



Newsletter of the Species Orchid Society

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Horticultural Award:

John S for his specimen of Cattleya bowringiana.

General Business

General Business:

1. Trevor outlined the results of the special meeting held on the 15th of March to discuss our contribution to the WAOS. Adrian is costing the main exhibit and Barry is overseeing the "historical" and photo section. Sales will be in conjunction with the WOS.
2. It is the 20th year of our society's existence.
3. Bring Salads &/or sweets to the BBQ at EZI-GRO on Saturday the 29th.
4. The May home visit is at John S's place
5. Ken said that Hans Herman will replace the dead Phalaenopsis.
6. Ken has contacted a new supplier on Thailand and this one has had experience in exporting plants to Australia. There was a show of hands from those who would be interested in importing plants from there.
7. Two flasks were donated to the "happy trippers" and Peter volunteered to de-flask them for us.
8. There are lots of new Bulbophyllums at EZI-GRO.
9. Tom then held an auction of species plants from Mike Kelly and also some 'hot bed equipment.

Financial Report: was tabled by Lee, the current balance is \$1 798.18 with \$1802.31 in the "Second" account.

Moved: Mavis Seconded: Barry

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Our Annual General Meeting and election of Office Bearers takes place in May. After many years of tireless service as Treasurer, Lee has decided that she would like to step down so that she can spend more time looking at the plants on display and socialising with members. Lee would be happy to teach anyone that is willing to take on this responsibility.

Remember the parking - please ensure that you park your car in the bitumen parking area whenever possible as it will avoid a fine!

Following the meeting to plan your Society's WAOS display, we are looking for items that might have been found in an early orchid collector's camp in the rain forest. If you have items that you would be prepared to loan us, please see Adrian Sharon or Ken

Ezi-Gro Orchids visit

While Chris and I were unable to attend the visit to Kevin Butler's nursery, I had to call in a week earlier to pick up steamed bark for the plants in quarantine. I couldn't help myself and purchased several Bulbophyllum species from the excellent range available. Thanks Kevin and staff for your warm and generous hospitality, and for allowing us to take over your nursery for the morning.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD

27th MARCH 2008

Opened By: Trevor

Time 8:00pm

Next Gen. Meeting: 24th April 2008

Time 7:45pm

Next Com. Meeting: 8th April at Anne's Time 7:30

Next Home Visit: ESIGRO SATURDAY 29th March

Members present 33 as per the register.

New Member: none

Visitors: Kelvin and Lynette, Norm and Azita and Ron and Jan

Apologies: two.

Raffle Chris J, Lee and Peter

Badge Prize winner: Murray

HOME VISIT: Members present: 23 Apologies: 3 Visitors: 4

Badge Prize: Maxine Raffle Winners: Hannah Mavis and Maxine

Future Home Visits

Our next Home Visit will be at:

No Home Visit in April

May: John S's

Correspondence:

Inwards: - Newsletters: NOSTI, Orchid Species (NSW) Inc. Mandurah, News, Orchid Species Bulletin.
- Scott and Broad (Insurance).
- Jerry Suffolk (Canada) about Brassia CDs – Tony will probably order one for the Library.
- Mark Sullivan of 1% FOC.

Outwards: Bunbury City Council about College Grove as possible "dig" site. Also to Scott and Broad with the insurance payment

Business Arising: Nil

Monthly Sale Plant *Aerides falcata* @ \$7 from Peter

Aerides falcata (syn *Aer lar-pentae*) LINDL is found in the Himalayan foothills from Assam (India) to Indochina, at low to moderate altitudes. There is also a variety *Aerides falcata* var *houlettiana* which has different coloured flowers and we are uncertain as to whether the monthly plant is *Aerides falcata*, or *Aerides falcata* var *houlettiana*. Both however are attractive and desirable species to have in your collection.

The flowers demonstrate the distinctive *Aerides* form with a prominent forward-projecting spur or nectary, and are carried on pendulous racemes up to 50cm in length that can carry up to 50 flowers for *Aer. falcata* and about half the length and flower count for *Aer. falcata* var *houlettiana*. This monopodial orchid grows to about 180cm, so does need plenty of room when it matures. The flowers are either white with lavender blushing on the petal and sepal tips, and yellow-orange with the same



lavender blush to the petals and sepals. The flowers are pleasantly fragrant with a lemon scent, and reasonably long lasting.

They are best grown in baskets or hanging pots so that the pendulous racemes can be appreciated. There is also some information that suggests that they can be mounted on tree fern or similar slab mounts.

This is a semi-tropical species, so will need to be kept somewhat drier during our cold, dark, wet winter months. We have decided to release this plant in April to give you a month or so to acclimatise it to your conditions.

