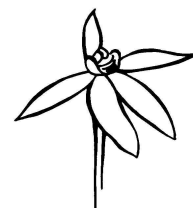


Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

Petochilus fuscatus



GPO Box 612, Canberra, ACT, 2601, Australia
Volume 20, Number 4

July-August 2005

Regular monthly meetings

Monthly meetings of the Society are held on the first **Wednesday** of each month (except January) at the **Canberra Senior Citizens Club (10 Watson St., Turner)**. Meetings commence at 8:00pm with the library and trading table open from 7:30pm.

July 2005: John Duncan on orchid supplies and potting mixes.

August 2005: THE AUCTION: Begin selecting things to bring now, remember all proceeds help the club!

September 2005: Bob Rough on his trip to China

Orchid Society of Canberra Events

Coffee Club:

July 10, 2005: Tony Lanza, 4 Pring Place, Latham at 1:30-3:30 PM

August 7, 2005: Jane Wright, 135 Osburn Drive, Macgregor 1:30-3:30 PM

REMINDER of 2005/6 DUES

Please either send your dues check to Robyn Noel, P.O. Box 612, Canberra or bring it or money to the next club meeting and see her about renewing your membership. Our fiscal year ends April 30. **If there is a red dot near your name on this bulletin, your dues are overdue.**

Upcoming Orchid Events

St Ives Orchid Fair
19, 20 & 21 August, 2005
St Ives Showgrounds

Earth to Joy Native Orchid Nursery
Open days Aug 20,21 and Sept 17,18
125 Isaacs Rd, Lorne, NSW

Annual Subscriptions

\$25 single, \$30 joint, \$5 junior membership.

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Eurobodalla Orchid Club Inc

22-23 July 2005 (winter show)
CWA Hall, Queen St., Moruya
9-11 September
Community Centre, Museum Place, Bateman's Bay

Sapphire Coast Orchid Club

19-21 August 2005 (winter show)
Twyford Hall, Merimbula
22-23 September 2005 (spring show)
Bega Town Hall

NSW South and West Region Orchid Show

1-2 October 2005
Mirambeena Centre, Martha Mews, Lavington (Albury)

Hills District Orchids

9 October 2005 Open day
183 Windsor Rd, Northmead, NSW

Committee Members

President- Ben Walcott	61612742
Vice President- Robert Bush	6297 1427
Treasurer- Robyn Noel	6258 5734
Secretary- Barbara Corsini	6247 7289
Yvonne Day	6297 5162
Bill Ferris	6278 4148
David Judge	6278 4806
Gerlinde Lenz	6288 7413
Robert Rough	6241 2729

Committee meetings:

July 2005: Ben Walcott 10 Wickham Cres, Red Hill
August 2005: Bob Bush 127 Candlebark Rd, Queanbeyan

Coffee Club in June

About 18 members attended the Coffee Club in June at Nita Wheeler's place outside Yass. We had a great afternoon looking at all her plants in the various greenhouses and talking particularly about terrestrial native orchids, the subject of her talk at the meeting. Nita has other plants than natives as well. While few plants were in bloom, it was very informative to see them growing and the conditions in which she kept them. We had a great coffee with cake and lots of good conversation. Thank you Nita for having us!

President's Annual Report

In any organization such as ours, there is always an active group who see to general day to day operations, usually known as "the Committee". We not only have a Committee but we are extremely fortunate to also have a dedicated pool of others who come forward when needed and get jobs done. This willingness to help gives strength to our club. It is to all these worthy members, on behalf of everyone in the Orchid Society of Canberra that I wish to express appreciation. We have had a most successful year. I do not intend to thank members individually, we all know who they are and their impact on our operations. This year had some interesting highlights such as THE AUCTION. A lot of items change ownership, all to the benefit of the club. Perhaps the most notable event was the WORKSHOP which attracted over 60 participants and was a great success. If the noise level at the Saturday night dinner is an indicator, then everyone had an informative and enjoyable weekend. We have had a couple of dramas during the year, such as double booking of our meeting venue, confusion in relation to booking St. John's Hall for our show (twice). These matters were successfully resolved.

I am sure that the year 2005 will be referred to for a long time in the future as THE YEAR OF THE BOOK. The production of this publication involved a tremendous effort by a dedicated group of members who set a very high standard and who have achieved an excellent result. WELL DONE EVERYONE!

From a personal aspect the year as President has been interesting and rewarding. I have had a glimpse of the world of orchid growers and how the orchid community interacts. Without pre-empting what the Treasurer may report, I believe the Society is continuing to operate soundly and can look forward to the coming year with confidence. On a more sombre note, members were saddened to learn of the passing of our good friend Gunther Anglberger. Gunther was very active at our meetings ensuring everyone had a "cuppa", especially visitors. I can still remember the first meeting Norma and I attended, Gunther made sure we had a "cuppa" and this thoughtfulness was much appreciated.

In closing, I would like to especially thank the membership for their support for this past year. Almost half the membership attends each meeting, unusual for any society and many of you have to travel considerable distances to attend. This gives the Society incredible strength and purpose. It has been a great pleasure to serve as your President.

