

# DECEMBER 2025 BULLETIN

## Bribie Island Orchid Society Inc.



Celebrating 38 years  
1987—2025



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Editor	Sandy Jensen	
Cultural Supply	Paul Firth	

**Next New Growers Meeting**  
**SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2026**  
**Next Birthday Lunch**  
**TUESDAY 20TH JANUARY 2026**  
**Next Cultural Meeting**  
**TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY 2026**

*To those members/family/friends who are not enjoying the best of health at the moment, we wish you all the best for your recovery and look forward to seeing you at Society functions in the future. Stay safe!!*

wish<sup>ing</sup>  
you a  
Speedy  
Recovery

## ***A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT***



Hello and welcome to our November/December 2025 bulletin—our final for the year.

What a crazy year it has been with very heavy rain in the early part of the year and Cyclone Alfred bearing down on us in mid March, and ‘the tornado that never happened’ in late November reaping havoc on Bribie and surrounds. We trust you all came through relatively unscathed. To those with little damage/loss of property, we thank our lucky stars and think of those who didn’t get off so lightly. Great job by Energex, Moreton City Council , Qld Police, the Fire Brigade, Qld Ambulance and the myriad of other workers and volunteers from all over, some of who are still working hard 3 weeks later to clear the Island and surrounds of debris and get things back on track. Mother Nature... you can’t beat her! Some of the local trees were over 100 years old and in a flash were ripped out by their roots leaving us with a very different landscape.

I trust those in attendance enjoyed the Christmas Party and thank you to all concerned for making things happen. Perhaps we should change to Christmas in July to avoid Mother Nature’s wrath in future!

Don’t forget January’s Birthday Lunch is at Solander Lakes Bowls Club on Tuesday 20th January and our first meeting for 2026 will be the Cultural Meeting on Tuesday 27th January.

In the meantime we hope you and yours all enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and health New Year.

Take care and Happy growing! See you in 2026!

***Diann Sirett, President, and the Committee of the Bribie Island Orchid Society Inc.***



Members may now bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea at Meetings , however please note all food will be served, along with tea and coffee, by appointed Society members.



## **SIGNING IN AT MEETINGS**

**Now that Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, QR scanning is no longer required, however Members must still sign the Attendance Book which is on display at the front of the hall for attendance/Insurance purposes.**



The NEXT NEW GROWERS MEETING will be on SATURDAY 14th February 2026. This will be our first New Growers Meeting for 2026 and we'll kick off the year with a 'Welcome' sausage sizzle starting at 12 noon.

Plants for judging need to be benched by 1.15 pm please.

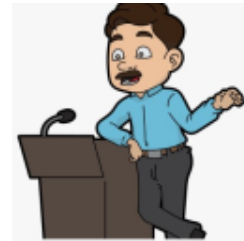


Check out the wide range of pots & vanda baskets, fungicides, ties, cutters, bark and perlite etc available at both the New Growers and Cultural meetings at The Orchid House. EFTPOS available.



*Did you know that we have a great array of books and magazines on all types of orchids lurking in the cupboard in the corner of the hall?*

*Please see Sue Harrison, our librarian, if you would like to borrow any or if you would like to donate any surplus items you might have.*



### **PROPOSED GUEST SPEAKERS AT COMING CULTURAL MEETINGS**

- **FEBRUARY 2026—AIR PLANTS BY AARON**
- **MARCH—JILL FROM SEARLES**

*If you have any suggestions for Guest Speakers or if there is a particular topic you would like to hear about, please contact Teresa on 0491 158 104*

## NOVEMBER 2025 NEW GROWERS MEETING

For our final New Growers Meeting for 2025, at which 30 members and 2 visitors attended, Zelda prevailed on a couple of our male members to assist with dividing a very large Cattleya which had been donated. Ross and James were the 'volunteers' and they did a great job of creating lots of divisions which were handed out to members. Anita, Ron and Cheryl were the designated 'potters' for the exercise. Well done all!

12 plants, 9 of which were Phalaenopsis, were benched with Rainie taking out 'The Finger' for the month with her well grown *Onc. sphacelatum* (aka Dancing Lady). Congratulations members on a lovely display.

Joe gave an update on his recent talk on Vandas and showed the group one that he had 'topped'. After the raffle had been drawn, the group were invited to share Joe's cake for his 90th Birthday. Congratulations on a wonderful milestone Joe.

Members were reminded that this was the last New Growers meeting for the year and the next New Growers meeting will be on Saturday 14th February.



