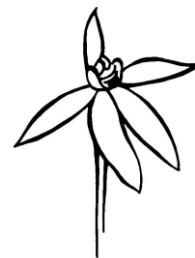


Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

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<http://www.canberraorchids.org> Email: orcsoc@yahoo.com
ABN 34 762 780 850

Petalochilus fuscatus



Volume 26, Number 5

Sep-Oct 2011

Regular monthly meetings:

Monthly meetings of the Society are held on the first **Wednesday** of each month (except January) at the **Seventh Day Adventist Church, corner Gould and Macleay St. Turner**. Meetings commence at 8:00pm with the library and trading table open from 7:30pm.

Speakers:

September 2011: Q&A Night - further details on page 4.

October 2011: Wayne Turville

orchids. For the older hands, the workshops are a great opportunity to get to know newer members and catch up with old friends (and maybe even learn a few new things too). I hope to see many of you there.

Trophy holders

In preparation for the Spring Show, please bring all trophies (polished please!) to the September meeting or contact a committee member to make arrangements to return the trophies.

Orchid Society of Canberra Events

Spring Show: 17 - 18 September, Saturday 11:00am - 5:00pm, Sunday noon - 4:30pm, St John's Hall, 43 Constitution Avenue, Reid.

Upcoming Orchid Events

The Horticultural Society of Canberra Spring Bulb & Camellia Show: Saturday 17th September - 12 noon to 5pm, Sunday 18th September - 11:30am to 4pm, Lancaster Hall, Wesley Centre, National Circuit, Forrest.
South West Regional Conference and Show: Nowra High School, Nowra, 1 & 2 October 2011.

The Horticultural Society of Canberra Iris, Rhododendron & Azalea Show: Saturday 29th October - 12 noon to 5pm, Sunday 30th October - 11:30am to 4pm, Lancaster Hall, Wesley Centre, National Circuit, Forrest.
20th World Orchid Conference: 13-20 November 2011, Marina Bay, Singapore.

President's Comments

Our annual Spring Show is the high point of the year. It offers our members a chance to show their orchids to each other and the public, and purchase a few new orchids for the collection. It's also a great social event - lots of time to talk to other members about their orchids and to learn from each other. It would be just grand if we could see every member of the society at the show at some point over the weekend.

Spring also means lots of orchids in bloom in the bush around Canberra. This year we'll be making a special effort to arrange for several walks around Canberra to look for native orchids - more details elsewhere in the bulletin.

A beginner's workshop has been scheduled for 16 October at the home of Robyn Noel - details elsewhere in the bulletin. These workshops are very popular and rewarding for those who are relatively new to growing



August Judges' Choice species: *Paphiopedilum insigne*, grown by David Judge

Committee Members

President:	Jane Wright	
Vice President:	Laurie Woods	6258 6187
Treasurer:	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Secretary:	Robyn Noel	6258 5734
Committee:	Peter Coyne	
	Bob Forrester	
	John Ryan	
	Karen Groeneveld	6299 7080
	Zoe Groeneveld	6299 7080

Committee meetings:

September: John Ryan

October: Bill Ferris

Disclaimer

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Getting Ready for the Show - Many hands are needed

Our annual spring show is almost upon us. With this newsletter you will find the show schedule and instructions for registering your plants.

We can't stress enough how important (and fun) it is for everyone to be involved. Even if you are new to growing orchids, there are jobs to be done that don't require a lot of orchid knowledge. We need people to take admission fees, work on the sales table, do repotting demonstrations, supply sandwiches and cakes or assist in the café and generally keep an eye on things and talk to the public. Even if you don't have plants to show, you should be able to contribute in some way, even if it's just stopping by with a cake for the café. One thing everyone can help with is cleaning up after the show – truly a case of many hands make light work.

Robyn will have sign-up sheets at the September meeting. The shifts are only 1 ½ - 2 hours long. New members who are unsure of the process involved in showing plants will benefit from one of the short sessions at the September meeting by Jane Wright on preparing plants for the show.

Orchid Society of Canberra Spring Show

Plant Registration

Plants are to be presented for benching between 2pm and 8pm on Friday 16 September.

To assist in the smooth running of the registration process and judging of entries, it is requested that you pre-register your entries by 8pm Thursday 15th September. Please list all the plants you hope to enter – it is easier to delete entries than add additional ones.

The information needed for each entry is: class, the full name and whether the plant is a seedling.

