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.
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
13 April 2010, 7.55pm

Present: 34
Apologies: 2
Visitors:
New members: Ian
Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted
(Anne, Doherty)
Business Arising: Because of our new meeting schedule Graham outlined the business from the last committee meeting including the purchase of two new books for the library, PA system upgrade and action on the federal government grant. Mich also found in a stock-take that we are missing so many books.
Financial Report: Tabled by Sandra, current balance is $5194.55 and the second account $1810.40. (Margaret, Sharon)
Correspondence:
Inwards:
- Email from Peter Masters having some plants available for sale plants.
- Various newsletters including one from the Victorian Species Society.
- Down Under Orchid catalogue.
- Neutrog flyers.
- GCA magazine and Bulletin.
- Federal Govt Media release requesting applications for grants.
Outwards:
- Belmont city with a copy of our Certificate of Currency
Business Arising: Nil
General Business:
1. The funds application closes on Friday
so members with suggestions to see Mich.
2. Thanks to Gordon and Robyn for their efforts in the last home visit.
3. Two books – Thai Native Orchids Books 1 and 2 – were bought for the library.
4. The auction was then held, using John Brogan’s donation and Tom Jackson’s skills, of John’s plants. They averaged $20 each ranging from $7 to $30.
5. Neville suggested that we could improve the standard of our badges. This was received with enthusiasm and several people are to research possibilities including making our own using computers.
Cultural Award:
Peter & Shirley for superb specimen of Psychopsis papilio.
Raffle: Margaret and Ian
Name Badge: Trevor
Home Visit Name Badge:
Home Visit Raffle: Adrian and Trevor.

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings
Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January at Forster Park Hall, cnr of Abernethy Road and Keane Street, Cloverdale commencing 7.45pm.
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.
All visitors are very welcome
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, therefore their membership will be at the renewal fee
Monthly Home Visit
On the weekend following the fourth Thursday of each month (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.
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.
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.
one of senior rangers who has a good knowledge of where the best orchids are located. As this park does not have any food stalls (other than for its workers) we stopped at buy something for lunch on the way. While the choice was limited, none of us starved!

After travelling for about 45 minutes, we arrived at the park entry and after Peter negotiated the fee, we travelled for another 45 minutes up a steep, winding road through primary forest to the Ranger station on a high plateau (1,450m above sea level).

As had been carried out at the previous park, many orchids had been attached to trees around the ranger station. Peter mentioned that probably some of these were plants that had been seized from people who had removed them to sell at the local markets. In this area alone, we saw many species in flower including Bulbophyllum, Coelogynae, Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Erina, Sunipia and Vanda.

The habitat on the plateau consisted of occasional large trees, but was primarily low evergreen scrub containing large stands of tropical Rhododendron.

While the habitat was dry (even though it had rained the previous evening) we saw the effect of the drought as many of the orchids were shrivelled and showing signs of stress. We also saw many orchids with seed pods indicating the pollinator population is active and in good health.

The following day, we set out for a highland wildlife sanctuary that Peter has been visiting for several years. During this time, he has developed a relationship with

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- The May general meeting will follow our Annual General Meeting. Please don’t use this an excuse to stay home - while the majority of committee members are reconstituting, it is always good to have people with new ideas on the committee.
- Michele volunteered to create a new badge design (about 80mm by 30mm) to be presented to members, and will revamp our stationery and look at the metal badge (which has Diuris purdii on it at present).
- There are two missing books from the library and three are yet to be returned.
- A new lockable cabinet will be purchased for the storeroom for the newsletters and magazines. These will be reordered for easier access. The Peel and Districts Orchid Society has donated a collection of The Orchadian to the Species Society.
- The 2009/10 grant is yet to be fully spent and members are urged to identify options. In part, this was due to producing the CD before the grant dates began, and we need to plan ahead for the future.
- To continue our commitment to 1% conservation it was resolved to send a donation of $1000 to the AOF.
- 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!

