

BULLETIN

EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING: 7.45pm Monday 21 May 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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April Meeting: Plant of the Evening

Herbert Chen won the well deserved Plant of the Evening with his *Dendrobium* 'White Silk'. He previously outlined in the March ESOS Bulletin why *Dendrobiums* are his favourite orchid, and he grew this one in bark and charcoal with plenty of water in summer and weekly doses of weak soluble seaweed fertiliser. In winter it is taken indoors for about 5 weeks, but generally remains hanging outdoors all year.



Members Choice

Congratulations to Lorraine Fenton, a Novice who won the Members Choice vote for this stunning *Oncidium varicosum*. It is a species ranging from Brazil to northern Argentina. Most *Oncidium* species produce dozens of small flowers at the same time on long racemes, giving a spectacular show that lasts for several weeks.

Welcome

A warm welcome to Ian and Irene Chalmers, Maria and Gary Lee, Randall Magro, Theo Paradiso, and Jesse Stathos.

APRIL MEETING REPORT

COMMITTEE MEETING: A fully attended Committee Meeting was held to discuss Incorporation, member fees, raffle prices, and a new monthly plant sales report.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING: Members voted unanimously to support the motion: "*That the ESOS Constitution and By Laws be amended to allow incorporation, with associated changes implemented to reporting requirements and rules in order to comply with the Regulations*". Incorporation to be implemented by 1 July 2018, preceding the AGM planned for 20 August. President Chris Dalrymple informed members that Directors Insurance would be continued for the time being.

GENERAL MEETING:

APOLOGIES: B Collins, P Maynard

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The Minutes of the last Meeting held on Monday 19 March 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

CORRESPONDENCE: Members were notified by the Secretary Roger Lodsman of forthcoming Shows including: Orchids Out West (18-20 May) AOCC2018 (18-22 July) ESOS Show (28-29 July) National Cymbidium Extravaganza (4-5 Aug) St Ives Orchid Fair (17-19 Aug) and SOS (5-7 Oct). Roger flagged the need for a Society Secretary, following his departure in December 2018.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Treasurers report was tabled and accepted.

SURVEY RESULTS: Helen Mason presented results of the Annual Survey conducted to establish ESOS priorities in 2018-19. She noted that the Committee would use this as a guide for the year's activities.

AOCC2018: Chris Dalrymple urged everyone to volunteer for AOCC2018, as 10 people per 4.5 hour shift would be needed, and entry will be free.

SHOWS: Chris asked members to seriously consider preparing plants to Show Standard now, with adequate staking, pest control and nutrition for high quality flowering. He also asked members to wear the ESOS logo T-shirt (\$25 each) at Shows. Irene Chalmers urged Novices to take advantage of the abundant prizes available, as few entries are made. Helen to book the same area at Flower Power for the ESOS Show on 28-29 July (members were asked to provide 8 plants for repotting demos).

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

NEXT MEETING: 21 May: Herbert Chen to present a Workshop on how to use ESOS.org.au website.

My Favourite Orchid and Why I Love *Dendrobium speciosum* - The Warrior Pose Orchid



Roger Lodsman said his favourite orchid is *Dendrobium speciosum*. He said: "A division of *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *hillii* sourced from the Botanic Gardens is one of the first orchids I owned. That piece is still climbing out of a tree fork at my parents' house – I

had to move it to a bigger tree. My orchid collection has grown considerably since then to include various inter-varietal cultivars and hybrids influenced by this species. I love the physicality of this orchid: the thick canes, curled like a horn in some varieties, squat and nuggetty in others, the leaves past leathery into the stiffness of parchment.

This sleeping beast has wrinkled bulbs, until a succulent new growth with its pristine white sheath appears almost overnight. The little grubs appear in spring, with their delicate knurling buds. The graceful spikes in all their glory drape in neat rows of flowers that set, relax, set, relax, SET. My wife coined the nickname 'Warrior Pose Orchid' at the St. Ives Orchid Fair when we were floored by the massed display of flowering *Den. speciosum* plants towering over everything at the AON stall. The name is perfect – a tough plant that could pass for a cactus with elegant foxtail flower spikes that reach for the sky, or arch gracefully away from the plant. And then there's the fragrance on a warm day – visiting the Botanic Gardens in spring to see clumps of this orchid flowering on a rock outcrop is a fond memory".

