



BULLETIN

of the
Orchid Society
of
Canberra
Incorporated

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Volume 5 Number 1
Jan/Feb 1990

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REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monthly society meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month in Room 1, Griffin Centre, Civic. Meetings commence 8.00pm, with plant trading table and library open from 7.30pm.

FEBRUARY MEETING

February 7th: "Cattleyas"
- a night of discussion and slides on members of the Cattleya alliance: where they come from, the different species and hybrid types, their cultural requirements etc.
- a community pot of Cattleya seedlings will be potted up on the night for distribution to those present.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
13 November 1989

The meeting commenced at 8pm with the President welcoming all present.

Apologies were received from Anne Hughes, Gunther Emmelman, Brian Phelan, Lynne Bullivant and Hazel Taylor.

It was moved by Sheila Cudmore that the minutes of the previous two meetings be accepted. Seconded by David Rentz. Carried. There was no business arising.

The treasurer, Judy Osborne, reported a balance of approx \$2800. The secretary reported incoming correspondence from The Orchid Society of N.S.W. and the Wagga Wagga Orchid Society. A new issue of Orchids Australia arrived.

Application for membership were received from Ron Boulton and Noreen & Eric McLean.

Show certificates were distributed to those members present.

Hints & Advice: were given by David Rentz and Jackie Dunstone.

Slides were shown of the winning entries in our Spring Show and Canberra's winning entry at Wagga Wagga. Del Carey showed slides she took at the show in Toowoomba.

Popular Vote:

Australian Native: David Rentz - *Cymbidium canaliculatum*

Cymbidium: John Ryan - *Cymbidium pumulum* spec. v. Yawara (Jap.)

Cattleya: David Rentz - *Cattleya aurantiaca/escholtzia*

Paphiopedilum: David Rentz - *P. hirsutissimum*
Greg Slater - *P.* name unknown

Others: Jackie Dunstone - *Dendrobium thysiflorum*

Novice: Christopher Law - *Dendrobium kingianum*

Door Prize was won by Frank Keenan. The raffles were won by Christopher Law and Noreen McLean.

The meeting closed at 10:25pm.

Jane Wright
Secretary.

REPORT ON THE CHRISTMAS PARTY -
5 December 1989

As this was the annual Christmas Party, there was no general business.

Bill Handke led us in a series of quizzes and games, mostly concerning orchids, with prizes of orchid seedlings and books for the winners.

A most entertaining song written about our society by Pat Butt had its debut performance, with much gusto, if not quite always in tune.

The members present voted on the new design for the Society's letterhead, bulletin and badge. The winning design was drawn by Jane Wright of Caladenia carnea, a species native to our region.

The Graham Phillis Trophy, for the most successful exhibitor at regular meetings over the last year, was won by David Rentz. Prizes were also awarded to the winners of each of the five popular vote categories.

Prizes for the three members attending the most meetings over the last year went to Joyce England, Les Johnson and Lynne Bullivant.

Popular Vote:

Australian Native:

Jane Wright - *Sarcochilus australis*

Bill Handke - *Sarcochilus ceciliae* 'Lucky' x
S. ceciliae 'Red'

Cymbidium: Julie & Tony Smith - *Cymbidium Cricket*

Cattleya: Jane Wright - *Encyclia vitellina*

Paphiopedilum: Jane Wright - *P. hirsutissimum*

Others: Judy Osborne - *Masdevallia veitchiana* Prince de Galles AM/RHS

Novice: Christopher Law

Jane Wright

Secretary

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS

The Executive and Committee of the Orchid Society wish to extend a Happy New Year to all members. We hope 1990 is a good orchid growing year for you all.

Moreover we hope that the array of interesting speakers and social events planned for the year will maintain your strong

interest and involvement with the Society.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to all those prize and award winners at the Christmas Party.

In particular, congratulations to David Rentz, winner of the Graham Phillis Trophy for the most successful popular vote winner during 1989. David won the popular vote categories of Cattleya and Other, while Brian Phelan won the prize for the Paphiopedilum category, Judy Osborne for Cymbidiums and John Ryan for Natives.

A special thanks to Graham Phillis for donating the trophy for this award.

