

Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

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Petalochilus fuscatus



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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

- 4th November:** Jasmyn Lynch – ethnobotany in New Guinea
Jane Wright & Mark Fraser – photos from Batemans Bay show
- 9th December:** Christmas Party (bring a plate of food to share)

Upcoming Events

Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Native Show: 30-31 October, Fri/Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 9am-1pm. Twyford Hall, Merimbula.

Horticultural Society of Canberra Spring Exhibition and Rose Show: 14 - 15 November, Wesley Centre, National Circuit, Forrest

Orchid Workshop: hosted by the Sapphire Coast Orchid Club, 19-20 March 2016, Merimbula RSL



September Orchid of the Night & Judges' Choice Species: *Pleurothallis gargantua*, grown by Jane Wright



September Judges' Choice Specimen: *Pterostylis curta*, grown by Karen Groeneveld

Committee Members

President:	<u>Bill Ferris</u>	<u>6297 5635</u>
Vice President:	<u>Karen Groeneveld</u>	<u>6299 7080</u>
Treasurer:	<u>Bob Forrester</u>	<u>6231 0203</u>
Secretary:	<u>Geoff Dyne</u>	<u>6231 3681</u>
Committee:	<u>Mark Clements</u>	<u>0417 471 917</u>
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President's Comments

Phew – the show is over for another year and all seems to have gone well. All members who contributed in any way can feel proud of their effort. A separate report on the show accompanies this Bulletin.

Society members are congratulated on their successes at the South and West Regional Show and Conference (results included in this Bulletin). Special congratulations to Jane, Roger, Robyn, Karen, Peter G., Zoe, Mark and Sandra in designing and assembling the Society's display which won the champion display.

While talking about shows, don't forget the Canberra Horticultural Society flower shows on 31 October to 1 November and 14-15 November.

It was good to see new members and several visitors at the October meeting. I encourage them to let us know what topics are of particular interest to them, and to not be frightened of approaching our more experienced growers for advice.

Our November meeting will take a different slant on orchids. While we typically focus on the beauty of the orchid flowers, Jasmyn Lynch will discuss other uses made of orchid plants in New Guinea.

As previously advised, our **Christmas meeting will be on 9 December**. There will be benching of plants but no raffle, door prize or sales table. Please bring a plate of food to share.

The committee has discussed the pricing policy for the Bulletin. Most members receive the publication electronically but a small number either do not have internet access or prefer a paper copy. In view of the cost of printing and postage, the committee proposes a charge \$10 per annum in addition to membership fees for those who want the Bulletin by post.

I notice many native terrestrials are dying off, so no need to water them until repotting in January. With the recent warmer weather, it is a good time to encourage growth in many orchids with fertiliser and adequate watering and sunlight. Keep an eye on humidity levels in the greenhouse and remember CAM plants need humidity at night.



Judges' Choice Hybrid: *Thelychiton kingianus* 'Helen C' x 'Harrigan', grown by Rob Rough



Serapias olbia, grown by Nita Wheeler

The Orchid Society Library

Members might be aware that the society has a library, but not realise what a valuable resource it is. Accompanying this issue of the bulletin is a catalogue of the library's holdings sorted into categories. For example, 23 books are included in the "Beginners and general advice" category, while the "Advanced" category has specialised titles such as "Guidelines of Judging" and "Asymbiotic Techniques of Orchid Seed Germination". There are categories by taxonomic groups and by geographic regions. The "Australasian Native Orchids" category has 27 books. Assorted periodicals are also held. All these titles are available for loan between meetings. In addition, the society has recently acquired a computer loaded with the extraordinarily comprehensive database "OrchidWiz", which is also available for loan between meetings. Don't be afraid to ask if you would like more information or if you would like to borrow something.