Dendrobium Hilda Poxon 'Patricia' (*D. tetragonum* x *D. speciosum*)



MY FAVOURITE ORCHID (continued)

Dendrobium speciosum is a very forgiving orchid. You can grow it in any garden wedged amongst some rocks, or take things more seriously and it will reward you handsomely. I grow my mature plants in a mixture of coarse bark, charcoal, and river pebbles under 30% shade cloth in shallow trays of water from October to April, and in full light with the water trays removed during the rest of the year. This gives me two to three growth spurts each year. They get a dose of 'Osmocote for Natives' in October, and Peters HiK and Seasol monthly. *Dendrobium* beetles will attack the new growths (but the frogs take care of most of those). *Den. speciosum* has been used extensively in hybridisation to increase flower count, strengthen the flower spike, and improve presentation. The kids will flower when they get to a moderate size but, like their parent, will be at their best when they grow into specimen plants with several flower spikes.



Dendrobium Cosmic Gold 'Sandy' (*D. Avril's Gold* x *D. speciosum*)

If you want to know what *Den. speciosum* does for Aussie Den hybrids, look at photos on Henk van den Berg's stand at the St. Ives Orchid Fair on 17-19 August 2018.

Some of the varieties of this orchid grow into very big plants, but there are others bred to take up little more than a dinner plate when fully mature, with pseudobulbs at 10-15cm tall.

Do yourself a favour and grow at least one of these because a mature plant in full flower is a sight to behold".

D. speciosum var. *grandiflorum* 'Kroombit Gold'



Dendrobium Greta Snow 'Cheryl' (*D. Jayden* x *D. speciosum*)



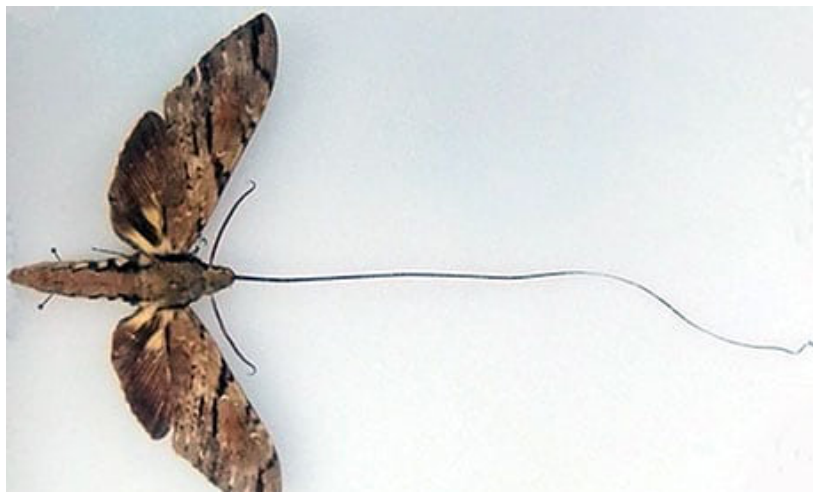
Dendrobium speciosum "Claire de Lune"



Other Members Benched Plants



Chris Dalrymple is to be commended for growing this very rare *Angraecum longicalcar*. It is a critically endangered species where it originated at 1000-2000m in the Central Highlands of Madagascar. Long lasting spicily fragrant flowers can be up to 40cm long. It is a very important species in evolution, demonstrating how a moth can adapt to obtain flower nectar and thus ensure pollination. It fascinated Charles Darwin, who proposed that '*there must be moths with probosces capable of extending 12 inches (30cm) in order to pollinate it*'. It was not until 100 years later that actual observations were recorded of the giant (with a 16cm wingspan) Congo Moth (*X. morganii praedicta*) feeding on the flower, to confirm his hypothesis.



Brassidium Gilded Urchin grown by David Bullock



Ian Kaplins' spreading *Miltonia* app.



AOCC2018: MEET THE OVERSEAS VENDORS

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. With over 130 registrations so far, she said Australia will give a warm welcome to leading vendors from USA, Japan/Thailand, Columbia, Brazil, and Taiwan. This will provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to up-grade the genetics of this nation's orchid collection. There are still a few vacant "Champion Sponsor" positions so anyone interested should view the website (below).

Sunset Valley Orchids, USA

Sunset Valley Orchids is dedicated to the breeding of new orchid hybrids. Primary efforts are focused on hybridizing of *Cattleya* Alliance, *Catasetinae*, Australian Native *Dendrobiums* and *Paphiopedilums*. They also are working with several other groups, like *Sarcochilus*, *Zygopetalum* Alliance, and *Stanhopea* and their relatives.

Sunset Valley Orchids is one of the top breeders of *Catasetinae*, and their plants are being grown by orchid enthusiasts worldwide. The development of the "blackest orchid seen," *Fredclarkera* After Dark (Mo. Painted Desert x *Ctsm*. Donna Wise) captured a great



deal of attention, and the next generations of *Catasetinae* hybrids will be spectacular!