The prizes to the most frequent attendees at our monthly meetings were well won by Joyce England, Les Johnson and Lynne Bullivant. Joyce didn't miss a meeting all year!

Prizes will again be awarded at the 1990 Christmas Party to the most frequent attendees for 1990. So be in there with a chance - come to the meetings regularly.

LETTERHEAD COMPETITION

The winning entry, by popular vote at the Xmas Party, now adorns the front of the Bulletin. Congratulations to Jane Wright for winning the competition, and thank you to all those who put in entries. Jane's winning entry will also feature on a new badge for the Society - hopefully available to members in a few months time.

"ODE TO THE ORCHID SOCIETY"

Pat Butt's witty anthem to the Orchid Society is attached. It was a big hit at the Christmas Party - thanks very much Pat. The song lacks a reference to Pat and Joyce's work at the door, and in selling raffle tickets. Anybody want to contribute a verse in recognition of their efforts?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Committee has accepted applications for membership received from Ron Boulton, and Noreen and Eric McLean. Welcome to the Society to these new members. We hope that you find your association with the Society a rewarding experience.

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to full health from recent illness goes to Norma Stafford of Kalaru, the President of the Sapphire Coast Orchid Society. Many of our members know of Norma from visits to her orchid nursery at Kalaru, near Bega.

POPULAR TABLE WINNERS

Our congratulations to the Popular Vote Winners for the November and December meetings.

The winners for November were:
 Australian Native: David Rentz (Cymbidium canaliculatum)
 Cymbidium: John Ryan (C. pumulum speci v. Yawara (Jap))
 Cattleya: David Rentz (C. aurantiaca/ escholtzia)
 Paphiopedilum: David Rentz (P. hirsutissimum), Greg Slater (P. unknown)
 Others: Jackie Dunstone (Dendrobium thysiflorum)
 Novice: Christopher Law (Dendrobium kingianum)

The winners for December were:
 Australian Native: Jane Wright
 (Sarcochilus australia), Bill
 Handke (Sarcochilus ceciliae)
 Cymbidium: Julie and Tony Smith
 (Cym "Cricket")
 Cattleya: Jane Wright (Encyclia
 vitellina)
 Paphiopedilum: Jane Wright
 (Paph. hirsutissimum)
 Others: Judy Osborne
 (Masdevallia veitchiana Prince
 de Galles AM/RHS)
 Novice: Christopher Law

BLACK MT WALK

The annual Black Mountain
 ramble took place on a drizzly
 Sunday in November. A small
 group were rewarded for their
 persistence with some very good
 specimens of Caladenias -
 spider orchids, Durius donkey
 orchids, and Calochilus -
 bearded orchids. It was
 obvious that with so many
 different orchids growing on
 Black Mt which flower at
 different times, we should
 arrange a number of walks
 throughout late winter and
 spring.

1990 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meetings:
 March: Geoff Dyne "Orchids of
 PNG"
 April: Ron Bolten
 "Conservation Status of
 Australian Natives"
 May: Marie Lennon "Floral
 Art"
 June: Members night
 July: Murray Aldridge
 "Masdevallias"
 August: Show Preparation Hints
 Sept: Ken Russell "Hybridising
 techniques"
 Oct: Gordan Hansen
 Nov: Jane Wright - "Pests"
 Dec: Xmas Party

Social Events:
 11 March - Canberra Festival
 Orchid Display
 7 April - Sydney Bus Trip

1990 SPRING SHOW

Now is the time to start making
 arrangements for the 1990
 Spring Show. Anybody
 interested in being the Show
 Convenor or being on the Show
 Committee should contact me at
 the next meeting or give me a
 ring.

ELECTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE

A number of vacancies are
 expected to occur on the
 Executive and Committee for the
 forthcoming year, beginning in
 May. All members are
 encouraged to give
 consideration to standing for
 any position.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Notice is hereby given to a
 Special General Meeting to be
 held prior to the February
 Monthly Meeting to consider a
 number of amendments to the
 Constitution. The proposed
 amendments are in regard to
 three areas:

. to change the requirement
 from six to five Committee
 members to form a quorum for
 Committee meetings. On
 occasions it has been difficult
 to get at least six Committee
 members together.

