



Vol 26 No 1 June 2014



**CULTURAL AWARD, May 2014**

*Rodriguezia venusta*

Peter & Shirley

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 10 June**

**Contents**

- |   |                           |    |  |
|---|---------------------------|----|--|
| 2 | General Meeting Minutes   | 6  | Plants displayed May 2014                |
| 3 | Notes from your Committee | 8  | Our 2014 Life Members and Quiet Achiever |
| 4 | Noticeboard               | 10 | About us                                 |
| 5 | Monthly plant             |    |  |

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# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

13 May 2014, 8.00pm

**Present:** 44

**Apologies:** Trevor, Gordon, Tony and Barry

**Visitors:** Nil

**New members:** Nil

**Minutes:** Published minutes accepted (Tom, Ian)

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Financial Report:** Tabled by Sandra. Current balance of \$10,678.29 (Ken, John at AGM)

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards:**

- Inwards GCA, LTM Risk Cover (Certificate of Currency)
- Various newsletters

**Outwards:**

- Nil

**Business Arising:** Nil

**General Business:**

- Peter Masters' Phalaenopsis hybrids auction on the 31st of May at 10am
- Joining the Australian Orchid Council and the WA Regional Orchid Organisation. The cost is about \$100 and \$40 annually respectively.
  - \* Peter moved and Lorraine seconded motion that we join the AOC. This was carried unanimously.
  - \* Murray moved and Adrian seconded motion that we join the WAROO. Again this was carried unanimously.

- Bruce outlined the dates of the Interclub Challenge to be run by the Northern Districts Orchid Society on the 2nd and 3rd of August. There will be two guest speakers and a windup dinner at the WA Golf Club.
- Barry is in the ICU at RPH and the Secretary is to send a card from our society.
- Plant orders to Mich for plants from Tinonee and Rosella to help keep costs of shipping down and to reward them for giving us good deals.
- The president thanked Margaret for our last home visit and took numbers for the next at John's place on the 25th of May.

**Cultural Award:** Presented to Peter for a superb flowering specimen of *Rodriguezia venusta*.

**Raffle:** Ian, Ken, Patricia and Mich

**Name Badge:** Tony & Mavis

# NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- Your annual membership was due for renewal at the May meeting. Please pay the Treasurer at the next meeting or as soon as possible thereafter.
- As advised at May meeting, the Silent Auction will be held at the general meeting on 8 July. This is our major fundraising event each year and is an excellent opportunity to expand your orchid collection. For those of you repotting, now is the time to set aside some divisions for this event.

We do understand that our new members will often be just starting their species collection and may not have any spare plants. Hybrid orchids are equally acceptable as are other plants, orchid equipment, books or any other useful items.

- One of the important things that our Society does is encourage members to display their species orchids and to do some research to enlighten us about these fascinating plants. When members are telling us about their orchids, please do them the courtesy of quietly listening to what they have to say (even if you've heard it before) as they have gone to the trouble to do some research and may not be confident public speakers. We are all guilty of 'talking in school' from time to time, but need to remember that many of us have reached a time in our life where our hearing is less than perfect. General discussion amongst members during the meeting is discourteous and may prevent

some of us hearing what others have to say.

- If you are interested in purchasing plants from Tinonee or Rosella, please contact Mich on 92521668

**President:** Ken Jones

**Vice President:** Adrian

**Secretary:** Graham Bowden

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**Committee:**

Chris Paul

Michele Tony

Sharon Mavis

**Life Members**

Barry (dec'd)

Gordon

Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)

Trevor

Neville

Noel & Eva

Tony & Mavis

Barry

# NOTICEBOARD

## FORTH- COMING EVENTS

### Home visits:

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

- \* Jun - Norm, Riverton
- \* Jul - Adrian & Deane, Safety Bay
- \* Aug - Paul & Andrea, Gidgegannup

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## FOR SALE/WANTED

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### Imported plant news

I have sent e-mails to a number of potential suppliers in Taiwan , but am finding that it may be difficult to find a supplier with the broad range of species that were advertised by Ten Shin Gardens, and chosen by members of the buying group. However, I will keep looking.

*Ken & Chris Jones*

# MONTHLY PLANT

## *Guarianthe bowringiana*

Country of origin: Guatemala, Belize..

Description: Medium-large sized  
Cattleya species

Difficulty: Easy species to grow and  
flower

Cost: \$15.00

These plants were purchased from Margaret who hosted a recent home visit. They were sold to her as *Cattleya bowringiana* x *bowringiana* fma *coerulea* "Violet". All are large flowering size plants.

