



Newsletter of the Species Orchid Society

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Horticultural Award:
Went to Ray & Nancy for
Den friedericksianum.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING 22nd NOVEMBER 2007

Opened By: Trevor Time 8:00pm

Next Gen. Meeting:

Date 24th Jan 2008 Time 7:45pm

Next Com. Meeting

Date: 5th February 2008 at Maxine's place Time 7:30

Last Home Visit: Josés'.

Next Home Visit: ESIGRO 29th (Sat) March 2008

Members Present 34 as per the register.

New Member:

Visitors: Pauline and Arni

Apologies: Ken and Chris

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Acceptance moved: John Seconded: Chris

Business arising from the minutes: A vote of thanks to Tony and Mavis for their efforts on the newsletter during Ken's leave overseas.

General Business:

Thanks to Adrian & Deanne for a great time on the home visit tho' many were jealous of the immaculate state of the garden.

John S volunteered his place for May and the Graham & Margaret volunteered for August.

Trevor again urged members to come on board to assist at the WAOS and join the current eight people.

Tony's fine article about *Elythrantheras* was published in the *Orchid Digest* and as a contributor he had three spare copies which he donated to the Society. Tom auctioned these for the club and his vigor rewarded the Society to the tune of \$57 with the winners being Anne, Gordon and Reg

Plant descriptions then followed.

Financial Report: was tabled by Lee and the current balance is \$2098.20 with the second account having a balance of \$1802.32.

Moved: Gordon Seconded: Neville

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

With WAOS only 8 months away, we need to get some serious planning started to ensure that we make the most of the opportunity to show off the incredible world of the orchid species. At the November meeting, Trevor Pratt asked members to volunteer to be part of a group to make this happen. Please give this some thought before our January meeting and be ready to assist!

Orchid growing is such a great and diverse hobby. Some of us are very gifted and have more than one hobby, like growing another special plant, or playing an instrument or writing. One of our members, Tony has written various articles to different Orchid Magazines such as: The Australian Orchid Review, American Orchid Society - Orchids, Orchid Digest - USA, Orchids Australia about our varied and rich Orchid Species of Western Australia.

I just felt that we all should be aware of this talent and of these very interesting articles and the beautiful photography. Tony and friend Graham have taken trips to the Southwest in the cold of the Winter and taken the effort to photograph these beautiful Orchids and describe and show them to the world. And this is all in time for the WA Orchid Spectacular Conference and Show in September 2008. Try and get hold of one of the magazines from the library and read for yourself.

Why don't you have a look next time you go for a drive in our beautiful Spring.

Hannah

Sharon's Orchid

Dendrobium spectabile



Raffle Winners: John, Gordon, Reg , Reg (again), Ian, Hannah, Reg (yet again) and Sharon
Badge Prize winner: Murray

Noel & Eva's Orchids



Ansellia africana



Encyclia radiata

*Brassavola
perrenii*



Murray's Orchids



Ansellia africana



Laelia lobata

Anne & Geoff's Orchids



Bollea ecuadorensis (Correspondence from Ron Parsons identifies this as *Cochleanthes discolor*)



Eulophiella elisabethae



Phaius pulchellus



Tom & Pat's Orchid

Brassavola perrenii



Madagascar - A memorable experience

In this and the next newsletter, I will let you know just a little of our experience when visiting our friends Raoul and Michelle in Madagascar in Late November.

Madagascar is the world's 4th largest island, located some 400 km off the east coast of Africa across the Mozambique Channel. 1550 km long by nearly 600km wide, it is located south of the equator (its capital, Antananarivo is on a similar latitude to Geraldton). A high central plateau means that the east coast is tropical with some remnant

primary rainforests preserved in National Parks. As Michelle told us at WAOS 2005, there is little unspoilt primary forest left as much of it has been invaded by Australian Eucalypts, planted to provide a ready, rapid growing and renewable source of wood for building and charcoal. We visited Ranomafana and Mantadia National Parks to see lemurs in the wild, and we hoped, orchids. Unfortunately, the latter were very scarce, having been over collected for many years (we walked approximately 1 Km to see a large specimen of *Eulophiella roempleriana* in flower in the top of a Pandanus near a small waterfall)

Michelle and Raoul live on a 2.5 acre property in a rural community on the outskirts of Antananarivo. Their home and nursery is located beside a lake from which they pump water when they need to supplement rainfall. They have 6 shadehouse (the shade is provided by thin tree branches and some palm fronds). The soil is a red clay over

granite. The majority of her orchids are either mounted on synthetic sponge (mostly the smaller epiphytes such as *Aerangis*, *Aeranthes*, *Bulbophyllum*, *Jumellea*, *Microcoelia*, *Neobathia* and *Oeonia*) or growing in beds in the ground (larger epiphytes such as *Angraceum*, *Cymbidiella*, *Jumellea* and *Sobenikoffia*, and the terrestrials including *Calanthe*, *Cynorchis*, *Disa*, *Eulophiella* and *Phaius*). They also have many beds in the open around fruit and other trees that are planted to terrestrial orchids, whilst epiphytes are tied to trees such as mango and ornamentals.

