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The Editor
204 Park Street, Henley Brook WA 6055

Monthly Newsletter of the
The Species Orchid Society of WA (Inc)
Web page <http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/index.html>

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Diuris longifolia

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Peterskorner

Peterskorner is now distributing a range of orchid products from Easy Orchids (Murray and Jean Shergold) and we are happy to take orders, and bring them to the Species Society monthly meeting.

Check out our catalogue at www.peterskorner.com, phone Peter or Shirley on the numbers shown, or e-mail peterskorner@iinet.net.au.



Monthly meetings held on the 4th Thursday each month (exc Dec) at Forster Park Hall, cnr of Abernethy Road and Keane Street, Cloverdale commencing 7.45pm.

Visitors always welcome

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings commence at 7.45pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow members time to socialise and discuss orchids.

Monthly Plant Display

Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display. Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower. So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.

Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the society to sell product from time to time. A commission of 10% is charged on all sales.

Plant Purchases

The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between \$6.00 and \$12.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a committee member.

Raffle

The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of raising funds.

Home Visit

During the weekend following the monthly meeting (generally on the Sunday morning), a home visit is held at a member's home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

Plant Imports

The Society is able to use quarantine facilities provided by Ken & Chris to co-operatively import species orchids.

Management

In accordance with the Constitution, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

Membership Fees

Family (1st year @ 2 badges) \$31.00 renewal \$15.00
Single (1st year @ 1 badge) \$18.00 renewal \$10.00

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges,



The area was at the top of a ridge and was frequently drenched in cloud which we could see drifting up from the valley, making for a cool wet climate.

Tony

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Home visits:

Mavis & Tony's on the 31st of May 2009.

July - Ken & Chris's

August - Adrian & Deanne's

September - Anne & Geoff's

October - Sharon's

In April, Mavis and I had a few days in Bali and took the opportunity to travel into the mountains where we saw some orchids at a place called Bedugal . We stopped for lunch at the Bali Handara Golf Club which has extensive natural gardens with orchids hanging from the trees. I was lucky enough to spot a large *Dendrochilum* sp. high in a tree and stopped to take the photo you see below. I estimate that the whole clump would have been at least 60cm tall and in full flower. A bit further down the road we came to a local market which had lots of



plants for sale including many orchids. I would assume that many, if not all these came directly from the surrounding bush.

Amongst them were a number of large specimens of *Vanda tricolor* Var *Suavis*. (see P 11)

A few days later, we went to Kintamani where I found a number of small orchids growing on a tree alongside the road. One was a small leafless orchid that I could not identify. It had small yellow flowers and many seed capsules.

(see P 11)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING 23 April 2009, 8.05pm

Present: 34

Apologies: 2

Visitors: Bill J

New members: Nil

Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Tom, Murray)

Business Arising: Nil.

Financial Report: Tabled by Sandra and the current balance is \$2,888.93. (Gordon, Ian)

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Lottery West with a subsidy (\$1,000) to buy the Multipurpose printer.
- Several newsletters.
- Barry - resigning from the committee.

Outwards: - Nil

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

- Neville gave us an talk where he enthusiastically and lucidly covered his recent trip to the internationally acclaimed Taiwan orchid exhibition. He visited several nurseries including the Main Show one which tempted Neville with a really red *Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* @ AUD150 for a flask of 20 plants. All plants were in Sphagnum Moss in 100mm or less pots. A lot of plants were grown on large vertical logs. At the Chin Mau nursery (and some others) there were climate areas set up to simulate the climates of the USA, the UK and Canada and others so that orchids are acclimatized. The prices were very reasonable. Living prices were also quite reasonable. Neville summed up by telling us that a trip to this annual show (ranked in the top three in the world) was "one thing to do before you die".
- Thanks to Robyn and Gordon for the last Monthly visit. The next one is at Mavis & Tony's on the 31st of May 2009.
- There will be a check to see if the club has a copy of Brown's book about WA orchids. If not then Judith's donation will go to the library and not be auctioned in the June GM.
- Ken needs to know if we can use Tony and Mavis' offer for an August order from Sadisri. Try to let him know in about a month's time.
- There is also a potential supplier in Malaysia (@ 15 to 18 Malaysian ringgit per plant).