Bob Bush, 2005

From the new President

First I would like to express the Club's and my thanks to **Bob Bush** who has been President for the past year. It is a lot of work and Bob did a great job. He revitalized the Coffee Club concept which has been a great success with over 20 members participating at the various events. He and the committee organized interesting and informative speakers for the meetings and the club has

continued to thrive under his leadership. He is continuing on the committee as Vice President for which we are all grateful. **Jane Wright** has been and continues to be a stalwart of the Club and has held the office of President for 3 years and been Bulletin editor as well as a member of the committee for many years. Due to changes in her work, she can no longer commit the time necessary to serve on the committee. We are very grateful for all her energy and drive as well as all her good ideas that have helped our Club grow and develop. We will miss her on the committee but look forward to her participation in club activities. Thank you Bob Bush and Jane Wright!

I would like to welcome Bill Ferris as the new member on the Committee. Bill has been very active in the Club for many years. He helped out with **THE BOOK** and has been working hard on revitalizing the Club's web page, making it much more useful and accessible.

Ben Walcott

From the Librarian

As our longer-term members will be aware our Society has an extensive library of valuable reference books on the cultivation of a wide range of orchids. Whether you need to know the special needs of a particular orchid, or prefer to simply browse through the wealth of information contained in the many books and publications which we have in the library (and, of course, drool over the beautiful photographs) we can usually oblige. The purpose of this note, however, is to acquaint members with our library system, so that you will understand better the contribution which we expect of you as borrowers.

Each new book or magazine which we receive has an identification card prepared and placed within an envelope pasted inside its front cover. Each member has an envelope, with their name on it, in a file retained by the librarian. When a member borrows a book or magazine, the card is taken from the envelope inside the book's front cover, and is placed inside the member's envelope, after being date stamped so that we know when the member borrowed it. In some cases the identification card may refer to several publications within the same series, which are available to be borrowed as a job lot, and are placed within a container (this may be a plastic bag or a hard-cover folder). In that case the borrower should take a note of the number of publications in the series, and ensure that they are all returned at the same time.

When a publication (or series of publications) is returned to the library, the card is retrieved from the member's file, and returned to the envelope inside the front cover of the publication. That action confirms that the publication has been returned, and clears the member of any further responsibility for the publication.

Please note that the system depends very much on the librarian knowing the name of the borrower, and the returnee. Please do not assume that the librarian knows your name. If he/she has a memory like mine the

brain cells do not automatically click into place under the pressure of the moment. It would help greatly if members wore their name badges, prominently displayed, at all times.

Under no circumstances should the borrower, when returning the books, simply drop them on the table and run. Without your name this obliges the librarian to carry out a search of all members' envelopes to determine which member had those particular books out. This is both time consuming and extremely annoying. In addition, if any of those books later go missing, you will very likely cop the blame, because our records will still show that you were the last borrower.

As some of you will know Bob Bush announced at a recent meeting that I would like to be relieved of my responsibilities as Librarian, although I am still prepared to continue with the preparation of the Journal Reviews for the Bulletin. The latter is a contribution I can make to the Society in my own time at home. The reasons for this are manifold. The two critical times for the Librarian are between 7.30 pm and the commencement of the meeting, and the tea break period. I have found that I am virtually unavailable prior to the meeting because I usually have several boxes of orchids to unpack and place on the bench. I confess that this generally has priority over my library duties. As far as the tea break is concerned, in the year or so that I have been Librarian, I have only managed to actually get myself a cup of tea on two occasions. I also like to find time to view the orchids on display. But even placing my popular vote generally consists of racing along the bench, jumping the queue from time to time, and not having the opportunity to ponder the attributes of any particular orchid over another.

Over the past month or two I have been very grateful for the assistance provided by Ray Knight, a new member who offered to assist on his very first night at a Society meeting. Thank you Ray! We need more members like you. But, of course, Ray needed time to get on top of the system, and I had little time to provide training.

What the Society needs, I believe – and I stress that I am no longer a member of the Committee which decides these things – is a team of three or four members who are well versed in the library system, and are available to relieve at that position for five or ten minutes as required. We probably need a similar system for the Sales Bench, where a similar problem can occur. It is unreasonable to expect that one or two members should be glued to those positions at all relevant times.

Brian Leedham
Librarian Pro Tem.

A letter from Queensland

Geoff Dyne has just delivered the recent publication "Growing Orchids In Cool Climate Australia". As you might gather I was quite honoured to see that you kept

my name on the article dealing with *Oncidium*s. Thanks.

This is a magnificent publication in all respects. It looks good and is full of the necessary information needed to successfully grow orchids in one of the most inhospitable parts of the country. The layout and selection of illustrations is superb and beautifully reproduced. Surely it will rank as the best of Australia's regional publications.

Living up here in Kuranda, one might believe that you can grow just about anything. Such is not the case. In fact, it has just as many challenges as trying to do the same in the Canberra region.

I live on 1.6 A of rainforest on a gradual sloping hillside. The area around the house is somewhat cleared but the rest is beset by tall trees. As a result there is plenty of shade. That's a problem. Also where there is sun, there is intense sun, so the plants must be shaded otherwise they will show signs of burning.

