulletin will put us into the ‘What’s on’ page for September.

Show – Tony Kapcelovich

- Show set-up at 9.00am on Thursday 10th.
- Vendors are all locked in.

General Business –

- Troy to do presentation on Phallies tomorrow. Will do a potting demonstration during afternoon tea.
- Need to talk to Alice about dates she is away so that we can work out Show dates for next year. She is one of our major vendors so we are happy to work around them. Troy to ask. Need to then let other clubs know the dates so that we are not clashing with other clubs.
- Bunnings – finally North Shore has contacted us to participate in an information session on Wednesday 7th October from 11.00am – 12.00pm.
- Field Day - Definitely won't be hiring a bus for the Field Day. Much easier to do a member's BBQ. Look at carpooling if we have available bush houses. Jan has sent out an email to members who have opened their bush houses in the past to see if they are available.

- Next Council volunteering day is Friday of next week between 9.00am and 11am. If anyone wants to join us, you need to complete a Volunteer Workers Agreement and have it approved before you go. Can only have 5 people at a time. Jan will be away.
- Need to start thinking about who we would like to nominate as Club Member of the Year. Committee members are not included. Consider how much each person contributes to the Club. We have taken plaques to TAG
- BBQ – we have discussed purchasing a BBQ for the Club. Rather than having to get the trailer to transport Tony's from his house and back every time we have an event. We just need something with a flat plate that we can cook some sausages and eggs on. We will also need to get a gas bottle.

Motion: That we purchase a flat plate BBQ & gas bottle for use at informal Club events.

M: Joseph Walker

S: Tony Kapcelovich

Carried

- AGM – need nominations. Need President and Secretary. Need to fill in nomination forms. Jan is happy to continue to work on the Show Schedule etc. – maybe as an assistant Secretary or assistant Shows. This will cut out some of the work that the new Secretary would have to do.
- Should send out an explanation about each role.
- Still looking for quotes for webpage. Only one quote back so far. Need to look at Stefan and possibly PC Medico.
- Jan asked about organising a field trip to Magnetic Island to see members' plants -we have a few island members now. It was believed that the logistics of taking a group and being able to get around Maggie Island would be too difficult and expensive. A risk assessment would need to be done. Individuals might like to organize their own 'excursion'.
- Need new signs for the bins and a sign about how to use the oven. Also, instructions for the dishwasher.
- Last 10 tables are to be sold. Keeping the rest.
- Toilet seats are loose. Need someone to tighten them up or fix the ones that are broken.
- Office chairs have not been purchased. Had it passed at the last meeting.
- Money for the cleaner needs to be organised.
- We need to look into a way we can change the system so that Committee members are not having to fork out their own money when purchasing items that are not invoiced. Need to discuss with the bank.

New Members –

1. Helen Stead – Novice – No 397
2. Barbara Diamond – Novice – No. 398
3. Alan & Chris Linney – Novice – No 399
4. Natalie Hughes & Alex Cameron– Novice – No 400
5. Barbara Dylejko - Novice – No 115

Meeting Closed: 4.30pm

Troy McGill – President

Jan Allen - Secretary

Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday 23rd August 2026

Meeting opened at 1.02pm by President Troy McGill who welcomed visitors and asked if our new members, Barbara Diamond, Barbara Dylejko, Helen Stead, Alan and Chris Linney, Natalie Hughes and Alex Cameron were present. They were invited to receive a welcome gift.

Present: 61 members as per registration book.

Visitors: Esther Palombi, Julian Palombi, Linda Maroney, Carolyn Newman

Apologies: Robert Rasmussen, Andrew Young, Sam McGill, Lyn Mutch, Clara Sewell, Judith Thomson, Carolyn Gibson.

President Report: For the last couple of weeks, we have been persisting with our membership drive. The other week I did a presentation for the Legacy Ladies group; we had a group at the Bluewater Fair – we have been supporting that for several years now; yesterday we had a stall at PPS (Professional Pump Services) where we talked to many interested people and some of those have come along today – thank you and welcome. PPS offers members a 10% discount.

