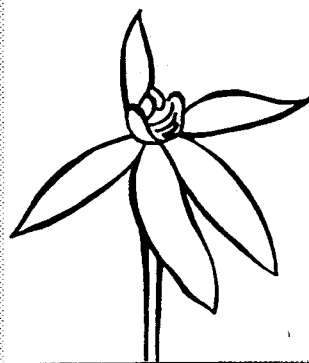


Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra Inc.



Volume 9 Number 3 May June

1994

News in brief

Regular monthly meetings

Monthly meetings of the society are held on the first Tuesday of each month in Room 1, Griffin Centre, Bunda Street, Civic.

Meetings commence at 8.00pm with the trading table and library open from 7.30pm

May Meeting. Jeff Barry of Barrita Orchids will speak on cymbidiums. Jeff is known for breeding new colour lines in all sizes of cymbidiums.

June Meeting. This is the Annual General Meeting, with election of new officers of the society. Also, Mark Fraser will show slides from last year's Gosford Orchid Spectacular.

Open Glasshouses

Sunday 22 May 1994. 10 am to 3 pm. Keith and June Alden (4 Ullamulla Cres, Queanbeyan. ph 297 3351), Jane Wright and Robert Rough (addresses on back page). A good opportunity to see how our different members grow their orchids and to discuss orchid growing generally.

Annual Bus Trip to Royale Orchids at Peat's Ridge 18 June 1994. Pay your \$5 deposit to Jane Wright or David Rees to secure your place.

In this bulletin

	page
Minutes	2
From the president	2
On the Tables	3
Thanks to Audrey Rough	3
Membership News	3
Judy Osbome: A Nomination for Life Membership	3
Major forthcoming events	3
More about coming events	4
Bus trip to Royale Orchids	4
Proposed rule changes for the spring show	4
Nomminations for Committee	4
Annual subs. now due	6
Popular vote results	6
Advertisement	7
Advertisement in the bulletin	7
About the Society	8
Committee Meetings:	8
10 May: Robert Rough's	
17 May (Show Committe): Jane Wright's	
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Please note our postal address on back page (ed.)	

Deadline for Next Bulletin: 30 June 1994

The Orchid Society of Canberra disclaims liability for any loss, financial or otherwise, caused as a result of the contents of this bulletin.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF 1 MARCH 1994.

Attendance: 36

Apologies: 9

President Sheila Cudmore opened the meeting at 8:05pm.

Guest Speaker: John Carter speaking on the 14th World Orchid Conference.

Visitors: Lila Rose and Pat Chambers.

Minutes of the February meeting as published in the March/April 1994 bulletin were accepted on the motion of Robert Rough and seconded by John Frizelle.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Catalogues:

Adelaide Orchids, Warrambool Orchids, Arranbeem Orchids

Species Auction on 13/3/94. List of plants on auction.

Bulletins:

Parramatta and Districts

Wagga Wagga, Albury Wodonga
Orchid Society of NSW.

Library:

February 1994 Orchid Review

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our current bank balance is \$7,849.66

SALES TABLE REPORT

We have received new stocks of plants, labels, fertilisers and pots.

GENERAL BUSINESS

People are still required to help on the show committee.

Jane is taking a \$5 deposit for the bus trip to the species auction.

Lynne is still looking for people to do articles or write down some notes for the society's book.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Pat Chambers, David McCarthy and Keith Alden.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Jean Egan, Jane Wright and Joan Frizelle.

The meeting closed 10:05pm.

Sandra Corbett

Secretary

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 5th April 94.

Attendance: 54

Apologies: 5

Guest Speaker: Norma Stafford from the South Coast Orchid Society.

Visitors: Ellen, Robert Cries President of the South Coast Orchid Society.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bulletins: Albury Wodonga & District Orchid Society, Parramatta and District Orchid Society and Orchid Society of NSW.

Library: Orchids Australia (with a write up of our 1993 show on page 10).