The *Cattleya* breeding program has been developing for over 35 years, with many new and unique hybrids, resulting in hundreds of AOS awards. Sunset Valley Orchids take a different approach:

to hybridise for the orchid hobbyist, not the mass market. This strategy requires staying at the forefront, by breeding the newest and most promising hybrids available. Their specialty is compact sized *Cattleyas*, plants that are less than 30cm tall at maturity and bloom in 10cm pots.

**For more information contact the
Registration Secretary
aocc2018@orchidsocietynsw.com.au
<http://aocc2018.orchidsocietynsw.com.au/>**



AWZ Orchids, Brazil

For 50 years, Wladyslaw Zaslawski has collected natural orchids not only from Brazil, but from all over the world, always focusing on the quality of plants in terms of flower shapes and colours, among other characteristics. In 1991 he decided to reproduce many of the species in the collection, due to the difficulties of obtaining them due to rarity, and the gradual disappearance of their natural habitats.

Since 1991, father and son Aleksandr have worked together in the development and reproduction of orchids, under the banner of AWZ Orquideas. The reproduction of the natural species is more complex than that of hybrids, since many require special care for successful development, mainly at the stage of seed germination in culture medium (asbiotic method).

All production is made in a highly specialised laboratory, to ensure healthy and vigorous seedlings of export standard. Currently the collection and seedlings produced are grown in two different sites, according to the origin of the plants. One site has a milder climate, at 1,100 meters altitude and the other site has a warmer climate, at 300m altitude.



Tokyo Orchid Nursery

Tokyo Orchid Nursery is world-renowned for producing new lines of hybrid Slipper Orchids as well as line breeding several popular species. It is particularly famous for accomplishments with *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*. Other areas of focus include selective breeding for intense color in *Paph. sukhakulii* and producing ever darker forms of *Paph. bellatulum*. Notable among their hybrid lines are large whites and complex hybrids incorporating members the *parvisepalum* alliance.

The near-perfect *Paph. rothschildianums*, *Sophronitis coccineas* and near black *Paph. leucochilums* have been a feature of Tokyo Orchid Nursery breeding. One of their hybrids, *Paph. Martian Man* (Emerald Sea x *malipoense*) won the Japan Grand Prix at The Tokyo Dome show in 2015. This nursery has achieved world-wide recognition as a purveyor of the finest Japanese orchids and has been consistently successful as an exhibitor in international shows around the world.

Ching Hua Orchids, Taiwan

Located in Hsinying, South of Taiwan, Ching Hua Orchids was founded in the 1970s. The climate is ideal for the production of a large variety of orchids. Their laboratory is focussed on production of *Paphiopedilum* seedlings and orchid species. Ching Hua Orchids are a pioneer breeder keen to introduce new varieties of orchids. They are experienced exporters, shipping orchids to USA, Japan, Europe (Holland, Germany), Australia and other countries. It's their goal to breed and produce high quality plants to fulfil market needs. Statistics from the Council of Agriculture (COA) show that in 2009, Taiwan's orchid export value reached US\$86.8 million, accounting for 78 percent of the country's total flower exports. Taiwan produces approximately a third of the world's orchids each year. One of the main orchids Taiwan now produces is the *Oncidium*, which was introduced to Taiwan about two decades ago. Since 2002, this species has become Taiwan's top-selling cut flower, with more than 20 million orchids shipped each year (mainly to Japan, supplying 85 percent of their market demand).

Orchid Inn, USA

Orchid Inn, Ltd USA is owned and operated by Sam Tsui and his wife Jeanie. Sam has been breeding/hybridising since the early 1990s which expanded into the "Orchid Inn" business on a 2.5 ha property with 560 sq m. green house. Sam attends over 20 orchid shows and conferences a year, including about 25 *Paphiopedilum* programs/lectures to orchid conferences, societies and groups in the USA, Canada, Japan, Australia and Europe. Hybridizing is Sam's passion, particularly with *Paphiopedilum* species, *Brachypetalum*, *Parvisepalum* and Multifloral hybrids. Orchid Inn has been honoured with over 275 awards, including 15 First Class Certificate (FCC/AOS) awards from the American Orchid Society; 4 Cultural awards including a 93 points Certificate of Cultural Excellence (CCE/AOS) award; and 7 breeder Award of Quality (AQ/AOS) awards. An outstanding *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum* sibling cross has been awarded two GM/DOG and also the Grand Champion at the 2017 Dresden International Orchid Show in Germany.



