

BULLETIN

EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING: 7.45pm Monday 18 June 2018 at Community Hall, on corner Arden and Varna Streets, Clovelly (held 3rd Monday of each month except January) **Visitors always welcome.**

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Single \$12 Family \$18

(Due 1 July each year)

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May Meeting: Plant of the Evening

Congratulations to our Novice member Lorraine Fenton who won Plant of the Evening with this outstanding *Paphiopedulum insigne* (above)



which is a species endemic to India and Myanmar. The word 'insigne' is derived from the Latin word meaning 'badge of honour' It has been used extensively in hybridising. They are well suited to grow in Sydney temperatures. A 4-5 week dry rest period with only light watering or misting and no fertiliser is required in winter, to initiate flowering. Grow them in diffused bright light in an open mix of medium grade bark/perlite or similar. Re-potting is best done in early spring. This plant scored a 'double whammy' as it also won **Popular Choice** jointly with Gavin Curtis, who benched a beautiful *Vanda* unknown (on the left).

MAY MEETING REPORT

APOLOGIES: H Mason

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the last Meeting and the Special General Meeting held on Monday 16 April 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

CORRESPONDENCE: Members were notified by the Secretary Roger Lodsman of forthcoming Shows: Royale Orchid Fair (22-24 June) AOCC2018 (18-22 July) ESOS Show (28-29 July) National Cymbidium Extravaganza (4-5 Aug) St Ives Orchid Fair (17-19 Aug) SOS (5-7 Oct). Roger flagged the need for a Society Secretary following his departure in December. The AGM is on 20 August.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Treasurers report was tabled and accepted. Membership fees of \$15pp and \$20 per family fall due on 1 July, so please pay Chin.

PRESENTATION: Herbert Chen outlined how to use the ESOS.org.au website, asking members to use it as it will prove to be a very useful communication tool, for problem solving and information.

ESOS SHOW: Chris Dalrymple urged everyone to volunteer as well as to contribute plants for the ESOS Show to be held at Flower Power Nursery on 28-29 July. He urged members to wear the ESOS logo T-shirt at Shows (\$25 each from Helen Mason).

AOCC2018 SHOW: Chris Dalrymple asked members to seriously consider preparing plants to Show standard now, with adequate staking, pest control and nutrition to ensure high quality flowering. Show preparation of plants is vital for both the individual plant and to maintain a high ESOS Display standard.

- Without it we cannot hope to be competitive.
- It also improves the quality of your own collection and can help minimise pest/disease problems.
- Remember uniformity
- Use green stakes and green ties, not cable ties
- Use black pots whenever possible
- Stake plants for transport, then stake at the Show
- Start preparation 2-4 months before the Show
- Be aware that the Show Committee may trim or modify your plant to bring it up to Show standard, if you have not already done so. We must do this to enhance our display.
- Plants in poor condition or showing evidence of disease or pests will be rejected.
- Label all plants clearly with the generic name and owner's name.



My Favourite Orchid and Why I Love It

Cathy Starrett said her favourite orchid is *Prosthechea cochleata* which is *Encyclia cochleata*, renamed in 1998. It has the honour of being the first tropical epiphytic orchid to bloom at Kew Gardens, England in 1787. There is something peculiarly exotic about the orchid flower, which seems to resemble an animal more than it does a blossom. It is also called a cockleshell, clamshell or octopus orchid. *Prosthechea cochleata* is my favourite because it has such unusual flowers with the labellum forming a "hood" over the column, effectively making the flower upside down. It is found from Florida USA, to Brazil and is the national flower of Belize, a nation on the east coast of Central America. It grows beautifully in well drained bark, enjoys bright light conditions and should be kept moist. Cathy noted: "it is quite appropriate that I won it in a raffle at ESOS!! Not having seen it in flower I probably would never have bought it" she said. "So members, don't miss the opportunity to buy raffle tickets at monthly meetings, as you never know what treasures you will end up with, at a bargain price! Two tickets can be bought for a dollar, and the money collected goes towards supporting our Society" she concluded.