Relevant stickers, etc. can then be prepared and ready for when you present the entries.

If you receive the *Bulletin* by mail:

A registration form is included with this release. Please use this form to compile a list of plants/items you intend to enter and phone Peter Coyne (6251 7660) by 8pm on Thursday 15th to advise us of your expected entries. Bring your form with you on Friday for checking purposes. A printed form of your entries with relevant codes and stickers will then be ready on your presentation for registration.

If you receive the *Bulletin* by email:

Approximately one week before the show you will receive an email regarding registration. Use either the attached Excel spread sheet (preferred) or Word document for recording your entries. Email your completed form to orchids@canberraorchids.org by 8pm Thursday 15th. If you do not have Word or Excel,

simply email a listing of your entries, one per line, of the class, name and whether a seedling (in the case of plants) separated by a comma without spaces, e.g. 4,Cymbidium suave 'Dorrigo', N.

Entry forms will also be available from our website www.canberraorchids.org for anyone who does not receive the *Bulletin*.

Unable to Pre-register?

If you are unable to pre-register as requested above, please bring in your plants as early as possible on Friday afternoon.

What Class is my plant?

If you are uncertain as to what class to enter a plant, please contact Mark Fraser ph: 6287 1106 or email triffids4us@ozemail.com.au.

Entering a Display

If you intend to enter a display, please advise Laurie Woods (6258 6187) by Wednesday 14th September. Could you please indicate on your entry sheet the plants that are in your display (this simplifies judging).

Presentation

Between 2.00pm - 8.00pm on Friday 16th September bring your plants and the registrar will give you:

- A printed list of your entries complete with identification codes for plants and owner
- A yellow sticker with an identification number for each entry
- A white sticker which has class and owner code, and
- A green sticker for each seedling.

Attach the stickers to your entries as per the printed entry list (this is especially important for the yellow sticker which is the only means of identification for judging and the popular vote), making sure that the yellow sticker is clearly visible when the plant is in its preferred viewing position. Put your plants on the benches in the appropriate class area. Strike out on your entry form any plant not presented, sign and return the sheet to Peter Coyne.

Consult the Show Schedule for further information on conditions of entry.

Orchids owned for less than 6 months

If you recently purchased an orchid that is not eligible for showing you can still display it in an area reserved for plants that have been owned for less than six months.

Sale of art entries

Entries in the Art, Craft, Photography and Floral Art Sections may be sold but these may not be removed from the Show until 4:30pm on Sunday. Prices should include the Society's 10% commission.

Plants for sales table

Members are invited to bring orchids to sell. Make sure that they are well-established and firm in their pots, and are clean and healthy. Remember that many plants will be bought by beginners. Please do not place any sickly, infested or poorly established plants on the sales table, as the marshals will be forced to remove them from sale. Please include a separate tag with your name and price marked clearly so that the sales table team can read it easily. Prices posted on plants are assumed to include the Society's 10% sales commission. Please keep prices to whole dollars to simplify operations of the sales table.

Tip of the month

A good suggestion from Bob Bush is to have a new item at each meeting – tip of the month. The idea is for members to share any growing tips they have at the meeting and we can write some of them up for the bulletin. The provider of the best tip each month will be rewarded in some way (e.g. a plant from the sales table). Bob has offered to kick off the series by showing us how to make a piece of wire into a very clever stabiliser for a plant at re-potting time.

Workshop for new orchid growers

- At the home of Robyn Noel, 7 Newland Street, Flynn, 11:00 am to 3pm, 16 October 2011.

New members are encouraged to come along to an orchid workshop in October. Some of the club's experienced members will show you how to re-pot various kinds of orchids. Laurie Woods will build a simple wooden framed shelter covered with plastic. Rather than make something that would just be thrown away, Laurie has suggested that if a member is wishing to have such a structure built, Laurie will make it for you at the workshop. The member will need to pay for the materials and discuss the project with Laurie in advance. Contact Jane Wright (6254 1119) or Laurie Woods (6258 6187) if you are interested.

Tea and coffee will be supplied. The BBQ will be fired up, so bring your own BBQ fare and some salad or other goodies to share over lunch.

