



BULLETIN



EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

NEXT MEETING: At 7.30pm on Monday 21 December 2020 at the Community Hall
Cnr. Arden & Varna St, Clovelly (held 3rd Monday of each month except January). Visitors welcome.

President

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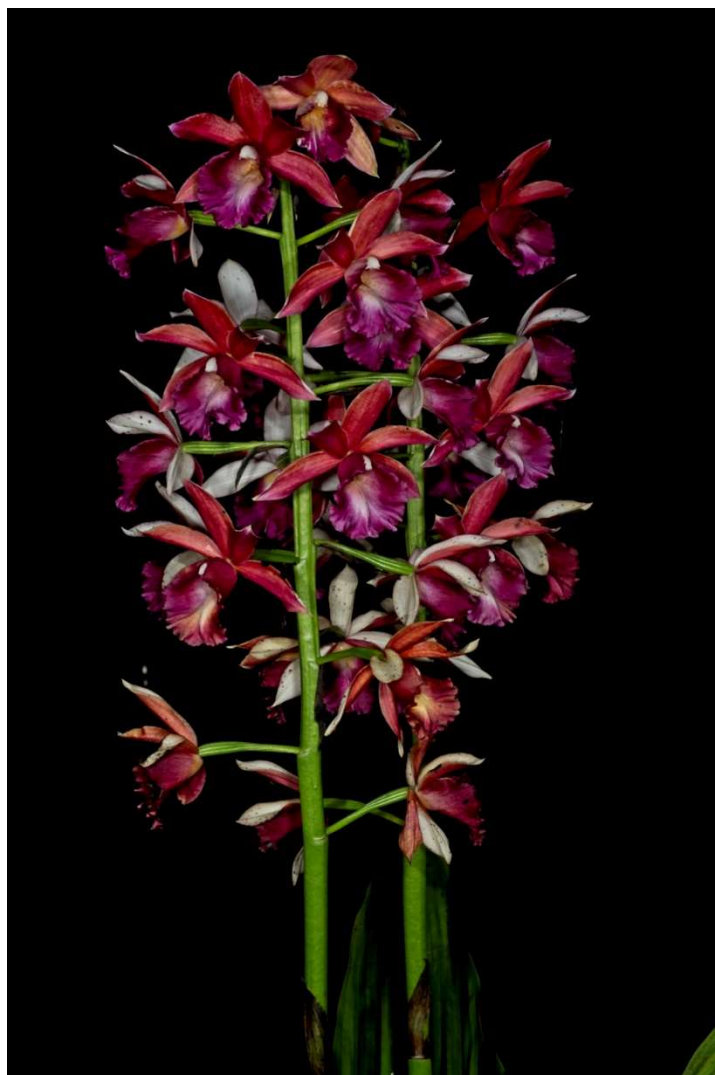
Warleiti Jap

Editor

John McAuley

The Committee wishes all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe 2021

November Plant of the Month + 1st Class 2



Gastrophaius Lady Ramona Harris

'Looking @ You' AM/AOS-2007

Grown by Herbert Chen

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Single \$15 Family \$20

(Due 1 July each year)

All correspondence and
membership enquiries to:
<http://www.esos.org.au/contact-us/>

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COVID SAFETY IS PRACTISED

Gastrophaius [Gp.] Lady Ramona Harris **'Looking @ You' AM/AOS-2007**

Phaius Gravesiae* X *Gastrorchis steinhardtiana

Originated and registered in 1998 by Dr Bill Southwood of Southwood Orchid Nursery in Hawaii, USA.

Parent 1)

Phaius Gravesiae is a primary hybrid of ***Phaius tankervilleae*** [(Banks) Blume, Mus. Bot. 2: 177 (1856)] and ***Phaius wallichii***, [Lindl. in N.Wallich, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 2: 46 (1831)], both of which are found across several countries of Asia.

(NB ***Phaius tankervilleae*** has five currently accepted varieties, one of which **var. *australis*** [(F.Muell.) J.V.Stone & P.J.Cribb, *Lady Tankerville's Legacy: 105* (2017)] is found in Australia.)

Parent 2)

Gastrorchis steinhardtiana, [Senghas, J. Orchideenfr. 4: 133 (1997)] (Syn. ***Gs. pulchra* var. *perrieri***), is found in Madagascar.

The three species in the background that make up the *Gp.* Lady Ramona Harris are all terrestrial orchids that grow in damp areas that never fully dry out.

The potting mixture should be allowed to approach dryness but not get completely dry. This orchid is said to grow well in dappled to bright shade in intermediate to warm conditions. They prefer a moisture retentive media such as a good terrestrial mix with added perlite, peat moss or sphagnum moss. The flower spikes can be 2-3 feet tall with long lasting flowers .