Peter Coyne
Librarian

Canberra Nature Map

Canberra Nature Map is a community-based website that enables the recording by means of photographs any plants or fungi growing wild in the Canberra region. A team of on-line experts confirm the identity of any plant or fungi photos lodged on the site. A smartphone app can be downloaded or if you prefer to use a GPS-enabled camera you can upload the photos, under the record heading, at the website <http://canberranaturemap.org/>

To date, over 1500 orchid records of 131 species have been uploaded into Canberra Nature Map. Highlights include: doubling the number of known locations of the endemic Canberra Spider Orchid; only the second ever ACT record of Horned Orchid and a new location of the threatened Burrinjuck Spider Orchid. Canberra Nature Map has added considerably to our knowledge of orchid distribution across the area and is utilised daily in planning, development and land management decisions.

Canberra Nature Map is being extended to improve our knowledge as to how fire history effects orchid presence and abundance. The project is already providing data that suggests that some orchids are associated with particular fire regimes, some seem to like recently burnt areas, some are predominately seen in mid-range fire history sites and some seem to only occur in long unburnt areas. Hopefully the project will continue to yield more info. The ideal situation would be if we knew which species responded in what way so we can plan a balanced mosaic of fire that maximises biodiversity and fuel management outcomes.

Members of the Orchid Society are encouraged to adopt a point, with a known fire regime and within an experimental design that matches environmental factors. It is expected that a person would spend at least an hour and no more than two hours searching for orchids in their adopted site, each time that it is visited. They are asked to photograph all the different species of orchids within a 50m radius of the adopted point. They shouldn't worry if they don't cover every square metre, but should range across the site. If unsure of orchid ID, they should just take photos of all plants that they think are different species. We have some highly respected orchid experts on hand to help with photo ID and I or a volunteer are happy to come out with people on their first inspection.

Ideally each site should be surveyed once in spring, once in summer and once next Autumn. Twice in spring would be good if possible (i.e. once in October and a month later in November)

To select a site to monitor, and for additional information, go to the following link:

<http://canberranaturemap.org/Community/PointGroup/4>

**Horticultural Society of Canberra
Spring Exhibition & Rose Show**

Saturday 14 November: 12 noon to 5pm

Sunday 15 November: 11.30am to 3:45pm

Entries close with the Honorary Show Secretary at 8pm Thursday 12 November 2015.

Note: If you are entering by email it is your responsibility to ensure that your entries have been received. The Hall will be open for the staging of exhibits on: Friday 6.00pm to 10.00pm, and Saturday 7.30am to 10.00am.

For further info: www.hsoc.org.au

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Orchids:

Class	Description
75	One Cymbidium
76	One standard Cattleya alliance
77	One intermediate Cattleya alliance
78	One miniature Cattleya alliance
79	One Cattleya alliance species
80	One Paphiopedilum alliance species
81	One Paphiopedilum alliance hybrid
82	One Vandaceous alliance
83	One Oncidium alliance
84	One native orchid
85	One Pleurothallid species
86	One Pleurothallid hybrid
87	Any other orchid species
88	Any other orchid hybrid
Champion Orchid from classes 75 to 88 - Ribbon & \$2	



**General Meeting Minutes
2 September 2015**

Meeting opened by President Bill Ferris at 20:10

Members Present: 30

Apologies: 10

Visitors: 1

Speakers: Jane Wright gave a very interesting talk on the finer points of orchid judging, which involves a great deal of attention to detail and not inconsiderable experience (such as noting reflexing in the flower segments and how 'filled-in' a shape they present.) Different standards apply to different groups and species are always difficult to judge. In all cases, shape, colour, flower size, substance, texture and floriferousness are taken into account. There is a points system applying to these criteria and plants with high scores are eligible for nationally recognised

awards, such as FCC, AM and HCC, as well as awards of cultural excellence. Jane had a good range of photographs and audience members were invited to decide which flowers were of higher standards. When a guess had been given, Jane then pointed out the flowers' imperfections and virtues. With our annual show very close, this was a useful insight into the standards that judges will be applying to our plants.

Geoff Dyne gave a brief introduction to the *OrchidWiz* software which provides easy access to the parentage and geographic origins of thousands of orchids, as well as detailed information on their growing preferences together with many photographs of awarded and other clones. The Society now has this software loaded onto two laptops, which members can borrow, via the library.

Treasurer's report: was accepted (moved Ben Walcott, seconded Sandra Corbett).

