



TOWNSVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

August 2026 Bulletin

Full contact details are on our website

<https://townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au>

Postal Address:

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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 22nd August.
The August General Meeting will be held from 1pm Sunday 23rd August,**

where 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 August 2026:

Novice/Species

Stacey, Lisa

Open

Marie, Peter

President's Thoughts

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

August has arrived and the weather is already starting to warm up for spring. It is now time to start thinking about changing the care of your orchids as the temperature changes, with emphasis on watering, fertilising and pests. Some of the Australian native orchids will be shooting out flower spikes soon, hopefully producing inflorescences for our Spring Show.

So, by the time you get this, TOS club members will have been 'showing the flag' at the Bluewater Fair and the PPS Garden Space Open Day. These are events we try to attend every year to promote our club.

A big 'thank you' goes to Leann, for her efforts as the treasurer. Janelle Stevens has stepped up from assistant treasurer, and hopefully will continue on next year. Again, thank you ladies.

I know I've been mentioning at the General Meetings for a while now that we will need a new President and Secretary for next year. Also, there is always space on the committee for new members. So, if you're interested, collect a nomination form from Jan. The Annual General Meeting is in October. Maybe there's a job for you.

So, what's next? We have the Spring Show coming up, which means there will be another 'Box Day,' please bring appropriate boxes. Tony will confirm the Box Day date but currently its pencilled in for Thursday 27th August at 10 am. The Show set up will be on Thursday 10th September, with the show on Friday 11th, Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th.

We are looking at whether we will try to hold a Field Day within the club or some other event in October, probably the 11th. There are a few ideas floating around, but we just need to confirm a few things.

Something I have noticed is that the number of orchid judges within the club is getting fewer and fewer all the time. It would be really good if we try to support Reg and his judges. If you are interested in becoming a judge, it would be worthwhile having a chat with Reg. He can explain the process and the time you will need to commit.

The shop has been re-stocked, so 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 <https://projectplants.com.au/> (located off Shaw Road). Show them your membership card for a discount and advice on using pesticides, including the correct PPE. Lastly, if you want or need a club t-shirt, please approach Ruth, we only order them in when there a few requests.

General Meeting	23 rd August at 1pm,
Box Day	27 th August at 10am,
Spring Show Set Up	10 th September at 9am,
Spring Show	11 th , 12 th and 13 th , 9am – 4 pm Fri and Sat, 9am – 2pm Sunday.

Thanks, Troy

From a talk by Reg Dix at the July General Meeting

Trisodium Phosphate Preparation

To make a sterilizing solution:

1. Obtain a Tupperware container which will allow the total immersion of your cutting tools.
2. Fill the container with lukewarm water. Add crystals, while stirring the liquid, until you see that the crystals will no longer dissolve. **You now have a saturated solution.**
3. Clean your cutters with soapy water to remove any dirt or plant material.
4. Totally immerse the cutters into the solution and leave immersed for at least twenty minutes.
5. If you add cutters to the container, do not use any of the cutters already in the solution for at least twenty minutes.
6. Always keep the container sealed against air contamination.
7. It is best practice to keep the container/solution out of sunlight.
8. Follow the above instructions and the solution will have a very long lifespan. Add additional crystals whenever you top up the water levels.

WARNING: DO NOT PLACE ALUMINIUM HANDLES INTO THE SOLUTION.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2026

Bold Type indicates a correction using Orchidwiz.

Section			TOS No.
<u>OPEN</u>			
LAELIINAE 110mm and over A1	1st 2nd 3rd	Blc Chygong Gauffinch Blc Dream Paradise Blc Burdekin Bells 'Mary'	P Slatter T&J Kapcelovich P Slatter
LAELIINAE 75mm to 109 mm A2	1st 2nd 3rd	Rth Chinkara Lc Blue Hawahii Rby Tang Tiome	T&J Kapcelovich T&J Kapcelovich G&L Johnson
LAELIINAE Miniature under 75mm A3	1st 2nd 3rd	Ctt Siamese Doll Lc Chocolate Drop x Blc Waikiki Rlc Shin Shiang Diamond	B Fighera P Slatter T&J Kapcelovich
LAELIINAE Cluster A4	1st 2nd 3rd	Rth Varat Startrack Ctna Why Not x Sc Pink Love Ctna Mesmounti	P Slatter G&L Johnson G&S Kelly
LAELIINAE Any other Hybrid A5	1st 2nd 3rd	Cpc Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower'	P Slatter
DENDROBIUM Any other Hybrid B5	1st 2nd 3rd	Den Excelsa Den Baby Hibiki <i>Den bigibbum x convolutum</i>	B Fighera G&L Johnson B Fighera