*Onc. sphacelatum*

# November Birthday Lunch

26 members met at the Bribie Island RSL Indoor Social for our Birthday Lunch on Tuesday 18th November with the ever popular 12 for \$12 offer on Tuesdays. The meals were so huge and yummy, a few members took advantage of the 'doggy boxes' on offer to finish their meals off at dinner time! Birthday people, Kay, Paul and Leisa were in attendance. Unfortunately Tierney couldn't make lunch having just come out of hospital. We all hope you're well on your way to recovery Tierney and Sue will deliver your cupcake! Once again a big thank you to our photographer Di F and our organizer Rainie.

December Birthdays will be celebrated at our Christmas Party at The Orchid House on Tuesday 2nd December with January Birthdays to be celebrated at the Solander Lakes Bowls Club on Tuesday 20th January. Don't forget to put your name in the book for catering purposes please.



**Kay**



**Paul**



**Leisa & James**



**The Birthday People -  
Happy Birthday!!**



**Tierney's cupcake**



**Liz & her sister**



**Sandra & Ross**



**Sue & Lynette**



**Bruce**



**Rainie, Leisa, Bev & Daryl**



**Geoff & Jan**



**Ian,  
Lynette &  
Kay**



**Keryn, Mark & Sandra R**



**Di S, Kay & Margaret**

# 2025 Christmas Party!

Plans for our Christmas Party were thrown in to disarray after the November 24 mini cyclone which badly hit Bribie Island and surrounds with power outages affecting catering supplies which led to our traditional Christmas dinner evolving in to cold cuts of meat and salad and at one stage it looked like a late cancellation was looming as there were issues with power connection to The Orchid House creating headaches all round. It all worked out in the end and members and guests were well catered for by Serenity Café. Our own 'Frank Sinatra' aka Bruce, provided the entertainment, Zelda assisted by Tony and Rainie manned the Secret Santa handouts with Di K, Teresa and Rainie taking care of the rolling raffle which was well supported. Thank you to all those who contributed to the long list of prizes. Seven half hams were on offer as lucky door prizes and our thanks go to the Management of IGA Sandstone Point for giving us a good deal. The lucky winners were Stu, Lynette, Rainie, Mark G, Ron R, Kay and Michael T. Congratulations to all the winners and there's always next year for those who missed out!

Here's some happy snaps taken on the day—thanks to Di F and Sandy.







## Watering your Orchids

Watering is the most basic task for gardeners, however when it comes to orchids it seems to pose problems for many novices—even to the point where they are scared to water their orchids for fear of killing them with kindness. I believe that most growers don't water their orchids enough. It is imperative that a plant's root system be allowed to drain freely and quickly and that there is constant movement of air. Watering is a science that can be mastered only with practice as everyone has different plants, different conditions and different lifestyles. Generally plants in active growth need more water than when they are in a dormant state. Ensure these plants get a deep watering with excess water flowing liberally out of the drainage holes as opposed to a splash with a host. Commonsense also tells us that almost all plants require more moisture in summer than in winter. It should be remembered that there are many orchids that require a dry period as part of their annual growth cycle. Generally this period is in the cooler months.

Plants grown in the garden or under shade cloth have the advantage of receiving natural rainwater. I always have mixed emotions in summer when a thunderstorm is on its way. The plants enjoy the heavy rain which has additional nitrogen due to a chemical reaction caused by lightning, but the downside is the strong winds and hailstones that can often accompany severe storms. A few days after such a downpour, have a good look at the root systems of your plants. You will find that they have longer green root-tips and the foliage has added lustre. Another positive is that you will find many of the 'one-day wonders' (orchids which have blooms that generally last for less than 24 hours) will initiate inflorescence and bloom in about nine or ten day's time. I feel this is more response to the sudden change in atmospheric pressure than to the drop in temperature often credited for instigating flowering. Orchids that respond in this manner include *Dendrobium* (section *Rhopalanthre*, which includes the 'Dove Orchid' *Den. crumenatum*, *Diplocaulobium*, some *Eria* and *Flickingena*. I've found that it is not uncommon to have a whole suite of different species in bloom on the same day a week or so after a storm.

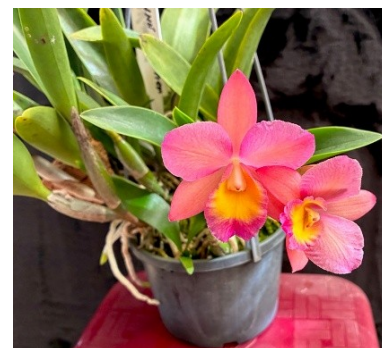
It is also efficient and economical to channel rainwater off the roof of the family home, garage and any orchid houses with a solid roof into a water tank. This is particularly important in areas where the town water supply is questionable. Many local supplies have high concentrations of chlorine which can be poisonous to sensitive plants and will quickly kill growing sphagnum moss. If practical, store this water for at least 24 hours in an open vessel before using on your orchids. During this time the chlorine will dissipate.