Catalogues: 'Orchids of Olympia' (lots of species), 'Easy Orchids' (a real mix) and Orchidaceous Books.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We made a little money from the TAFE open day last weekend and our current bank balance is \$7,074.26.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Floral Decoration workshop run by Audrey Rough on the 10/4/94.

The next TAFE open day is 5/11/94.

Reminder that June is our Annual General Meeting and nomination for committee positions are required.

SHOW REPORT

The first committee meeting for our show will be 3rd Tuesday in May.

Jane Wright and David Lyons have agreed to be the show convenors.

RAFFLE WINNERS: Jane Wright, Keith Alden and Scott Mann.

DOOR PRIZE WINNER: Lila Rose.

Meeting closed 9:55 pm.

Sandra Corbett

Secretary

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

On the 15th of this month, April, Peter and I went down to Norma Stafford's Nursery at Kalaru to collect some plants (Norma was one of our guest speakers at the April meeting). The Nursery sells a variety of orchid plants, all sizes, from Cymbidiums, Cattleyas and Natives, to Masdevallias, Oncidiums and many more unusual types including species - a place well worth a 'buy up' visit.

Norma also has her own plants and amongst them was a beautiful specimen of a biggibum in full flower, in some cases three flower spikes were growing out of the tip of one cane. I am thrilled when I get one flower spike from a cane!

The next day Norma took Peter and myself into the forest for an orchid walk. We saw several different plants of Dendrobium aemulum growing on ironbark trees and many plants of Cymbidium suave which were not so particular

about which type of trees they grew on but all growing on the northerly aspect of their chosen host. Norma assured us that there is an ironbark tree with both an aemulum and a suave growing together on it. We were also taken to see *Dendrobium speciosum* growing on cliffs above a lake. Nothing was in flower but hopefully in December (watch later Bulletins for the actual date) we will be organising a walk to see *Cymbidium suave* in flower.

Watch out for the local frosts! - and happy growing.

Sheila

ON THE TABLES

We still have some nice stocks of natives, oncidium hybrids and mini-cattleyas. Look out for them at the meetings. Also, we have new stocks in of the two excellent new books, "Orchid Culture: Some Sound Advice" and "Cymbidiums: A guide to a rewarding pastime". Both new and old members will find these books useful.

A number of new orchid catalogues have arrived that look very interesting. The society will be placing an order with a number of them shortly. Make sure to look at the catalogues at the May meeting and fill in the attached form if you would like us to order anything especially for you. By doing large, group orders, we often receive a discount and also pay less in freight charges, which means you get your plants cheaper.

THANKS TO AUDREY ROUGH

In April, a small group of budding floral artists from the society met at Audrey Rough's to learn the basics of flower arranging. We each wired a corsage and then made a posy bowl. We were all delighted with our efforts and agreed that we had seldom done anything as creative. Many thanks to Audrey for a wonderful day, clear instruction and boundless enthusiasm and encouragement. Perhaps Audrey would agree to another class sometime before the Spring Show?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to Lila Rose, the newest member of the society. Lila is interested in cymbidiums and natives.

Judy Osborne: A Nomination for Life Membership

Members may not be aware of the rules surrounding the nomination of a candidate for life membership. A life membership can only be conferred by a vote by members at the Annual General Meeting. The Society is empowered to confer one life membership per year. After discussion the Committee has decided to nominate Judy Osborne for life membership.

Most members of the Society will know Judy. She has been the President of the Society in 1990-1991 and 1992-1993, as well as having previously held the role of Treasurer. She has been a member of the Executive Committee from 1987 until stepping down in 1993. She has also worked tirelessly running the Sales Table for many years.

Judy has an enormous and diverse collection of orchids, and her interest in the subject is quite eclectic. Everything from tiny miniatures (Pleurothallids) to giant plants (such as her *Angraecum*) is fitted into her glasshouse. Many members have received cuttings and divisions from her astonishing collection. She has been willing to discuss plant culture and problems with members, and has provided much useful advice and information to the Society. Amongst her many fields of interest are Disas, Paphiopedilums, Vandaceous Orchids and Pleurothallids.