Cultural Award: Lee, who has been absent from the display table for some time after moving house for her *Angraceum leonis*

Raffle: Graham, Anne and Ian

Special Raffle: Was won by Ken, Graham and Adrian. Prizes were donated by Jack (2) and the Ushers(1).

Name Badge: I Wheeler.

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

The May meeting is our AGM. Please come along - you won't be nominated for Committee unless you want to be!

As the Society does not have a copy of *Orchids of Western Australia* by Brown. A, Dundas, P, Dixon K. and Hopper S that has been kindly donated by Judith, we will place it in the Library for all members to access. Thank you Judith

Don't forget the parking - please ensure that you park your car in the bitumen parking area whenever possible as it will avoid a fine!

Michel has offered to collate all the plant descriptions for the year with all the pictures, print a copy for the library and make a CD. It was suggested that a copy could be sent to all our interstate and local members as a gift in January 2010. Michel would like all members to take care with the plant description sheets as they are sometimes difficult to decipher.

We prevail upon our resident Auctioneer, (Tom) to auction off 12 *Ionopsis utricularioides* at our July meeting. These plants were a gift from Chao Praya Orchids in Thailand when we were there in February 2008.

Please send your orders from Sakdisri Orchids to Ken ASAP.

WANTED/FOR SALE

Courtney thanks all those members that contacted him and offered to sell/swap Cymbidium species. He is particularly keen to acquire the following: *Cym cochleare*, *Cym mastersii* and *Cym whiteae*. If you have any divisions available, please call Courtney on 9459 1522

Dendrobium albosanguineum, chittimae, chrysanthum, christyanum, venustum,
Phalaenopsis parishii,
Stuarochilus gibbosocalcar
Tolumnia hybrids
Vanda denisoniana

Good results (Sakdisri's plants are good size and few died, generally they were vigorous and released in three months)

Aerides crassifolia, falcata, flabellata, houlettiana, krabiense, lawrenceana, odorata, rubescens
Arachnis labosa
Bulbophyllum annadaleii, sanguineopunctatum, siamense, sutupense
Calanthe rosea, rubens, vestita
Dendrobium aduncum, aggregatum, calicopsis, cariniferum, chlorostylum, dixanthum, draconis, exile, farmerii, fimbriatum, formosum, fytchianum, lindleyii, lituiflorum, palpebrae, pulchellum, scabrilingue, tortile, trigonopus, uniflorum
 (many other *Dendrobium* species are also OK but may not have been ordered in the last two shipments –if you need further advice please call me)
Gastrochilus dasypogon
Holcoglossum amesiana, kimballiana
Renanthera coccinea, isosepala
Renantherella histrionica,
Seidenfadinnia mitrata
Vanda coerulea, pumila, bensonii, denisoniana, lamellata, liouveleii, Rothschildiana, testacea
Vandopsis gigantea,

Depending on the level of interest, I am considering including *Paphiopedilum* species in the order, subject to being able to obtain an import permit. Sakdisri's list has *Paphiopedilum bellatulum, concolor, godefroyae, niveum, exul* and *sukhakulii*. While only the last two are relatively easy to grow, Kevin Butler has been bringing in *Paphiopedilum* species for several years now without too many problems.

Ken

IMPORTED PLANT NEWS

As advised last meeting, Tony and Mavis are holidaying in Thailand in August and have once again offered to bring plants back from Sakdisri on the same basis as last time. This results in a very substantial saving over the normal freight charges, customs fees, GST etc.

