Anne O’Callaghan Award January 2018
Ian Duncan - *Encyclia alata*

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 13 February

Contents

2 General Meeting
2 Notes from your Committee
4 Noticeboard
5 Monthly Plant

6 Orchids in Their Natural Habitat and Cultivation – Ecuagenera’s five-day pre-WOC tour
15 About us
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
9 January 2017 7.48pm

Present: 50 present as per the register
Apologies: 5 as per register
Visitors: Helen and Lauren.
New members:
Minutes: Minutes of the November meeting accepted (Lynn, Jacqui)
Business Arising: Nil
Financial Report: Charly provided the financial report. Current balance is $3,506.41 plus $6,000 in a term deposit. (Ray, Lynn)
Correspondence:

Inwards:
• Agenda for WAROO 20th Jan 2018,
• Workshop for WOC24 on 3rd March,
• WOC24 Letterhead,
• Bruce’s Home visit
Outwards:
• Nil.

General Business:
• Apologies were offered for the lack of a December meeting.
• Ken spoke about the depth of organisation needed to hold WOC24 in 2023. He also said that we would need a presence in Taiwan for WOC23 in 2020. Plant quarantine will need to be investigated. There is a meeting scheduled for the 3rd of March (at the Bentley Community Centre from 9.00-12.00) and all enthusiasts are asked to attend.
• The next WAROO meeting is to be held on the 20th of January.
• Our society is to run the Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop on the first weekend in August 2018. A subcommittee has been formed to organise it.
• Adrian and Chris will try to have our storage cupboards secured at the next meeting. They were open again tonight.
• Tony B is growing on some Paphiopedilum spicerianum as a set of monthly plants for us.
• The AOC Conference and Show will be held in NSW from the 18th to the 22nd of July.
• There was forewarning of a large Show for September this year.

Chris was enrolled as a Life Member of our Society by the President, Adrian.

Anne O’Callaghan Cultural Award:
Awarded to Ian for a beautiful example of Encyclia alata.
Raffle: First prize was won by Caterina, and then all other attendees won a plant.
Name Badge: Brenda.

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

• A Open Day & Workshop for all orchid society members is to be held at 9.00-12.00 on Saturday 3 March at Bentley Community Centre. Nyamup Way, Bentley (just off Manning Road). The
purpose is to share our experience from the World Orchid Conference in Ecuador, and to start planning our event in September 2023. We hope that you are able to attend. Please let us know at the February general meeting.

- The Species Society is the host for the 2018 Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop to be held at Morley Recreation Centre on 3-5 August 2018. If you are willing to help us plan and stage this event, please let Adrian, Tony W or Kenknow as we are now forming a sub-committee to plan the Society’s display and plan and manage the event.

- Gary Backhouse has updated his DVD *Spider Orchids: the Genus Caladenia and its Relatives*. This e-book covers *Caladenia* and its relatives *Adenochilus, Cyanicula, Ericksonella, Eriochilus, Glossodia, Elythranthera, Leptoceras, Pheladenia and Praeoxanthus*. 844 pages in landscape format includes 7,800 photographs including 143 natural hybrids. It is published on DVD ($25) or USB stick or micro SD card. ($30). If you are interested, please see Graham at the meeting.
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Home visits:
At 10 am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and food to share.
* 25 February - Adrian & Dee, Safety Bay
* 18 March - Bruce & Kaye, Dianella (note this is a week earlier than usual)
* 29 April - Peter, Armadale
* 27th May - John, Bicton

FOR SALE/WANTED

- The Species Society has a spare copy of Dr Henry Oakeley’s book, Lycaste, Ida and Anguloa that is for sale. Dr Oakeley is presently selling the remaining copies of this excellent publication for £60 including postage to Australia (approximately $100). If you are interested in acquiring this book, please see Mich or one of the committee members. All reasonable offers will be considered.
MONTHLY PLANT

Paphiopedilum spicerianum

Country of origin: Northeast India, Myanmar, Bhutan and China

Description: Moderate size slipper orchid.

Difficulty: Relatively easy to grow.

Cost: $5.00

Paphiopedilum spicerianum [Rchb.f]Pfitz. 1888 is found in northeast India along the Myanmar border, and has also been reported from northwest Myanmar, Bhutan and Yunnan Province in China. These plants were deflasked and grown on by Tony & Sandy from a flask that Tony and Mavis acquired for us when they were in Thailand in 2016.

Paphiopedilum spicerianum grows on limestone outcrops and cliffs at 300-1,300m, generally shaded by ferns and gingers. The plants are found in shallow, humus-filled pockets in limestone with their roots anchored to the rocks. They can also be found in moss and thick humus at the base of trees and on moss covered rocks. Their habitat has a readily available supply of fresh water, even through the winter dry season where moisture is provided by mist and water seepage that keeps the substrate damp. This species generally flowers in autumn with one – three flowers per raceme. It is a vigorous species that can reach flowering size two years out of flask.