Other Matters

The South and West Regional Conference and Orchid Show, incorporating the Annual Australian Native Orchid Show, will be held in Bateman's Bay over 2-3 October with the theme being 'Beaches and Bush'. The Society is entering a display and members are invited to contribute plants.

Raffle Prizes: Don Chesher, Yvonne Day, Heather Macgregor, Geoff Dyne (twice)

Lucky Door Prize: Rob Rough



Dendrobium paxtonii, grown by Mark Clements

General Minutes

7 October

Bill opened the meeting by welcoming visitors to the meeting and handing badges to new members Peter Quinn, Diana Herral and Krysia Szkiela. He then welcomed the speakers for the night.

Speakers: Aaron Clauson explained how he became interested in the local terrestrial orchids and how he developed the Canberra Nature map in conjunction with Michael Mulvaney. Information on the nature map is provided in a separate article in this bulletin. Members were encouraged to participate and enhance the information in the nature map. The potential roles of the nature map were outlined, including the development of 'controlled burn' practices and protection of residential properties. This promoted some discussion as to how best protect native orchids taking account of their growth cycle and the effect of burning on the mycorrhizal fungi.

Michael Mulvaney spoke briefly about a survey of orchids on Black Mountain to help illuminate the interaction of fire with orchids. Detailed records of fires on Black Mountain have enabled survey sites to be located in areas with a range of fire history. The project relies on volunteers to survey most of the sites and members of the Orchid Society are invited to join the survey and nominate one or more sites. The survey requires one (or two at most) inspections of a site each in spring, summer and autumn. Six Priority 1 sites and 56 Priority 2 sites still need a volunteer. More information is available at:

<http://canberranaturemap.org/Community/PointGroup/4>

Tony Wood then presented beautiful pictures of the 64 terrestrial orchids growing on Black Mountain, indicating what time of year they could be seen.

South & West Regional Orchid Conference & Show:

The meeting was advised that members of the Canberra Society were very successful at the Regional Orchid Show and Conference in Batemans Bay (see later). The Society display won champion display. Prize winners were presented with their certificates.

David Judge was presented with NSW and AOC Cultural Excellence Awards of the Year for his *Paphiopedilum dianthum* 'Rajani'. At Batemans Bay David won championships for Cypripedoideae, Vandaeae, and seedling, winning a ribbon, glass and money for each.



David Judge's *Paphiopedilum dianthum* 'Rajani' awarded for cultural excellence

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer reported that while final results for the show were not yet available, it would appear there was a profit of around \$4,000. The bank account was not currently a good indication of the society's financial position as payments for members' plant sales were outstanding.

Secretary's Report:

Bill, in the absence of the secretary, noted the society had received a thank you note from Diane Diehm.

Mark Clements thanked all involved in show, especially Roger Williams for shifting all the tables etc.

Next Meeting: Jasmyn Lynch will talk on New Guinea ethnobiology, including orchids.

Raffle Prizes: Robyn Noel; Therese Bourke; Rosemary Anyou (visitor); Graeme Bradburn (visitor); Eva Raiser (visitor); Peter Quinn; Don Chesher.

Lucky Door Prize: Ben Walcott

Popular Vote - September

Category	Name	Owner
Cymbidium hybrids	<i>Cymbidium</i> Sarah Jean 'Pink'	Don Chesher
Laeliinae species & hybrids	<i>Laelia crispata</i>	Ben Walcott
Pleurothallidinae	<i>Pleurothallis gargantua</i>	Jane Wright
Masdevallia species & hybrids	<i>Masdevallia</i> Gold Pinch 'Beenak'	Jane Wright
Coelogyne species	<i>Coelogyne flaccida</i>	Ben Walcott
Paphiopedilum hybrids	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Oberhausen 'Rubin'	Ben Walcott
Paphiopedilum species	<i>Paphiopedilum delenatii</i>	Ben Walcott
Phalaenopsis hybrids	<i>Doritaenopsis</i> Yu Pin 'Sweety'	David Judge
Vandae	<i>Sarcochilus</i> Fitzhart 'Purple' x S. Fizzy Dove	Rob Rough
	<i>Vanda</i> Sansai Blue	Ben Walcott
Dendrobiinae	<i>Thelychiton kingianus</i> 'Helen C' x 'Harrigan'	Rob Rough
Terrestrials	<i>Acianthus fornicatus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Other species	<i>Phaius tankervilleae</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Orchid of the Night	<i>Pleurothallis gargantua</i>	Jane Wright
Judges' Choice Hybrid	<i>Thelychiton kingianus</i> 'Helen C' x 'Harrigan'	Rob Rough
Judges' Choice Species	<i>Pleurothallis gargantua</i>	Jane Wright
Judges' Choice Specimen	<i>Pterostylis curta</i>	Karen Groeneveld

