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Warringal Orchid Society Inc.

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The next committee meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6TH of JUNE, at the Bellfield Community Hall. The Warringal Orchid Society meets every third Wednesday of the Month at the Senior Citizens Hall in Hawdon Street, Heidelberg.

The next meeting of the society will be on Wednesday 16TH of MAY. The hall will be open from 7.00pm, and you are welcome to bench plants for judging and to socialise with other members. A sales table operates its pots and other orchid accessories available, and members are able to submit up to 6 orchids for sale for a small commission. See the sales table for details. Please be seated on time for the meeting to commence at 8.00pm.

We are back home at Hawdon Street this month, the sales bench and other goodies as usual, so come along and enjoy a great night out, you may learn something and don't forget to bring in some supper to share.

There has been a good response from members to have your newsletter delivered by email, so come along and join up and have it sent to you via the cloud???

Judging Results for April

OPEN

Maudiae Paphiopedilum

1 st Holdenii x Superbians	J.Crawford
2 nd Aloha x Maudie	E&D.Baxter

Species Paphiopedilum

1 st Herrmannii#1 x Sibling	G&C.Dimech
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Oncidium

1 st Phyllis Wells X Plmye	J.Crawford
2 nd Sharry Baby	E&D.Baxter

Miltonia

Honolulu Warnes Best	G&C.Dimech
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Novelty Paphiopedilum

1 st Sukakhuilia x Rothkew	G&C.Dimech
2 nd Prime Child	J.Crawford
3 rd Joy Jay	G&C.Dimech

Any Other Hybrid

1 st D.Zoe Byrne Dimos	C.Krolikowski
Phrag Calurim "Highclare"	J.Crawford
3 rd Bulbo Jersey	G&C.Dimech

Species Any Genera

1 st Rossioglossum Grande	J.Khoo
2 nd Bulbo Rothchildianum	G.Garrett
3 rd Pleuro Luteola	G&C.Dimech

Australian Native Hybrid

1 st Sarc Geogr Culthrop	G.Garrett
2 nd D.Colonial Maid "Verity"	G&C.Dimech
3 rd D.Issy Star "Amy"	J.Khoo

Australian Native Terrestrial

1 st Coccinum	J&L.Karownik
2 nd Chiloglottis Reflexa	K.Lam
3 rd Truncata	K.Lam

Cattleya

1 st Kinza Southern Cross	W.Garner
2 nd Kinza Southern Cross	J.Crawford
3 rd Hawaiian Wedding Song	W.Garner

Novelty Cattleya

1 st Beaufort SouthRiver	J.Crawford
2 nd Lulu Full x Lavender Ice	E&D.Baxter

Vanda

1 st Romance Choice Varavuth	A.Fernandez
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Masdevallia Species

1 st Menatoi	K.Lam
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Masdevallia Hybrid

1 st King of Kings	K.Lam
2 nd Hoosa Queen Samson	G.Garrett
3 rd King of Kings Royale	G.Garrett

Best In Section

Paph Herrmannii Su#1	G&C.Dimech
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INTERMEDIATE

Oncidium

1 st Odontonia Kamono Jen	S.Grzinic
2 nd Copper Scarab Brass	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly
3 rd Oda Golden Parade	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly

Lycaste

1 st Aquila Detate	A.Magnano
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Any Other Hybrid

1 st Zygo Arter Elle Mackayii	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly
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Species Any Genera

1 st D.Uncatum	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly
2 nd Cym Dayanum	A.Magnano
3 rd Cym Dayanum	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly

Novelty Cattleya

1 st Lc Mini Purple Tamami	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly
2 nd Lc Maries Song	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly
3 rd L Interceps Fleuro	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly

Masdevallia Hybrid		L&A.Shepherd	4
1 st Coriacea x Coccineo	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly	M.Grzan	1
Best In Section		NOVICE	
Dendochilum Uncatum	M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly	K.Ridgway	8
NOVICE		N.Lovett	4
Species Any Genera		H.Robinson	4
1 st RossioglossumGrande	H.Robinson		
2 nd Den Undulatum	K.Ridgway		
Australian Native Species or Hybrid			
1 st Sarc Bonanza	K.Ridgway		
Best In Section			
Rossioglossum Grande	H.Robinson		
TOTAL POINTS for 2018			
OPEN			
G&C.Dimech	63		
J.Crawford	50		
K.Lam	29		
E&D.Baxter	17		
A.Christou	15		
J&L.Karbownik	13		
G.Garrett	12		
M.Borstelj	11		
A.Fernandez	11		
W.Garner	9		
B.Duncan	7		
J.Khoo	6		
C.Krolikowski	4		
N.Meggetto	2		
INTERMEDIATE			
M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly	126		
S.Grzinic	14		
M.Volodina	10		
A.Magnano	8		