Pictures of *Aerides falcata* can be found at <http://www.orchisasia.org/genre/Aerides/aerides%20falcata/index.html> and pictures of *Aerides falcata* var *houlettiana* at <http://www.pbase.com/schnitz/image/45138914>

Looking at Orchids in Vietnam (part 2)

The first 'nursery' that we visited was on the way from Cat Tien to Da Lat, and was more a collection of orchids owned by a Coffee Shop proprietor.



We saw plants of *Dendrobium wardianum*,

Dendrobium lindleyi and *Coelogyne lawrenceana* in flower, and boxes of *Paphiopedilum* species including *Paphiopedilum hangianum* and *Paphiopedilum vietnamense* that were obviously wild collected



The latter is disturbing but continues to be evident throughout Asia and I assume South America, particularly with the species that are less amenable to seed and tissue culture. This pleasant break in the trip was enjoyed and gave us a chance to 'stretch our legs' although the light rain falling discouraged all but the die-hard enthusiasts.

We subsequently visited another orchid enthusiast in Da Lat who generously showed us his private collection.



For the members of the group interested in show plants, he had some excellent *Phalaenopsis* and *Cattleya*, and a mix of intergenerics. Looking at the number of show award cards/ribbons, he was obviously an active and successful grower. I noted several local species including *Paphiopedilum*, *Dendrobium* and some botanical species.



His home was accessed by a long, narrow downhill pathway (it was uphill on the way back!) that would have frustrated those of us used to being able to back the car up to our glasshouse to unload plants, media etc.

We also visited a much more extensive nursery located on the outskirts of Da Lat. The owner was very interested in finding information about Vietnamese and other species, and through our guide Xuan, asked for anyone that could provide information to e-mail him (Tony and Mavis have his business card).



He had an extensive collection of species and hybrids and again we saw *Den fredricksianum*, *palpebrae*, *lindleyii* and *wardianum*, *Coelogyne lawrenceana*,



Paphiopedilums armeniacum, delenatii, emersonii, hangianum, malipoense and *micranthum* as well as several interesting botanical species that he was unable to identify.

This nursery had extensive stocks of wild collected *Paphiopedilum* species – we estimated that he had perhaps 250 *P. hangianum* including the *alba* form,



and at least as many *P. armeniacum, delenatii, emersonii, malipoense, micranthum* and *vietnamense*. There was also many other species *Paphiopedilum*, although not in flower and accordingly it was more difficult for me as a Paph amateur to identify them. To his credit, the nurseryman is endeavouring to propagate as many of these species as possible, and to this end we saw many carrying seed pods, or showing evidence of artificial pollination. It appears that there is still a ready market for wild-collected *Paphiopedilum* species in Japan and Taiwan. Vietnam does not issue Schedule IIA CITES, however, this does not seem to be a barrier.

There were many small nursery 'stalls' at the Da Lat Flower Gardens, selling a wide range of very desirable hybrids and species, although many of the plants were misnamed or not named at all, the prices were very reasonable. When we explained that we could not take orchid plants back to Australia, they offered to sell us the seed which can in small plastic or cellophane packets. However, as expected, the seed was anything but orchids – it could have been vegetable seed such as tomatoes, or other flowering plants (I have heard of this same scam in Bali). These vendors lost interest in us once they realised that we actually knew what orchid seed looked like. However, in their defence, they may not have known much about the taxonomy and reproduction of orchidaceae, rather they just grew them according to information that was passed on from others.



In conclusion, I again acknowledge the efforts of Tony, Hannah and Peter Williams in making these experiences possible.

Wanted

Graham would like to acquire a plant of Stanhopea nigroviolacea. If you have a spare available, he is happy to purchase or swap something of similar value.

Phone Graham on 9447 4528

.Why did they name it that!

During our recent trip, while trying to explain to members of the group how to work out the correct spelling for both hybrid and species orchid names, I remembered an article that was last published some time ago in our newsletter. I have bought this up to date and will provide some additional material to help understand the rules that apply to hybrids, however I am confident that it wasn't designed specifically to frustrate orchid hobbyists. Like many professional groups, 'language' can be used admit members and exclude non members – think of the professions such as IT, teaching, medicine and their use of very specific language

To start, botanical names are generally of Latin or Greek origin, or a latinised version of other languages. Many botanical names include what are called 'diphthongs' - two vowels side-by-side but said as one syllable. Morrison & Webb (1991) use an English form of language which seems the easiest for us to learn. He gives this simple chart for diphthong pronunciation

ae pronounced as ee in meet
au pronounced as au in taught
ei pronounced as ei in height
oe pronounced as ee in meet
eu pronounced as ew in yew
ui pronounced as oo in food

This list represents all the recognised diphthongs. Although other vowels such as oi are often seen in conjunction, they are not a diphthong, thus should be said as o-i.