CATERING: Cathy Starrett and those providing delicious catering were warmly thanked.

RAFFLE: Chris thanked members who donated plants to the raffle table.

NEXT MEETING: 18 JUNE

VALE ERNIE PAGE (1935 - 20 May 2018)

Sincere condolences to Barbara and the family on behalf of Eastern Suburbs Orchid Society members, who are proud to have had Ernie as Patron for over 30 years. He was a keen orchid grower and very supportive of the Society as well as the local community, where he was recognised for his outstanding contribution as State MP over two decades. RIP



Eastern Suburbs Orchid Society Show, Flower Power Nursery 84A Wentworth Ave Mascot on 28th - 29th July

Free entry from 9am to 4pm Saturday and 9am to 3pm Sunday Cafe facilities. Plenty of parking. Raffle prizes.



The beautiful Blacktown Orchid Society display

ORCHIDS OUT WEST

Congratulations to our members who won prizes at the Orchids Out West Show last month: Chris Dalrymple (*Bulbophyllum sanderianum*) for first flowering seedling and Gavin Curtis (*Phalaenopsis* unknown, and *Oncidium* Sharry Baby-first prizes). Pictured below, Boglar Gertner admires ESOS members' prize winning orchids.



Orchids Out West was officially opened by the Mayor, the Hon Mary Lyons-Buckett (pictured left).

ORCHID HABITAT TOUR

Hosting the 21st Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show on 20-22 July, NSW Orchid Society NSW President Irene Chalmers warmly invited members to register as soon as possible. She said there are some excellent sightseeing tours for accompanying partners to local places of interest, including the Historic Windsor-Hawkesbury area (Vanilla Menu Challenge) High Tea at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Sydney's northern beaches, Blue Mountains, Taronga Zoo, and Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens. As a relaxing highlight to end the Conference on Sunday 22 July delegates may like to register for the Orchid Habitat Tour to see some of Australia's unique orchid species flowering in bushland. The coach departs Hawkesbury Stadium at 8am and returns at 2pm. The cost of the tour is \$46.00 (lunch not included). The bus will travel to Springwood and Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains, stopping to view important orchid habitats along the way. Guests will be accompanied by eminent Environmental Manager Greg Steenebeeke, who has spent his career in vegetation assessment, monitoring and plant identification in both dry land and wetland habitats. Currently he has a role in developing and implementing policy relating to managing environmental assets over long time periods in regions subject to urban development.

Apart from life sciences he also has a strong background in geology, governance and policy, and environmental restoration and rehabilitation, as well as community and adult education. He holds a B.Sc. with Honours (Sydney University), a Masters in Environmental Management (University of New England). **To join the tour please contact Toni Benton ASAP on 4754 5480 as numbers are limited.**

STUDENTS GROW ORCHIDS

Students of Windsor Park Public School will discover how to grow orchids as part of a Science Project which is an initiative of the NSW Orchid Society.

President Irene Chalmers said it was important to share the joy of growing orchids with students at a very early age. This is the best way for them to appreciate the importance of conserving the habitat of Australia's unique orchids and prevent future loss of species and the ecological communities in which they occur. Students in fifth and sixth grade classes and a special needs class will watch *Oncidium* Twinkle orchids develop into sensational flowers in the classroom over the next few months, using different fertiliser regimes to analyse the impact on growth and flowering.

AOC SOCIAL PROGRAM

The glamorous social program includes an Opening Ceremony to be held at the Hawkesbury Stadium (\$50pp). The Minister for Tourism and Major Events, the Hon Adam Marshall MP has been invited to officially open the Conference on Friday 20 July. There are still some tickets available for the Official Dinner on Saturday 21st July at Hawkesbury Race Club Clarendon (\$120pp). It provides an opportunity to relax with friends over a delicious gourmet dinner after a busy day at the Show.