VALE

**Warringal Orchid Society, wishes to
acknowledge the passing of
Members**

Robert (Bob) Rowlings

And

Ian McIntosh

**The President, Committee and
Members wish to pass on our
Sincere Condolences to their
Families and Friends on this sad
occasion, our thoughts are with you.**

**I'm having a little trouble with the sending out
of the Newsletter via email lately, if you haven't
received it please let me know, it may be at your
end just check your junk mail it may go into
there.**

**We are back to Hawdon Street this Month, the
sales bench is back as well as all of our regular
features. See you there.**

As soon as you trust yourself,

You will know how to live.

CYMBIDIUMS AND FROST by Julian Coker With Thanks to the AUTHOR and to OSCOV

Cymbidiums will generally tolerate extreme conditions with little apparent detrimental effect. However there are a few climatic extremes that cause serious damage, both immediately and in the long term. Frost is one of them. Exposure of cymbidiums to cold produces a range of effects. The first signs of damage are spotting of the flowers and 'burning' of the labellum, both along its sides and at its extremity. The sepals and petals are often affected with purple or brown spots, while lip burn generally results in brown, dead tissue (necrosis).

The pattern of frosts varies from district to district, with higher latitudes, higher altitudes and areas away from large bodies of water being most susceptible. Frosts occur on clear, still nights when the heat from the earth's surface can easily escape and in the Melbourne area are most likely to occur in June or July and again in September. It is rare but serious if there are more than two frosts in a row, as the second one is generally more severe than the first. This pattern can be markedly extended in areas subject to a continental climate, especially where other factors such as latitude or altitude are involved. It is important to know your area and the possibility of the occasional temperature extremes, as once the damage has occurred it cannot be reversed.

Frost damage is dependent on many factors, amongst them being:

Minimum temperature.

Duration of exposure to frosting or freezing.

The amount of moisture within, on and around the plant.

. The specific clone.

Minimum temperature

As the external temperature falls, there is a linear cooling to 0°C whereupon frosting develops on the surface of the plant. As the temperature continues to fall, freezing of the plant tissues commences, generally at about minus 2-3°C and this is where serious damage begins. The reason why it requires this negative temperature is because sap (being water plus dissolved substances) has a lower freezing point than water itself. In addition, a considerable amount of heat is required to be lost by the plant to merely change from 0°C as water to 0°C as ice (latent heat of fusion) and this requires extreme cold of moderate duration. Frosting may damage or destroy flowers but its effects on other plant parts are generally reversible. Freezing invariably destroys the flowers and permanently marks the leaves; in extreme cases it may kill the plant.

Duration of exposure to frosting or freezing

Frosting for brief periods is less likely to cause lasting damage than for longer periods. Mild frosts usually develop just as the sun rises, last for an hour or so and then pass as the temperature continues to rise. This generally results in minimal or no damage. When the frost develops early in the night or when it is followed by a cloudy period (rather than the usual sunny day), prolonged exposure to cold will result. In this situation, as with extremely low temperature, damage can be severe.

The amount of moisture within, on and around the plant

Plants that are relatively dry are generally believed to tolerate lower temperatures than more hydrated ones and certainly it is better to have dry plants than wet ones as the temperature falls. This may be explained by the fact that sap expands as it approaches freezing, and therefore a dry plant will have better tolerance to freezing than a fully hydrated one. Water on surfaces will rapidly freeze as the temperature falls below 0°C. Wet surroundings will to some extent act as a buffer to negative temperatures.

The specific clone

Some clones are more susceptible to frost damage than others, as is readily apparent in larger collections where numbers of different clones are grown. This is obviously genetically determined and applies only over a small temperature range. Sepal spotting and lip burn are both clone- and grex-specific. For example, *Cymbidium* Mallana 'Lily May' is very susceptible to cold spotting, while its sibling, *C. Mallana* 'White Beauty', is resistant. White albino

cymbidiums are especially susceptible to brown marks along the length of the labellum, while the progeny of *C. Cariga* 'Canary' and others have a tendency to 'burn' on the tip of the labellum.

