Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

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May-Jun 2010

Volume 25, Number 3

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.

May 2010: Neville Roper will be talking on Sarcochilus. June 2010: TBA

Upcoming Orchid Events

Orchids Out West – 21st to 23rd May, Hawkesbury Racecourse, Clarendon. Orchid displays and sales, \$5 entry. Mingara Orchid Fair – 26th to 27th June, Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi NSW.

President's Comments

We have passed the end of another year and membership renewals are now due. As we move towards our June meeting, if you are interested in becoming more involved with the Society we are looking for a couple of members to join the Committee. This is a very rewarding way to participate in the running of the Society by making suggestions as to how we can improve things for the members or helping with organising speakers, social events and our Show. One bonus of being on committee is going to committee members houses for meetings, where you usually have a chance to see their orchid houses which you otherwise may not see and you can gather more information to help with your own growing.

During April a small group went for a walk on Black Mountain and led by Tony Woods we managed to find about five different terrestrial orchids, some of which were only a few metres from the edge of Belconnen Way, so a very enjoyable afternoon. Thanks to Laurie Woods for coordinating this. The speaker in May is Neville Roper, a very good orchid grower from Sydney and a breeder of Sarcochilus. He will be talking on sarcs and will bring plants for sale. Don't forget that we will also have a bargain sales table at the May meeting - see other note in the Bulletin.



Diplodium reflexum at Black Mt, photo by Zoe Groeneveld.

Committee Members

| President | Robyn Noel | 6258 5734 |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Vice President | Ross Anderson | 6259 8149 |
| Treasurer | Bill Ferris | 6297 5635 |
| Secretary | Ben Walcott | 6161 2742 |
| | Tina Anderson | 6259 8149 |
| | Robert Bush | 6297 1427 |
| | Kevin Dawes | 6259 6405 |
| | Jim Harper | 6254 9618 |
| | Laurie Woods | 6258 6187 |
| | Zoe Groeneveld | 6299 7080 |

Committee meetings:

10 May – Robyn Noel 7 June – Bill Ferris

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May Special Sale

Various orchid-growing items from the Society's stock will be available at heavily discounted prices at the May meeting. Items will include baskets, fertiliser, chemicals and hangers. Here is your chance to pick up a bargain. Also, members are invited to sell any orchid related materials in addition to plants (such as books, mounts, etc) at the meeting. Please put your name and price on a tag as per the usual procedure for plants. (The usual 10% Society commission will apply).



April Orchid of the Night: *Dracula woolwardiae*, grown by Ross Anderson.

Minutes of the Meeting of 7 April 2010

Guests: None

Apologies: Robyn Noel, Jim Harper, Tony Smith, Julie Smith, Christine Goonery, Yvonne Day, Theo and Jenny Schutz, Lynne and Brian Phelan.

Announcements: Ross Anderson chaired the meeting as Robyn was away

- 1. Next meeting in May, bring in any bits and pieces of orchid related stuff you want to get rid of. Put a price on it and put it on the sales table. The Society will get a 10% cut of the sale price.
- 2. There will be a sale of items on the sales table that do not seem to be in demand and of which we seem to have a large supply.
- 3. We have found the left over Christmas plants and they will be brought in for the raffles.
- 4. June meeting is the AGM. 4 members of the Committee are stepping down (Bob Bush, Kevin Dawes, Ross and Tina Anderson) and so there are vacancies on the

- Committee. Members were encouraged to nominate themselves or others.
- Speaker at May meeting will be Neville Roper who will talk on Sarcochilus orchids.
- 6. Ross listed a number of shows and open days in the NSW area (see bulletin for details)

Sunday 11 April, Laurie Woods will lead a walk on Black Mountain to look at terrestrial orchids. Meet at the second parking lot near Aranda and see Laurie at the meeting.



April Judges' Choice Species: *Laelia perrenii*, grown by Bill Ferris.

Ross introduced Rob Rough to talk on Cattleyas.

Rob started by saying that one had to be observant and look at your plants. If you re-pot at the wrong time, you can get the new growths drawing down the substance of the older growths and shrivelling them. He has tried to grow in terracotta pots and while the plants did well, it is almost impossible to get the plants out to re-pot them without breaking the pots. The roots stick to the terracotta. Some of his plants are "confused". The cold in December caused some plants to send up second new growths when the weather warmed up. He showed a plant that had a very large new growth that was growing out over the edge of the pot. These large growths flowered well with exceptionally large flowers. However, the overgrowth made the pot very unstable and hard to handle.

Rob has found a dendrobium beetle in Canberra, which he crushed. Jane suggested that a good dose of a systemic insecticide would be a good idea. While the adults make the leaves "lacy" by chewing leaf material, the larvae burrow into the canes and destroy them from the inside out. Rob showed leaves that were yellow. He suggested that they were sunburned.