Misting systems can be installed in the orchid house. Basic systems (including plastic tubing, nozzles and hose attachments) are relatively inexpensive and easily installed. They can be computer-controlled or on a timer that snaps on to the tap. Mistifiers are primarily used to increase humidity and cool the environment around the plants. Regardless of how many nozzles you install there will always be dry patches due to foliage of different size plants shielding other plants. There is more chance of uniform coverage if there is a swirling breeze. Depending on the area to be covered (and the size of the collection) and the number of operative nozzles (governed by your water pressure) it may be wise to install several runs.

Ideally nothing can compare with hand-watering which provides the opportunity of personally inspecting your plants and taking necessary action if you spot a problem. A rose nozzle delivers a gentle shower of water to your plants without blasting them away and extension wands are ideal for watering hanging pots, baskets and mounted plants that are high up in the orchid house. Some hose attachments deliver an ultra-fine mist which is most useful for dampening the foliage and quenching mounted orchids.

Anon

**'MISSTIMED BLOOMS' (Those plants that flower when there are no meetings or Shows)!**



If you have any plants that flower between meetings, email the photos to our Bulletin Editor—[sandyjens@bigpond.com](mailto:sandyjens@bigpond.com) for inclusion in the next bulletin.

## The Wal Corney Award and the Merv Anderson Award for 2025

The Wal Corney Award for the best Open Grower plant and the Merv Anderson Award for the best New Grower Plant are based on the yearly Judges Choice Winning Photos taken at each Cultural Meeting. This year the winners were judged by our Patron Cr Brooke Savige and Alex and Brenda from our neighbours the Wallum Action Group Community Nursery. Congratulations to all the contenders/winners and thank you to our judges. Please remember members, you've got to be in it to win it so make sure you bring along your best blooms to meetings, particularly the Cultural Meetings.



*Phal. Unknown*



**Merv Anderson Award—  
New Growers—Winners  
R & S Berg**

### Contenders for New Growers :

S Harrison January and July

A & P Hinde—February and June

S Hetherington—March

L Daniels—May

J McNeven—August

R & V Ferguson—September

**R & S Berg—October—*Phal. Unknown***

### Contenders for Open :



*R/c. Goldenzelle 'High Noon'*

D & Z Holm— January, February & **July—*R/c. Goldenzelle 'High Noon'***

J & T Watson— March, June & October

B & M Svensson - May

R Russell—August & September



**Wal Corney Award—Open - Winner Z Holm**

## 2026 UPCOMING SHOWS

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	14th February	Aspley Orchid Society 2026 Summer Show, Pine Rivers Showgrounds Hall, 757 Gympie Road, Lawnton	Sat 8am - 3.30pm
	20th - 21st February	Qld. International Orchid Fair, Belmont Shooting Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Road, Belmont	Friday 8am - 3.30pm Saturday 8am - 3pm
<b>MARCH</b>	7th - 8th March	QOS (Qld Orchid Society) Show, Belmont Shooting Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Road, Belmont	
	21st - 22nd March	EDOS (Eastern Districts Orchid Society) Show	
	21st March	Maroochydore OS Show Buderim ( <b>Closed Show</b> ) Buderim Uniting Church, 2-10 Gloucester Road, Buderim	Sat 8am - 3.30pm
	21st- 22nd March	Rockhampton Orchid Society Show, Robert Schwarten Pavilion	
	28th - 29th March	West Brisbane OS Autumn Show, Auditorium, Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens	Sat 8.30am - 3pm Sun 9am - 1.30pm

### NOVEMBER NEW GROWERS MEETING 2025 RESULTS

# = No. of plants benched in each Class

NEW GROWERS	#	No	PLANT NAME	GROWER/S
<b>Vandaceous/Phalaenopsis</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1st</b>	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	B Power
		2nd	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	T Tierney
		3rd	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	R & S Berg
<b>Other Hybrids</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1st</b>	<i>Onc. sphacelatum</i>	R Daniels
		2nd	<i>Onc.</i> Unknown	J De Haviland
<b>Species</b>	<b>1</b>	1st	<i>V. miniata</i>	B & L Keipert
<b>Judges Choice - Novice</b>		<b>1st</b>	<i>Onc. sphacelatum</i>	<b>R Daniels</b>

**NEW GROWERS : BENCH YOUR ORCHIDS AT CULTURAL MEETINGS AND ANY PLACINGS RESULT IN POINTS FOR THE YEAR'S AWARDS.**

**There was no November Cultural Meeting due to the mini-cyclone which hit Bribie Island and surrounds on Monday 24th November.**

# December Birthdays



Many Happy Returns to our members who celebrated their Birthdays in December  
Their special days were celebrated at our Christmas Party on Tuesday 2nd December.

