



CULTURAL AWARD, December 2013

Chysis trichostata
Ray & Nancy

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 11 February

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

3 December 2013, 7.55pm

Present: 37

Apologies: As per register.

Visitors: Nil

New members: Nil

Minutes: Published minutes accepted (Mavis, Victor)

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Tabled by Sandra. Current balance of \$9,141.72. (Ken, Ian).

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Bartels – delivery of calendars
- B. Burbridge – advising he had paid for a name badge on joining and will be visiting Rockingham over Christmas. Seeking to make arrangements to collect it.
- Various club newsletters.

Outwards:

- To J. Barnard – Hall bookings for 2014

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

- An auction of plants, hothouse and sun-dry equipment will be held on behalf of a member on 15th February 2014. Further details and a catalogue will be released closer to the date. Tom has agreed to conduct the auction.
- Renziana Vol. 3 (the journal of the Swiss Orchid foundation) has been released and features Vanda. Tony W is taking orders from anyone wishing to obtain this excellent publication.
- Thanks were extended to Jim & Jeanine for hosting the home visit for

last month. The next one is to held at Ezi Gro Nursery on Saturday 25 January 2014. Please bring a plate and chair as usual..

Two plants were auctioned by our ever enthusiastic auctioneer, Tom Jackson.

- * *Coelogyne massangeana* – Lucky bidder, Peter (\$27)
- * *Dendrobium lindleyii* – Lucky bidder, Peter (\$40)

Cultural Award: Ray & Nancy for a very attractive *Chysis trichostata*.

Raffle: Christmas free raffle for all members

Name Badge: Brenda

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- One of the plants donated by Kayley and Andrew Usher, *Rhyncholaelia digbyana* var *fimbriata* with a flower sheath will be auctioned at the next meeting.
- An auction of Gordon's orchids and sundry equipment (including a glasshouse) will take place at 10.00am on Saturday 15 February at Gordon's home at Karrinyup. A listing of Gordon's plants will be available at the general meeting. The majority of his orchids will be sold as lots of two or more plants rather than individually.
All bidders will need to register and obtain a bidder number on the day. Payment for plants will be cash only.
- The estimated cost and postage for the Renziana publication is substantially more than the initial estimate. Please make sure that you confirm whether you are happy to proceed at the higher price to Tony.

President: Graham
Vice President: Ken Jones
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Committee:

Chris	Sharon
Charly	Paul
Adrian	Tony
Michele	Mavis

Life Members

Barry (dec'd)
Gordon
Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)
Neville
Noel & Eva
Barry

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

At 10am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and food to share.

- * Feb - Les & Val, Wanneroo
- * Mar - Gerda & Charly, Sinagra, WA

FOR SALE/WANTED

- 3m x 2.5m treated pine frame greenhouse with double plastic cover (inside and out) available. As Ken wants it removed, he is not asking for payment but suggests that you make a donation to the Species Orchid Society. It has been dismantled. Fans, hotbed and controllers also available - make an offer. Contact Ken 9309 3361.

Imported plant news

At long last I have heard back from Matt at Ten Shin Gardens. He advised that he had been ill and away from work for three months. I have re-sent him the information required for the next order and am awaiting his advice.

Once I have his confirmation that he can supply the plants ordered, and that the costings are correct (hopefully before the February meeting), I will advise each member who has ordered plants of the costs, and details of payment required. I will make an estimate of the additional costs and divided by the number of plants so that you can confirm your participation.

Ken & Chris Jones

MONTHLY PLANT

Bulbophyllum cercanthum

Country of origin: Borneo

Description: A small-mid sized rambling species with umbrell flowers.

Difficulty: Requires warmth during winter, and year round high humidity and good air movement.

Cost: \$5

This month's plant was one of the flasks quarantined after the 19th AOC and has been grown on by Maxine Godbeer.

Bulbophyllum cercanthum Garay, Hamer & Siegerist 1996 is in the section *Cirrhopetalum* (Lindley 1824). Its common name is the Tail Flower *Bulbophyllum* from the tail-like lateral sepals. *Cirrhopetalum cercanthum* is synonymous.