Mallala Orchidees is approved by the CITES Authority in Switzerland to export Schedule IIA species orchids. The plants in her nursery are produced by vegetative propagation (by dividing plants). She is issued a licence by the Madagascar CITES authorities to have a limited number of plants from the wild which she grows and divides. She is required to account for all her plants on a regular basis, and have those records available to the authorities for audit at any time. Michelle told us that she only exports five-six shipments per year, generally to enthusiasts such as us. She has three full time gardeners who look after the home property and another two at her arboretum about 40 km south of Antananarivo. This 6 acre property, on a river also has many terrestrial and large epiphytic orchids planted in beds and under trees.

To be continued



Jack's Orchid

*Dendrobium
strietlanoianum* (???)

(is *Den. stricklandianum*
(*syn.tosaense*) but an alba
form lacking red in the
lip. Ron Parsons)

Maxines Orchids



Dendrobium chysotoxum



Barbosella australis



Oncidium stramineum



Tolumnia pulchella



Angraecum compactum

Bulbophyllum burfordiense



Western Australian Orchid Spectacular 2008

Bulletin No 13 January 2007

This is ANOTHER *Good News* Bulletin

Good News about the VENUE !!

All our venue problems have been amicably resolved with the management of the Belmont Oasis Leisure Centre. The Venue and date remain the same, with Setup on Thursday 25th September, open to the public from Friday the 26th September to Monday 29th (A Public Holiday) September.

The Lectures will now be held in the **Belmont City Council Chambers** where they have a dedicated **Lecture Room** equipped with everything that opens and shuts. (Such as Digital Projector, Large Screen, Plugs for the Laptop, Chairs, Tables, etc) The Belmont City Council has generously agreed to allow us the use of their facility and also provide security plus tea & coffee. We are indebted to the Belmont City Council who have put themselves out to secure the event in their area. Many thanks.

Good News about the Early Bird REGISTRATION

DEADLINE EXTENDED!!

Due to the problems (now resolved) regarding the venue, the WAOS Committee has agreed to extend the closing date for Early Bird Registration until 29th of February 2008 to allow the Good News to get to all interested parties.

You can download your Registration form as a PDF or Word File from the WAOS Web Site at;

<http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/WAOS.html>

or ask your Club Secretary to obtain a copy for you. (Many Orchid Societies have included a WAOS Registration form with their newsletter!! Good for them!!)

Good News about WAOS Prizes

The Grand Champion will receive a \$1000 prize and the Reserve Champion \$500. The winner of the Best Display will be awarded a \$200 prize with 20 other \$100 Championship prizes. More information with the Schedule on the WAOS Home Page at;- <http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/WAOS.html>

Good News about the *Lotterywest Grant* !!

Through the good offices of Bruce Larson, WAOS has managed to secure funds from a Lotterywest Grant that boosts the chances of financial success for the WA Orchid Spectacular & Conference 2008. Huge THANKS to LOTTERYWEST and well done Bruce!! The Lotterywest Logo now adorns the WAOS Web Site.

Good News from the *WA Ag Dept* !!

There has been some angst among orchid nurseries in the eastern states regarding the WA Ag Dept requirements for treating orchids prior to sending them to WA. The WAOS Committee has a good working relationship with the WA Ag Dept and agreement has been reached in an attempt to smooth the way for persons who wish to transport orchids to and from WA, particularly for the WA Orchid Spectacular & Conference 2008.

From discussions with Graeme Lukeis who is the Policy Officer, Plant Biosecurity, WA Department of Agriculture and Food, there appears to be very little impediment to bringing orchids to WA for the WA Orchid Spectacular 2008 or at any other time. Orchids coming into WA need to have a Certificate of Plant Health from the Ag Dept in your state and be treated with three insecticide/fungicides.

There is no requirement to keep them in a separate enclosure after spraying and before packing, as the chemicals have a residual effect on the plants.

If you are sending them by air cargo, they should arrive by 5am and be inspected and released by 9am.

If you are bringing them with you as part of your luggage, they will be inspected on arrival and then turned over to you.

In both cases, it is worth while faxing the WA Ag Dept your **Certificate of Plant Health** and a **list of the plant names** you are bringing beforehand. Please fax to;- **Greg Coker, Quarantine WA on (08) 9334 1880**

You need to have the full **BOTANICAL** name of all the orchids. This is because WA has a list of orchids that are prohibited and the inspectors need to compare your list with it.

Greg Coker WA Ag Dept has agreed to do inspections for orchids going TO the other states on the morning of Tuesday 30th September which is the day after the Spectacular.

CUT FLOWERS

Individuals wishing to bring cut orchid flowers to WA from interstate for exhibition at the Spectacular, can do so with the following provisions. The WA Agriculture Dept requires all cut flowers to have the full botanical name attached to them. They also need the name and address of the grower. There will be no requirement for a Plant Health Certificate from the Agricultural Dept in your state as inspection on arrival can be arranged by calling Sue Turner of the WA Ag Dept on **(08) 9334 1880** beforehand, to let her know when they will arrive.