Sue Linsley	3rd December
Jan Bowman	3rd December
Bob Ferguson	7th December
John Hopgood	18th December
Sheryll Steele Boyce	22nd December
Cheryll Daly	31st December

**Please read the following page for January Birthday celebrations...**

Please contact **Rainie on 0414 802 733** if you are going to attend if you have not already put your name on the list



# January Birthdays



Many Happy Returns to our members who celebrate their Birthdays in January.

Sandy Jensen	8th January (75!!)
Ron Kunde	15th January
Florence McLaren	17th January
Kay Stephenson	18th January
Jan Lumsden	22nd January
Val Anderson	25th January
Diann Sirett	25th January

**The January Birthday Lunch will be held on**

**Tuesday : 20th January 2026**

**Time : 12 noon**

**Venue : The Solander Lakes Bowls Club**

**70 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach**

Please contact **Rainie on 0414 802 733** if you are going to attend if you have not already put your name on the list



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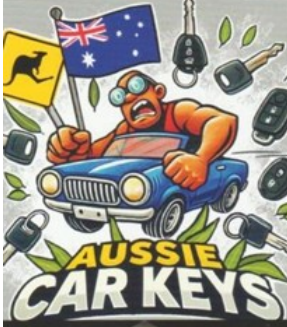
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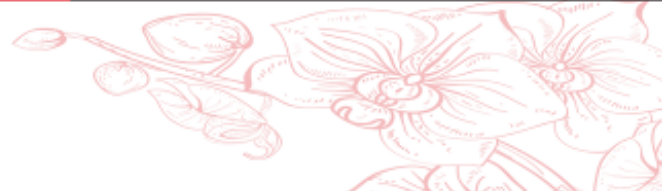
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# BIOS Birthday Lunches

Our monthly Birthday lunches are usually held on the third Tuesday of each month at 12 noon various locations around the Island and surrounds. They are a great way to get to know other members of the Society. Everyone pays for their own meal/drinks so the choice is yours whether it be a low cost outing or something a bit more up-market.

**Website** Our new website address is [www.bribieislandorchidsociety.au](http://www.bribieislandorchidsociety.au)

## FACEBOOK

Members are reminded that our Society has a Facebook page. Just type in Bribie Island Orchid Society in the Facebook search field and the group page will appear. In the section headed Groups ask to join. Our administrator will then accept your request. Our Facebook page is attracting a large number of views and comments from both within the Society and outside and it is interesting to note that some of our new members found us on Facebook. Many thanks go to Teresa Watson and Sue Harrison for their contribution to this platform.

## Suggestions for our monthly Bulletin



If you have any suggestions for our monthly bulletins or would like more information on any particular subjects, please don't hesitate to contact our editor **Sandy Jensen** Email [bribieorc@gmail.com](mailto:bribieorc@gmail.com) and we will do our best to accommodate your requests.

## Cultural Meeting

**Cultural Meeting** is normally held on the Fourth Tuesday of the month at The Orchid House, 156A First Avenue, Bribie Island. Meeting times are arrival 1.00 pm for start at 1.30 pm. Plants must be benched by 1.15 pm when judging will commence. Members may now bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea however please note all food will be served, along with tea and coffee, by appointed Society members

## New Growers' Meeting

**The New Growers' Meeting** is normally held on the Second Saturday of the month. These meetings are held at The Orchid House, arrival time 1.00 pm for start at 1.30 pm. Plants must be benched by 1.15 pm when judging will commence. Members may now bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea however please note all food will be served, along with tea and coffee, by appointed Society members.

**CLUB BADGES AND/OR SHIRTS** To order your Club polo shirt and/or name badge, see our friendly Treasurer. The costs are Polos \$ 38 each and Name badges \$15. Wearing a Club shirt and name badge readily identifies Bribie Island Orchid Society members to the public who patronize our Shows and name badges come in handy at our meetings/functions when we sometimes experience a 'Senior's moment or two'. **Be proud to stand out in the crowd!**



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