

# BULLETIN

## EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY

**NEXT MEETING: AGM at 7.45pm Monday 17 September 2018 at the Community Hall, corner Arden & Varna Streets, Clovelly** (held 3rd Monday of each month except January) **Visitors welcome.**

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### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

**Single \$12 Family \$18**  
(Due 1 July each year)

## August: Plant of the Evening and Member's Choice



Congratulations to Chin Wong who won Plant of the Evening along with Members Choice for this beautiful *Paphiopedilum villosum* (above). It is a species found in Assam, southern China and Myanmar. This easy-to-grow and bloom species does well outdoors.

### Other Plants Benched

Gavin Curtis presented a sensational example of a *Wilsonaria* Golden Afternoon Rich Yellow (left).

## AUGUST MEETING REPORT

**APOLOGIES:** C Dalrymple, H Mason, R Lodsman, B Collins, W Jap, K Schremmer, M Kostic.

**GUESTS:** Guests Poppy and Menelaus Kalogerakis attended after winning the ESOS Show raffle prize, and subsequently became new members.

Acting President Gavin Curtis welcomed guests and members, expressing concern that Barry Collins has been in Tamworth Hospital this month.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Orchid Society newsletters. Bunnings Eastgardens Spring Show is on 15 Sep.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurers Report was tabled and accepted. Chin reported on the outcome of the ESOS Annual Show at Flower Power Nursery, Mascot on 27-28 July 2018. Membership fees of \$12pp and \$18 per family were due on 1 July, so please pay Chin if you want to nominate/vote at the AGM next month. The refund of \$1000 seed money has been posted by AOCC2018.

**AGM:** Gavin informed members that the **AGM will be held on 17 September before the next monthly meeting. Nominations are sought for all**

**Committee positions.** Members are reminded that they have to be financial in order to vote or to nominate for a position. The Committee will support any new members willing to have a go.

**AOCC2018 SHOW:** Ian Chalmers reported on the success of AOCC2018 expressing disappointment that more people did not attend. He spoke about the challenges of getting the blue Phalaenopsis out of Japan for the first time ever. Members were informed of USB cards for sale of Show Champions and Conference Proceedings (\$42). To order, email Helen Mason ([helenrobmason@gmail.com](mailto:helenrobmason@gmail.com)).

**PRESENTATION:** Gavin talked about growing and repotting Phalaenopsis, explaining the approach he uses. He mentioned the challenge of achieving successful flowering this year.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** 1. Roger has the bulk order from GCP Plastics, which can be collected from him, or at the next ESOS meeting.

2. The Church directed all groups meeting in the Hall to send a rep for Fire Warden training. David attended and is now qualified. He'll report to the next meeting.

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

**NEXT MEETING:** The next ESOS meeting is the **AGM**, and will be held on **17 September 2018**.

## SOUTHERN ORCHID SPECTACULAR

CARRINGBAH HIGH SCHOOL  
85 WILLARONG RD CARRINGBAH  
5-7 OCTOBER 2018

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR  
THE SHOW ROSTER AS ESOS IS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR DOOR ENTRY  
AND RAFFLE TICKET SALES.

MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO THINK  
ABOUT A PRIZE WINNING THEME,  
AND TO ENSURE DISPLAY PLANTS  
ARE CLEARLY LABELLED AND FREE  
OF PESTS AND DISEASES.

### FOR SALE \$42

#### AOCC2018 USB CARDS

A complete set of photos of every display, every champion and all the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed flowers in every class, along with Conference Proceedings.

Limited copies available, so please send your name and address by email to [helenrobmason@gmail.com](mailto:helenrobmason@gmail.com). Make your payment by Direct Deposit (quoting your name as a reference) to: Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
AOC2018 Account: BSB 062 232 a/c 1030 4334



### DON'T FORGET TO COLLECT YOUR GCP ORDER FROM ROGER

**Benching Rule:** In order to bench a plant for judging, you must have owned it for at least six months.



## DEFLASKING ORCHIDS

If you have the facilities to grow them, it is cost effective to buy flasks of orchid seedlings. So why not have a go at this interesting challenge? It's very hard to pollinate orchid flowers and collect their tiny seeds, so it is better to leave that to professional nurseries. The experts germinate the seeds under sterile laboratory conditions on specially formulated agar jelly inside sealed sterile bottles. Once the seedlings are well established, it is possible to buy flasks of them, and they are readily available at a number of Orchid Shows. You need to plan for enough space, as well as having the commitment to grow them for 3-5 years, before you will be rewarded with flowers. The excitement of waiting is one of the attractions.



Before deflasking, ensure the seedlings have developed good root systems. If not, leave them in the flask at 23°C and 15 hrs of light per day until they have grown. Do not open the flask until you are ready to deflask as fungi may enter. There is a small hole in the flask top that enables air to exchange. On the other hand, do not leave plants in the flask too long, or they will become stressed due to lack of space, nutrition and incorrect pH as the nutrient jelly breaks down. Aim to create the same environment for the tiny seedlings that you would put similar mature plants into. Consider ways to slightly reduce the light compared to that used for mature plants, and protect from temperature extremes. This is only needed for a short time to enable the seedlings to acclimatise as quickly as possible.

