

# BULLETIN

## EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

### MONTHLY ZOOM MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Single \$15 Family \$20

(Due 1 July each year)

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membership enquiries to:  
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### May Online Judging: Plant of the Month



Congratulations to Novice Cathy Starrett who won Plant of the Month with this very impressive floriferous *Arthurara* Sea Snake 'Unforgettable' (left) which also won First place in Class 30.

### Rare Orchid Found After 145 Years!

A schoolgirl, Arabella Hanisch Jasiak, found a rare orchid (right) in Wollemi National Park, not sighted for 145 years. Her parents, Sabine Hanisch and Ben Jasiak were able to readily identify *Prasophyllum reflexum* [*Corunastylis reflexa*] because they have written books about native orchids of the Blue Mountains. This orchid was first published in the Journal of Botany in 1885 (23:137).



## MAY ZOOM MEETING REPORT

In order to safeguard the well-being of members, the ESOS Committee has successfully conducted monthly Zoom meetings. We continue to recognise the beautiful flowers members grow, by issuing Point Scores for flower 'benchings' by email. We seek the support of members in following Zoom Online Judging Rules outlined in the April 2020 issue of the ESOS Bulletin.

Orchid photos (preferably jpeg files) may be emailed to Ian ([ianchalmers73@gmail.com](mailto:ianchalmers73@gmail.com)) for judging any day during the month, up until noon on the Sunday before the next meeting (14 June).

**ATTENDEES:** Gavin warmly welcomed members:

I & I Chalmers	C Wong
G Curtis	H Chen
H Mason	C Starrett
J & J Linton	R Trethewy
I Kaplin	B & B Thompson
P Malthouse	B Gertner
C Ping Li	L Ying
N Weatherby	W Jap
B Leelarthapin	

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous ESOS Zoom meeting held on 20 April 2020 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurers Report by Chin Wong was accepted. **Annual Membership (Single \$15 Family \$20) is due on 1 July, and should be deposited directly into the Commonwealth Bank BSB 062 439, ESOS Account 103 630 34 using your name as ID.**

**ORCHID OLYMPICS:** Gavin asked members to comment on progress with the growth of their plants.

**ESOS 70th ANNIVERSARY:**

Members were wished Happy 70th Anniversary, and Gavin suggested celebrations be delayed until 2021. Members are requested to make suggestions for a memento as a gift for members:

- a *Corunastylus* sp. orchid (just rediscovered after 145 years) printed onto a T shirt?

**ESOS SHOW:**

The ESOS Show will be conducted at Flower Power Nursery, 84A Wentworth Ave Mascot, on 11-12 July, regulations permitting.

**GROWING ADVICE:**

Members discussed their orchid plants and how to grow them successfully.

**NEXT MEETING:** Members were notified that the ESOS meeting on 15 June may return to the Hall, regulations permitting. To be confirmed by email.

**HAPPY 70TH ESOS ANNIVERSARY EVERYONE!**

**What's the difference between Wuhan and Las Vegas? What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.**

**After isolation**



**Annual Membership (Single \$15 Family \$20) is due on 1 July.**

*The views stated in this bulletin are not necessarily the views of The Eastern Suburbs Orchid Society Inc. but are the views expressed by the individual authors and contributors.*

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## Hints for Growing Paphs...

Members who are now growing Paph. Willam Amber in the Orchid Olympics may appreciate this advice.

Due to the current ban on monthly ESOS meetings, judging will be conducted by email.

Simply take a photo of the plant (jpeg file) in July and November, and measure the length (mm) along the midline of the longest leaf on your plant, then email it to Helen ([helenrobmason@gmail.com](mailto:helenrobmason@gmail.com)) who will collate and submit all plants to Ian for judging.

### HINT 1:

Paphiopedilums require shady conditions, so if grown inside put the pot near an east or west window, or near a shaded north window. Shade must be provided in a greenhouse.

- Paphiopedilums need light to trigger flowering
- ensure temperatures never go colder than 15°C nor hotter than 33°C.

### HINT 2:

Care for plants much like you would grow Phalaenopsis.

- avoid rot when it is cold, by keeping the humidity low
- keep moisture away from the leaves or in the crowns of plant leaves
- don't allow leaves to get too hot, by providing adequate shade and increased humidity and air movement.
- wherever ferns thrive is probably ideal.

### HINT 3:

Because Paphiopedilums have no pseudobulbs, plants need a moist medium - never soggy, but never dry.

- water once or twice a week, but ensure sufficient drainage occurs.
- to maintain humidity between 40 and 50 percent, place plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water, so that the plants never sit in water. Average humidity is sufficient if growing plants in a greenhouse.
- air movement is essential.

