

Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

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ABN 34 762 780 850

Petalochilus fuscatus



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Sep-Oct 2014

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 sales table open from 7:30pm.

Meeting Program

September: Jane Wright - preparing orchids for show

October: Ben Wallace - a bit about Borneo

Upcoming Events

Canberra Orchid Society Spring Show: 20-21 September, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 12pm to 4pm, Wesley Centre, 20 National Circuit Forrest

Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Spring Show: 18-19 September, Scout Hall, Bega

Southern Orchid Spectacular: 3-5 October, Fri & Sat 9.30am - 4pm, Sun 9.30am - 3pm, Caringbah High School, corner of Willarong Rd and Taren Pt Rd, Caringbah

Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Native Show: 31 October & 1 November, Twyford Hall, Merimbula

Canberra Horticultural Society Events

Spring Bulb & Camellia Show: 13-14 September, Wesley Centre, 20 National Circuit Forrest

Iris, Rhododendron & Azalea Show: 25-26 October, Wesley Centre, 20 National Circuit Forrest

For further information and the show schedules, visit the Horticultural Society's website: www.hsoc.org.au



August Judges' Choice Hybrid: *Bulbophyllum Jersey*, grown by Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett

Committee Members

President:	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Vice President:	Karen Groeneveld	6299 7080
Treasurer:	Bob Forrester	6231 0203
Secretary:	Peter Coyne	6251 7660
Committee:	Mark Clements	0417 471 917
	Zoe Groeneveld	6299 7080
	Jacque Bannerman	6154 7178

Committee meetings:

2 September: Karen Groeneveld

30 September: TBA

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From the President

As usual, at this time of year our attention is focussed on our upcoming Spring Show. This is a major undertaking by the society, so any help you can give will contribute hugely to the success of the show. Further information on how you can help, and how to enter your plants, can be found later in this Bulletin. Please note that as we will open the show at 9:00am on the Saturday, the room needs to be setup and plants need to be ready for judging on **Friday** evening.

In the meantime, the weather has been very challenging for orchid growing. Weather forecasters typically err on the warmer side when predicting minimum temperatures. The extended period of cold nights and warm (at least in the greenhouse) days requires a careful balance of heating, cooling and watering. Emerging flowers on some native terrestrials and *Thelychiton speciosus* that are not in well protected positions have succumbed to frost.

It was a pleasure to have Genevieve Wright as speaker at the August meeting. She displays a passion for flora conservation and her presentation inspires us to think further about these issues. I would like the Society to develop closer relations with persons and organisations involved in orchid conservation and research. This would be a useful complement to the work some members are doing with the Australian National Botanic Gardens.



July Judges' Choice Species: *Urochilus sanguineus*, grown by Nita Wheeler

THE SHOW

Main points to note about the Show:

- It will be held at the Wesley Centre, 20 National Circuit, Forrest
- The show will be open 9am-5pm on Saturday 20 September, and 12 noon-4pm Sunday 21 September
- Judging will commence at 6pm on Friday 19 September
- Plants can be delivered to the Wesley Centre from 11am on Friday 19 September, preferably no later than 4pm
- Entries should reach the registrar by 8pm on Wednesday 17 September so that labels can be prepared

Plant Pre-registration

Members are asked to basically follow the same procedures as in previous years: fill in a registration form of the plants you intend to enter, and lodge your entries with the registrar by 8pm on Wednesday 17 September. Please register all the plants you think you might enter - it is easier to register for all possible plants and delete some on the day than add plants to your list at the last minute.

If you have provided us with an email address:

You will shortly 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 orcsoc@yahoo.com by 8pm Wednesday 17 September or contact Bill Ferris (6297 5635) if you would like to email your registration later than this. 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 – for example: 4,Cymbidium suave 'Dorrigo', N.

If you do not receive a reply to your email within a reasonable period please contact Bill Ferris.

An entry form is also available on our website www.canberraorchids.org.

If you have not provided an email address:

A registration form and schedule is included with this bulletin. Please use this form to compile a list of plants/items you intend to enter and phone Bill Ferris (6297 5635) by 8pm on Wednesday 17 September to advise him of your expected entries. Bring your form with your plants to the venue for checking purposes. A printed form of your entries with relevant codes and stickers will then be ready on your presentation for registration.

Unable to Pre-register?

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

What Class is my plant?

If you are uncertain as to what class to enter a plant, please contact Mark Fraser - phone: 6287 1106 or email triffids4us@ozemail.com.au. An information paper on what plants are in each category is also on the website.