The ideal time to deflask is mid-Autumn or early Spring, when plants are actively growing. When it is warm, they can be immediately transferred to a location alongside mature plants of the same group.

### Method

1. Write identification labels for plants
2. Fill pots to within 30mm of the top with moistened fine pine bark, pressing down lightly.
3. Remove plants from the flask by unscrewing or unclipping the top and shaking out the plants. With glass flasks, wrap the flask in newspaper and gently break with a hammer.

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Ecuagenera Cia Ltd flasks (above) from Ecuador, on sale at AOCC2018.

4. Wash the agar jelly from the roots, being careful not to damage them. It is not necessary to wash all the agar from the roots, as small pieces will dehydrate and virtually disappear.
5. Plants can then be transferred into a fungicide solution. Separate the plants carefully.
6. Individually position the plants in pots. Add bark to top up the pot while positioning the plants with the base of the plant just below bark level. Firm down bark slightly. Insert identification labels.
7. Position the pot in a suitable location.
8. Maintain high humidity by frequent light misting.
9. Fertilise regularly with a weak solution. After about 3-4 weeks, you should begin to see some signs of growth - as either new roots or leaves. Apply fungicide after 4-6 weeks.
10. After 18-26 weeks, when the plants have 'hardened' enough they can be planted into pots, and put back in a shady spot for a couple of weeks, before being treated as adult plants of the same species.

If you have any questions or concerns, come to any monthly meeting of an Orchid Society to ask members with deflasking experience, as they will offer plenty of helpful advice. (right) **Nine months growth on Gavin's Den. seedlings.**



## MONTHLY RESULTS: OPEN

| No. | Class                         | Plant  | Exhibitor                     |
|-----|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1   | Australian Native Species     | <i>Dendrobium teretifolium</i>   | D Collier                     |
| 2   | Australian Native Hybrids     | 1 <i>Den</i> King Zip x Victoria Flare<br>2 <i>Den</i> unknown<br>3 <i>Den</i> Australian Rhubarb Pie                | H Chen<br>H Chen<br>H Chen    |
| 5   | Laeliinae Cluster/Novelty     | 1 <i>Epc</i> Rene Margues' Flame Thrower'  | C Wong                        |
| 7   | Cymbidium Standard            | 1 <i>Cymbidium</i> Kurralt Park 'Tennyson'<br>2 <i>Cymbidium</i> Alnwick Castle x Death Wish                         | H Chen<br>H Chen              |
| 8   | Cymbidium Intermediate        | 1 <i>Cymbidium</i> Ten Pin 'Tee Pee'<br>2 <i>Cymbidium</i> Unknown<br>3 <i>Cymbidium</i> unknown                     | H Chen<br>D Bullock<br>H Chen |
| 10  | Dendrobium Hybrids            | 1 <i>Den.</i> Unknown  | G Curtis                      |
| 12  | Miniature Species and Hybrids | 1 <i>Wilsonaria</i> Golden Afternoon Rich Yellow<br>2 <i>Oncidium</i> Sharry Baby<br>3 <i>Onc.</i> Singapore Delight | G Curtis<br>C Wong<br>H Chen  |
| 13  | Oncidinae Hybrids             | 1 <i>Onc.</i> unknown<br>2 <i>Onc.</i> Midnight Miracles 'Massai Splash'   | D Collier<br>D Collier        |
| 14  | Cypripedoidae Species         | 1 <i>Paph.</i> <i>villosum</i>   | C Wong                        |
| 17  | Phalaenopsis Hybrids          | 1 <i>Phal.</i> unknown   | G Curtis                      |
| 19  | Miscellaneous Hybrids         | 1 <i>Coelogyne</i> Unchained Melody 'Alisa'  | D Bullock                     |

## MONTHLY RESULTS: NOVICE

| No. | Class                         | Plant  | Exhibitor                        |
|-----|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 25  | Laeliinae Hybrids             | 1 <i>Catt.</i> Pastoral White<br>2 <i>Catt. purpurata</i> 'Russelliana' x <i>L. anceps</i> | L Fenton<br>O Fotini Crompton    |
| 26  | Cymbidium Species/Hybrids     | 1 <i>Cym.</i> 'Gladiator'<br>2 <i>Cym.</i> unknown   | O Fotini Crompton<br>N Weatherby |
| 29  | Miscellaneous Hybrids         | 1 <i>Den</i> <i>delicatum</i>  | I Kaplin                         |
| 30  | Oncidinae Species/Hybrids     | 1 <i>Onc.</i> Sharry Baby Red Fantasy  | O Fotini Crompton                |
| 31  | Paphiopedilum Species/Hybrids | 1 <i>Paph.</i> unknown   | B Ivanisevic                     |
| 33  | Species, Other                | 1 <i>Haemaria</i> Discolor Jewel Orchid  | B Gertner                        |

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