There is a continual problem of fungal attacks. That's why they use "quincan"- volcanic stones, for potting mixture up here. There are few insects to worry about. The dendrobium beetle seems absent from here. But one of my own katydids, a species of *Austrosalomona*, bites off developing flower spikes. Surely I'll name this one A. destructor! It is almost impossible to keep it off plants unless the plants are in a shadehouse. And there is no place for a shadehouse here.

Another rather unique problem is that of Cassowaries. We have regular visits by these large birds. They seem to delight in breaking off and consuming *Cattleya* buds and flowers. In fact, one bird took an entire *Coelogyne cristata* and consumed it. It was from an original plant from the Lindens!

Recently I have decided to decentralise and scatter the plants about. I string barbed wire between trees in strategic places and have the orchids hanging from the wire. (Barbed wire is used because the "barbs" prevent the pot hangers from sliding and space the pots evenly). This seems to be working.

That's the situation here. I will pass the book around at the local orchid society and watch their faces. I'm sure they will be impressed.

All the best.

Dave Rentz, 19 Butler Dr, Kuranda, Qld. 4881



Minutes of general meetings

May 2005 Minutes

Attendance: 45

Apologies: Brian and Lynne Phelan, Peter and Sheila Cudmore

New members: Ray Knight, Lynne Walton, Mark Clements and Anne Mackenzie

Social Calendar: *Tonight (May)* – Robyn Noel to speak on her visit to the World Orchid Conference in Dijon.

June – AGM, and Nita Wheeler to speak on growing terrestrial orchids

July - John Duncan to demonstrate orchid related products

Announcements: *Library* – As lots of books have been out on loan for some time now, it was requested that members should return all books by the June meeting so a stock-take could be carried out and any missing books chased up. A reminder was given that the preferred length of time for borrowing is 1 month.

Also, 2 more attendants are needed for the library during meetings. Brian Leedham will still do the reviews of the journals, so nothing more will be required of any volunteers.

Membership renewals – are due.

Coffee Club – Members informed that there would not be a Coffee Club for May as the usual date would conflict with Mother's Day. However, there would be a Coffee club in June at Nita Wheeler's house outside of Yass, and fliers would be organized by the next meeting giving directions to her house.

Walking at the coast – There are plans to join up with one of the coastal Orchid Clubs when they next organize to look at flowering orchids in the bush at the coast. Theo Shutz has said that one of his groups is organizing something with Alan Stevenson who is a ranger from Nowra and is known to be an excellent guide. Theo will keep us informed.

Eco Oil – This product has been recommended by many as a safe and environmentally control for many insect pests, but is proving a little difficult to find in small quantities in local nurseries in Canberra. It is anticipated the John Duncan will have some to sell when he gives his talk in July.

AGM – This will be held at the next meeting and members were asked to get their nominations in.

Robyn's talk on the World Orchid conference in Dijon:

Recently Robyn Noel, along with Jane Wright and a couple of other orchid enthusiasts, attended the world orchid Conference in Dijon. Robyn extended her time away and included visits to the gardens at Kew, the Eric Young Orchid Foundation, Dijon and Florissimo, which was held in conjunction with the conference. This evening's talk included lots of fabulous slides of all of

these places, especially of the magnificent displays at the Conference and at Kew.

First of all we saw slides of the glasshouses at the Eric Young Orchid Foundation. The foundation was established in 1958 for the development and hybridization of orchids. Robyn had pictures of some of the growing areas not normally open to the public. There were glasshouses dedicated, for example, to growing *Phragmipediums*, *Cymbidiums*, *Paphiopedilums* or *Lycaste*. There were also pictures of the public display areas, which included more than a few *Bromeliads*!

Kew Gardens had their annual display over February/March and the theme this year was 'A Passion for Orchids'. There appeared to be a huge amount of (perfect and unblemished) flowers in the displays. It was stated that there were 250,000 orchids though it was thought perhaps this was the number of flowers rather than the number of plants! It is still a lot of flowers. Included with this display was a separate exhibition of 800 original paintings of flowers by Marianne North. Even the photos of the Kew Gardens Shop were impressive with all the orchids for sale.

The next lot of slides was of the displays at Florissimo combined with the Orchid Show. The scale of the displays was incredible - apparently many months of preparation were needed before this show. For example, one of the waterfalls (constructed out of polystyrene) was 2 floors high! Others parts of the show included lakes and fountains etc. It was a massive effort, and of course masses and masses of flowers and orchids. And finally we saw some pictures of the city of Dijon. It is a 12th/13th century city that escaped bombing in WWII. Some of the sites include the Church of Notre Dame, and the Ducal Palace. The city is so old that some of the wooden parts of the buildings have actually petrified.

At the end of the slide show we got to see a video about the construction of Florissimo and the Orchid show.

April minutes: Moved by Robyn Noel, seconded by Nita Wheeler and accepted by all.

Secretary's report: The latest magazines and newsletters were listed with no other business to report. Moved by Bill Osmand, seconded by Ann Osmand and accepted by all.

Treasurer's report: The bottom line at \$12,540.75. The book needs to be paid for (and quite a few are selling). Moved by Mark Fraser, seconded by Sandra Corbett and accepted by all.

Raffle winners: Pat Parker, Jim Harper, Christopher Turner, Brian Leedham, David Bromhead, Theo Shutz (x2), Jenny Shutz and Sandra Corbett.

Lucky Door Prize: Terry Turner.