Delivery of plants to the venue

Because we need to be ready for judging at 6pm on the Friday, we ask that plants be delivered by 4pm (preferably much earlier). If you are unable to deliver your plants personally, please arrange for someone else to do it or talk to one of the committee members and we will try to make suitable arrangements.

Registration

At registration you will be given:

- A printed list of your entries
- A label printed with all appropriate information, fixed to a craft rod (wooden stick), for each entry

Secure/attach the label in the plant pot/to the art craft entry as per your printed entry list. Make sure that the label is clearly visible when the plant is in its preferred viewing position. Strike out on your entry form any plant not presented, sign and return the sheet and unused labels to Bill Ferris. Note that the label will show a code for your name so it is suggested you put a sticker with your name or some other form of identification on the bottom of the pot (or somewhere out of sight on the entry).

Please put your plants on the bench in the area noted for each class.

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 judging you can still display it in an area reserved for plants that have been owned for less than six months.

Sale of non-plant entries

Entries in the Art, Craft and Photography 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.

Sale of plants

Plants for the sales table can be brought in to the Wesley Centre from about 11am – we just need a little time form to set the tables up before you arrive. Remember to put a price tag in each pot with your name and the price. The Society will charge a 10% commission on sales. Ensure that your plants are pest and disease free and well-established in their pots.

Entry to the show

Financial members are admitted to the show without charge. Please wear your badge and society polo shirt as this helps members of the public identify society members. If you have lost your badge please notify Bill Ferris (replacement badges are provided at cost) before or at the September meeting. Polo shirts are available at a cost of \$25. If you want one please contact Robyn Noel (6258 5734 or email robynnoel@bigpond.com) and advise your size.

Helping at the Show

Café

If you are able to help with refreshments, either food preparation or serving, please contact Karen Groeneveld (6299 7080, groeneveld@internode.on.net).

Transport

If you have a trailer or Ute and can help with transport of tables on the Friday and Sunday, please contact Jane Wright (6254 1119).

Set-up and maintenance

If you can help with setup, take down, floor walking, sales or entry tables, please advise Jane Wright or Bill Ferris, or put your name on the sign-up sheets provided at the September meeting.

Provision of materials

We always need shallow cardboard boxes and plastic bags at the sales table for plant sales. If you can, please collect these items and bring them to the show.



July Judges' Choice Specimen: *Paphiopedilum Wrigleyi*, grown by David Judge

General Meeting Minutes

2 July 2014

Members Present: 25

Apologies: 9

Visitors: 4

Speakers: Graham and Craig Scott-Harden presented a most interesting talk on *Catasetums* and their allies, based largely on their twenty years' experience growing them.

These are all tropical orchids from areas with distinct wet and dry seasons. In the dormant season the plants can be kept dark as well as dry, some growers even tuck them away in a suitcase under the bed. During their growing season they need lots of water and fertiliser - they have to produce their full foliage and flower during a relatively short period, requiring rapid growth.

Catasetums are not very easy to grow – you need to get used to their special requirements. The Scott-Hardens grow their plants with a minimum temperature of 18°C, although they used to grow them satisfactorily down to 14°C. Growing them on from flask is extremely difficult.

Catasetum is an unusual orchid genus because they have separate male and female flowers, although individual plants can have both. The male and female flowers caused great confusion when *Catasetums* were first discovered. A single species was often named twice because botanists based their descriptions on either male or female flowers, not realising they were in fact the same thing. Light intensity determines the gender of the flowers, so the Scott-Hardens generally have only male flowers as they provide one, bright, light level. Getting male and female flowers at the same time is very difficult, so it is hard to get seed.

Male *Catasetum* flowers have two sensitive “triggers” which, when touched, release the pressurised pollen which explodes out of the flower. The labellum can be 10 cm wide although the sides often curl backwards. Some *Catasetum* flowers can be up to 15 cm in size, although there are small-flowered species as well. The flowers don't very long and the petals and sepals wither fairly quickly, leaving just the labellum to attract pollinators.

Graham and Craig showed many lovely images of these amazing orchids and highlighted species including *Catasetum cernuum*, which can produce flower spikes 1.5 metres long. *C. osculatum* can have male and female flowers on the same spike. Even bisexual flowers can sometimes occur. The closely related *Cycnoches* lacks the trigger structures, while

Mormodes has a twisted labellum. *Cycnoches cooperi* sometimes has four spikes per pseudobulb. Hybrids are also available - particularly notable is *Fredclarkara* “After Dark” which has black flowers.

Bill thanked Graham and Craig for their informative talk.