WEB LINKS TO FIND ACCEPTED SPECIES AND HYBRID NAMES

Both the AOC and the ANOS, as well as most International Botanical Institutions recognise the Kew "WORLD CHECKLIST of SELECTED PLANT FAMILIES (WCSP) for accepted species names of orchids. <https://wcsp.science.kew.org/qsearch.do> The WCSP contains synonyms as well as references as to where to find further information. This register is dynamic and changes as new species are described, or if new research, such as DNA analysis dictates changes. Work is in progress to replace the above with a new database containing much more detail: <http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org/>

The International Orchid Register is maintained by the Royal Horticultural Society in the UK. In its site one can search using parent names or Grex name. <https://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp> As species names change, or varieties or subspecies become species or vice-versa, the hybrid Genera and/or Grex may also change. In some cases, this can create a domino effect and become a major chore for the administrators. The updated names may not be reflected in the results for a considerable period.

Dendrobium* Section Callista with emphasis on *Den. Mousmee

Some members of the *Dendrobium* Section Callista (sometimes referred to as Section Densiflora) are popular amongst Sydney growers due to the spectacular cascading inflorescences and the suitable climate of much of the Sydney area. In particular, species such as *Den. thyrsoflorum*, *Den. densiflorum* and *Den. farmeri*.

Den. thyrsoflorum has been used extensively in making some spectacular hybrids; Including primary hybrids with others in the same section as follows:

***Den. thyrsoflorum* x**

<i>Den. amabile</i>	=	<i>Den. Mousmee</i>	1941
<i>Den. farmeri</i>	=	<i>Den. Farmeri-Thyrsoflorum</i>	1973
<i>Den. densiflorum</i>	=	<i>Den. Cream Cascade</i>	2013
<i>Den. palpebrae</i>	=	<i>Den. Menehune Charm</i>	1999
<i>Den. griffithianum</i>	=	<i>Den. Thy-Griffin</i>	2015
<i>Den. chrysotoxum</i>	=	**Den. obscurum	1899
<i>Den. chrysotoxum</i>	=	<i>Den. SCAU Fuxin</i>	2019

(**According to the RHS Orchid Hybrid Register; there appears to be two records of *Den. thyrsoflorum* x *Den. chrysotoxum*. The earliest, *Den. obscurum*, from an unknown originator from 1899. I can only speculate that this could be what was thought to be a species, when discovered and described, but was possibly a natural hybrid, although I can find no reference to confirm this.

A man-made remake in 2019 as *Den.* SCAU Fuxin, was originated by Bai Wenyan and registered by Wei Liu.)

Probably the most sought after of the above hybrids is *Den.* Mousmee. This hybrid has not been without controversy.

Apparently, *Den. amabile* (Syn. *Den. bronckartii*) was originally named *Callista amabilis* in 1759 but apparently lost to science twice during approximately 200 years. In the meantime, a different species was discovered on Sulawesi in 1859 and described as *Dendrobium amabile*. However, when the Genus *Callista* became *Dendrobium*, this left two species with the same name. The *Callista amabilis*, having been described earlier, was given preference, and the Sulawesi species was renamed *Dendrobium furcatum*. This has caused confusion when the use of its synonym of *Dendrobium amabilis* is used.

Marcel Lecoufle received a plant of the true *Dendrobium amabile* amongst a shipment of *Den. farmeri* from Indonesia. At the time, it was thought that it may have been in cultivation in Japan and Vietnam. The French nursery of Vacherot-Lecoufle made and registered *Dendrobium* Mousmee in 1941. As far as I have been able to ascertain, remakes were not made until quite recently probably due to the scarcity of *Den. amabile*.

However, according to the OrchidWiz database, awards for *Den.* Mousmee have been given internationally since 1961. Some clones have caused a lot of discussion, which still goes on today. One particular clone is that of 'Lloyd Bradford'.

Apparently one Sydney grower sent photos of 'Lloyd Bradford' to the Vacherot & Lecoufle nursery, in France, (who made the original hybrid of *Den.* Mousmee), asking for their opinion. The reply stated the following:

"Dear Sir, as far as we can see on your pics, the dendrobium called D. Mousm  e 'L. Bradford' looks like D. farmeri-thyrsiflorum.

D. Mousm  e has long spikes and bears flowers with an oblong non-fimbriated orange lip with a white margin. It keeps its leaves for years.

D. farmeri-thyrsiflorum is deciduous and will flower on leafless canes. Flowers are mainly white with very light pink marks. The lip is round and completely orange with no margin".

The above description certainly gives food for thought. I have a young unflowered plant of *Den.* Mousmee labelled as 'Lloyd Bradford' which I will be looking at closely as it grows; particularly the size of the mature stems and whether it flowers on leafless stems and the flower segments; to see how it holds up against Vacherot & Lecoufle's description, not that it worries me particularly, whether it is *Den.* Mousmee or *Den.* Farmeri-Thyrsiflorum. Personally, I don't think the matter will ever be resolved without DNA profiling, but who is likely to pay for such a process for a hybrid?