### HINT 4:

Do not pack compost too tightly as it will prevent efficient drainage, and rapid 'souring' will occur. This will cause root rot.

- due to very fine root hairs, minimise root disturbance and be very careful when re-potting.
- do not over-pot. It is better to use the smallest pot capable of holding the root system without squashing it too much.

### HINT 5:

Use half-strength applications of nitrogen fertilisers every two weeks to encourage leaf growth

- once a month, flush with clear water to leach out excess fertiliser which may burn roots
- when the plant reaches flowering size, a low nitrogen, high potassium and high phosphorus fertiliser will encourage flower development.

HAPPY GROWING!

## Trivia: Helen's Tree Frog

*Rhacophorus helenae*, commonly called **Helen's Tree Frog** (below) is part of a group of arboreal frogs called flying frogs. This endangered tree frog is found in low-lying forests of southern Vietnam, from Nui Ong Nature Reserve, Binh Thuan Province to jungle in Tân Phú District, Đồng Nai. It is named after Helen M. Rowley, mother of one of the discoverers. Major threats facing *R. helenae* include habitat loss and degradation due to habitat encroachment, as well as habitat fragmentation.





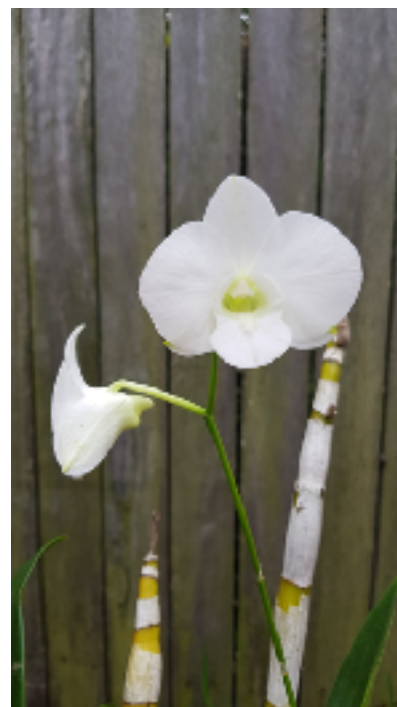
## In Herbert's Garden



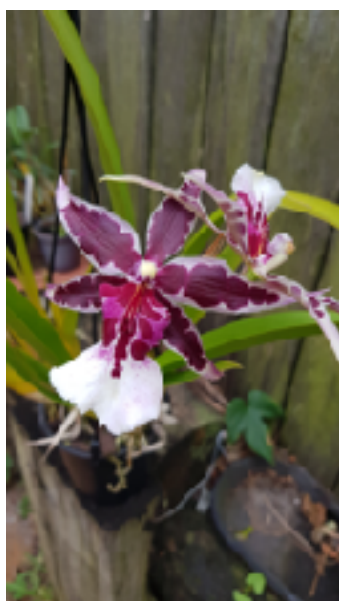
*Dgrm* Winter Wonderland 'White Fairy'



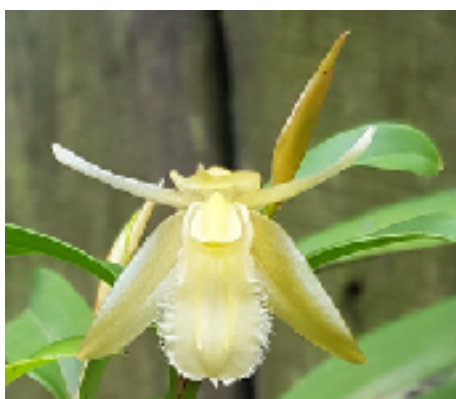
*Rlc* Focus Taiwan 'Orchis'



*Den.* White Silk



*Beallara* Peggy Ruth  
Carpenter 'Morning Glory'

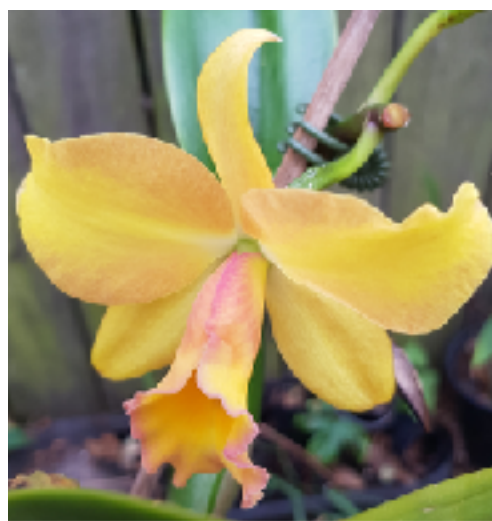


*Coelogyne fimbriata*



*Onc.* Fire Free

*Rlc.* Bernadine Kennedy  
(right)



*Pot.* Jim Nikou x *Blc* izumi charm (above)



## In Herbert's Garden (contd)

Congratulations Herbert for bringing this beautiful orchid collection to flowering, for the delight and pleasure of all members.