Can you fool a plant? He had a Kingianum hybrid in the glasshouse, and once it had new growths in the spring he took outside for a month. Then in the autumn took back into glasshouse. Plant bloomed early. Moving a plant, even within the glasshouse, can affect its growth and flowering. If a plant looks limp, check the roots. He has found in some cases that scale has infested the roots. In general, unless it is a really valuable plant, he throws the plant away rather than trying to clean it up.

Laelia anceps: at one time there was discussion that they did better growing outside during the non frost months at which time they are taken into the glasshouse. This regime hasn't worked well for Rob. Bob Bush said it does work well for him. He keeps them outside until they flower and then moves them into a protected porch. After they finish flowering he puts them in the greenhouse until spring. Ben said he does the same but he moves his from the outside into the greenhouse once it gets cold and while the spikes are about ½ way mature. When in flower they are in the house, then back into the greenhouse until spring when they go out again.

Rob talked about Coelogyne cristata and whether it should be inside or outside. It does need warmth in winter. Jane observed that some plants will stand cold nights if they can get enough warmth during the day.

Craig pointed out that he moved his shade house out from under the eaves of his house and that a number of plants, particularly Kingianums, seemed to suffer.

Rob was asked about re-potting. He said that if they were putting out new roots, you could re-pot no matter the season. If there are no new roots, his recommendation is not to repot except in the spring.

For Sarcochilus orchids, now is the time to re-pot as they are growing new roots at this time.

In general, he tries to re-pot all his orchids every two years for most plants. Each new growth should get bigger than the previous growths.

Mark Clements said that sometimes plants, such as some Cattleyas, can get very large, forming enormous clumps. Such large plants can have many large flowers.

Jane Wright pointed out that certain plants seem to have to grow roots over the edge of the pot before flowering. Mark Fraser pointed out that a misting system can increase the humidity and therefore one has to pot in larger bark and less in sphagnum.

Rob ended by re-emphasizing that moving plants even within the greenhouse can affect their growth and flowering.



March Orchid of the Night: *Stanhopea graveolens*, grown by Rob Rough.



March Judges' Choice Hybrid: *Paph*. Susan Booth 'Yu-pin' X *Paph*. *sanderianum* 'In-Charm', grown by David Judge.

Secretary's report:

Miriam Ann Orchids Newsletter April Eurobodalla Orchid Club April Letter from Geoff Taylor ordering book

Moved Nita Wheeler and seconded Ben Wallace- Approved

Treasurer's report:

Bill Ferris reported that the bank balance was \$17,278.58, not much change from last month. Our Financial Year ends at the end of April and so dues are due in May.

Moved Mark Fraser and seconded Tina Anderson-Approved

Raffle: Ross Anderson, Mark Clements, Bill Osmand, Anne

Osmand, Bob Bush and Bill Osmand.

Door Prize: Ros Walcott

Bill Ferris gave a brief report on the progress of rewriting the Book. He asked for contributions from members. They could either write a short piece on whatever topic they felt comfortable about and submit it to the book committee or go over material that had been written. As announced before, the names of the relevant people for the various sections were in the bulletin.

12-13 March 2011 we will be hosting the annual workshop. The Committee is finalizing the venue.

Popular Vote March 2010

| Category | Plant | Owner |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|
| Laeliinae hybrid | Blc. Emerelda 'Heritage' Rob Rough | |
| Laeliinae species | C. gluttata 'leopoldii' John Ryan | |
| Vandenacous alliance | Schoenorchis fragrans Mark Clements | |
| Australian species | Dock. bowmanii Lemonade X Ice Kevin Dawes | |
| | Age | |
| Oncidium hybrids | Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet | Ben Walcott |
| | Fragrance' | |
| Dendrobium alliance | Dend. kanburiensis Mark Clements | |
| Coelogyne species | Coelogyne tomentosa Don Chesher | |
| Paphiopedilum alliance | Paph. Susan Booth 'Yu-pin' X | David Judge |
| | Paph. sanderianum 'In-Charm' | |
| Other species | Stanhopea graveolens Rob Rough | |
| Orchid of the Night | Stanhopea graveolens Rob Rough | |
| Judges Choice - Hybrid | Paph. Susan Booth 'Yu-pin' X David Judge | |
| | Paph. sanderianum 'In-Charm' | |
| Judges Choice - Species | Neolehmannia porpax'Chiquita' Don Chesher | |
| Tie | Coelogyne tomentosa Don Chesher | |