Her tireless promotion of the Society, both as a Committee member and as a Judge has helped gain the Society recognition across the State. She has spent much time chasing down bargains in both plants and miscellaneous products for the Society, and has gone a long way to making our Sales Table a major service to members.

It is with a view to all these efforts that the Executive Committee has decided to nominate Judy Osborne to receive a Life Membership as some recognition of the work and enthusiasm she has put into this Society. This motion will be put to the vote at the annual general meeting in June.

MAJOR FORTHCOMING EVENTS

July 31 Sydney Manly - Warringah Orchid Society Orchid auction.

Cromer community centre, Fisher road, North Cromer, Sydney. Inspection 9am, Auction 9.30 am. We are getting a list of plants to be auction. Contact Sandra for details.

April 28 to 4 May Brisbane International Festival of Orchids The show and conference begin on Sunday 1 May. The show will be held at the Walter Burnett building in the R.N.A. Showgrounds in Brisbane with a major trade sales area.

June 13th Sydney Winter show at Roselands. Set up on Sunday 12th. Open Monday 13th to Sunday 18th. A sales table will be operating.

July 8- 12 Darwin 13th Australian Orchid Conference. Marrara Indoor Sports Stadium, Darwin, NT.

18th September Sydney Spring Show, Royal Botanic Gardens. This show runs from Monday the 18th to Sunday the 25th.

1994 ANNUAL SPRING SHOW. SATURDAY 24/9/94 - SUNDAY 25/9/94.

This year our show will once again be held at St John's (cnr Constitution Avenue and Anzac Pde, Reid). Please pencil

these dates in your diary and keep that weekend free. Jane Wright has volunteered to be show convenor and several other members have volunteered for the committee. Nevertheless, more volunteers will be very welcome. Anyone interested in helping to run this years show please contact Jane Wright or any of the committee members.

1995 ANNUAL SPRING SHOW and REGIONAL CONFERENCE

In 1995 Canberra will host the South West Regional Conference. This conference has been held previously by Albury-Wodonga, Griffith and Wagga Wagga societies. We have had some expressions of interest from members who would like to help plan the conference but more people will be needed if you are interested approach any of the committee members or ring Sheila Cudmore. We have made bookings with both Reid TAFE and the Lakeside Hotel.

In some cases the above details are all we have for some events but if you do want further information about any of the above events contact me and I will see what we have on file.

Sandra Corbett
Secretary.

MORE NEWS ABOUT COMING EVENTS

Orchid Glenn Nursery Open Day and Show 15 May, 1994
Dungog High School, Eloiza Street, Dungog
Ph (049) 921291
Show Open 10:00 - 3:00
Admission \$2.00

A number of members attended this event last year and recommended it very highly. The Show offers an opportunity to view an excellent range of species and Hybrids, especially in the Australian Native Sections. A steak and sausage sizzle is planned, and other refreshments re available throughout the day. There is also an extensive sales area.

This Show is an open Competition, so any interested members are able to enter plants in the competition if they so wish. Mark Fraser and Sandra Corbett have copies of the Show Schedule.

1994 Gosford Orchid Spectacular, 5, 6 & 7 August, 1994
Gosford Showground
Show Open 9:00 - 5:00

Many members attended this show last year. It has proved to be an extremely popular and interesting event. The display area houses an enormous variety of plants of exceptional quality species and hybrids, natives and exotics. The sales area is vast, and an enormous array of plants are available, from flasks of seedlings to big, solid, specimen plants.

This year the Orchid Society of Canberra is considering entering a display in the Show. To compete we will need good, well-flowered, very clean plants. If you think you will be able to provide plants for the display please

contact Mark Fraser as soon as possible so that we will be able to confirm a booking for the Show. This Show falls a good month and a half before our own Show, so many of the early flowering plants which would otherwise miss the show will be able to be shown in a major competition. This will also provide excellent practice for next years conference.