First exhibited in London by its discoverer, James Veitch & Sons on October 31, 1885, it was named *Cattleya autumnalis*. It was awarded an FCC by the RHS. Veitch renamed it *Cattleya bowringiana* to honour a customer, John C. Bowring of Windsor Forest .

In its natural habitat, this species is found at 100-1,000m elevation growing on rocky cliffs and the sides of ravines often close to streams with rapidly moving water. Generally, these habitats are high humidity as a result of air charged with moisture. Plants are commonly found on granite outcroppings and limestone rocks, but are also found on trees in mixed pine and oak forests.

This species is unique among the genus



Source: <http://www.geocities.jp/gonnbeltusa/new>

due to the bulbulous swelling at the base of each pseudobulb. It is a remarkably hardy and adaptable species and is often found as a lithophyte in fully exposed positions, or as a terrestrial growing in coarse quartz sand along rivers, or as an epiphyte.

*Guarianthe bowringiana* is one of the easiest tropical orchids to grow, and is remarkably vigorous. It is also floriferous with large clusters of 10-20 flowers per raceme in autumn. Coleman pioneered the development of "coerulea" *Cattleya* hybrids using the blue forms of *Cattleya bowringiana*; 'ilacina', 'coerulea' and 'violacea'. (for further information, <http://www.chadwickorchids.com/bowringiana>)

In my experience, this species is generally resistant to fungus pathogens and insect pests provided good air circulation is maintained. Cotton scale can be a problem if air movement is poor.

**Graham & Margaret**

*Aerangis biloba*  
*Caladenia drummondii*  
*Eriochilus dilatatus*

**Ian**

*Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *superbum*

**Jim & Jeanine**

*Paphiopedilum insigne* var. *sanderiae*

**Maxine**

*Bulbophyllum blepharistes*  
*Bulbophyllum rothschildianum*  
*Laelia cinnabarina*

**Ken & Chris**

*Catasetum* (unidentified)  
*Cattleya maxima*  
*Dendrobium pseudolamellatum*  
*Eria hyacinthoides*

*Eria obesa*  
*Euanthe sanderiana*  
*Paphiopedilum spicerianum*  
*Paphiopedilum wardii*  
*Phalaenopsis fasciata*  
*Schomburgkia splendida*

**Peter & Shirley**

*Aerides lawrenciae*  
*Laelia praestans*  
*Paphiopedilum insigne* var. *sanderiae*  
*Psycmorchis pusilla*  
*Rodriguezia venusta*  
*Stenoglottis longifolia*

**Courtney**

*Zelenkoa onusta*

**John**

*Cattleya maxima*

**PLANTS DISPLAYED MAY 2014**



*Dendrobium bigibbum*  
Ian

*Cattleya maxima*  
John  
Norm  
Ken & Chris



**Norm**

*Cattleya labiata*

*Cattleya maxima*

*Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *alba*

*Prosthechea cochleata*

**Tony & Mavis**

*Miltonia clowesii*

*Oncidium hyphaematicum*



*Laelia praestans*  
Peter & Shirley

**PLANTS DISPLAYED MAY 2014**



*Laelia cinnabarina*  
Maxine

*Schomburgkia splendida*  
Ken & Chris



Photography by Tony



## Our 2014 Life Members and Quiet Achiever

At the Annual General Meeting, Graham Bowden announced our 2014 Life Members and Quiet Achiever. It is pleasing to be able to recognise members of our Society doing extraordinary things, and Tony & Mavis, Trevor and Chris are people who have, and continue to make the Species Society a great organisation for its members.

### Tony and Mavis



Tony and Mavis are long-time members of the Society and from the time they joined, have been active members involved in our accomplishments. It is said that behind every successful man, there is a strong and capable woman.

Mavis is this woman, and in recent years, among the many other things that she does for us, has taken on the role of coordinating our much enjoyed home visit program. Committee and members generally have benefited from her skills in persuading members to open their homes to provide fellowship to others, and encourage learning through observing how others go about

growing their species orchids. Mavis was also an integral member of the 19th AOC Conference as Volunteer Coordinator, and was the Secretary of the 2008 WAOS Conference and Seniors Coordinator for the 2005 WAOS Conference Committee. Many visitors and Registrants to both these conferences will remember Mavis's smiling face, as she was the "Go To" person who was available to sort out any problems that arose. She has also served as secretary to the West Australian Regional Orchid Organisation (WAROO).

Tony started the Society's first web site which later incorporated the monthly 'on line' newsletter. Tony is our web master, and has been responsible for bringing to fruition an idea that now sees the Society's website as the repository for Ron Heberle's incredible terrestrial orchid photo collection. As he has throughout his life, Tony taught himself the skills required to design, build and maintain this facility that is the envy of other societies.