At present there is only one officer that can carry out inspections of cut flowers at the Domestic Airport, therefore unless she is on duty the flowers will be seized for referral to Sue Turner to do the inspection in the office at Fricker Rd near the International Airport. This means that the owner will then have to go into the office to pick up the flowers later.

Please note that if any insects are found they will be sent for identification and if found to be of quarantine significance, treated accordingly.

Cut Flowers (**excepting Cymbidiums**) are eligible for all the scheduled classes as well as Grand Champion (\$1000) and Reserve Champion (\$500) **Cut flower Cymbidiums** must be entered in the Cymbidium cut flower section and are not eligible to win Champion Orchid or Reserve Grand Champion, **however**, the Cut Flower Cymbidium section carries a prize of \$100 plus card & sash

Any exhibitor residing 250 kilometres or more from the site of the exhibition may enter cut flowers, however there are some genera which may not be entered ie Cymbidiums, Soft Cane Dendrobiums, Specimens and Seedlings. There may be others so please confirm with the Registrar of Judges before entry.

Good News about the *Lecturer Program* !!

We are working toward having a 'Proceedings' of the lectures available on CD after the WAOS Conference if all the Lecturers are in agreement. Stay tuned for further information.

Good News about the Orchid Tours!!

The WAOS Four Day Orchid Tour is all sold out. – BUT! A new Wildflower and Orchid Four Day Spectacular Tour has been organised for those who missed out. Being run by Country Escapes in Western Australia Tours, this new tour will cover some of the same ground as the first

More information can be found here;-

http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/Second_Orchid_Tour.htm

AND don't forget The One Day Orchid Tour, will be run on Sunday 28th Sept to see native Orchids growing in situ at various locations around the Perth metro area. A packed lunch is included. Almost two thirds of the seats are already booked!!

Tour costs per person; A\$50 (Great value for money) No deposit is necessary for the One Day Orchid Tour at this time, but please confirm your reservation with Tony at:- waos@iinet.net.au

Good News about The SCHEDULE

It has finally been OK'd by the WA Judges Panel and can be downloaded as a PDF or Word File at....

http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/Schedule_WAOS_2008.doc

For any queries or questions, please write to, the Secretary, PO Box 4076, Alexander Heights, WA 6064, or email waos@iinet.net.au

To be included on our emailing list for further Bulletins, please contact Tony at waos@iinet.net.au

WA Orchid Spectacular 2008

What is it?

*A Conference and Showcase for all
Western Australian Orchid Societies.*

Where is it?

*Belmont Oasis Leisure Centre on the corner of
Abernathy & Alexander Rd, Belmont, WA.*

When is it?

25th and 29th September 2008.

(Setup on the 25th, open to the public from 26th to 29th)

Tony

Publicity

WAOS 2008



Gordon's Orchids



Cymbidium madidum



Cymbidium finlaysonianum (*Cymbidium finlaysonianum* is *Cymbidium bicolor*. Ron Parsons)

Gill's Orchid



Cattleya skinnerii

Pat & Tom's Orchid



Brassavola perrinii

IMPORTED PLANT NEWS

Thailand Update:

I have again e-mailed Hans Hermans about the plants that remain in Chiang Mai without any result to date. I have also suggested that we meet whilst I am in Bangkok next month but at this stage am not optimistic that he will respond. I will also attempt to contact him by phone, although on past experience, this has not been successful either.

Ken

Tony & Mavis's Orchids



Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi Forma Flava



Renanthera monachica



Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi

**Adrian & Deanne's
Orchids**

Encyclia randii



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Home visits
Saturday 29 March 2008 -
Ezi Gro Orchids, Landsdale**

January Sale Plant



Monthly Plant *Podangis dactyloceras* \$12 and \$8

The two prices are for larger plants (many have flowered) and smaller plants that are not yet flowering size. Peter Masters has grown these plants on from flask for the Society - thanks Peter.

This monotypic genus has only the one species, *P. dactyloceras* and is found in Angola, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. The genus was established by Schlecter in 1918 to accommodate a plant originally described by Reichenbach as *Listrostachys dactyloceras*.

This unusual species grows as an epiphyte in evergreen forests (although sometimes as a lithophyte) and has miniature, fleshy leaves arranged in a fan. It is often found near waterfalls or rivers at altitudes from 750 to 1950m. The short stem is enveloped completely by conduplicate leaf bases carrying 4 to 8 distichous, falcate, bilaterally compressed, acute, fleshy leaves. Translucent, white flowers are carried on axillary inflorescences up 2" [5 cm] long carrying several [5 to 20] bell-shaped flowers. The flowers open simultaneously and are long-lasting, appearing in the spring through fall

I & E La Croix recommend growing this species in bark mix in a pot, although care has be taken to avoid over-watering as the species is susceptible to root rot. For this reason, they strongly recommend allowing the pot to dry out between waterings. My search of the internet turned up many photos of this species mounted on natural cork, and accordingly, if you are experienced in growing on mounts, this may be the way to go. It will require warm, humid conditions with good air movement to minimise pest and pathogen attacks.

Ray & Nancy's Orchids



Aeranthes ramosa



Brassavola tuberculata



Oncidium cebolleta



Dendrobium fredericksianum



Phragmipedium besseae