July Orchid of the Night: *Symphyglossum sanguineum*, grown by Karen Groeneveld

Secretary's Report: (Most not read out)

Bulletins	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Newsletter - July
	Wangaratta & District Orchid Society Newsletter - June
	Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Newsletter - June
	Eurobodalla Orchid Club Newsletter - July
	Miriam Ann Orchids Newsletter - June
	ANOS Victoria Group Bulletin - July
	OSNSW Orchid News - June
Magazines	Australian Orchid Review - June/July
	Australian Cymbidium Scene
	Orchids Australia
	Royal Horticultural Society Victoria Gardeners' Gazette
Other mail	Burbank Orchids Catalogue - June
	Promo for Work Health & Environment
	Royal Horticultural Society Victoria invoice for membership and insurance
	Speciosum Competition - 2013 Results & 2014 Entry Form (ANOS Mid North Coast Group)
	Notice: Forum on the state of native plants in the Australian Capital Territory - 20 August 2014
	Sub-tropical Orchid Council Qld. Diamond Festival of Orchids, 11 & 12 June 2016
	Information on new species <i>Paphiopedilum rungsuriyanum</i>
	Invitation to exhibit at the Australian Garden Show Sydney, 4–7 September 2014
	Sam Tsui's Flask List for August delivery
	Ecuagenera (Ecuador) new flask list for Australia
	Advice Eventinue is listing our spring show;
	Peruflora invitation to order plants for

	delivery at World Orchid Congress, Johannesburg September
	Information on Gardens of New Zealand Tours
	Information on a 12x24 foot glasshouse for sale [since sold]

Moved by Mark Fraser, seconded by Laurie Woods: approved.



July Judges' Choice Hybrid: Dendrobium Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy', grown by Peter Coyne

Treasurer's Report:

Bank balance currently \$22,765.34. Moved by Jim Wheeler, seconded by Jane Wright: approved.

President's Report:

A paper on the duck orchids (Drakaeinae) by Mark Clements and Joe Miller was published in the journal *Australian Systematic Botany* on Monday. On the basis of DNA analysis all the duck orchids are now in the genus *Caleana*.

Q & A:

- Recent cold weather should stop the growth of terrestrials for some time.
- Don't water soft-cane Dendrobiums or they will produce kiekies instead of flowers.
- *Oncidium ornithorrhynchum* is now known as *O. sotoanum*.

Minutes of the May and June meetings were published in the bulletin.

Next Meeting: At the meeting Bill advised that the speaker would be Ben Wallace on Borneo. This has been changed to Genevieve Wright from the National Parks and Wildlife Service in Queanbeyan. Genevieve will talk on the role of the Service and her activities in conservation, which have included orchids. Ben Wallace will be the speaker in October and November.

Raffle Prizes: Nita Wheeler, Mark Clements, Dora Chapman, Jenny Rodriguez, Bob Forrester

Lucky Door Prize: Jane Wright



August Judges' Choice Specimen: *Dendrochilum stenophyllum*, grown by Don Chesher

General Meeting Minutes

6 August 2014

Members Present, apologies and visitors: TBA next Bulletin

From the President:

The President, Bill Ferris, welcomed all to the meeting. He presented name badges to new members, before talking briefly about the upcoming annual show, whilst waiting for technical issues with the projector to be resolved. Bill encouraged members to sign up to help at the show, to distribute flyers, and to collect plastic bags and boxes for plant sales. Bill will be managing the registration process this year, and advised that cut-off for registration of plants would be the Wednesday night before the show – he emphasised that it is much easier to remove plants from the registration list if they prove to be unsuitable for benching once show day arrives, than it is to register plants at short notice on the day.

Bill introduced the guest speaker, Genevieve Wright, who is a Flora Ecologist with the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS).

Speaker: Genevieve Wright presented a talk on the work of the Biodiversity and Wildlife Team, which involves monitoring of sensitive vegetation, including orchids, across NSW.

For the past 22 years, Genevieve has worked as an ecologist with the NSW NPWS, undertaking biodiversity monitoring and survey work. Much of her work has focussed on south-eastern NSW, particularly Kosciuszko National Park, but recent policy changes mean that the Biodiversity and Wildlife team will now undertake monitoring across the whole of NSW.

Genevieve gave an overview of environment protection legislation that applies in NSW (there are five different Acts) and the scope of biodiversity conservation projects undertaken by the Biodiversity and Wildlife team, including monitoring:

- threatened species (eg Orchidaceae - *Diuris ochroma*, *Pterostylis oreophila*, *Prasophyllum affine*; Rhamnaceae – *Discaria nitida*);
- the impact of fires on plant populations and biodiversity (particularly the impact of increasingly frequent wildfires over the past decade). Genevieve discussed post-fire monitoring of both Alpine Ash forests and the treeless plains in Kosciuszko National Park – monitoring has revealed some unexpected changes to populations and habitats;
- weeds – in particular, the emergence of new weed threats and the impact of fire in encouraging the spread and dominance of weeds (which are often better survivors than native species). A specific example that Genevieve provided was the impact of oxeye daisy on *Prasophyllum affine* – the daisy emerged as a significant pest after the 2007 bushfires;
- the floristic diversity of parks and reserves, including undertaking general flora surveys; and
- dieback of tree and shrub populations, and insects that may be responsible.