(To be continued)

IMPORTED PLANT NEWS

In the March newsletter, I advised that Tony and I met with Hans Hermans in Bangkok, and he indicated that he was prepared to send the remaining plants to us. I have now obtained an import permit, and have e-mailed him all the information required. Further to his advice that he would replace or substitute plants that had died, I have asked for details of the possible substitutes so that I can take Instructions from you as to your wishes in this regard.

I received an e-mail from Hans the next day, and currently am awaiting his advice on Philippine species Phalaenopsis that are available to replace those that have died. Once I have a clear understanding about what can be replaced, I will be in contact with you to seek instructions about substitutes.

However, with regard to the Vanda hybrids, most of which were purchased from another nursery nearby, Hans quite rightly states that it is not his fault that we cannot quarantine Vandas, and is therefore reluctant to provide other plants in their place. I will make further inquiries with AQIS to ascertain whether this limitation still applies.

Ken

Graham & Margaret's Orchids



Poneorchis graminifolia



Dendrobium distichum

Anne & Geoff's Orchids



Bulbophyllum deareii

Sarcochilus hirticalcar

Western Australian Orchid Spectacular 2008 Bulletin No 16 April 2008

The Lecture Program

The Lecture Program is now On Line at http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/WAOS_Lecture_Program.htm You will also find a map to the well appointed Lecture Room which has been kindly offered to WAOS by the City of Belmont. Sadly we will not have a speaker on the subject of Cattleyas!! Arthur Chadwick had to decline due to health matters and we then approached Dr Des Neuendorff who unfortunately also had health problems. Ron Parsons was to give a talk on Cattleya Species but he has begged us to let him do his Vandaceous talk instead.

But we do have a new recruit in the form of Hans Herman of Bangkok, Thailand who will give a talk on Thai Orchid Species and he will also have a sales area with flasks of Thai Orchids.

Volunteers

The WAOS Committee urges members of all orchid societies to become involved as Volunteers in the running of the WA Orchid Spectacular 2008. This will be a great way to earn income for your Orchid Society as there will be a distribution of profits tied to the numbers of volunteers (and their hours,) from each Society, at the completion of the Conference.

Orchid Tours!!

The One Day Orchid Tour is booked out!! We are amazed at the response to our tours and so happy that orchid folk want to see our WA Native Orchids in the wild.

The WAOS Four Day Orchid Tour is all sold out too. - 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 THERE ARE STILL VACANCIES WITH THIS TOUR so email SYLVIA

Registration.

Early Bird Registration is now closed and we were pleasantly surprised at the interest from interstate and overseas with Registrations coming in from the UK, USA, Singapore, Indonesia, NZ, South Africa and all Australian States. The Registrations have not been tallied at time of writing, so more on this in future Bulletins.

Vendors

The first of our Vendors Catalogues for pre ordering is now on the WAOS Web Site at

http://members.iinet.net.au/%7Eemntee/WAOS_Catalogue_Page.htm where it can be downloaded as a Word File or a PDF.

Should you have problems downloading either of these, please contact TONY

Orchid FLASKS and PLANTS can be ordered by contacting NEVILLE

Ecuagenera Orchids from Ecuador and Nicky's Slippers from South Australia are the first to take advantage of our pre ordering service. A number of our Vendors have indicated that they will be sending their Catalogues so keep returning to this page for further updates.

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THERE ARE STILL VACANCIES ON THIS TOUR so email SYLVIA at Country Escapes.

The SCHEDULEis on schedule

and can now be downloaded as a PDF or Word File at....

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

Or you can peruse it at....

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

For any queries or questions, please write to, the Secretary, PO Box 4076, Alexander Heights, WA 6064, or EMAIL
To be included on our emailing list for further Bulletins, please contact TONY

Tony
Publicity
WAOS 2008

Maxine's Orchids



Angraecum didieri



Dendrobium deareii

Dendrobium convolutum



Ken & Chris's Orchids



Bulbophyllum deareii



Dendrobium delacourii



Pleurothallis alligatorensis



Oncidium pusillum



Cattleya aurantiaca



Dendrobium sanderae Var *Suriangense*



Psycopsis papilio



Octomeria grandiflora



Dendrochilum latifolium

Murray's Orchid



Trichocentrum microchilum

Peter & Shirley's Orchids



Dendrobium bigibbum

Neville's Orchid



Phalaenopsis cornu cervi



Miltonia clowesii

Ray & Nancy's Orchids



Neobenthamia gracilis



Phragmipedium longifolium

Noel & Eva's Orchids



Phalaenopsis equestris



Doritis pulcherrima



Miltonia spectabilis Var

Cattleya maxima