Mavis & Tony joined the Species Orchid Society of WA in the mid 1990's and less than a year later, Tony took on his first, two year term as president. This began a very steep learning curve as neither of them had served on a committee before this. Tony subsequently took over the presidency when Reg Allison died before serving another two year term. Since then, Tony has taken on many different roles in our society. Tony has twice served as President, and he and Mavis have been Committee members since 1996. Tony and Mavis are also active in other societies; Tony as President of the Wanneroo Orchid



Society for many years and Mavis as a committee member. They have jointly organised several successful tours for orchid growers to see orchids in Southeast Asia, including a trip to the 17th WOC in Malaysia and the 20th WOC in Singapore in 2011. Tony is also the author of articles on some of the unique Western Australian terrestrial orchids that have been published in local and international magazines, and on our website.

Tony was responsible for the outstanding 19th AOC Conference Lecture Program, and the programs at the 2005 & 2008 WAOS Conferences. The success of each of these Conferences was due in no small part to the quality of the international and Australian presenters that were persuaded to come to Perth. Tony also served as Chairperson of WAROO for two terms and is a member of the Australian Orchid Foundation. As if this isn't enough 'orchid stuff', he is concluding the last year of a 4.5 year course to become a qualified AOC orchid judge. He is currently a member of a three person team endeavouring to bring the World Orchid Conference to Perth in 2020.

In between all of these commitments, Tony and Mavis find time to devote to the heart of their interest, growing orchids. They are successful show exhibitors and always have species orchids on our display benches, often growing in unusual containers. At some point, Tony began to take pictures of orchids at the Society meetings and added them to the newsletter. Several cameras later, he continues this progression in attempting to improve picture quality. Thank you both for your

outstanding contribution to the Species Orchid Society.

## Trevor



Trevor is one of those people who quietly get things done. Trevor served as our President some years back, and was a long term Committee member until standing down a few years ago for personal health reasons and to devote more time to the care of his wife Anne who is ill. We have missed his attendance at our general meeting and home visits over the last few months.

This aspect of Trevor's character is behind his commitment to supporting members who are unwell and to this end, for many years he has been the person that keeps in touch with members that we haven't seen for a while, often because they are unwell, or unable to attend meetings. Trevor was also the person who reliably picked up the keys to our meeting venue and returned them after our meeting concluded, and is always willing to help out at events. He and Ian Bailey have been outstanding volunteers on the Society's behalf at the WAOS and 19th AOC events and it is their efforts that in large measure

were the reason that the Society enjoyed a substantial financial benefit in recognition of the hours of volunteer support provided by Species Society members.

Trevor is also an active member of ANOS, and of the Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholder's Association of WA, his other passion. While we miss Trevor's participation in our monthly meetings and home visits, at least he is no longer winning the raffle or name badge prize giving others of us a chance! Trevor in his own unique way has made a valuable contribution to our society and we are pleased to recognise him in this way.

## Chris

While our 2013 Quiet Achiever, Ian set the standard, in 2014, Chris has raised the bar a little higher. The Quiet Achiever award recognises a member who quietly, without fuss, gets things done.



Chris does all of these things, and as Graham said when presenting the award,

Chris has been his right hand person over the past few years, always there when something needs to be done. The photo shows Chris in a very typical situation - cooking the barbeque at a home visit.

When we needed someone to transport materials for the 19th AOC display, Chris was there to do the work including the artificial turf, dead trees and helping me pick up thousands of flasks and move them to the venue. More recently, while Chris was helping Gordon look after his orchids when Gordon was incapacitated, Gordon decided that it was time to divest his collection. Chris immediately offered to help and with Graham Bowden supported by members, arranged a very successful auction, conducted by our ever enthusiastic auctioneer, Tom. However, it didn't finish there as Gordon sold his glasshouse to another member and Chris and Graham offered to coordinate its removal and re-erection. This task, like others that Chris takes on for the Society was completed without fuss and the new owner is delighted.

When there are jobs that need to be done, Chris is one of the first people to put his hand up to help. This character is evident from his involvement in the Wanneroo-Joondalup Orchid Society. Chris is also completing the course with Tony and others to become an AOC judge. Chris also grows some great orchids and regularly accompanies Graham on trips viewing and rescuing WA terrestrial orchids, and was involved in the rescue and replanting of orchids at the Fiona Stanley Hospital.

# 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 10 June 2014

Peter & Shirley Masters

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Shirley 0414948469

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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](http://www.peterskorner.com), phone Peter or  
Shirley on the numbers shown, or e-mail [peterskorner@iinet.net.au](mailto:peterskorner@iinet.net.au).