Book: Bill Osmand moved that a formal expression of appreciation be made to those who worked so hard on the book. This was seconded by Jenny Shutz and accepted by all.

June 2005 AGM and GM minutes

The AGM:

This year's AGM opened at 8.03 p.m. and was run by the Treasurer Robyn Noel as the current President Bob Bush and the Vice President Jane Wright were both away. The minutes of the previous years AGM were moved by Nita Wheeler, seconded by Leanda O'Connor and accepted by all. Ben Walcott then read the President's annual report where among other things, the committee members and others who contribute so much to the society were thanked, as were those who had put so much effort into producing our excellent book. The report was moved by Bill Osmand, seconded by Ross Anderson and accepted by all.

New committee: It was reported that we had a full quota of nominations.

New President – Ben Walcott

Vice President – Bob Bush

Treasurer – Robyn Noel

Secretary – Barbara Corsini

Committee members – Gerlinde Lenz, Yvonne Day, Rob Rough, David Judge, and our new committee member, Bill Ferris.

The nominations were confirmed and duly elected unopposed with all in favour.

Treasurer's report: Bottom line at \$4,264.67. We have paid for our part of the books but still have the angels to repay. Memberships are still coming in, and the books are still selling well. Report moved by Julianne Turner, seconded by Bill Osmand and accepted by all.

The AGM was then finished at 8.10 p.m.

General meeting

The meeting was then handed over to the new president Ben Walcott.

Apologies: Bob Bush, Jane Wright and Audrey Rough.

Visitors: Fiona McKinnon and Rith Jelfs.

Badges for new members: Lorraine King, David and Louise Bromhead, Anne Mackenzie, Mark Clements and Ray Knight.

Thanks: To Bob Bush for his work as President and also to Jane Wright as vice-president. As both were away this night an official thanks will be given at the next meeting.

Announcements: This Sunday the Coffee club would be held at Nita Wheeler's house.

Book: Sales of the book reported to be going very well. It has been featured as the book of the month at the Botanic Gardens as well as being up on various websites (including our own thanks to Bill Ferris) of other bookshops and orchid nurseries.

Nita's Talk:

The talk for this night was by Nita Wheeler on terrestrial orchids. Nita is known at our meetings for her well grown specimens of terrestrials. She has also had quite a

bit of success around the orchid shows for her efforts including two championship wins with ANOS.

Nita talked of her introduction to orchids while volunteering her help in the gardens of elderly people in Sydney. An unknown plant was split up and shared with Nita and after flowering was found to be a *Dendrobium kingianum*. This was part of her first meeting with some members of ANOS who invited her to a meeting, and subsequent participation in some field trips to survey terrestrial orchids in local bushland gave her an appreciation for the terrestrial orchids due to their abundance and variety.

We had a fantastic show of slides from Nita. It's always good to have the close up photos of the flowers which can be so tiny and delicate – and much easier than trekking into the bush and lying down on your stomach to have a good look!

Nita's formula for growing terrestrial orchids is quite simple. Nita uses a seed raising mix in which to grow them, and depending on the quality either adds sand if it is too open or adds some bark to open it up a little. A layer of mix is placed in the bottom of the pot, followed by a layer of blood and bone, another layer of mix, the tubers, and then the final layer of mix. No water is given during natural dormancy in winter. Watering is done over the warmer months and though Nita did not specify the frequency, she did say they were the perfect plants to grow if you didn't have lots of time and tended to forget to water!

Nita is also happy to use straight new mix when repotting, and doesn't fuss with trying to infect with fungus from the old mix. Her repotting is done every second year. Nita uses 90% shadecloth, her terrestrial orchids are exposed to all weather, though she did say she would cover them if there was heavy rain.

The slides were courtesy of an ANOS member who also donated copies of the 'Orchadian' for our members to take.

Secretary's report: *Newsletters* – ANOS Macarthur May, Sapphire Coast May – we had a nice review of our book in this newsletter, Gosford and District May, OSNSW May, Eurobodalla May, Wagga Wagga April, Campbelltown and District April, and the newsletter from Miriam Ann Orchids.

Publications – The Orchid Review May/June.

The report was moved by Lynne Phelan, seconded by Bill Osmand and accepted by all.

Raffle winners: Bill Ferris, Lorraine King, Geoff Kelly (x2), Ross Anderson.

Door Prize: Julianne Turner.

Tip of the month: Nita had the tip that watering coffee grounds through your orchid mix was a method of getting rid of garlic snails. Quite a few nods of agreement for this tip!

WHAT JUDGES LOOK FOR ON A SHOW BENCH

The following notes are written mainly for novices and beginners who might be entering plants in a show for the first time.

Cymbidium – Standard

Flowers, leaves and pot should be clean. If the pot is old and in poor condition, place the old pot in a new pot.

Some plants do not naturally have all flowers facing the same way on the raceme but this is taken into account as the important feature is to have all flowers visible. Do not exhibit a plant with dead or dying flowers.

Leaves should not show signs of manipulation in order to have all flowers visible. Any bad ends on the leaves should be trimmed but this must be done as neatly as possible. They should be trimmed at an angle similar to the natural leaf shape.