*Rlc. Angel Flare x Pot. Rosella Tokyo*



*Bulb. rothschildianum*



*C. Mari's Song* (left) and *Den. Cheryl's Glory'* (below) and *Zygopetalum 'Seagulls Landing' x Z. Blackii 'Negus'* (right).



## MONTHLY RESULTS: OPEN

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
2	Australian Native Hybrids	1 <i>Den.</i> Hilda Poxon 2 <i>Den.</i> Cheryl's Glory 3 <i>Den.</i> unknown	W Jap H Chen W Jap
4	Laeliinae Standard/Exhibition	1 <i>Rlc.</i> unknown 2 <i>C.</i> Mari's Song 3 <i>Rlc.</i> Focus Taiwan 'Orchis'	G Kazarian H Chen H Chen
5	Laeliinae Cluster/Novelty	1 <i>Cattlianthe</i> Molly Tyler 2 <i>Brassocattleya</i> Marg Putman	W Jap W Jap
6	Laeliinae Intermediate/Minature	1 <i>C.</i> Fitz Eugene Dixon 2 <i>Rlc.</i> Tokyo Angel 3 <i>Cattlianthe</i> Minerva	W Jap H Chen W Jap
7	Cymbidium Standard	1 <i>Cym.</i> Enzan Shining 'Royale Flame'	H Chen
11	First Flowered Seedlings	1 <i>Cym dayanum</i> 'Warleiti' AM-ACM/AOC NSW 2020	W Jap
12	Miniature Species & Hybrids	1 <i>Dendrochilum wenzelii</i>	W Jap
13	Oncidinae Hybrids	1 <i>Dgmra.</i> Winter Wonderland 'White Fairy' 2 <i>Onc.</i> Sharry Baby 3 <i>Onc.</i> Fire Free	H Chen H Chen H Chen
16	Cypripedioidae Hybrids: Other	1 <i>Paph. insigne</i>	N Weatherby
17	Phalaenopsis Hybrids	1 <i>Phal.</i> Unknown	G Kazarian
19	Miscellaneous Hybrids	1 <i>Zygo.</i> Seagulls Landing x <i>Z.</i> Blackii 'Negus' 2 <i>Bulb.</i> Elizabeth Ann Buckleberry 3 <i>Bulb.</i> Elizabeth Ann Buckleberry	H Chen H Chen G Kazarian
20	Pleurothallidinae: Species	1 <i>Masd.</i> unknown	H Chen
21	ERRATUM: PLEASE ADD TO APRIL JUDGING Species: Asia	1 <i>Cym dayanum</i> 'Warleiti' AM-ACM/AOC NSW 2020 2 <i>Ddc. cobbianum</i> "Green Lip" 3 <i>Ddc latifolium</i>	W Jap W Jap W Jap
21	Species: Asia	1 <i>Den. goldschmidtianum</i> 'Warleiti' ACM/AOC NSW 2 <i>Bulbo. Rothschildianum</i> 3 <i>Cym. tracyanum</i>	W Jap H Chen N Weatherby
22	Species: The Americas	1 <i>Zygopetalum mackayii</i> 2 <i>Stanhopea wardii</i>	N Weatherby W Jap



## Members Flowers

*Zygopetalum mackayii* (right) winning first in Class 22, and *Cym. tracyanum* (left) winning third in Class 21, were both grown by Noelene Weatherby.







## Members Flowers

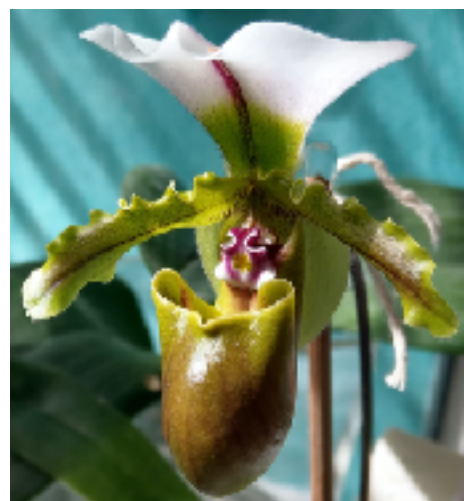
The *Paph. insigne* (left) and *Onc. Sharry Baby* (below left) were grown by novice Liza Ying.