This recently discovered species comes from Borneo, although I was unable to find any habitat data, and it is not mentioned in my series of books on the orchids of Borneo. However, it is reasonable to assume that it is principally epiphytic, growing in the lower canopy, and experiences a hot/wet tropical climate.

Siegerist (2001) recommends basket or pot culture in a warm, shaded location with good air movement. The media should be small to medium size in keeping with the relatively fine roots. Regular watering throughout the year is required.



Source: <http://www.orchid.url.tw/myflowers/bulbophyllum/cercanthum.htm>

This species is also likely to be suitable for slab culture providing the high humidity it requires can be maintained during the hot, dry summer months. If you have been successful in growing *Bulbophyllum longissimum* that was sold in June 2013, you should also be successful with this species

In my experience, *Bulbophyllum*s need protection from our cold, wet winters, and good air movement (this also helps keep pests like cotton scale at bay). Humidity in the hot, dry summer months is important to prevent desiccation. Like all orchids, this species is a gross feeder and enjoys regular nutrient - little and often.

Ian

Epidendrum xanthinum

Chris

Encyclia cordigera var. *roseum*

Ken & Chris

Ansellia africana
Cattleya walkeriana
Coelogyne usitata
Cymbidium maddidum
Maxillaria houtteana
Oncidium leucochilum
Physosiphon tubatus
Sobennikoffia humbertiana

Adrian & Deanne

Chysis aurea
Dendrobium stricklandianum
Encyclia lancifolia
Encyclia randii

Maxillaria tenuifolia
Oncidium schlimii
Polystachya pundulatum ??

Ray & Nancy

Brassavola flagellaris
Chysis trichostata
Lockhartia oerstedii
Paphiopedilum sukhakulii

Gillian

Coilostylis parkinsonianum

Peter & Shirley

Cattleya gaskelliana 'alba'
Encyclia hanburyi
Laelia purpurata
Psychopsis papillio
Renanthera monachica

PLANTS DISPLAYED DECEMBER 2013



Oncidium leucochilum
Sharon Lyster
Ken & Chris



Laelia purpurata
Peter & Shirley

Victor

Laelia purpurata var. *Werkhauseri*

Courtney

Sarcochilus falcatus

Sharon

Aeranthes grandiflora
Cattleya dolosa var. *coerulea*
Coelogyne calcicola
Laelia purpurata
Oncidium leuchochilum

Tony & Mavis

Dendrobium delacourii
Tolumnia variagata
Zelenkoa onusta (syn. *Onc. onustum*)

*Polystachya
pundulatum* ??
Adrian & Deanne



PLANTS DISPLAYED DECEMBER 2013



Encyclia randii
Adrian & Deanne

Cattleya dolosa var. *coerulea*
Sharon



Photography by Tony

Leafless Orchids

Continued from December 2013

Chiloschista parishii Seidenf. 1988
Commonly named Parish's Chiloschista after an English orchid collector in Burma in the 1800's, *Chiloschista parishii* is found in Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand, India and the Himalayas in semi-deciduous and deciduous dry lowland forests and savannah-like woodlands at elevations of sea-level to 700 m.



Photo source: <http://www.hortusorchid.org/en/botanical-orchids/107-c/1183-chiloschista-parishii.html>

This miniature sized, leafless epiphyte has small leaves that wither before flowering in spring and summer. It has an erect, 10-20 cm pubescent raceme with 10 to 20 fragrant flowers. It is a bright light orchid, and enjoys high humidity from regular rainfall.

The Australian species, *Chiloschista phyllorhiza* (F.Muell.) Schltr., Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 56: 492 (1921) is found in the Northern Territory, including Bathurst Island, some Torres Strait islands and

between Cape York and the Tully River in northern Queensland. It grows on trees and rocks in rainforest, streamside vegetation, swamps, moist gullies and



gorges, and is often found on mangroves. Photo source: http://keys.trin.org.au/key-server/data/08090a09-0d0e-410b-860c-020705070e0e/media/Html/Chiloschista_phyllorhiza.htm

The flowers of *Chiloschista phyllorhiza* only last a few hours and are produced in spasms, usually by all the plants in an area flowering simultaneously (similar to the gregarious flowering habit of species such as *Dendrobium crumenatum*). They appear to be pollinated by native bees. Vigorous growth occurs in spring and summer, with flowering occurring early in this period. As is the case with other leafless orchids, there is some debate amongst taxonomists about this species, although its name is valid according to Kew. The debate is whether it is in fact a *Chiloschista* given its flowering habit and difference in flower form (similar to *Sarcochilus*). In this regard, *Sarcochilus phyllorhizus* F.Muell. (1866) and

Thrixspermum phyllorhizum (F.Muell.) Rchb.f., Beitr. 1871) are synonymous.