The plant should have a minimum of seven flowers but if the plant had only five or six good flowers (without any being removed) it can be exhibited. Beginners are usually given some latitude but ensure you learn from this.

Flowers should be circular in outline and this is best explained by stating “a circle can be drawn around any flower regardless of shape but the flower segments should fill most of that circle”. This means broad segments without them being turned backwards or twisted. A flower is not a flower until it is fully open and will be judged with this in mind.

Some standards are best exhibited in an upright fashion but others look best either arching or pendulous. Look at your plant after it has been staked and compare it with others on the bench and make the decision as to how best your plant looks.

All plants can be staked and tied with minimum tying but ensure the stake is not protruding beyond the tip of the raceme. Minimise as much as possible the diameter of the stake (no telegraph poles please). Judges can untie any or all ties to check if the raceme supports itself. If a flower has been broken from a raceme during transport it can be placed on top of the pot with a “Damaged in Transit” note. Do not attempt to cover the broken section with a tie. This is unacceptable conduct and will most likely be noticed.

Intermediate - Miniature Cymbidiums

All of the above applies except the flower count. These plants will naturally carry more flowers per raceme than standards. This group is judged mainly as a pot plant and the number of racemes in proportion to the size of the plant is a feature. This means a plant in a 300 mm pot must carry more racemes than a similar plant in a 175 mm pot. Flowers should be clear of the leaves.

Native Orchids

Ensure plants and pots are clean. Racemes on hybrids can be staked but racemes of species cannot be staked.

However, the pseudo bulb can be staked and tied to maintain flower visibility. Beginners should be aware that the dockrillia type of native/hybrid exhibits their flowers in an upside down manner (resupinate). Flower numbers are important as some plants do not carry large numbers of flowers per raceme, so it is important to have open as many flowers as possible, commensurate with

the size of the plant. Flowers should be visible without the need to lift the pot and tilt it backwards to see them properly.

Paphiopedilum - Complex & Novelty Hybrids

Most paphs in the winter show will carry a single flower per stem. This should be staked in an upright fashion as this genus does not have pendulous racemes. The tie must be below the ovary. This is the bulky and sometimes hairy section at the top of the stem, immediately below the flower. Do not attempt to have the stem looking like an “S” bend. If this occurs the judge will know you have neglected to stake at the correct time. A good stem is approximately 200 mm but the important feature is to have the flower clear of the leaves. Remember, some species and hybrids have very short stems. Ensure the plant looks slightly concave in profile with the ventral sepal overlapping the dorsal sepal. Petals should ideally be wide with rounded ends. This is a feature of good paphiopedilums. Irrespective of whether the plant is a complex hybrid or novelty type the same staking standards apply. Novelty paph flower shape is different and is judged accordingly.

Laeliinae Alliance

Exhibition cattleyas will be judged similar to standard cymbidiums. Full-shaped circular flowers are expected. Petals should not fall forward or be bent back (reflexed). A circular labellum is a feature on all good cattleyas. Flowers should not overlap each other. The plant should be slightly concave in profile. The smaller flowers in this group should be smaller versions of the exhibition type. Cluster cattleyas which carry many flowers will not usually achieve this shape and are judged with this in mind. Try to tie the main stem on each raceme and not each individual flower. This generally applies to exhibition cattleyas with more than one flower.

Oncidiinae Alliance

This is the group which frequently has branched racemes. These are either staked in an upright or arched style. All flowers must be visible and with oncidium and odontoglossum types the flowers should be flat in profile. Ensure the odontoglossum type has approximately seven flowers but oncidiums (varicosum type) will normally require 12 flowers. Other types will be judged according to their parentage.

The prime aspect of flower assessment is shape, followed by colour, flower size, substance and texture and floriferousness.

Substance is the actual strength of the flower segments. Texture is the quality of the surface of the flower which makes it attractive.

Floriferousness is the total number of flowers on a raceme or plant.

Vertical and or horizontal symmetry is important in judging, depending on the genus being judged.

Alan W Stephenson

Alan is a qualified judge and a member of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society

OSC Email Group

If you would be willing to have the bulletin delivered by Email instead of by hard copy, it would save the society a significant amount of money. So far, about 10 people have signed up to have this service. Please, if you have Email and would be able to get the bulletin this way, please let me know or anyone on the committee. The email group among members of the Orchid Society of Canberra appears to be going well, and I am happy to put more people on the list. Recently I was able to pass around the web site address for Easy Orchids. If you wish to join, see me at the next meeting or send me an email at david.judge@apsc.gov.au .

David Judge

Crossword 16 solution

R	I	N	S		D	E	V	E	L	O	P	S
	N		T	E	E		U				O	
	F		I		A		L		S		G	
C	L	A	R	I	F	I	C	A	T	I	O	N
	O			N			A		R		N	
P	R	E	S	C	I	E	N	T	I	F	I	C
	E		H						C		A	
A	S	S	A	S	S	I	N	A	T	I	O	N
	C		N		L			I			R	
F	E	A	T	H	E	R	S	T	I	T	C	H
	N		Y		E		O		N		H	
	C				V		P	V	C		I	
P	E	D	I	C	E	L	S		H	O	D	S

THE COOK'S COLLECTION

10 Easy Recipes for Killing Orchids

- Dry-frying** Withhold all water, especially when it's hot and dry, and watch the growing tips on the roots shut down and the leaves become limp and yellow.
- Soaking** (Also known as marinating or drowning) Flood your plants daily, especially in winter when they are cold and some are dormant, making sure that the roots stay waterlogged and the medium turns to mush. Better still, sit the pots in a tray of water.
- Boiling** Remove the shading from your glasshouse or put the orchids out in full sun in mid-summer. Keep them cool by watering at midday and watch the leaves turn black as the water boils and cooks the plant cells.
- Stuffing** Feed your orchids often, at least daily, and make sure you double or treble the suggested application rate. Keep applying until the leaf tips turn black and the white salt crystals decorate the plant and pot.