Paphiopedilum spicerianum is one of the simplest of the genus to grow, and is equally happy with pine bark, sphagnum moss, perlite, coir and other media. Protection from cold, wet weather in winter is strongly recommended as this genus is adversely affected by cold and wet media in our wet winter, that can promote the growth of fungal and bacterial pathogens like Erwinea spp that are bacterial rots, particularly damaging and hard to eradicate.

Paphiopedilum orchids are generally less attractive to the insect pests which feast on our other orchids. Good culture that prevents water sitting in leaf axils is the key to healthy slipper orchids. Additional shade during summer to reduce light intensity is important.
Orchids in Their Natural Habitat and in Cultivation – Ecuagenera’s five-day pre-WOC tour

Continued from January 2018
Following are more photos of species orchid flowers from Ecuagenera’s El Panguí nursery

*Acianthera discophylla*

*Platystele baqueroi*

*Epidendrum parviflorum*
Maxillaria pseudoreichenheimiana

Maxillaria shepherdii

Acronia culpamae

Ornithocepalus bicornus
Graham & Margaret
*Dendrobium mutabile*
*Stenoglottis woodii*

Lynn
*Brassia maculata*

Ian
*Encyclia alata*

Maxine
*Laelia cinnabarina*

Ken & Chris
*Angraecum distichum*
*Cattleya gaskelliana var. alba*
*Cymbidium bicolor*
*Dendrobium aduncum*
*Lycaste aromatica*
*Paphiopedilum delenatii*
*Psychilis cordigera*

Peter
*Dendrobium lindleyi*
*Encyclia randii*
*Neofinetia falcata*
*Psychopsis krameriana*

Courtney
*Encyclia belizensis*
*Laelia purpurata var. sanguineum x var. venosa*
*Vanda tricolor (Vanda suavis?)*

John
*Laelia purpurata var. sanguineum x var. venosa*
*Laelia tenebrosa var. rubra FCC x var. ‘XXXX’*

PLANTS DISPLAYED January 2018

*Dendrobium mutabile*
*Graham & Margaret*

*Vanda tricolor*
*Courtney*
PLANTS DISPLAYED January 2018

Siva
Masdevallia ayabacana
Stanhopea oculata

Tony & Mavis
Brassavola cucullata
Brassavola nodosa
Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi fma.
Chattaladea
Tolumnia variegata
Zelenkoa onusta

Photography by Tony
After spending a few hours (somewhat more than initially scheduled as many of us spent more time than anticipated looking at the enormous variety of orchids in flower) at Ecuagenera El Pangui, walking through the arboretum looking at more orchids in flower we departed for our overnight accommodation in town.
After a comfortable night and breakfast, we departed for Gualceo. The planned route which would have taken us through San Juan Bosco had to be changed as the roadworks were impassable, so we went back the same way we came to El Pangui, that said, through the road constriction that we passed through the previous day. After a few stops along the way, we arrived at Gualaceo and enjoyed dinner at Ecuagenera with members of some of the other tours running at the same time.

This was slow trip as once again, we shared the road with trucks, heavy machinery, cars and buses. The diversions around bridgework were a challenge for our driver as we made our way around temporary river crossings.

A few stops along the way provided more opportunities to look at the unique habitat and the orchids.
The following day was set aside to see Ecuagenera’s facilities including their production laboratory and to visit as many of their growing houses as possible. After breakfast, we left to travel to Ecuagenera’s Gualaceo headquarters a short distance away. This proved to be a full days’ endeavour, with many of us having to be reminded that we still had several more growing houses to visit as the day wore on.
We were treated to a conducted tour of the laboratory where we were able to see literally thousands of flasks of Ecuadorian and nearby country species at various stage of growth. Our guide and Laboratory Manager, Edison explained that Ecuagenera is committed to the propagation of Ecuadorian species orchids (and nearby South American orchid species), and they line-breed to improve the flower form, colour and size. They also flask species of interest from other countries including for example, mist forest species from New Guinea.

Sterile work stations for flassing seed.

Single plant flasks produced for sale at WOC

As noted previously, none of us from Australia had any concept of just how extensive Ecuagenera’s operations were. Having visited their Gualaceo headquarters on the first evening on the way to El Panguí after nightfall, we were not able to see the extensive nature of the business. The
massive investment in producing Ecuadorian orchids with perhaps as many as 15 separate large growing houses, some up to 150m in length is testament to their commitment to large scale production as the view from the top of the hill shows.

**Phragmipedium**

production area

The number of plants that we were able to see in flower was a species orchid enthusiast’s dream. I saw many more species in flower at their two nursery properties than I could have imagined.

The Tour Group in the *Miltoniopsis* growing area.

Photos by Chris and Tony

Cont. next month
ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings
Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month 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 member’s 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 generating funds.

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 13 February