. to close the accounts of the
 Society on 31 March each year,
 so as to allow the Auditor time
 to audit the books before the
 AGM in May.

. to abide with the
 requirements of the Orchid

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. to close the accounts of the
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 so as to allow the Auditor time
 to audit the books before the
 AGM in May.

. to abide with the
 requirements of the Orchid

Society of NSW in regard to granting awards of excellence at shows.

Accordingly it is proposed to:

. amend Article 29(4) to read:
"Any five members of the Committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Committee".

. insert Sub-section 9(4):
"The accounts, books and records for each financial year shall close on 31 March".

. amend Article 43 as follows:
- insert "(1)" before the text of Article 43.
- insert "(2) The Society shall only grant awards of excellence uniform with those awarded by the Orchid Society of New South Wales Ltd to orchids exhibited at any shows of the Society."

CATTLEYA SEEDLINGS DE-POTTING

At the February monthly meeting a community pot of Cattleya seedlings will be de-potted and available to members. Pots and tags etc will be able to be purchased on the night.

Ode to the Orchid Society
by Pat Butt, Dec 1989

Aye, yi, yi, yi,

Your cymbid's bigger than mine,

My stems are thicker

But yours grows much quicker,

Oh, why is mine not quite so fine?

The Orchid Society's thriving,

Its members will always be striving

To give their support

'Cause we think they ought,

We don't want our membership diving.

Bill chairs our regular meeting

After he's said a quick greeting,

He welcomes the guests,

Gets rid of the pests

And then organises the seating.

David is keen on exotics,

His plants they all come from the tropics,

His glass house is hot,

His plants will not rot

Because he knows things microscopic.

Judy is pushing the sales,

She's got stuff to kill all the snails,

With twisties and stakes

Big profits she makes

Keeping us all on the rails.

If you want to grow paphs see the Haymans,

Their mum's windowsill must be laden,

With species diverse

It must be a curse

On cleaning days or when they're fadin'.

New members are always welcome,

We all do our best now to help 'em,

They're probably confused

With conflicting views

On the best way to grow 'em or shelf 'em.

Terrestrials grow on the ground,

Kingis in trees can be found,

Others grow better

If their feet are wetter

But not so much that they'll be drowned.

On Tuesdays, to be specific,

Do you yen for a night that's terrific?

Well you can't go wrong

If you follow the throng

To this centre right here in Civic.

Aye, yi, yi, yi,

Your cymbid's bigger than mine,

My stems are thicker

But yours grows much quicker,

Oh, why is mine not quite so fine?

Introducing Cattleyas
by Jane Wright

The plants we commonly call cattleyas are actually from a group of orchid genera of the subtribe Laeliinae in the subfamily Epidendroideae. Names such as *Cattleya*, *Laelia* and *Sophranitis* are familiar, but how about *Schomburgkia* or *Broughtonia*? What makes things really complicated is that from the 10 or so natural genera in this group have been bred at least 37 intergeneric hybrids. These hybrids have been assigned permanent names, so that for example, all hybrids between species of the genus *Laelia* and *Cattleya* will automatically be called *Laeliocattleya*. Now that there are many of the smaller cattleyas being developed that are easier to grow, more and more of us will find room for them in our collections. Unfortunately, often the labels only have the abbreviation of the generic name - and just what is a *Blc.*, *Pot.*, or *Rolf.*? The table of generic names and abbreviations should solve some of these queries.

An understanding of the natural environment of these orchids helps us provide suitable cultural conditions. This group is exclusively from the western hemisphere, with most species from the middle elevations of the tropical and subtropical forests of Central and South America. They are all epiphytic (tree-dwelling) or lithophytic (rock-dwelling), so the normal light condition for these plants is strong, dappled sunlight. Depending on the location temperatures range from occasional frost to over 30°C. Plants in most areas receive daily moisture as showers or dew and humidity varies with temperature.