An hourly conference shuttle bus service will operate from 8am-5pm to transfer visitors between the station, accommodation and the Stadium. It will also circulate throughout the historic area of Windsor and Richmond, to cafes and restaurants. Some accommodation is now fully booked, so don't delay in checking discount offers on the official website if you need somewhere to stay.

For more information contact:

the Secretary Toni Benton Tel: 4754 5480

aocc2018@orchidsocietynsw.com.au or view

<http://aocc2018.orchidsocietynsw.com.au/>



They will record weekly observations (at the same time of day) of each plant including weight, height, number of stems, colour of leaves, number of flower spikes, and arrival of flowers. Parents are urged to bring their children to admire a stunning display of orchids at the 21st Australian Orchid Council Conference & Show on 20-22 July 2018, at Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium 16 Stewart St, South Windsor as entry for under 15 year olds is free.

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Members Benched Plants



Phalaenopsis unknown grown by Boglar Gertner



LC Dinard 'Blue Heaven' grown by Chin Wong



Phalaenopsis unknown grown by Gavin Curtis



Paphiopedulum insigne Margaret AM/AOC-NSW 2017 grown by David Bullock

MONTHLY RESULTS: OPEN

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
2	Australian Native Hybrids	1 <i>Den.</i> unknown 2 <i>Den.</i> Edda x <i>Den. speciosum</i> 3 <i>Den.</i> unknown	G Curtis R Lodsman H Chen
4	Laeliinae Standard/Exhibition	1 <i>Lc.</i> Dinard 'Blue Heaven' 2 <i>Catt.</i> Angel Bella	C Wong W Jap
6	Laeliinae Intermediate/Minature	1 <i>Catt.</i> unknown 2 Pot. Jim Hicker 'Jim' 3 <i>Slc</i> Qing Ming	G Curtis H Chen R Lodsman
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	1 <i>Den.</i> unknown 2 <i>Den.</i> unknown	G Curtis G Curtis
11	First Flowered Seedling	1 <i>Den.</i> unknown 2 <i>Den.</i> unknown 3 <i>Phal.</i> Bellina	G Curtis G Curtis W Jap
13	Oncidiinae Hybrids	1 <i>Oncidium</i> Gower Ramsay 2 <i>Oncidium</i> unknown 3 <i>Alicea</i> Royal Ebony	D Collier D Bullock W Jap
14	Cypripedoidae Species	1 <i>Paph. insigne</i> Margaret 2 <i>Paph. insigne</i> 1 <i>Paph. wardii</i>	D Bullock H Chen W Jap
17	Phalaenopsis Hybrids	1 <i>Phal.</i> unknown 2 <i>Phal.</i> Taisuco Micky	G Curtis W Jap
18	Vandaceous Hybrids (Excluding Phals)	1 <i>Vanda</i> unknown 2 <i>Vanda</i> unknown	G Curtis G Curtis
19	Miscellaneous Hybrids	1 <i>Zygopetalum</i> Seagulls Landing	H Chen
21	Species: Asia	1 <i>Liparis</i> sp 2 <i>Bulb rothschildianum</i>	W Jap H Chen
22	Species: The Americas	1 <i>Laelia anceps</i> 2 <i>Onc. sotoanum</i> 2 <i>Laelia anceps</i>	W Jap W Jap C Wong

MONTHLY RESULTS: NOVICE

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
25	Laeliinae Hybrids	1 <i>Prosthechea cochleata</i>	C Starrett
30	Oncidiinae: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Onc.</i> Heavens Delight 2 <i>Miltassia</i> Phoenix Rising 'White Light'	N Weatherby B Ivanisevic
31	Oncidiinae: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Paph. insigne</i>	L Fenton
32	Vandaceous Species and Hybrids (including Phals)	1 <i>Phal.</i> unknown 2 <i>Phal.</i> unknown	B Gertner B Gertner