Sales table

New product - bubble-wrap for greenhouse insulation
The Society has decided to purchase a 100m x 1.5m roll of the greenhouse bubble-wrap from Sancell so that members can get the benefit of the lower price that comes from purchase of a full roll. Bill Ferris will keep the roll at his home in Queanbeyan. Members should contact Bill to arrange a time to measure and cut the bubble wrap. The price will be in the range of \$7.50 - \$8.00 per metre (final price will be determined shortly). Jane Wright will produce an article in the Nov/Dec bulletin describing how she fixed the bubble-wrap to her Eden aluminium glasshouse and her wooden greenhouse. Contact Jane in the meantime if you want to discuss.

Sancell is an Australian plastics company operating in Victoria. Sancell manufactures a UV-resistant, clear bubble-wrap designed to provide a long-lasting, insulative cover for greenhouses. The triple laminate, UV400 bubble-wrap is flexible, yet very strong and resistant to hail. It can be easily formed around igloos or hung inside glasshouses to provide insulation (UV400 has a thermal conductance of 3.9, compared with 8.1 for 3mm glass). Tests conducted by Sancell indicate a light transmission of 80%. For further information see www.sancell.com.au (and click on the link to covers/blankets).



August Judges' Choice hybrid: *Paphiopedilum* Saint Swithins, grown by Terry Turner

Horticultural Society of Canberra Shows

Enquiries and entries to: The Honorary Show Secretary, Phone (02) 6254 8017 or (02) 62429665

Spring Bulb & Camellia Show 17 & 18 September 2011

Entries close with the Honorary Show Secretary at 8pm, Thursday 15th September, 2011.

Orchids:

200. One standard *Cymbidium*.
201. One intermediate *Cymbidium*.
202. One miniature *Cymbidium*.
203. One *Cattleya* alliance species.
204. One *Cattleya* alliance hybrid.
205. One *Paphiopedilum* alliance.
206. One Vandaceous alliance.
207. One *Oncidium* alliance.
208. One Pleurothallid.
209. One native Dendrobium alliance.
210. Any other Australian native orchid.
211. One *Coelogyne* alliance.
212. Any other orchid species.
213. Any other orchid hybrid.

Champion Orchid from classes 200 to 213 - ribbon plus \$2

Iris, Rhododendron & Azalea Show 29 & 30 October 2011

Entries close with the Honorary Show Secretary at 8pm, Thursday 27th October, 2011.

Orchids:

55. One *Cymbidium*.
56. One standard *Cattleya* alliance.
57. One intermediate *Cattleya* alliance.
58. One miniature *Cattleya* alliance.
59. One *Cattleya* alliance species.
60. One *Paphiopedilum* alliance.
61. One Vandaceous alliance.
62. One native Dendrobium alliance.
63. One native Vandaceous alliance.
64. One other native orchid.
65. One *Oncidium* alliance.
66. One Pleurothallid species.
67. One Pleurothallid hybrid.
68. Any other orchid species.
69. Any other orchid hybrid.

Champion Orchid from classes 55 to 69 - ribbon plus \$2

For more information, visit the Horticulture Society of Canberra's website: <http://hsoc.org.au/>

General Meeting – 7 September 2011

At September's meeting, we will be holding another Q & A session where a number of our experienced growers will be available to answer your questions:
David Judge – growing *Paphiopedilums*
Ben Wallace – how to mount specimens
Jane Wright – preparing your plants for show

Walks around Canberra in September & October

Laurie Woods is offering to conduct a number of walks to view terrestrial orchids in flower around Canberra and the surrounding region during Spring. If you are interested in joining one of these walks, please register your interest with Laurie (in person at the meeting, or by phone on 6258 6187). Depending on the level of interest and availability of guides, it should be possible to arrange a number of Sunday walks during September and October – for example, to Mount Jerrabomberra & Black Mountain.

General Meeting Minutes

1 July 2011

Apologies: Audrey & Rob Rough, Brenda Thomson, Joe Portelli, Brian & Lynne Phelan, Jane Wright & Roger Williams

Visitors: Stephanie Lyon

Members Present: 26

Mark Clements introduced the speaker – Stephanie Lyons, a botany graduate student from University of Wisconsin, Madison who is studying the molecular systematics, evolution and mycorrhizal association of *Corybas*/Orchidaceae for her PhD.

Stephanie talked on her study of *Corybas*, showing a presentation of the various groups of plants, how they are related, and the ones she is studying in particular. She also showed photographs of some of the *Corybas* she is studying.