Popular Vote April 2010

| Category | Plant | Owner | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------|--|
| Laeliinae hybrids | Lc. Bonanza Queen 'Panamint' AM/AOS Rob Rough | | |
| Laeliinae species | Cattleya maxima | Ben Walcott | |
| | Laelia perrenii | Bill Ferris | |
| | Cattleya bowringiana 'Black Prince' | Rob Rough | |
| Paphiopedilum | Paphiopedilum charlesworthii | Ben Wallace | |
| | Paphiopedilum Glaucopar | Terry Turner | |
| Oncidinae | Degarmoara unknown | Ben Walcott | |
| Pleurothallidinae hybrids | Masdevallia exquisita x ionocharis | Bob Bush | |
| Pleurothallidinae species | Dracula woolwardiae | Ross Anderson | |
| Vandae | Trichoglottis brachiata | Ben Wallace | |
| Exotic Dendrobium | Dendrobium Sonia 'Bom Jo Red' | Bill Osmand | |
| Australian native epiphytes | Adelopetalum exiguum | Bill Ferris | |
| Australian native terrestrials | Diplodium truncatum | Nita Wheeler | |
| Any other orchid | Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann | Mark Clements | |
| | 'Buckleberry' | | |
| Orchid of the Night | Dracula woolwardiae | Ross Anderson | |
| Judges Choice - Hybrid | Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann | Mark Clements | |
| | 'Buckleberry' | | |
| Judges Choice - Species | Holcoglossum kimballianum | Mark Fraser | |
| | Trichoglottis brachiata | Ben Wallace | |
| | Laelia perrenii | Bill Ferris | |

Results from the Horticultural Society of Canberra Autumn Flower Show March 2010

| Champion | | Cymbidium dayanum | Jane Wright |
|----------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| Orchid of the | | | S S |
| Show | | | |
| | | | |
| Reserve | | Paph. dianthum | David Judge |
| Champion | | | |
| Orchid | | 0.1 |) (1 Cl |
| Champion | | Schoenorchis fragrans | Mark Clements |
| Specimen Orchid | | | |
| | | | |
| Cattleya | | | |
| Alliance Class 120 | Species | 1st Conbronitis cornus | Mark Fraser & |
| Class 120 | Species | 1st Sophronitis cernua | Sandra Corbett |
| | | 2nd Cattleya bowringiana | Kevin Dawes |
| Class 121 | Hybrid - Standard | 1 st Bc Mount Isa 'Jean' | Jane Wright |
| Class 121 Class 122 | Hybrid - Standard Hybrid - Intermediate | Cattleya Hybrid | · |
| | 11yonu - intermediate | Cameya Hyonu | Jane Wright |
| Paphiopedilu m Alliance | | | |
| Class 124 | Species | 1st Paph. dianthum | David Judge |
| Class 124 Class 125 | Hybrid | 1st Paph. Susan Booth 'Yu-Pin' X | David Judge David Judge |
| | Hybrid | Paph. Sanderianum 'Ín Charm' | David Judge |
| Vandaceous | | | |
| Alliance | | | |
| Class 126 | Species | 1st Schoenorchis fragrans | Mark Clements |
| Class 128 | Vanda and Ascocenda Hybrids | 1 st Vasco. Stylis 'Crown Fox' | Jane Wright |
| | | 2nd Ascocentrum miniatum X | Mark Fraser & |
| | | Ascosenda Aroonari | Sandra Corbett |
| Oncidium | | | |
| Alliance | | | |
| Class 131 | Oncidium Hybrid | 1st Oncidium 'Shari Baby Sweet Fragrance ' | Ben Walcott |
| Class 133 | Odontoglossum Alliance | 1 st Wilsonara Zoe's Fire | Mark Fraser & |
| | Hybrid | 'Floricultum' | Sandra Corbett |
| Pleurothallid | | | |
| Alliance | | | |
| Class 135 | Masdevallia species | 1 st Masd. civilis | Mark Fraser & |
| | • | | Sandra Corbett |
| Class 136 | Other Pleurothallid species | 1st Pleurothallid tribuloides | Mark Fraser & |
| | 1 | | Sandra Corbett |
| Class 138 | Hybrid less than 30cm | 1st Masd 'Peach Fuzz' | Mark Fraser & |
| | | | Sandra Corbett |
| Orchid not | | | |
| otherwise | | | |
| specified | | | |
| Class 139 | Coelogyne Alliance species | 1 st Coelogyne tomentosa | Don Chesher |
| | | 2 nd Dendrochilum magnum | Kevin Dawes |
| | | 'Golden Red' | |
| Class 142 | Any other orchid species | 1 st Cymbidium dayanum | Jane Wright |
| | Best specimen plant from | Dendrochilum magnum 'Golden | Kevin Dawes |
| | classes 139 & 143 | Red' | |

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

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