VANDA Over 65mm C1	1st 2nd 3rd	V Pakchong Blue x Sarkaew V Rev. Masao Yamada	B Fighera N&M Grant
VANDA Any Other Hybrid C4	1st 2nd 3rd	V Alice's Anie V Ponpimol x Yip Sum Wah	B Fighera B Fighera
PHALAENOPSIS Any Other Hybrid D4	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal K V Beauty	B Fighera
ANY OTHER HYBRID E4	1st 2nd 3rd	Miltonia Unknown Tolu Capalaba Sun x Capalaba Queen Tetratonia Dark Prince	M Dolan G&S Kelly N&M Grant
PAPHIOPEDILUM Any Other Hybrid F4	1st 2nd 3rd	Paph. La Retraite Paph Unknown Paph Deena Nicol'	G&L Johnson M Dolan G&L Johnson
<u>NOVICE</u> ANY OTHER E8	1st 2nd 3rd	Phal Unknown Den Airway Blue Phal Unknown	K Kybus K Kybus K Kybus
<u>SPECIES</u>		<u>AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES</u>	
DENDROBIUM H1	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den gracilicaule</i> <i>Den mono phylum</i> <i>Den x superbiens compactum</i>	P Serra P Serra P Serra
DENDROBIUM H2	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Den alexandrae</i> <i>Den spectabile</i>	D Blanchard T&S Ruxton
		<u>EXOTIC SPECIES</u>	
LAELIINAE I1	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Barkeria whartonianum</i> <i>Guarianthe skinneri</i> <i>Rhyncolaelia glauca</i>	N&M Grant G&L Johnson N&M Grant
PAPHIOPEDILUM/ I6	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Paph primulinum</i> <i>Paph philippinensis fma album</i> <i>Paph spicerianum</i>	G&L Johnson G&L Johnson G&L Johnson
RHYNCHOSTYLIS	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Rhy.gigantea</i> 'Pink Spots' <i>Rhy gigantea</i> 'Chang Red' Van Tropic Snow 'Orange Fizz'	B Fighera N&M Grant N&M Grant
ANY OTHER I8	1st 2nd 3rd	<i>Acampe praemorse</i> <i>Bulb apodum</i> <i>Angraecum leonis</i>	N&M Grant A&J Knowles N&M Grant

Points Tables after July 2026

Number	Name	Open	Species	Novice	Aggregate
183	Allen J	1			1
280	Barlow H	12			12
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	37	5		42
226	Gibson C	3			3
213	Grant N&M	112	78		190
143	Horn J	2			2
240	Johnson L&G	113	53		166
223	T&J Kapcelovich	13			13
116	Kelly G&S	72			72
368	Kybus K		2	12	14
73	Liang E	1			1
367	Ludvigsen L		1		1
193	Knowles A&J	3	6		9
322	McCulloch/Weaver	9	5		14
63	Owens K	22	3		25
131	B&J Richardson	28	12		40
52	T&S Ruxton		2		2
233	Serra P&J	8	12		20
168	Scott R	5			5
378	Slatter P	30	5		35
121	Woods S			16	16

Minutes from the General Meeting held Sunday 26th July 2026

Meeting opened at 1.02pm by President Troy McGill who welcomed visitors and asked if our new members, Lily Spalding and Lisa (Lixia) Zeng, Leslie and Irene Keane, Ros Thygesen and Jude Brown, and Elizabeth Cameron were present.

Present: 64 members as per registration book.

Visitors: Barbara Dulesko, Barbara Diamond, Alan & Chris Linney, Natalie Hughes.

Apologies: Kathy Skinner, Jan Richardson, Barry O'Neill, Leann O'Neill, Merle O'Neill, Kevin Owens, Ray Layton, Clara Sewell, Robert Rasmussen.

President Report: Troy explained that Leann has found it necessary to resign from the position of Treasurer. He expressed his appreciation of the job Leann has done as Treasurer. Troy thanked Janelle Stevens for stepping up from Assistant Treasure into the position of Treasurer until the end of the financial year. Hopefully she will continue after that.

Secretary Report – Jan Allen

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

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

Moved: Jan Allen

Seconded: Bill Hughes

Carried

Correspondence: *Inward correspondence* invitation to a Zoom meeting about changes in names of orchids; emails of appreciation for the Spring Show; Council – Conservatory orchid collection – require volunteers;

Outward correspondence – sent information to RHSV for insurance; Certificate of Currency to Bluewater; details to vendors regarding takings; query regarding toner return; replies to many queries.

A more comprehensive list is posted on the noticeboard for members' perusal.

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

Moved: Jan Allen

Seconded: Reg Dix

Carried

Treasurer's Report: Janelle Stevens

Janelle went through Leann's balance sheets.

Show – had about 1500 people through the door and sold about 2000 raffle tickets overall.

A comprehensive report is available on the noticeboard for perusal.

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

Moved: Janelle Stevens

Seconded: Bill Hughes

Carried

Vice President Reports:

Shop –

- Ruth has been sourcing items that we need. She has been able to get Vanda pots from Brisbane but she's not sure for how long.

Publicity – Joseph Walker

- Had a good deal from the Townsville Bulletin. We have continued to get Friday editorial in the paper for nothing, and if we didn't advertise with them this would not happen.
- We are trying to get around to all the radio stations to make them aware of the shows.

Shows and Building- Tony Kapcelovich

- Winter Show went off well. Got a lot of compliments about the display. The number of plants sold exceeded expectation.
- Good to see a lot of new faces in the kitchen.
- Tony asked about signs. Most people had kept them for the next show.
- Insurance claim – finally proceeding. It is in two sections – roof maintenance and the re-sheeting and painting the damaged sections of the wall and ceiling. Firstly, we have to repair the roof at our own expense. Insurance will cover the other repairs.
- Rosters for the Spring Show are on the front table.