The meeting then broke up into groups. Members of the Society with a good knowledge of particular orchid genera helped others by explaining growing conditions, potting mixes and re-potting in some cases. John Ryan talked about native Dendrobiums and *Cattleyas* etc., Terry Turner talked about *Bulbophyllums*, and Kevin Dawes talked about *Coelogyne*s & *Dendrochilum*s.

The Secretary mentioned a couple of items in the mail – a note of thanks from Margaret Beilharz for the card sent when she was sick, and also a thank you from Comstat for our continual support.

Raffle winners: Nita Wheeler, Don Chesher, Craig Allen, Ros Walcott

Lucky Door Prize: Jules Turner

Meeting closed 10.25pm.



August Orchid of the Night: *Oncidium Twinkle* 'Fragrance Fantasy', grown by Quin Yuen Chung

General Meeting Minutes

3 August 2011

Apologies: Audrey & Rob Rough, Lynne & Brian Phelan, Theo & Jenny Schutz, Paul & Tyerman, Ben & Xaiomei Wallace, Karen & Zoe Groeneveld

Members Present: 38

Jane introduced the speaker - Mark Clements
Mark talked about three decisions that were made at the International Botanical Congress held in Melbourne recently:

- Acacias will continue under the name of *Acacia* in Australia.
- Descriptions of new plants can now be in English - Latin is no longer required, allowing timelier recognition of descriptions and new names.
- Electronic journals to be an acceptable means of publishing.

Mark then talked about the International Conference on Conservation held in the Czech Republic which he attended in June, showing some photos of the venue and the area in which it was held. He talked about the enthusiasm of the attendees for conservation, especially the work being done with European orchids. He also showed some photos from a trip they did into the surrounding area to see local orchids *in situ* and to get an idea of the local village life.

It was announced that there were fliers for our Show which people could take to put up in their work places or on local notice boards.

Secretary's Report:

Bulletins: Campbelltown - July, Albury-Wodonga - August, Sapphire Coast - July with Show Schedules, Eurobodalla - June & July with Winter & Spring Shows, Batemans Bay - August, Horticultural Society of Canberra - August/October.

Invoices: Comstat - Show printing, AOC Membership, Bank Statement & letter about Term Deposit, Royal Hort Society of Victoria - Certificate of Currency Magazine: Orchadian

Acceptance of the Report moved by Nita Wheeler and seconded by Mark Fraser - approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance: \$19,860.08 - some memberships still coming in, outgoing Show printing, badges, website charges and affiliation dues for Orchid Society of NSW.

Acceptance of the Report moved by Ben Walcott and seconded by Mark Clements - approved.

President's announcements:

- South West Regional Conference and Show - Nowra High School, Nowra, 1-2 October 2011.
- Open Glasshouse at Jane Wright's place - 135 Osborne Drive, Macgregor from 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

Raffle winners: Brenda Thomson, Nita Wheeler, Bob Forrester, Sarah Morris, Trudi Friederich and Richard Phillips.

Lucky Door Prize: Don Chesher

Meeting closed 10.20pm.

Sales Table

Pots/Fertilizer/wire products	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Shirts	Robyn Noel	6258 5734
25th Anniversary glasses	Ben Walcott	6161 2742
Bark	David Judge	
Orchid Mate	Laurie Woods	

In flower in the glasshouse this week

July 2011

By John Ryan

As I write this, it is the middle of Winter. It's bitterly cold and there is not much action in the glasshouse.

There are a couple of splashes of colour, however. My plants of *Laelia anceps* are blooming, and they are good value as they are easy to grow and flower regularly each year. The pick of the plants I have is *Laelia anceps* 'Irwins' AM/AOC, closely followed by the clone known as 'Neon Splash'.



Laelia anceps 'Irwins' AM/AOC



Laelia anceps 'Neon Splash'

At the other end of the scale is *Sophranitis cernua*. This is a diminutive plant, but with very pretty and richly coloured flowers. The photo below is one of a number of plants growing and flowering in a community pot.

Last, but not least is *Dendrobium* Kathleen Eugene 'Midnight', which is a cross between *D. Lorikeet* and *D. tetragonum*. The colour from *D. Lorikeet* has dominated in the hybrid.



Sophranitis cernua



Dendrobium Kathleen Eugene 'Midnight'

Orchid Potting Media and Mixes

By John Ryan

WARNING: The advice contained below is based on experience in MY GROWING CONDITIONS. My mixes may not be suitable for YOUR GROWING CONDITIONS!!!! Measurements are approximate.