- Overpotting** Choose the biggest pot you can find so that the small plant can't possibly take up all the moisture and the medium stays wet and soggy all the time. Roots soon go wet and soggy too.
- Underpotting** Not as deadly as overpotting but if you ensure the existing medium has totally broken down and there is no room in the pot for roots to grow, keep the humidity really, really low so the aerial roots dehydrate nicely.
- Garnishes** Also called poisons and sprays. Very efficient ingredients. If you ignore the dilution and application instructions and opt for a really strong dose (more must be better!) you can turn your orchid house into an execution chamber – and not just for the orchids if you also ignore the safety warnings.
- Spread some disease** Under no circumstances use sterilized cutting implements and always be economical and reuse unwashed pots and used stakes. Allow wildlife to flourish and bench your orchids really close together. No air movement is also an advantage.
- Add a touch of rot** Try watering your plants in the cool of the evening, especially in winter. Turn off the fans and let the cold water sit in the crown until it turns brown and soggy. You may even get some attractive black spots on the leaves. Avoid bacterial and fungicidal sprays as these may prolong the life of the orchid.
- Have a wildlife party!!** Encourage small creatures to live in and on your orchids. Scales, aphids, mealybugs and mites are shy so don't examine your plants too closely. Avoid sprays and other measures that might disturb the slugs and snails or give them a stomach upset.

Follow these recipes and you should soon have empty benches. For your next hobby perhaps you could start a rock collection. I believe they are very undemanding and almost impossible to kill.

Lynne Phelan

(With thanks to H Zelenko and the AOS Bulletin for the idea for this article.)

Journal Reviews May 2005

The Orchid Review March-April

Contains articles on the following : Hybrids of *Paphiopedilum glaucophyllum*; – the story of a long-established Belgian orchid nursery: Petrens &Co.; – the genus *occineorchis*; – floral mutations in a range of orchid species; – the genus *Porroglossum*; – orchids found growing at Flower Forest, a 50 acre botanical garden and nature forest in the Scotland District of Barbados; – a description of the *Angraecum germinyatum* complex, which is almost certainly endemic to the Comoro Islands; – a description of *Dendrochilum pangasinanense*, a little known and attractive large-flowered species from the Philippines; – a description of the pest “thrips”, with an illustration of the damage they can cause to healthy

plants, as well as being possible vectors for the spread of diseases, including viruses; – a discussion of the genus *Acrolophia*, found on the slopes of a coastal ridge known as Slangkop in South Africa; – and a description of a new species, *Coelogyne pantlingii* found in Sikkim.

The Orchid Review January-February

Contains articles on the gorgeous *Gongoras*; – colour morphing in *Oncidium*; – the importance of humidity in growing orchids – a description of a new pale yellow species of *Flickingeria abhaycharanii* from North east India; – spring flowering orchids which can be found in the stone-strewn uplands of Italy's Gargano peninsular; – a discussion of the genus *Neobathiea*, a Madagascan genus of just five species; – a description of *Bryobium rendovaensis*, a new species of a little known genus found throughout tropical Asia; – and an orchidist's impressions of a visit to Costa Rica.

The Orchadian March 2005

Contains a list of the winners of the Ira Butler and Bill Murdock trophies and certificates for 2004; – an article on twig Epiphytes of Australia (i.e. small, lightweight plants that are able to colonize the slender, twiggy parts of the host tree); – a description of the native orchids of the Iluka Nature Reserve on the North Coast of NSW; – an exploration of the habitat of *Cymbidium canaliculatum* in Queensland and northern NSW; – a description of *Hydrorchis cupularis*, a new species from Western Australia; – and the re-discovery of *Arachnorchis tessellata* in the Huskisson area, a long-lost orchid of NSW.

Orchids Australia April 2005

An article based on Gary Yong *Gee's* presentation to the 16th Australian Orchid Conference documents some generic name changes that have occurred over the past 10 years. Peter Taylor writes about his experiences with the cultivation of *Euchile mariae* (*syn. Encyclia mariae*) over some twenty years. He indicates that it has a reputation for being difficult to cultivate, perhaps because it requires very specific culture. Graeme and Gaye Chequer write about Heinrich Reichenbach, one of the most influential people in the world of orchids. After his death Sanders dedicated a series of authoritative publications (Reichenbachia), consisting of life size coloured paintings of orchids, to him. Graeme and Gaye also write about orchids which have been used through history for either food or medicinal purposes. Ron Horsey writes (with photo) about a division of Blumen Insel 'Jack Queen Aoki' which is a complete double. It has two labellums, four petals and six sepals. Marilyn Light writes about the re-naming of a number of orchids previously within the genus *Epidendrum*. Marilyn also writes about flower aging in different species of orchids and the effect of pollination on aging. An article by Gary Hart discusses the increasing variety in *Cattleyas*.