BUS TRIP TO ROYALE ORCHIDS

18 June 1994. The Orchid Fair will be on again this year at Royale Orchids, but at their new location at Peat's Ridge (rather than Woy Woy). We will make an early start from Jane Wright's, so that we arrive early to get the best selection. Many of our members do their serious orchid shopping at this event - last year there were at least 15 orchid nurseries participating, and we came home with about \$2500 worth of plants. It is great fun. Pay your deposit to Jane Wright or David Rees as soon as possible to secure your seat on the mini-bus.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES FOR THE SPRING SHOW

After the 1993 Spring Show discussion was raised by the judges regarding the exclusive nature of our Spring Show. Under our current rules the only members permitted to bench plants are accepted, financial members of the society, residing within 50km of the Australian Capital Territory. The judges believed that this restriction was overly protective, and limited our opportunities to see the best and broadest range of plants on display. Our 1995 Show will be held in conjunction with the regional conference, and will, of necessity be open to everyone: do we need to change the rules regarding our annual Spring Show?

After some discussion the Executive Committee decided to present this matter to the members. The reasons for choosing this participative manner for the process is that it will enable greater debate of the relevant issues. It is currently proposed to put this matter to a ballot at our M^o meeting. If you are unable to attend the May meeting please contact Mark Fraser on 287 1106 to arrange for the recording of a vote *in absentia*. Set out below are the options regarding this issue, together with the key arguments surrounding them.

What are the options available? After some discussion the committee concluded that the following options were available:

- 1 Maintain the status quo: or
- 2 Change our rules for entering plants in the show to:
 - (a) Open Competition (no limitations upon entrants)
 - (b) Open competition, but maintain membership requirements
 - (c) Open competition, and introduce a registration fee for non-members.
 - (d) Regional Competition, and maintain membership requirements

- (e) Regional competition, with registration fee for non-members

Each of these proposals has its own benefits, and all should be considered carefully.

1 Maintain the status quo

The current rules were introduced in response to the concerns of members who saw many of our championship prizes repeatedly going to growers from outside the ACT region. Growing orchids in our harsh climate is not an easy task, and many plants which have been benched at our shows, whilst exceptional in the ACT, do not match those grown in more generous climates. Likewise, confusion had arisen in the past where judges were unfamiliar with the changes in growth habit brought about by differences in climate and culture. It was therefore decided that we should provide a place for ACT growers to compete with growers who had had to suffer the same climactic vagaries. The costs and benefits of maintaining the current system can be summarised as follows:

Benefits:

Provides an equal opportunity for competition amongst Canberra growers.
The Show represents what is being grown in the Canberra region

Costs:

Limits the opportunity to observe a greater diversity of plants
Limits the opportunity to observe new trends in breeding and culture
Possible future isolation of the Society, due to the closed nature of the Show.

2(a) Open Competition

An open competition would allow anyone turning up to registration to bench plants at the Show. This would allow any private or commercial grower to enter plants if they so ~~wish~~ ^{would}. It should be noted that many societies now operate on the basis of open competition at their shows. It should also be noted that at many of these shows the same growers are repeatedly the winners.

Benefits:

An opportunity to compete with a greater diversity of growers.
An opportunity to observe a greater variety of plants
An opportunity to further promote the Orchid Society of Canberra

Costs:

Possible alienation of some members through the possibility of non-Canberrans winning Championship prizes.
Reduced opportunities for local members to win Championship prizes.

2(b) Suspend the 50 km rule, but maintain membership requirements

This arrangement would see the suspension of the 50 km rule, allowing entrants from everywhere, but it would require that they be both financial and accepted members of the Society. This requirement would disallow from entering possible entrants attempting to join the Society at Registration time. This represents one possible way to balance the desire of non-local members to compete equally in our Show, with the desire to maintain the Show as a primarily 'local' event.

Benefits:

Ensures that all entrants are at least contributing to the running of the Society.
Maintains emphasis on the Orchid Society of Canberra.
May discourage the perception of the 'Trophy-hunter'

Costs:

Possible alienation of some members through the possibility of non-Canberrans winning Championship prizes.
Reduced opportunities for local members to win Championship prizes.