I left some pricelists at the last meeting, and would be happy to take orders after the AGM in May. For those of you who may be wondering which genera/species don't cope well with fumigation and post entry quarantine, the following may provide some guidance:

Very poor results (almost every plant in both shipments died)

Aerides multiflora and *rosea*

Agrostophyllum majus

Arundina graminifolia

Bulbophyllum biflorum, *elevatopuntatum*, *echinolabium*, *smitinandii*, *retususculum*,

Dipodium pictum

Dendrobium tranhanii, *virginium*,

Dyakia hendersonii

Gongora clavidora and *nigropuntata*

Phalaenopsis gibbosa, *lindenii*, *lobbii*, *lowii*,

Pecteilis sagarikii

Pomatocalpa spicata

Renanthera philippinensis,

Robiquetta spathulata, *succisa*

Vanilla siamensis

Poor results (many plants in both shipments died)

Arachnis flos-aeris

Dendrobium bellatulum, *griffithianum*, *pendulum*, *sulcatum*, *wardianum*, *unicum*

Eria javanica, *ornata*

Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica, *tetraspis*

Rhynchostylis retusa alba

Mediocre results (some plants survived, but are often not vigorous)

Ascocentrum aurantiaca, *curvifolium*

Coelogyne all species

Bulbophyllum lindleyanum

Monthly Plant

Dockrillia chordiformis @ \$7.00

Dockrillia is a relatively recent genus - previously this species was known as *Dendrobium chordiforme*. *Dockrillia chordiformis* (Kraenzl.) Rauschert 1983 is shown as a Papua New Guinea species, and differs from Australian *Dendrobium* species in that the leaves and canes are fused to form a solid tube (also known as a Rat Tail). *Dockrillia* flowers are resupinate (upside down), and in their natural habitat, occur from Eastern Tasmania to Cape York - a very wide range of climatic conditions.



Photo courtesy of David Banks,
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While members of this genus can be grown in shallow pots, they seem to be best mounted due to their somewhat unruly growth habits (you will have seen the large *Dockrillia* species brought in by Anne & Geoff from time to time).

Suitable mounts are natural cork, paper bark, sheoak and tree fern slab. If you choose to mount this plant, it will require more water during summer.

Dockrillia species seem to be resistant to most of the common *Dendrobium* pests as the leaves have a relatively hard layer of cuticle once mature, however can be susceptible to cotton scale if grown without adequate air movement. All the regular orchid fertilisers work well with this genus.

Plants Displayed April 2009

Graham and Margaret <i>Dendrobium crumenatum</i> <i>Dockrillia x grimesii</i> <i>Eriochilus dilitatus</i> subsp. <i>multiflorus</i>	Peter and Shirley <i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i> <i>Phalaenopsis aphrodite</i> <i>Phalaenopsis lhieroglyphica</i> <i>Oncidium tigrinum</i>
Gordon <i>Oncidium barbatum</i>	Lee <i>Angraecum leonis</i>
Maxine <i>Dendrochilum cobbianum</i> <i>Dendrochilum tenellum</i> <i>Dendrochilum wenzelii</i> <i>Miltonia clowesii</i> <i>Phalaenopsis mariae</i> <i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	Ray and Nancy <i>Cattleya bowringiana</i> <i>Cattleya forbesii</i> <i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i> v <i>compactum</i> <i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>
Ken and Chris <i>Bulbophyllum umbellatum</i> <i>Cattleya bowringiana</i> <i>Dendrochilum longiflorum</i> <i>Epigeneium cymbidioides</i> <i>Neobathiea perrieri</i> <i>Psychopsis papilio</i> <i>Renantherella histronica</i>	Noel and Eva <i>Anacheilium cochleatum</i> var. <i>alba</i> <i>Doritis pulcherrima</i> dark red <i>Miltonia spectabilis</i> var. <i>moreliana</i> <i>Oncidium ornithorhynchum</i>



Phalaenopsis leudemanniana
var *hieroglyphica*
Peter



Miltonia clowesii
Maxine

April Treasures on Display



April Cultural Award
Angraecum leonis
Lee



Phalaenopsis mariae
Maxine



Dendrochilum wenzelii
Maxine



Cattleya forbesii
Ray and Nancy



Anacheilium cochleatum var. *alba*
Noel & Eva