Potting Media	Fine treated bark	Medium treated bark	Coarse treated bark	Sphagnum moss	10mm blue metal	Notes (details below)
<i>Native Dendrobiums</i>						
Seedlings	x					1
Compots	x (top 25 mm)	x (bottom)		x		2
<i>D. speciosum</i>		x (1 part)	x (2 parts)		x (1 part)	
<i>D. kingianum</i>		x (2 parts)			x (1 part)	
<i>D. fleckeri</i>				x		3
Other species & hybrids		x (2 parts)			x (1 part)	
<i>Sarcochilus</i>						
Species & hybrids		x				4
<i>Cattleyas</i>						
Mini		x				
Species (large)			x			
Species (medium)		x				
<i>Laelias</i>						
Rupicolus		x (1 part)			x (2 parts)	5
Pumila type		x				
<i>Sophronitis</i>						
All species		x				

Notes:

1. I sometimes include a small amount of pebbles in the mix.
2. I often use sphagnum moss to de-flask into, to allow the seedlings to settle in, and then re-pot into a fine/medium bark mix. If left in sphagnum for too long I find seedlings go backwards. I try to de-flask in Spring /early Summer. Any later than this & I find my success rate drops off.
3. Top with a layer of pebbles.
4. *Sarcochilus* seem to do best for me in a plain bark mix.
5. Rupicolus Laelias seem to prefer a predominately rock mix.

New plants:

I always re-pot new plants and seedlings into my potting mix, regardless of where they originated. I have found that plants I buy will die if I do not re-pot them. Nurseries on the mid North coast are the worst offenders. Their potting mixes are usually very fine and hold too much water & as a consequence the roots rot, if they have not already rotted.

Treating Bark:

To treat 40 litres of bark:

130gm. of Urea

350gm. Dolomite

25gm. Potassium Sulphate

35gm. Ferrous Sulphate

Mix together, place chemicals & bark in garbage bin. Fill with water & stir. Leave for 2 weeks. Stir occasionally, drain, wash clean & dry. As with all chemicals, observe the instructions & safety guide lines.

Blue Metal:

I use this because it's cheap and readily available - It costs \$1 for a 10 litre bucket from landscaping centres. Any equivalent size pebbles will do and crushed quartz is also very good.

Mounts:

I try not to use mounts as I cannot keep the moisture up to plants when they are mounted. I have tried 3 materials: cork, black tree fern & compressed cork. The best is compressed cork, but you cannot buy it anymore, so I use black tree fern, but soak it for a while beforehand.

Popular Vote August 2011

Category	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae	<i>Rhynchoaeliocattleya</i> Pastoral 'Innocence' x <i>Rlc.</i> Malibu Gem	Ben Walcott
Vandae	<i>Ascocenda</i> Peggy Foo 'Angelina'	Jane Wright
Oncidiinae	<i>Oncidium</i> Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy'	Quin Yuen Chung
Pleurothallidinae	<i>Porroglossum muscosum</i>	Jane Wright
Paphiopedilum species	<i>Paphiopedilum dianthum</i>	David Judge
Paphiopedilum hybrid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Saint Swithins	Terry Turner
Australian epiphyte	<i>Dockrillia teretefolia</i>	Craig Allen
Australian terrestrial	<i>Taurantha collina</i>	Nita Wheeler
Any other orchid	<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	Don Chesher
Orchid of the Night	<i>Oncidium</i> Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy'	Quin Yuen Chung
Judges Choice - Hybrid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Saint Swithins	Terry Turner
Judges Choice - Species	<i>Paphiopedilum insigne</i>	David Judge

*Popular Vote results for July not available

Out in flower near Canberra - July 2011

Photos by Zoe Groeneveld.



Bunochilus longifolius



Linguella clavigera



Petalochilus catenatus



Corysanthes incurva



Corysanthes fimbriata



Pterostylis nutans



Acianthus collinus



Bunochilus stenosepalus



Corybas undulatus



Diplodium striatum



Corysanthes pruinosa

Contributions to the Bulletin

You can get material to the editor by the following means:

In person: At meetings, or if I am not there to either Robyn Noel or Bill Ferris.

By mail: 112 Tharwa Road, Karabar NSW, 2620. **not** the Orchid Soc PO Box

By phone: (02) 6299 7080 (h)

By email: zoe.groeneveld@internode.on.net

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