2(c) Suspend the 50 km rule, and introduce a registration fee for non-members.

Superficially similar to the previous proposal, instead of requiring membership for entering plants in the Show this would allow for the levying of a registration fee on non-members. This could be levied at either a flat rate, or on a sliding scale, based on the number of plants benched.

Benefits:

Additional income for the Society
Will allow a greater number of entrants
Ensures that all entrants are at least contributing to the running of the Society.

Costs:

May alienate some non-members wishing to compete in an open competition.
Possible alienation of some members through the possibility of non-Canberrans winning Championship prizes.
Reduced opportunities for local members to win Championship prizes.

In the following options it is proposed that Championship competition at our Spring Show would be open to all growers in the South Western region : that is within the Canberra - Albury - Wagga Wagga - Griffith region. The plants themselves should be grown within the region. The key reasons for these options is to provide recognition of the unusual cultural conditions growers in this region have to face. Growers and members residing outside the region would be eligible to enter the Show, but not eligible for any of the Champion Prizes (excepting Champion plant grown outside the Canberra region).

2(d) Regional Competition, and maintain membership requirements

As stated above, this would provide an expanded basis for competition, amongst growers from comparable conditions. Membership of the Society would still be required.

Benefits:

- Realistically, this represents only a minimal shift from our current situation.
- Would maintain a local flavour to the competition
- May increase membership of the Society

Costs:

- Could be seen as a way of avoiding this issue
- Could cause some conflicts regarding status of financial and accepted members

2(e) Regional competition, with registration fee for non-members

Probably the most equitable method of expanding our Spring Show, this combines a Regional basis for Championship Prizes, and allows non-members to compete upon the payment of a registration fee. This fee could be charged as a flat rate, or based upon the number of plants benched.

Benefits:

- Maintains regional focus, whilst allowing more entrants to our show.
- Registration fee will contribute to the running costs of the Society
- Will encourage growers working under similar conditions
- May help improve relationships with other societies in the region.

Costs:

- May alienate some members, given that some Championship prizes may go to growers outside the Canberra Society.

The Executive committee has selected option 2(e) as the preferred option. Such a structure in our Show would help bring in more competition, whilst being sensitive to the problems of growing orchids in the Canberra region. We would like you all to consider carefully what you would like to see in our Shows in future. There are benefits in allowing growers from outside the Society to exhibit at our Show, and we believe that these outweigh the costs of excluding other growers.

The chief benefits to the Society from expanding the competition would be to give a greater regional importance to our show, and provide a greater diversity of competition. We believe that given the quality of some of the plants benched in recent Shows with greater competition could provide greater understanding of our strengths and weaknesses as a society. It would also act as an incentive for more people to come to the Show.

Please consider these points carefully: one of the chief reasons for putting this issue to a vote amongst members is to ensure that all members have a say in this important decision.

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE

Nominations are now being sought for all positions on the committee. Our constitution specifies that nominations be lodged with the public officer (Judy Osborne) at least ten days before the AGM (therefore by 27 May this year). Only if insufficient nominations are received to fill all positions are nominations called for from the floor at the AGM. Being a member of the committee does require some effort, but it is a fun way to learn about orchids and meet many fellow enthusiasts. Consider nominating yourself, and pick up a form at the May meeting from Sheila or Sandra.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE!

Annual fees should be paid by the AGM in June each year. It is an unfortunate fact that a large proportion of the society does not pay their dues until well into the financial year. To encourage prompt payment, the committee has decided to institute a two-tiered system for payment of dues.

	Payment before 1 July	Payment after 1 July
Single	\$15	\$20
Joint	\$20	\$25
Junior	\$3	\$5

New members will pay the higher fee on a once-off basis, and will receive a society membership badge at the same time that they receive their name badge.