Hospitality- on behalf Samantha McGill

- Rosters going around for the Spring Show.

General Business:

- **Townsville City Council project** - as mentioned before, we have a few people who are helping at the Conservatory with the orchid donation. It is slow going, and there is a bit of paperwork to fill in to cover the Council in case of an accident. Let Jan know if you want to help out.
- **TQOC** – During the show, Troy and Jan attended the TQOC AGM at the Bowls Club. It was decided that there is not enough support in the North Queensland area to run the TQOC anymore. They are going to close it down as an identity. A lot of clubs have not been supporting it. Suggested that we need to maintain a close relationship with other clubs so that every year each club shares their calendar of events so that we can support each other and avoid clashes. Denise Farlow will deal with Office of Fair Trade.
- We are looking at upgrading our **webpage**. We have asked a couple of people for quotes but the only person we have heard from is Stefan, who originally developed our webpage for us and continues to solve any problems we may have. He is always helpful and reasonably priced, so we will start talking to him.
- Troy emphasised that we need members to step up and take on the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer. If we don't get people to fill those positions, we don't have a club. One member posed the question: "If we can't find someone to do the job and the past President is willing to continue on, we need to look at changing our Constitution to allow someone to continue in that position." It was pointed out by another member that the change in the Constitution was made because in the past, people have got into executive positions and got 'stuck' in the position because no-one offered to take their place.
- There are things we are doing to expose the Club to the public and encourage more people to join us. One of those events we are attending is the Bluewater Fair and Flower Show which is on 15th August. If anyone wants to come out and join us from 8.00am to 2.30pm you are more than welcome to. Bring along orchids you may wish to showcase and talk to others about the benefits of joining the Orchid Society.
- Another event is the PPS Green Space Day which will be held on Saturday 22nd August.
- Comments from members were that the Show was the best we've had for a long time, with the quality and quantity of flowers (especially Cattleyas) being exceptional. This is what will attract people to the shows. We need to thank all those people who brought their plants in to make such a good display.
- Tony made a request for boxes.
- It was noted that for the September Spring Show, we will need a lot of space for hanging plants as there will be a lot of big plants. Troy was sure that there would be enough 'gadgets' that Ray made, to cater for the influx of large plants.

Troy invited members and visitors to vote for the People's Choice. Four categories to choose from: Novice; Species - Rhynchostylis; Hybrid 1- Dendrobium, Hybrid 2 –. 3 plants.

Judges Choice: Reg Dix

Hybrid Section – Paphiopedilum. La Re traite, belonging to Lynette Johnson with 84 points.

This plant was considered for an award at the September Show but the leaves had brown ends and were not quite in show condition.

Species Section – *Acampe praemorse* belongs to Noel Grant with 75 points.

Specimen – Rlc Burdekin Bells owned by Paul Slatter with 70 points.

Novice Section – Phal. Unknown owned by Kirsten Kybus

Presentation – Greg Kelly – Growing Cattleyas

Greg initially showed photographs of different Cattleyas in his collection. They all look different but belong to the Cattleya family.

He described the five major parts (**the structure**) of the Cattleya plant – the rhizome, pseudobulbs, leaves, sheath and roots - and explained their purpose.

Cattleyas prefer **dappled light** to prosper – around 50% – 70 % shade. A simple rule Greg goes by, is, if you put your hand out and you can't see your shadow, it is too dark for them. Plants growing outside a greenhouse should get early or late sun – not direct midday sun.

Water plants before the heat of the day and in cooler weather, ensure plants are dry by night. Plants need to be wet, then dry out, then wet again. If they are constantly wet, they will eventually rot. Two to three minutes at a time is sufficient. When do you **repot**? Greg suggests that repotting is done when the plant has outgrown the pot or the media in the pot has broken down. It is best to repot when new growths are developing (usually Spring). New pots should allow for two to three new growths.

Potting mix. Most growers use a mixture of river gravel, quinkan gravel, and bark. Some add perlite or charcoal. Some use sphagnum moss.

He explained where to cut when dividing orchids and spoke about fertilisers. A handout was circulated which explained the use of potting mixes and fertilisers.

Finally, Greg talked about the importance of presenting your orchids for show and how they should be staked.

Afternoon tea was served

When members returned to their seats, Troy went through the winners of the People's Choice. Lisa talked a little about the characteristics of those plants.

Raffle

Meeting closed at 3.30 pm

Troy McGill - President

Jan Allen – Secretary

Judges Choice July 2026

Hybrid Section:

Paph. La Retraite
Owner: G&L Johnson

84 Points

**This orchid was also the
Grand Champion orchid
at the Winter Show!**

Congratulations, Lyn.





Judges Choice July 2026

Species Section:

Acampe praemorse

Owner: N&M Grant

75 Points

Judges Choice July 2026

Best Specimen:

Rlc Burdekin Bells

Owner: K Kybus

70 Points