President: Maxine
Vice President: Adrian
Secretary: Graham Bowden
8 Bedelia Way, Hammersley 6022, Ph: 9447 4528
Treasurer: Sandra
Editor: Ken Jones
204 Park Street, Henley Brook 6055. Phone: 9296 1765
Email: kcjones@tpg.com.au
Committee:
Chris
Michele
Lee
Sharan
Tony
Mavis
Trevor
Life Members
Barry
Gordon
Joan & Ted (dec),
Neville
Noel & Eva
NOTICEBOARD

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Home visits:
From 10am onwards. Please bring a plate of food to share and a chair
30 May - John

FOR SALE/WANTED

Imported plant news
We have now completed the inventory of plants from Thailand, and have booked an inspection for mid May. Given the rising cost of registration (now $1200pa), we are naturally keen to keep importing plants so that we can defray at least part of this cost. With this in mind, we are exploring options to bring plants in from the Philippines (possibly a shipment in August). Please let me know if you are interested.
Ken & Chris Jones

However, the trek itself was disappointing with relatively few orchids sighted and even less in flower. The forest was heavily invaded by bamboo, and there were few large trees - these often had orchid plants on horizontal limbs but even with binoculars, it was difficult to identify orchid plants.

After leaving this park, we stopped briefly at dry stream bed where Peter Williams had previously seen Paphiopedilum concolor growing in an overhanging earth bank.

We saw several species in this immediate vicinity, and spent some time trying to identify them. Ultimately, I thought that the species pictured below could be an albino form of Dendrobium dracolis, although there is an albino form of Dendrobium lituriflorum but cannot be sure.

After a short walk to the steam, we walked up the bed and Peter pointed out a solitary plant (which was not in flower). While walking along this stream bed, we saw numerous bamboo stems that had been cut at an angle on one end that are used to remove orchids, including the rest of the Paphiopedilum concolor that Peter had seen some years earlier. This particular plant appeared to be a more difficult position to remove and so was still in-situ, although it was difficult to be confident that if we went back, it would still be there. There is an active trade in wild-collected plants.

We also saw plants of Chilochista that had fallen from its place on a tree branch, Pomatocalpa spicata (the flowers had been pollinated and were forming seed pods), and several other botanical species, none of which were in flower.
ORCHID HABITATS OF NORTHERN THAILAND

Part two of this article covers the last few days of our orchid tour in Northern Thailand. As I mentioned in part 1, Northern Thailand is in drought and the in situ orchid species that we observed were shrivelled and often quite blackened, but in many cases were flowering despite this adverse treatment. On Sunday 21 March, we left the Rainforest Resort and drove for a few hours to the lowland Namnao National Park.

I recall thinking that we would probably see different orchids given the altitude, and the number of orchid plants in flower at the park headquarters.

MONTHLY PLANT

*Dendrobium falcorostrum*

**Country of origin:** Australia

**Description:** A robust, highly-fragrant, Australian native Dendrobium

**Difficulty:** Simple to grow

**Cost:** $8

This species is also known as *Thelychiton falcorostrus*, (its common name is the Beech Orchid). It is found in Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales, at 800-1500m altitude, growing on Antarctic Beech and other rainforest trees, although is occasionally lithophytic. Often, the lower trunk and branches will be completely covered by large clumps of *Dendrobium falcorostrum*.

This is true cool-growing orchid and will tolerate occasional frosts (in fact it is said to flower more profusely if subject to some chilling) prior to flowering in late winter/early spring. However, like the majority of Dendrobiums, this orchid needs as much light as possible during the darker winter months, so it is better grown up high on the north side of your shadehouse where it gets most light.

The size of this species is somewhat variable with some variants up to 0.5m tall. Flower colour ranges from pure white to cream, sometimes suffused with a pink blush. It should be simple to grow, requiring only shadehouse conditions in WA, and if well grown, rapidly multiplies to become a specimen. While slab culture (including tree fern) most closely replicates nature, this species is very happy in a pot with any bark media, and one grower reports great success with pebbles.
PLANTS DISPLAYED APRIL 2010

Graham and Margaret
Dockrilla rigida
Oncidium longipes
Smitinandia micrantha

Gordon
Vanda lamellata

Maxine
Arachnis labrosa
Bulbophyllum comensis
Bulbophyllum dearei
Bulbophyllum rothschildianum
Dendrochilum wenzelfii
Oenone volucris
Paphiopedilum concolor
Paphiopedilum bellatulum
Phalaenopsis fasciata
Phalaenopsis mariae