Cattleyas require about 50% full sunlight to grow and bloom properly. This can be provided with 40-60% shade cloth over a glasshouse, an east or west-facing window or a slightly shaded north window. Ask your plants if you are providing enough light. If new growths and emerging flower stems are straight and strong, the foliage is a medium green, successive growths are larger and more robust, and flowers are produced, you have it right. Dark green foliage and spindly, weak growths indicate insufficient light. Too much light leads to yellowed, burned foliage. Gradually move plants into stronger light, or they will burn, just as you would.

In general, moderate temperatures are required, the normal range in a home generally suits. While these plants are fairly adaptable, a day-night differential of at least 7°C is important. Relative humidity of 40-60% is satisfactory. Most cattleyas are adapted to periodic dryness, having tough foliage, water-storage organs and exposed roots, so allow the plants to dry out a little between waterings. Fertilise often, with a weak solution when the roots are not bone dry.

Reference: Nash, Ted. 1988. Cattleyas for Beginners 1. The Basics. American Orchid Society Bulletin 57(5): 483-489.

Natural and Artificial Genera in the Laeliinae

Natural Genera

<i>Brassavola</i> (B.)	<i>Broughtonia</i> (Bro.)
<i>Cattleya</i> (C.)	<i>Cattleyopsis</i> (Ctps.)
<i>Diacrium</i> (Diacm.)	<i>Epidendrum</i> (Epi.)
<i>Laelia</i> (L.)	<i>Laeliopsis</i> (Lps.)
<i>Schomburgkia</i> (Schom.)	<i>Sophronitis</i> (Soph.)

Artificial Genera

- Arizara* (Ariz.) - *Cattleya* x *Domingoa* x *Epidendrum*
Bishopara (Bish.) - *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Sophronitis*
Bloomara (Blma.) - *Broughtonia* x *Laeliopsis* x *Tetramicra*
Brassocattleya (Bc.) - *Brassavola* x *Epidendrum*
Brassoepilaelia (Blp.) - *Brassavola* x *Laelia*
Brassolaelia (Bl.) - *Brassavola* x *Laelia*
Brassolaeliocattleya (Blc.) - *Brassavola* x *Laelia* x *Cattleya*
Brassophronitis (Bnts.) - *Brassavola* x *Sophronitis*
Brassotonia (Bstna.) - *Brassavola* x *Broughtonia*
Brownara (Bwna.) - *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Diacrium*
Cattleytonia (Ctna.) - *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya*
Diacattleya (Diac.) - *Cattleya* x *Diacrium*
Dialaelia (Dial.) - *Diacrium* x *Laelia*
Dialaeliocattleya (Dialc.) - *Diacrium* x *Laelia* x *Cattleya*
Epicattleya (Epc.) - *Epidendrum* x *Cattleya*
Epilaelia (Epl.) - *Epidendrum* x *Laelia*
Epilaeliocattleya (Eplc.) - *Epidendrum* x *Laelia* x *Cattleya*
Epiphronitis (Ephs.) - *Epidendrum* x *Sophronitis*
Hartara (Hart.) - *Broughtonia* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Hasegawaara (Hasgw.) - *Brassavola* x *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Hawkinsara (Hknsa.) - *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Kirchara (Kir.) - *Cattleya* x *Epidendrum* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Laeliocatonia (Lctna.) - *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia*
Laeliocattleya (Lc.) - *Laelia* x *Cattleya*
Laelonia (Lna.) - *Broughtonia* x *Laelia*
Lowara (Low.) - *Brassavola* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Lyonara (Lyon.) *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Schomburgkia*
Otaara (Otr.) - *Brassavola* x *Broughtonia* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia*
Potinara (Pot.) - *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Sophronitis*
Recchara (Recc.) - *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Schomburgkia*
Rolfeara (Rolf.) - *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Sophronitis*
Schombocattleya (Smbc.) *Schomburgkia* x *Cattleya*
Schomolaelia (SmbL.) - *Schomburgkia* x *Laelia*
Sophracattleya (Sc.) - *Sophronitis* x *Cattleya*
Sophrolaelia (Sl.) - *Sophronitis* x *Laelia*
Sophrolaeliocattleya (Slc.) - *Sophronitis* x *Laelia* x *Cattleya*
Stanfieldara (Sfdra.) - *Sophronitis* x *Laelia* x *Epidendrum*