Secretary Report – Jan Allen

Minutes: The minutes from the July 2026 meeting were published in the August Bulletin.

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Jan Allen

Seconded: Kerry Turner

Carried

Correspondence: *Inward correspondence* – not a lot this month -mainly in relation to insurance; invitation from Bunnings North Shore to do a presentation at their Garden Centre.

Outward correspondence – sent out an email to growers to determine whether we would have enough bush houses to show to warrant holding a Field Day.

Motion – That the inwards correspondence be accepted and the outwards adopted.

Moved: Jan Allen

Seconded: Peter Serra

Carried

Treasurer's Report: Janelle Stevens

Account balances were given and a more comprehensive report is posted on the noticeboard

Major income came from Hall hire.

Major expense this month has been the rates and the purchase of a new printer.

We reinvested the term deposit for 12 months at a healthy 5% interest.

Accounts paid were for the mobile phone, fire extinguishers, affiliation fees for Orchids Queensland,

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted and accounts passed for payments.

Moved: Janelle Stevens

Seconded: Bill Hughes

Carried

Vice President Reports:

Hospitality- on behalf Samantha McGill

- Rosters going around for the Spring Show.

Shop – Ruth Whiting

- Club shirts are available at the shop. Club subsidising the shirt.

Shows and Building- Tony Kapcelovich

- Box Day – next Thursday 10am. – cutting and taping up boxes.
- Show set-up on 10th September at 9.00am.
- Show signs to go out as of Sunday 6th and taken down on Sunday 13th or Monday 14th morning.
- Show roster boards are going around. We need people to help at the Show.
- Still waiting for insurance work to be done.
- Tony commented on the lovely array of flowers on display today. Tony believes it is getting back to the way it used to be when he first joined.

General Business:

- **Spring Show** is coming up. Hopefully members will have lots of flowers to display, especially Phalaenopsis and Australian natives. Maybe if lucky, a few Cattleyas.
- **Townsville City Council project – Anderson Park** – if anyone wants to help at the Conservatory, Troy will be there at 8am until around 11am. Registration as a volunteer must be done before you start. Jan has the paperwork that she will send to you. Let her know if you are interested.
- **AGM** is coming up fast. We have some people putting their hands up for some of the positions, but not particularly the Committee positions.
- **Field Day** – Jan has sent out invitation to those members who have participated in the past. We usually try to get a couple of the bigger growers as well as some smaller collections. Alice and Peter (our bigger growers) have indicated that they are reluctant to participate but would be prepared to come to the Hall if we do what we did last year. We had a get together at the Hall instead of our usual Field Day. If we do have smaller growers prepared to open up their bush houses, we will make arrangements for small groups to visit them.
- Troy has asked for people to be **scribes** at the judging night for the Spring Show. It entails walking around with the judges and recording the names of the winning plants.
- **Christmas Party** - you may make a payment at the shop or pay via the internet. Prices are: \$30p member and \$55 for non-members. Ruth has the barcode down at the shop.
- Thank you to Les Keane, a new member, who helped at the PPS.

Troy invited members and visitors to vote for the People's Choice. Four categories to choose from: Novice - Phalaenopsis (11 plants); Species - Phalaenopsis (11 plants); Hybrid 1 – Phalaenopsis (7 plants) and Hybrid 2 – Cattleya Clusters (3 plants).

Judges Choice: Reg Dix

Hybrid Section - Ctna Starrlyn– Paul Slatter – 80 points.

Species Section – *Dendrobium canaliculatum* - Peter Serra – 79 points

Specimen – Ctna Starrlyn– Paul Slatter – 80 points

Novice Section – Brassia Rising Star - Kirsten Kybus & Tony Brinkley – 76 points

Technical Officer – Reg Dix

End of August. This is the time of the year that we start to repot our orchids. There are many types of potting mixes – stone, expanded clay, etc. After pulling the plant out of the pot, Reg treats them with a mixture of Alginox, growth hormone, aspirin and water. In a 500ml bottle of water, he added 2ml Alginox, 2ml growth hormone and a quarter of a flat round aspirin. He sprays the mix over the roots and the underside of the leaves.