In the words of Jim Brydie, who kindly gave me permission to quote him:

Quote:

"I have long since stopped worrying about an orchid not flowering true to label. Just enjoy it for what it is. ...With plants like Mousmee which are most likely divisions of divisions of divisions, I am certainly not surprised that labels might have been lost or worn off over the years and plants mixed up. If anyone has a "Lloyd Bradford" or any of the other 'maybe' Mousmees, you shouldn't be disappointed in any way. While I am certain in my own mind that 'L. Bradford' is not a Mousmee, all these 'maybe' Mousmees are highly desirable in their own right, no matter what they turn out to be."

Unquote

Maybe if different colour variations of *Den. amabile* come to light, such as albanistic forms there could be Mousmees of different hues, some of which may even look like 'L. Bradford'.

I know many growers have an interest in *Dendrobiums* of section *Callista* (*Densiflora*). As far as I can determine, with my limited research, there are 14 members of the *Callista* (*Densiflora*) Section. There is certainly room for creating new primary or complex hybrids which may produce some interesting, or even highly desirable, progeny.

Dendrobium species in Section Callista (Densiflora):

1. ***Dendrobium amabile*** O'Brien 1909 Hainan China and in Vietnam
2. ***Dendrobium brymerianum*** Rchb. f. 1875 northeastern India, north Thailand, Myanmar, northern Laos, and southwestern China
3. ***Dendrobium chrysotoxum*** Lindley 1847 Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, China, eastern Himalayas, Bangladesh and Assam India
4. ***Dendrobium densiflorum*** Lindl. ex Wall. 1829 (TYPE for the Section); Assam, Bangladesh, Eastern Himalayas, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Tibet, Hainan and southern China
5. ***Dendrobium farmeri*** Paxton 1849 eastern Himalayas, Assam, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Malaysia
6. ***Dendrobium griffithianum*** Lindl. 1836 Assam India, Myanmar and Thailand
7. ***Dendrobium guiberti*** Carr 1876 northern Thailand
8. ***Dendrobium harveyanum*** Rchb.f. 1883 China, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam
9. ***Dendrobium histrionicum*** (Rchb.f.) Schltr. 1914 Myanmar
10. ***Dendrobium jenkinsii*** Wallich ex Lindley 1839 Hainan China, Assam, eastern Himalayas, Nepal, Myanmar and Laos
11. ***Dendrobium lindleyi*** Steud. 1840 Assam India, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou and Hainan provinces of China, Hong Kong, Myanmar, Thailand, China, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam
12. ***Dendrobium palpebrae*** Lindley 1850 Bangladesh, eastern Himalayas, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam
13. ***Dendrobium sulcatum*** Lindl. 1838 Assam, eastern Himalayas, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and south-central China
14. ***Dendrobium thyrsiflorum*** Rchb.f 1875 Chinese Himalayas, Hainan China, Assam India, eastern Himalayas, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam

References.

- 1) *OrchidWiz database*
- 2) *RHS International Orchid Hybrid* .
- 3) *World Checklist of Selected Plant Families (WCSP)*
- 4) *"The Dendrobiums" by Howard P Wood 2006*
- 5) *Jay's Orchid Encyclopaedia website*
- 6) *www.orchidroots.com*
- 7) *Ku-Ring-Gai Orchid Society Bulletin Vol 61 No 12*
- 8) *Jim Brydie, Personal Communication*

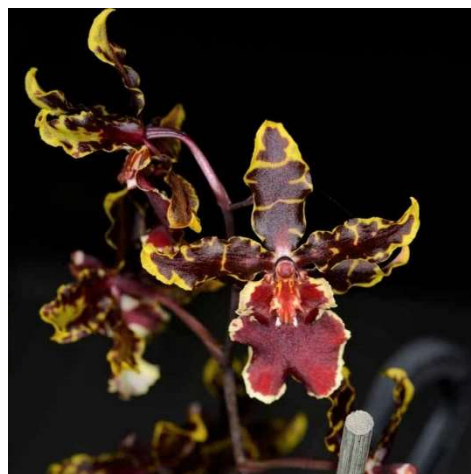
John McAuley Editor

Some Notable Blooms Benched 16 November 2020

OPEN CLASS*Bsn. Sunny Delight**Den. Gowan's Tangelo**Psh. baculus**C. intermedia f. alba**Coel. tomentosa**Den. loddigesii*



Onc. Pacific Passage



Ons. Wildcat

NOVICE CLASS



Prosthechea. Green Hornet



Poss. ? *Gombrassiltonia Dancing Lady*



Cryptostylis subulata



Brassia verrucosa



Paphiopedilum Quirola



Phalaenopsis Unknown Hybrid



Phalaenopsis Unknown Hybrid

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