Phalaenopsis pulchra

Ken and Chris
Bulbophyllum longiflorum
Cattleya bowringiana
Dendrobium oligophyllum
Dendrochilum longiflorum
Paphiopedilum godefroyae
Paphiopedilum niveum
Pleurothallis saundersiana
Seraphya diffusa
Stenoglottis longifolia

Adrian and Deanna
Bulbophyllum dearei
Liparis coelogyne
Paphiopedilum bellatulum
Trichoglottis philippensis

Peter & Shirley
Christensonia vietnamica
Dendrobium lichenastrium
Dorita rosa
Miltonia cloewesi
Miltonia X leucoglossa
Oncidium hyphaematicum
Pescatorea lehmannii
Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica
Phalaenopsis lindenii
Renanthera matulina
Renanthera monachica
Psychopsis papilio

Anne & Geoff
Dendrobium secundum
Macodes sanderiana
Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica var. alba
Phalaenopsis fasciata

Victor
Miltonia spectabilis var. moreliana
Schoenorchis fragrans

John
Cattleya bowringiana

Tony and Mavis
Brassavola nodosa
Dendrobium bigibbum
Dendrobium glomeratum
Maxillaria valenzuelana
Oncidium onustum
Phalaenopsis bellina
Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi
Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica
Phalaenopsis violacea

Miltonia cloewesi
Peter & Shirley

Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica alba
Anne & Geoff

Bulbophyllum rothschildianum
Maxine

Paphiopedilum godefroyae
Ken & Chris

Phalaenopsis fasciata
Maxine

Arachnis labrosa
Maxine

Dendrobium glomeratum
Tony & Mavis

Photography by Tony
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Photo from http://www.oscov.asn.au/mages

Photo from http://www.flickr.com/photos/21928429@N07/
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After leaving this park, we stopped briefly at a dry stream bed where Peter Williams had previously seen *Paphiopedilum concolor* growing in an overhanging earth bank.

![Paphiopedilum concolor in situ](image)

We saw several species in this immediate vicinity, and spent some time trying to identify them. Ultimately, I thought that the species pictured below could be an albinistic form of *Dendrobium draconis*, although there is an albinistic form of *Dendrobium luteflorum* but cannot be sure.

![Dendrobium draconis](image)

After a short walk to the stream, we walked up the bed and Peter pointed out a solitary plant (which was not in flower). While walking along this stream bed, we saw numerous bamboo stems that had been cut at an angle on one end that are used to remove orchids, including the rest of the *Paphiopedilum concolor* that Peter had seen some years earlier. This particular plant appeared to be in a more difficult position to remove and so was still in-situ, although it was difficult to be confident that if we went back, it would still be there. There is an active trade in wild-collected plants.

![Paphiopedilum concolor in situ](image)

We also saw plants of Chilochista that had fallen from its place on a tree branch, *Pomatocalpa spicata* (the flowers had been pollinated and were forming seed pods), and several other botanical species, none of which were in flower.
After spending a hour or so walking up the stream bed, we returned to the vans and headed for our next destination, Loei. Loei is a large town, located in North-eastern Thailand, approximately 40 km from the border of Laos.

We stayed at three star hotel, which while comfortable, principally catered for local business travellers. Consequently, it lacked some of the facilities which we might normally expect, for example, the restaurant which was located off the entry foyer was not part of the hotel, but a separate business. They had difficulty coping with the influx of some 34 guests on the first night after Loei was drenched by a sudden thunder storm not long after we arrived. Naturally, most were less than enthusiastic about heading out for dinner (in fact some had to cope with rain coming through the roof into their rooms!)

The following day, we set out for a highland wildlife sanctuary that Peter has been visiting for several years. During this time, he has developed a relationship with one of senior rangers who has a good knowledge of where the best orchids are located. As this park does not have any food stalls (other than for its workers) we stopped to buy something for lunch on the way. While the choice was limited, none of us starved.

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... continued next month.

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