Orchids (AOS) March 2005

This excellent magazine includes articles on the following: The influence of orchids won as raffle prizes in promoting further interest in growing orchids; – using the correct materials for mounting orchids; - the

discovery of *Cattleya eldorado* in the Amazon in the 1860s, the variation within the species, and its cultivation; - a series of photos of *Renanthera* hybrids; - the award of a gold medal (the AOS's highest honour) to Tan Wee Kiat of Singapore, who had lived in the USA for some 18 years, and had contributed significantly to orchid identification in northern America; - a survey of four species of the genus *Brassia* in Costa Rica, including its pollination syndrome, molecular phylogeny and taxonomic position; - and a description of the habitat and ecology of *Paphiopedilum emersonii* and *Paphiopedilum hangianum* in northern Vietnam.

Orchids (AOS) April 2005

Includes articles on the following : tackling the task of dividing orchids which have overgrown their pots; - the description, history and taxonomy of *Masdevallia decumana*, a small pleurothallid with a large flower; - an impressive variety of miniature Asian orchids; - the colourful varieties which exist within the species *Cattleya amethystoglossa*; - a description of the discovery and cultivation of the species *Warmingia margaritacea*, a rare *Oncidioid* discovered in Costa Rica; - the search for *Phragmipedium kovachii* in Peru; - a new insight into the mysterious association between orchids and fungus; - and a discussion on protecting orchids for future generations; -

The Australia Orchid Review April May 2005

Contains articles on the Victorian orchids of the year 2004; - the influence of *Vanda sanderiana* in *Vanda* breeding; - the *Sestochilus* section of the genus *Bulbophyllum*; - experiments in the use of Osmocote placed low within a sphagnum moss growing medium; - and the usual articles for the cymbidium growers.

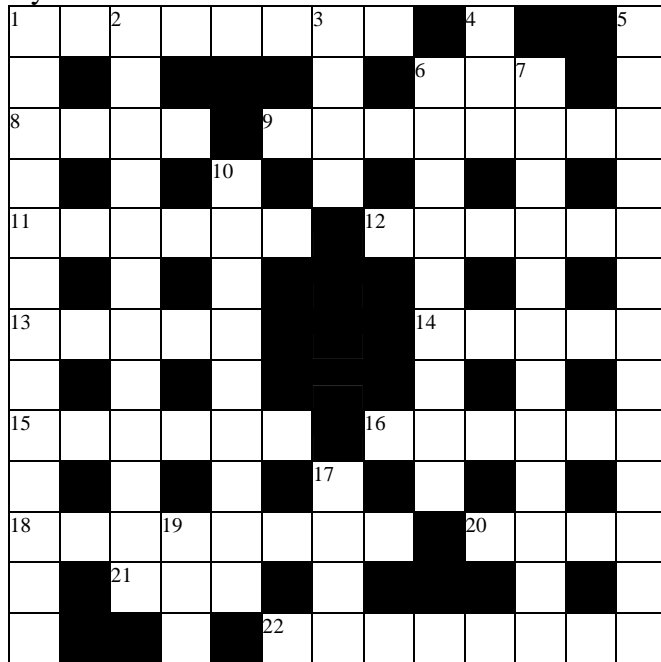
Orchid Digest Jan/March 2005

Contains articles on, and observation of *Angraecum* and *Aerangis* during an expedition to Madagascar; A look at the involvement of *Laelia anceps* in the development of modern *Cattleya* hybrids; - a discussion of the genus *Odontoglossum* and its intergeneric hybrids; - a description of *Coelogyne multiflora*, an uncommon species of the genus found in Sulawesi, which produces large numbers of flowers in a cylindrical wand; - a discussion about *Pteroceras muriculatum*, a vanishing endemic orchid from the Andaman Islands, India; - and a description of a new species of *Stenia* found in Brazil.



Crossword no. 17

By Dennis Drobe



ACROSS

- 1 An orchid in a cycle? (8)
- 6 Used to express surprise, pleasure or triumph (3)
- 8 My little sister and I worship the goddess of fertility (4)
- 9 He composed *Fountains of Rome* (8)

- 11 Bad luck (6)
- 12 Highly toxic, liquid organophosphate pesticide, C₉H₂₂O₄P₂S₃ (6)
- 13 "Everybody about the weather, but nobody does anything about it" – Mark Twain (5)
- 14 Wilcox wrote that if you did this so would the world (5)
- 15 Quoting as an authority (6)
- 16 Conflict (*Informal*) (4-2)
- 18 Sure the deli is unoccupied (8)
- 20 Jason's ship (4)
- 21 Pig (*Latin*) (3)
- 22 To get an orchid Abel goes to the till (8)

DOWN

- 1 Stag horns and some orchids grow this way (13)
- 2 This lot and logic form an orchid (12)
- 3 Thought (4)
- 4 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
- 5 Nodding pogonia is a *Triphora* (13)
- 6 Having no petals (9)
- 7 The type of college for a farming career (12)
- 10 Mephitic (9)
- 17 A good state of health (4)
- 19 To eat an evening meal (3)