Chiloschista ramifera Seidenf. 1988 is found in Thailand as a small sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte native to the humid forests of Thailand where it blooms in the spring. The pendulous, many branched up to 33 cm long, many [22] flowered raceme arises with two leaves present and carries pleasantly fragrant flowers. This species is subject to clearing pressure in the wild and is becoming less common.



Photo Source: <http://forum.theorchidsource.com/ubbthreads.php/topics/140450.html>

Chiloschista trudelii Seidenf. 1987 is found in Thailand and Vietnam in humid, mossy, mixed and coniferous forests on mossy branches of old, dwarf, gnarled trees at low to moderate elevations and has grey green roots that bloom with an erect, fleshy, 8 to 10 cm long, branched, few flowered inflorescence in the spring. The following photo from http://www.orchidarium.pl/AdoZ/html/Chiloschista_trudelii.htm shows this attractive yellow and white species .



Chiloschista useneoides (D.Don) Lindl. 1832 comes from the eastern, western and northern Himalayas region from Garhwal in the west, through Nepal, into Bhutan and Thailand at elevations of 1,600-1,700m. Photo source: <http://www.orchidstudygroup.org.uk/a-trip-to-see-the-orchid-wonders-of-sikkim/>



It is as an almost leafless, hot to warm growing, miniature epiphyte or lithophyte. The plant has many long, twisted, tufted roots and blooms in the summer on an erect, pubescent, flexuous, 5- 11 cm racemose inflorescence with a few fragrant flowers. This species is reported to be under threat in Nepal due to habitat destruction and indiscriminate removal of wild plants for the orchid trade.

Chiloschista viridiflava G.Seidenfaden 1988 is found in Thailand as a miniature sized, cool to hot growing epiphyte that blooms in the spring on a pendant several to many [20] flowered inflorescence. It is sometimes incorrectly referred to as *Chiloschista viridiflora* and was primarily described by the Danish botanist and diplomat Dr. Gunnar Seidenfaden in 1988. In Thai, its common name is Phaya rai bai, which means without leaves. The small flowers are approximately 1.2cm across and flower in April- June.



Photo Source: <http://paphyeo.blogspot.com.au/2013/05/chiloschista-leafless-orchid.html>

Chilochista culture

- *Water/Humidity - members of this genus come from the wet tropics and therefore are exposed to high moisture and humidity for the majority of the year. During the cooler winter months, rainfall is somewhat reduced and accordingly, we can reduce watering frequency during our winter although it is important to prevent desiccation. Humidity needs to be maintained at approximately 80% throughout the year.
- *Temperature/light – in their natural habitat, diurnal variation is about 6°C (26-28°C max and 20-23°C min) with temperatures somewhat lower in winter. The warmest temperatures are in spring as there are less overcast rainy days that in mid-summer. These plants are generally found in shady locations in filtered or diffuse light at 15,000-25,000 lux.
- *Air movement – excellent air movement is essential for successful cultivation of the members of this genus. In a confined space such as a glasshouse, this can be achieved by the use of oscillating fans or plate fans and polysock tubes that ensure even air distribution.

Continued next month

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January) at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise St, Wilson commencing 7.45 pm. 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 \$30 PA + 2 badges (1st year only) [Badges come in two versions. Pin fastening (\$11.50) or Magnet fastening (\$13.50) *Please indicate your preference.*]

Single \$20.00 PA + 1 badge (1st year only) [Pin fastening (\$11.50) or Magnet fastening (\$13.50)]

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore membership will be at the renewal fee only

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 \$15.00. 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.

If unclaimed, return to
The Editor
204 Park Street, Henley Brook WA 6055

Next meeting Tuesday 11 February 2014

Peter & Shirley Masters

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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 **(please confirm your order the week prior to the meeting).**

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