Frost Protection

Shade cloth does not offer any effective protection against frost but an enclosed plastic or glasshouse provides 2-3°C protection. At lower temperatures orchid houses will require added heat. You should study the heat source most appropriate to your situation and consider factors such as insulation, gas fumes and cost versus the minimum expected temperature in your district.

Cymbidium plants and their flowers are reasonably tolerant of temperature variations. However, one error and a whole year's effort can be lost. Be aware of the impact of frost, know your area and take suitable precautions to protect your plants in the event of the occasional heavy frost.

SPECIES for MAY and JUNE by Brian Milligan With Thanks to the AUTHOR and to OSCOV

Under my conditions the following species flower during May and/or June. All except one, denoted by an asterisk, are grown without heat. *Dendrochilum macranthum** is grown in my heated glasshouse at a minimum temperature of 12°C.

The Mexican species *Arpophyllum spicatum* has long, rigid, strap-like leaves on slender cylindrical pseudo-bulbs. It is a tough plant, well suited to withstand the fierce winds of its mountainous habitat. The terminal inflorescence bears dozens of small, crowded rose-pink flowers, each held with its lip uppermost. It prefers a bright position in the shade-house, where it flowers in June. Plants grown with heat flower several months earlier.

*Dendrochilum macranthum** was incorrectly known in Victoria as *Dendrochilum magnum* for many years. A native of the Philippines, it has the largest plant and inflorescence of any *dendrochilum* that I know. The pendulous inflorescences, reaching a length of 500 mm or more, carry dozens of straw-coloured flowers that turn orange as they age.

Laelia anceps and its close relative *Laelia gouldiana* are hardy Mexican species that can withstand a great deal of neglect, and I recommend them to all new growers, once they have mastered the art of growing and flowering cymbidiums. Up to five large pink flowers are produced on a long, arching inflorescence in late autumn or early winter. Both enjoy regular watering and fertilising when in active growth but need little water during winter and early spring.

Oncidium enderianum and *O. forbesii* are both suitable for shade-house cultivation in Melbourne, where they flower in autumn. *Oncidium enderianum* is the most widespread of those species in section *Crispa*, being found in a number of Brazilian mountain habitats, including the Organ Mountains (at about 1000 m altitude) near Rio de Janeiro. Its pseudo-bulbs are said to grow to 75 mm tall, and its twin leaves to 300 mm, although those of my plants don't quite reach these limits. Its inflorescence reaches to 300-450 mm and carries up to 16 chestnut brown blooms with yellow markings, each about 40 mm across.

These oncidiums should be watered only when they are in active growth, that is, when their roots have active tips. After the plants finish flowering in late autumn, the tips of their roots seal over with a white layer of velamen, and they should not be watered then until new green root tips appear again in spring. Once new growth begins, the plants should be watered and fertilised regularly, which helps to build up the big pseudo-bulbs needed for good flower production. The flower spikes usually emerge from the developing new growths in early summer but they mature very slowly, over a period of several months, before the flowers open, usually in late autumn.

Pleurothallis truncata enjoys conditions that also suit *masdevallias*. As the case with most *pleurothallis*, the inflorescences emerge at the junction of the stem and its leaf. In this species there are usually two inflorescences per leaf, each bearing a dozen or so small, bright orange flowers that resemble miniature tulips.

The South African terrestrial orchid *Stenoglottis longifolia* usually flowers in May. It grows well in most good garden composts. In well-grown plants the flower stem may reach 600 mm tall and carry fifty or more small, pink flowers, although only about twenty open at any one time. Divide and re-pot the fleshy tubers every few years when the plants are dormant.

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SHOWS

WARRINGAL ORCHID SOCIETY WINTER SHOW, Saturday 5 of AUGUST 9 am to 4.30pm and Sunday 6 of AUGUST 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. St Savas Church Hall, 212 Diamond Creek Road Greensborough.

The rain was pouring down. There standing in front of a big puddle outside the pub was an old Irishman, drenched, holding a stick, with a piece of string dangling in the water. A passer-by stopped and asked, "What are you doing?" "Fishing" replied the old man. Feeling sorry for the old man, the gent says, "Come in out of the rain and have a drink with me." In the warmth of the pub, as they sip their whiskies, the gentleman, being a bit of a smart ass, cannot resist asking, "So how many have you caught today?" "You're the eighth", says the old man.



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