The Alginox will kill any bacteria, fungus etc, the growth hormone will give the root system a bit of a kick and aspirin is a salicylic acid which helps the plant in many ways. Reg recommended looking at the St Augustine Orchid Society website.

Presentation – Troy McGill – Growing Phalaenopsis

Orchids are one of the largest family of plants growing in the world. There are about 30,000 orchid species around the world and about 200,000, if not more now, hybrid orchids getting around.

Orchid flowers are zygomorphic, in other words, they look the same on each side. When the judges are looking at plants, that is what they are looking for. They look nice and neat and identical on each side. They have three sepals, three petals and the column which holds the pollen and acts as the reproductive part.

Phalaenopsis, commonly called the Moth Orchid, the Bunnings orchid, or Coles orchid. They are all around. You can buy them in flasks if you're game. They're monopodial, in other words, growing straight up. It is an epiphyte, not a parasite, which grows on trees, but doesn't feed from the tree.

Phalaenopsis species can be found in far north Queensland. *Phalaenopsis amabilis subsp. rosenstromii*, is a white species that can be found in Eastern Queensland (it is in fact, the emblem of Townsville Orchid Society). It's not as large or as impressive as the ones you find in the Philippines. Phalaenopsis can be found from India, through Southeast Asia and all the way down to North Queensland. The first Phalaenopsis was found in 1753. They are a member of the Vandaeae tribe.

Watering your Phalaenopsis – first consideration is What is your potting mix? If you get your potting mix wrong and you are watering it too much, you can have problems. A good idea is to look around to see what other people pot their orchids in and see if it works for you. Besides getting the potting mix right, you need to consider where you are putting your plant, so that it is not in the direct sun. Is it getting enough breeze? Obviously, the season will affect your watering – if it is in winter, you will want to reduce the amount of water you give them.

Potting media – again, it is what works for you and how much you are watering. Examples are on the front table. These are what we have been taking to the Expos we have been going to.

Some people successfully use Sphagnum Moss, but it is not the medium for all people. Jeff grows his Phallies very well in sphagnum moss. When you use it, it retains moisture, so you need to let it dry out before you rewater it, otherwise, the roots will remain wet and you will eventually lose your plant.

Gravel or rock or clay balls are ideal because they are inert and great for aeration. They don't break down, so you don't have to repot your plant as often. Rocks at the bottom of the pot adds weight to the pot so they don't fall over and they are good for drainage. They will need to be watered more often.

Charcoal acts as a filter, a sweetener – it takes away impurities, retains some of the nutrients, drains well and good for aeration.

Years ago, in the resorts you would see them in coconut husks and they grew quite well. It is necessary, however, to ensure they are well cleaned and free of all the salt they hold.

Phalaenopsis don't require a lot of light. Finally, when you are repotting your orchids make sure your tools are sterilised and that you don't move on to another plant with the same secateurs.

People's Choice (Popular Vote)

Hybrid 1 (Phalaenopsis): Phal. Fuller's Miss x Phal Sung Woei Rosaria – Bruno Figuera

Phal No ID' #1' – Bruno Figuera

Hybrid 2 (Cattleya Clusters): Ctna Starrlyn– Paul Slatter

Species (Australian Native): *Dendrobium johannis* – Peter Serra

Novice: Phalaenopsis Magic Art – Kirsten Kybus & Tony Brinkley

Raffle Meeting closed at 3.30 pm

T McGill - President

Jan Allen – Secretary



In memory of Lynne Ryan, Member number 194 – Townsville Orchid Society Inc.

On the 1st September 2026, we lost one of our regular, much-loved Orchid Society members, Lynne Ryan. Lynne joined the Society in 2016 and became an established kitchenhand, helping at General meetings, Shows and Field Days.

I'm sure Lynne would have appreciated the tribute paid to her by many of the Orchid Society members who cut off their orchid sprays after the Spring Show for her funeral service.