Popular Vote - October

(Has been misplaced; will hopefully be published in the next bulletin)

South and West Regional Conference and Orchid Show 2015
Bateman's Bay 3-4 October 2015

Results of Entries by members of the Orchid Society of Canberra:

Society Display				
	1	Beaches to Bush	Orchid Society of Canberra	
Champion Cypripedioideae		<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Memoria Richard Ong	David Judge	
Champion Vandaeae		<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Pink Cloud	David Judge	
Champion Seedling		<i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i>	David Judge	
Class	Description	Place	Plant	Owner
4a	Hybrid Sarcocochilus - white	1	<i>Sarcocochilus</i> Judith 'Snowy'	Rob Rough
4b	Hybrid Sarcocochilus - white with coloured centre	2	<i>Sarcocochilus</i> Fitzhart	Rob Rough
4c	Hybrid Sarcocochilus - yellow	1	<i>Sarcocochilus</i> Rebecca x Fizzy Dove	Rob Rough
4e	Hybrid Sarcocochilus - red	2	<i>Sarcocochilus</i> Berry	Rob Rough
4f	Hybrid Sarcocochilus - white with pink or red spotting or blotching	2	<i>Sarcocochilus</i> Burgundy on Ice 'Australia'	Rob Rough
9a	Phalaenopsis - >75mm, white or pink	1	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Pink Cloud	David Judge
9c	Phalaenopsis - 50-75mm, white or pink	1	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Nankung's 4.55pm 'TSS-32'	David Judge
9d	Phalaenopsis - 50-75mm, any other colour	2	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> hybrid	Craig Allen
12c	Laeliinae hybrid - <70mm, any other colour	2	<i>Cattleya</i> Haw Yuan Angel	Rob Rough
13	Laeliinae hybrid - cluster type	2	<i>Cattlianthe</i> Trick or Treat	Rob Rough
14e	Paphiopedilum hybrid- any other	1	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Memoria Richard Ong	David Judge
		2	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Lebaudymanum	David Judge
15b	Exotic Dendrobium hybrid - soft cane - pink	1	<i>Dendrobium</i> Felicity Fortescue	Ben Walcott
15g	Exotic Dendrobium hybrid - other exotic	1	<i>Dendrobium</i> Roy Tokunaga	Bob Bush
17a	Exotic species - Laeliinae	1	<i>Cattleya loddigesii</i> 'Solitary Islands'	Rob Rough
17c	Exotic species - Pleurothallidinae	2	<i>Masdevallia caesia</i>	Jane Wright
17e	Exotic species - Cypripedioideae	1	<i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i>	David Judge
		2	<i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i>	David Judge
17g	Exotic species - Dendrobium	1	<i>Dendrobium hancockii</i>	Mark Clements
		2	<i>Dendrobium lindleyi</i>	Mark Fraser and Sandra Corbett
17h	Exotic Bulbophyllinae	1	<i>Sestochilus lobbii</i>	Mark Fraser and Sandra Corbett
17i	Exotic species - other	1	<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Nita Wheeler
		2	<i>Serapias olbia</i>	Nita Wheeler
17j	Exotic species - miniature	1	<i>Bulbophyllum lemniscatooides</i>	Karen Groeneveld
18c	Australian native - terrestrial	1	<i>Pterostylis baptistii</i>	Mark Clements
		2	<i>Chiloglottis truncata</i>	Nita Wheeler

Contributions to the Bulletin

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

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