Hanajima Orchids, Japan/Thailand

The number of potted orchid arrangements sold annually in auctions in Japan stood at 1.92 million in 2015, the latest year for which data are available. Hanajima Orchids operates one of the largest nurseries in Japan, breeding *Paphiopedilum* and *Cattleyas*. Mak Hanajima works closely with nurseries in Thailand to support his export business, which he operates world-wide by travelling to all major orchid shows. He is a regular visitor to Australia and will bring high quality orchids for sale in flasks at the Show.

Orquideas del Valle Orchid Nursery, Colombia

Andrea Niessen, Orquideas del Valle Orchid Nursery, Cali, Colombia has maintained her orchid nursery since 1989 with her husband Juan Carlos Uribe. Orquideas del Valle now includes two retail shops, an online shop, two nurseries (warm/cool growing) and laboratory facilities for seed flasking. Orquideas del Valle has been represented at many National and International Shows, World Orchid Conferences and European Orchid Conferences, with Andrea lecturing, exhibiting and selling many beautiful and diverse orchid species from Colombia. Colombia's diverse habitats have yielded nearly 5,000 orchid species, yet there are clearly more to be discovered.



Procedure for Sale of Members Plants

We seek members' co-operation with the sale of plants at monthly meetings. There has been a lot of confusion recently, so here is the correct procedure.

1. Do not bring any plants for sale that are diseased or have a pest infestation. These will be immediately removed.
2. Place your plants on the allocated table marked "Plants for Sale".
3. Make sure you have put a tag on each plant, clearly stating your name and the price.
4. Anyone wanting to buy a plant must wait until the Sales Officer is ready for business. They will record on the Sales Sheet, the plant sold, the price and who owned it. Please do not just grab plants at the beginning of the meeting, when everyone is busy setting up.
5. The Sales Officer will reconcile the total cash collected to the tags submitted by owners for plants sold. The sales sheet, monies and the tags will then be given to the Treasurer, who will calculate the 85% to be returned to the former plant owners.
6. The Sales Officer will then distribute cash to members who sold plants.
7. Unsold plants will be collected by members at the end of the meeting.
8. The Treasurer will bank the funds for the Society.

Members please try to check your plant names and label them correctly, as it is very difficult to record your point scores in the correct category if you don't. For each plant you need to complete a Plant Slip showing the plant name and benching class, whether Open or Novice, as well as your name. Place it on the bench beside your plant. If you are uncertain please ask the Judge or the President.

MONTHLY RESULTS: OPEN

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
2	Australian Native Hybrids	Den. Dal's Page x Topaz Dream	W Jap
5	Laeliinae Cluster/Novelty	1 <i>Catt. Portia Cannazaro</i> 2 <i>Lc 'Trick or Treat' x B/c Yellow x Bc Dal's Cherry</i>	G Curtis R Lodsman
6	Laeliinae Intermediate/Minature	1 <i>Lc. Chocolate Drop x Sch. splendens</i>	W Jap
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	1 <i>Den. White Silk</i> 2 <i>Den. New Amar</i> 3 <i>Den. Sweet Sugar</i>	H Chen H Chen H Chen
11	First Flowered Seedling	1 <i>Phal. Bellina</i>	W Jap
13	Oncidinae Hybrids	1 <i>Brassidium Gilded Urchin</i> 2 <i>Oncidium Sharry Baby</i> 3 <i>Oncidium Aztec 'Toni'</i>	D Bullock G Curtis C Wong
14	Cypripedoidae Species	1 <i>Paph. wardii var. alba</i>	W Jap
15	Cypripedoidae Hybrids: Standard/ Exhibition	1 <i>Paph. tatonka</i>	W Jap
18	Vandaceous Hybrids (Excluding Phals)	1 <i>Vanda</i> unknown	G Curtis
21	Species: Asia	1 <i>Aerides sp</i> 2 <i>Ddc. cobbianum</i>	W Jap W Jap
22	Species: The Americas	1 <i>G. bowringiana coerulea</i> 2 <i>Laelia anceps</i>	C Wong G Curtis

MONTHLY RESULTS: NOVICE

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
25	Laeliinae Hybrids	1 <i>Catt. Portia Cannazaro</i>	O Fotini Crompton
29	Miscellaneous Hybrids	1 <i>Zygopetalum maculatum</i> 2 <i>Zygopetalum hybrid</i>	O Fotini Crompton B Gertner
30	Oncidiinae: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Onc. varicosum</i> 2 <i>Miltonia spp</i> 3 <i>Brassidium</i> unknown	L Fenton I Kaplin J Stathos