Greg Kazarian grew the lovely *Rlc. unknown* (above right) winning first in Class 4 and the *Phal. unknown* (right) winning first in Class 17.



Novice Chao Ping Li grew the colourful *Onc. 'Wildfire'* (left) winning third in Class 30, as well as the *Paph. spicerianum* hybrid (right) winning first in Class 31.



## MONTHLY RESULTS: NOVICE

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
24	Aust. Natives: Hybrids/ Species	1 <i>Den. Regals</i> Gilliston x Rutherford Starburst	C. Ping Li
25	Laeliinae: Hybrids	1 <i>Laelia</i> unknown	J Linton
27	Dendrobium: Hybrids/ Species	1 <i>Den. Sarusand</i>	C. Ping Li
30	Oncidiinae: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Arthurara</i> Sea Snake 'Unforgettable' 2 <i>Oncostele succubus</i> 'Night Shift' 3 <i>Onc. 'Wildfire'</i>	C Starrett H Mason C. Ping Li
31	Paphiopedilum: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Paph. spicerianum</i> 2 <i>Paph. callosum</i> 3 <i>Paph. insigne</i>	C. Ping Li C. Ping Li C. Ping Li
32	Vandaceous Hybrids & Species	1 <i>Vanda</i> unknown	R Trethewy
33	Species Other	1 <i>Laelia anceps</i>	H Mason

# Was This a Mission Impossible? Stephen Monkhouse



"This was my dream that came true. Starting with a basic Zygopetalum and through some creative breeding, we now have green, yellows, spotted, striped and white Zygopetalum flowers. In this short article I will take you on my journey of discovery".



I have a passion for growing orchids as I was brought up in an orchid family, in the family business. I grew to admire many different types of orchids. I particularly liked Paphiopedilums, as my father had collected many hybrids and species. As a son who normally does the opposite to what parents advise, I wanted to study the Zygopetalum family. This family only had chocolate flowers with lovely purple lips and a strong perfume (above left). My thoughts were to change this. Would it be impossible, as no-one had achieved that in the whole world? With that as my goal, and with advice from orchid authorities saying I was crazy, I took the plunge on 9 February 1989, and started making crosses.

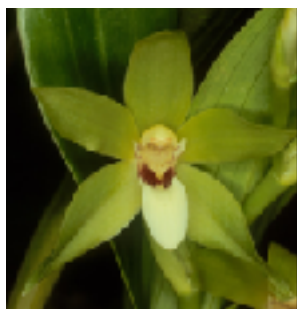
The first few crosses were with chocolate parents producing only chocolate seedlings, but I could see an improvement in shape, the petals and sepals were broader, ideal for orchid shows. In my parents' business, we imported about 50 seedlings called *Hamelwellsara* (*Hmwsa*). These orchids flower 3-4 times a year in a variety of colours, but only have about 3-4 flowers on a stem, and no fragrance. White flowers didn't arise from this breeding.

On 6 April 1990, I just happened to access a non-registered hybrid of two pure-colour greens; *Neogardneria murrayana* crossed with *Zygopetalum* Helen-Ku 'Pure Jade'. The first flowering of this hybrid was spectacular: one back bulb, two green bulbs, and one new growth carrying 3 flower spikes each with 7 flowers. I was so excited that I exhibited this plant to the SA Judging Panel, as I believed it deserved a high Award. Much to my surprise it gained no award at all! The reason given was "Experimental Breeding".... What?!

Anyway, it doesn't matter whether it gained an Award or not, as it was the secret behind my white flower breeding.

If you have ever made a cross, you will know it takes time and patience: from a 6 months seed pod to flasking, then another 9 months, then deflasking, and then growing for a further 2 to 3 years to see any results. That's a commitment of about 4 years! Bearing that in mind, I made a series of Line Breeding Crosses, with my first cross in 1990. Four years later I made my second cross, using the same parent *Zygoneria* (*Zga*) Dynamo = (*Zga. murrayana* x *Z. Helen-Ku 'Alba'*) which I registered as *Zygoneria* Dynamo 'Splashes'. Crossing each time with the best seedlings I flowered, then again another four years later I repeated the process using the same green parent Dynamo, with seedlings from the second cross. I finally produced the miracle I was hoping for - a white Zygopetalum flower!

***Ngda. murrayana* X *Z. Helen-Ku 'Pure Jade'* = *Zga. Dynamo 'Splashes'***



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