In addition to surveying the impact of weeds, the group also monitors the impact of feral animals, including pigs, horses and deer – feral pigs have a significant impact on terrestrial orchids, digging up and eating the tubers.

Genevieve explained that survey data is added to the NSW BioiNet database. This database is publicly accessible and includes lots of information on orchids. As well as being able to view maps of flora and fauna sightings held in the Atlas of NSW Wildlife, you can submit your own sightings records to the Atlas. See <http://www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/> for more information.



August Judges' Choice Species: *Pleurothallis restrepioides*, grown by Bill Ferris

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report not available in the absence of the Secretary.

Treasurer's report: Bank Balance as at 31 July 2014 - \$22,300.04 plus the stock of books. Moved by Jim Wheeler and seconded by Ros Walcott – approved.

Short talk:

Karen and Zoe Groeneveld showed photos of a *Bulbophyllum lemniscatoides* that they currently have in flower. It is too delicate to transport, and needs strong magnification to see the individual flowers (so Zoe's macro photos provide the best view).

Q&A:

A short Q&A session focussed on protecting plants from the severe frosts we've been experiencing. Jane Wright described her experimental efforts to cultivate species that require much warmer temperatures at night – by placing a small glasshouse within her large warm glasshouse and using a small bar heater, she has been able to heat the small glasshouse to a higher temperature, without having to increase the temperature of the big glasshouse.

Raffle Prizes: Bob Forrester, Don Chesher (x2), Dale Middleby, Warwick Finch, Bill Ferris

Lucky door prize: Christine Small

Next meeting: Jane Wright on preparing plants for the show.



August Orchid of the Night: *Corybas incurvus*, grown by Nita Wheeler

Sales Table (Members Only)

Pots		
Fertilizer	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Wire products		
Shirts	Robyn Noel	6258 5734
25 th Anniversary glasses	Ben Walcott	6161 2742
Bark	David Judge	
Orchid Mate	Laurie Woods	0412632046 (or 6258 6187 after 8.00pm)

Popular Vote July 2014

Category	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae	<i>Lanium avicula</i>	Jane Wright
Pleurothallidinae	<i>Anathallis sclerophylla</i>	Jane Wright
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> species	<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>	David Judge
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> hybrid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Michael Koopowitz	David Judge
Oncidiinae	<i>Symphyglossum sanguineum</i>	Karen Groeneveld
	<i>Oncidium sotoanum</i> (syn. <i>ornithorhynchum</i>)	Karen Groeneveld
Vandaeae	<i>Schoenorchis juncifolia</i>	Karen Groeneveld
<i>Cymbidium</i>	<i>Cymbidium tracyanum</i>	Don Chesher
Australian terrestrials	<i>Urochilus sanguineus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Any other orchid	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'	Karen Groeneveld
Orchid of the Night	<i>Symphyglossum sanguineum</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Dendrobium</i> Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy'	Peter Coyne
Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Urochilus sanguineus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Wrigleyi	David Judge

Popular Vote August 2014

Category	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae	<i>Cattleya coccinea</i>	Jane Wright
<i>Paphiopedilum</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Harrisianum	Don Chesher
<i>Coelogyne</i>	<i>Coelogyne</i> Kirribilli Ellen	Kevin Dawes
<i>Dendrochilum</i>	<i>Dendrochilum stenophyllum</i>	Don Chesher
<i>Bulbophyllum</i>	<i>Bulbophyllum wallichii</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Vandaeae	<i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i>	Jane Wright
Oncidiinae	<i>Howeara</i> Lava Burst	Bill Ferris
Exotic Dendrobeae	<i>Sayeria alexandrae</i>	Jane Wright
Australian epiphytes	<i>Durabaculum undulatum</i> (syn. <i>Dendrobium discolour</i>)	Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett
Australian terrestrials	<i>Corybas incurvus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Any other species	<i>Stenorrhynchos speciosum</i>	Jane Wright
Orchid of the Night	<i>Corybas incurvus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> Jersey	Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett
Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Pleurothallis restrepioides</i>	Bill Ferris
Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Dendrochilum stenophyllum</i>	Don Chesher

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 Society PO Box

By phone: (02) 6299 7080 (h)

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

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