Popular Vote May 2005

	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae hybrid – miniature	<i>Ctna. Why Not 'Lea'</i>	Bob Rough
Laeliinae hybrid – miniature	<i>Potinara Hoku Gem 'Freckles'</i>	Brian Leedham
Laeliinae hybrid - intermediate	<i>Cattleya Portia</i>	Brian Leedham
Laeliinae hybrid – standard	<i>Cattleya Loddiglossa 'Spots' x (C. guttata var leopoldii x Lc. Bonanza Queen 'Panamint')</i>	Brian Leedham
Laeliinae species	<i>Cattleya amethystoglossa</i>	Brian Leedham
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paphiopedilum purpuratum 'Naomi' x 'No 2'</i>	David Judge
Australian Dendrobium	<i>Dendrobium Hilda Poxon</i>	Brian Leedham
Oncidiinae	<i>Ornithophora radicans</i>	Bob Evans
Coelogyne alliance	<i>Dendrochilum wenzellii</i>	Don Chesher
Pleurothallid species	<i>Restrepia sp. ex Tandyopa</i>	Theo and Jenny Schutz
Pleurothallid hybrid	<i>Dracula Swamp Fox</i>	Theo and Jenny Schutz
Dendrobium	<i>Dendrobium unknown (hard cane)</i>	Bob Bush
Phalaenopsis hybrid		
Vandaceous alliance	<i>Vanda Robert's Delight</i>	Terry Turner
Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium Zig Zag 'Kiwi'</i>	Rajani Rai
Any other species	<i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	Don Chesher

Orchid of the Night	<i>Blc. Erin Kobayashi 'Lahaina Gold'</i>	Bob Rough
Orchid of the Night	<i>Dendrochilum wenzellii</i>	Don Chesher
Judges Choice - Species	<i>Dendrochilum wenzellii</i>	Don Chesher
Judges Choice - Hybrid	<i>Cycnoches Wine Delight 'J.E.M.'</i>	Terry Turner

Popular Vote June 2005

	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae hybrid – miniature	<i>Slc. Kauai Starbright x Blc. Calvin's Choice</i>	Bob Rough
Laeliinae hybrid – intermediate	<i>Slc. Dal's Buddy (= Sc. Beaufort x Lc. Aussie Sunset)</i>	Brian Phelan
Laeliinae hybrid – standard	<i>Lc. Breen's Jenny Ann (= Lc. Shellie Compton x Lc. Persepolis)</i>	Quin Yuen Chung
Laeliinae species - 1	<i>Laelia anceps</i>	Brian Phelan
Laeliinae species -2	<i>Cattleya maxima</i>	Bob Rough
Paphiopedilum species	<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum 'Candelle'</i>	David Judge
Paphiopedilum hybrid	<i>Paph. Helen Congleton (= delenatii x Norito Hasegawa)</i>	Terry Turner
Pleurothallid species	<i>Masdevallia mystica</i>	Mark Fraser and Sandra Corbett
Pleurothallid hybrid	<i>Masdevallia Sugar Baby</i>	Mark Fraser and Sandra Corbett
Australian native Dendrobium	<i>Dendrobium Hilda Poxon</i>	Brian Leedham
Hard cane Dendrobium species	<i>Vappdes phalaenopsis (syn. Den. biggibum var. superbum)</i>	Terry Turner
Exotic Dendrobium hybrid	<i>Dendrobium Milroy x Den. Hawaii</i>	Terry Turner
Vandaceous alliance hybrid	<i>Dortaenopsis Liu Neng-Dow</i>	Julianne Turner
Oncidium alliance species	<i>Oncidium zappii</i>	Brian Phelan
Oncidium alliance hybrid	<i>Odc. Rawdon Jester</i>	Brian Phelan
Coelogyne species	<i>Coelogyne assamica</i>	Don Chesher
Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium iridioides 'Sandown'</i>	David Judge
Terrestrial	<i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	Don Chesher
Any other orchid	<i>Cirrhopetalum Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'</i>	Terry Turner
Orchid of the Night	<i>Lc. Breen's Jenny Ann (= Lc. Shellie Compton x Lc. Persepolis)</i>	Quin Yuen Chung

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 Barbara Corsini.

By mail: 10 Wickham Cres, Red Hill, ACT 2603 **not** the Orchid Soc PO Box

By phone: (02) 6161 2742 (h)

By email: bwalcott@netspeed.com.au

Hand written, typed and computer generated material all welcome and will be included as soon as possible subject to space. Contributions preferably by 14th of Jan, Feb, April, June, August, October.

Computer files: This bulletin is prepared with Word for Windows 2000 on a PC. I can handle .doc, .rtf and .txt text formats and digital still and video images in most popular formats including .avi, .jpg, .tif and .bmp. Please keep formatting to a minimum, especially if it includes graphics. I can also scan drawings, text, slides and photographic prints. Contributors using a Mac please format files to a PC readable format before sending them to me. Please keep a backup copy of your own of anything you send me as accidents can happen! I can handle IBM formatted floppy disks and CDs. Please put your name on disks so that I can return them to you. Any questions, please see, ring or email me.

The Editor, Ben Walcott