POPULAR VOTE RESULTS

March 1994

Oncidium Alliance	Brian Phelan	<i>Odontoglossum</i> Bic - Ross
Standard Cattleyas	Scott Mann	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Chinese Bronze 'Jai Cho'
Intermediate Cattleya	Robert Rough	<i>Cattleya</i> Interglossa 'Blumen Insel' AM/AOS
Australian Native	John Frizelle	<i>Plectorrhizza brevilabris</i>
Pleurothallids	Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett	<i>Masdevallia</i> (Angel Frost x <i>prodigeosa</i>)
Other Orchids	Lynne Bullivant	<i>Dendrochilum filiforme</i>
Vandaceous	Scott Mann	<i>Vanda brunnea</i>
Epidendrum	Jane Wright	<i>Encyclia cochleata</i>

POPULAR VOTE RESULTS

April 1994

Cattleyas - Intermediate and Miniatures	Marta Larko	<i>Brassocattleya</i> (Binosa x <i>Cattleya</i> Interglossa 'Wings of Red')
<i>Epidendrum</i> - <i>Encyclia</i> Complex	Judy Osborne	<i>Neolehmannia porpax</i>
Australian Native	Brian Phelan	<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i> var <i>compactum</i>
Novice Section	Keith Alden	<i>Laeliocattleya</i> (Irene Finney x <i>Cattleya</i> Cherry Chip)
Cattleyas - Standard	Robert Rough	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> (<i>Cattleya</i> Chocolate Drop 'Kodama' x Lucky Strike 'Stella')
Vandaceous	Quin Yuen Chung	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Goldiana 'Zuma Canyon'
Pleurothallid	Judy Osborne	<i>Pleurothallis grobyi</i>
<i>Odontoglossum</i> Alliance	Jane Wright	<i>Ornithophora radicans</i>
Other Species	Paul Tyerman	<i>Coelogyne ovalis</i>

Advertisement



5 Bindubi Street, Macquarie, (Jamison Centre)
Telephone: (06) 251 7714

Debco Orchid Potting Mixes

Are now available from

The Good Earth Garden Centre, Jamison.

The proprietor of the garden centre, Andrew Carter, has experience in plant propagation, cultivation and plant pathology. He would like to share his interests with you and assures customers of friendly and informative service.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BULLETIN

We now accept adverts from relevant commercial operations. Rates are as follows:-

Per year (six issues)	
Half page	\$60
Quarter page	\$30

Single issue	
Half page	\$20
Quarter page	\$10

Members announcements will remain free of charge subject to space being available.
Those wanting to place an ad. please contact me.

D P Rees, Editor.

About the Society

Orchid Society of Canberra Inc., GPO Box 612, Canberra ACT 2601

The Society aims to encourage and assist members in their interest in Orchidaceous plants. It maintains a library for use of members, is affiliated with the Orchid Society of NSW, publishes a bi - monthly bulletin and holds regular monthly meetings in Canberra. Membership is open to all. Current subscription \$15 single, \$20 joint / family, \$3 under 14 years old. details from the Secretary or Treasurer, **at the address above.**

Officers of the Society

President	Sheila Cudmore, 10 Nangor Street, Waramanga ACT 2611	288 4817
Vice President	Paul Tyerman, 16 Clode Crescent, Macgregor, ACT 2615	254 6193
Treasurer	Jane Wright, 135 Osburn Drive, Macgregor, ACT 2615	254 1119
Secretary	Sandra Corbett, 45 Angophora Street, Rivett, ACT 2611	287 1106
Editor	David Rees, 135 Osburn Drive, Macgregor, ACT 2615	254 1119
Librarian	Catherine Vallance, 4 Alice Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620	297 7896

Committee Members

Lynne Bullivant	8 Nymagee Place, Fisher ACT 2611	288 1248
Mark Fraser	45 Angophora Street, Rivett ACT 2611	287 1106
Brian Phelan	35 Damala Street Warramanga ACT 2611	287 4813
Robert Rough	25 Moruya Circuit, Kaleen, ACT 2617	241 2729
Catherine Vallance	4 Alice Street, Queanbeyan, NSW 2620	297 7896