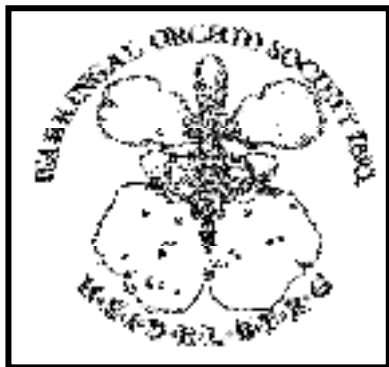


WARRINGAL ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

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**BULLETIN
NOVEMBER
2018**

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The next committee meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 5th of DECEMBER 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 21st of NOVEMBER.. 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.

Next meeting Andrew will be giving a talk on the basics of orchid nomenclature, which we all should be conversant with, come along and enjoy. Two notices inside the bulletin are drawing our attention to important gatherings of our society, please take time to read and make plans to attend.

Judging Results for OCTOBER

OPEN

Any Other Hybrid

1st Epi Flexiosum x Veitchii G&C.Dimech

Species any Genera

1st Pholidota Chinensis G&C.Dimech

2nd Catt Loddigessi J.Crawford

3rd Onc Croesus G&C.Dimech

Standard Cymbidium

1st Son of Freak A.Christou

Intermediate Cymbidium

1st Amelia Erhart A.Christou

2nd Key Largo Midori D.Wain

3rd Jessie Blakston Winter Alvin J.Crawford

Miniature Cymbidium

1st Eye of the Tiger T.Philipou

2nd Sarah Jean x Cricket D.Wain

3rd Kiwi Devonport A.Christou

Maudiae Paphiopedilum

1st Maudiae the Queen G&C.Dimech

Novelty Paphiopedilum

1st Sukhakulii x Masterianum G&C.Dimech

2nd Copperspice J.Crawford

3rd Delenati x Vietnamence J.Crawford

Oncidium

1st Tiger Butter J.Khoo

Australian Native Species

1st D.Linguiforme M.Mally

2nd D.Kingianum J.Crawford

3rd Bulb Elisae T&A.Pleitner

Australian Native Hybrid

1st D.Kalon Byrne Demos G.Garrett

2nd D.Stephen K.Lam

3rd D.Eclipse Unknown

Australian Native Terrestrial

1st Diuris Orientis G&C.Dimech

Cattleya

1st Mango Spce x Calafornian E&D.Baxter

2nd Claesiana x Sincorne G&C.Dimech

Masdevallia Species

1st Ignea G.Garrett

Masdevallia Hybrid

1st Fallon Sunrise Lave Flow G.Garrett

2nd Macho Pichu x Peppermint G.Garrett

3rd Copper Angel G&C.Dimech

Dendrobium

1st Malones K.Lam

Seedling Flowering First Time

OPEN

1st Plectochilos Kilgra T&A.Pleitner

2nd Cym Floribundum x Cricket G&C.Dimech

Best In Section

Unknown

INTERMEDIATE

Oncidium

1st Zda Calico Gem Green Valley B.O'Reilly x M.Brisi

Lycaste

1st Wylde Court Shoalhaven A.Magnano

2nd Jackpot Iling A.Magnano

Species Any Genera

1st Brassia Keiliana M.Volodina

2nd C.Sophronitis Coccinea B.O'Reilly & M.Brisi

3rd Max.Porphorstelle S.Grzinic

Standard Cymbidium

1st Valley Zenith Concord B.O'Reilly & M.Brisi

2nd Unknown B.O'Reilly & M.Brisi

3rd Susan Martin B.O'Reilly & M.Brisi

Miniature Cymbidium

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st Tuffet Cathy | M.Grzan |
| 2 nd Devon Parish | A.Magnano |
| 3 rd Nymphs Nectar #23A | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Dendrobium

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st Yukidaruma The King | M.Volodina |
| 2 nd Renown x Permer | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Species Cymbidium

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st Pumilum | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 2 nd Pumilum | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 3 rd Pumilum | .Magnano |

Australian Native Species

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st D.Striolata Nevmac | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|

Australian Native Hybrid

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 st Sarc Moonlight | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 2 nd D.Kingianum X Lilac Frost | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 3 rd D.Raging Certainly | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Cattleya

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st Mrs George Butler | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 2 nd Golf Green Hairy Pig | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 3 rd Lc Anceps | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Novelty Cattleya

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 st Lavender Ice x Bright Angel | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 2 nd Toshies Mgie Hsinjing | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 3 rd Unknown | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Masdevallia Hybrid

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1 st Copper Angel Orange Sunset | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |
| 2 nd Ada's Delight Funky Leopard | B.O'Reilly&M.Brisi |

Best In Section

| |
|--------------------------------|
| Lycaste Wylde Court Shoalhaven |
| A.Magnano |

ADVANCED NOVICE

Standard Cymbidium

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1 st Lowianum x Hookerianum | F.Penman |
|--|----------|

Intermediate Cymidium

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Plush Canyon | F.Penman |
|------------------------------|----------|

Miniature Cymbidium

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1 st Tethys Black Magic | F.Penman |
| 2 nd Plush Canyon Queen of Hearts | N.Levett |
| 3 rd Ruby Pendant Midnight | N.Levett |

Paphiopedilum

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Cholivetty Van Dyke | F.Penman |
|-------------------------------------|----------|

Species any Genera

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Coel Flaccida | F.Penman |
|-------------------------------|----------|

Australian Native Hybrid

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Bicentennial Rose | F.Penman |
|-----------------------------------|----------|

Best In Section

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Cholivetty Van Dyke | F.Penman |
|---------------------|----------|

NOVICE

Australian Native Species or Hybrid

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1 st D.Kingianum Dragons Edge | P.Kennedy |
| 2 nd Peristerehilus Cherub | R.Burrough |

Best in Section

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| D.Kingianum Dragons Edge | P.Kennedy |
|--------------------------|-----------|

PROGRESSIVE POINTS for 2018**OPEN**

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| G&C.Dimech | 234 |
| J.Crawford | 178 |
| A.Christou | 104 |
| K.Lam | 101 |
| E&D.Baxter | 64 |
| J.Khoo | 64 |
| C.Krolikowski | 60 |
| D.Wain | 59 |
| M.Borstelj | 53 |
| W.Garner | 48 |
| L&A.Christensen | 47 |
| G.Garrett | 44 |
| B.Duncan | 29 |
| J&L.Karbownik | 25 |
| A.Fernandez | 24 |
| Le Tan Leip | 20 |
| N.Meggetto | 15 |
| V&M.Van Remmen | 11 |
| S.Pentelejenko | 9 |
| M.Mally | 9 |
| K.Box | 7 |
| G.Pezzin | 7 |
| V&N.Kluchkoski | 7 |
| T&A.Pleitner | 7 |
| F&T.Nguyen | 4 |
| T.Philippou | 1 |

INTERMEDIATE

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| M.Brisi&B.O'Reilly | 463 |
| M.Volodina | 46 |
| S.Grzinic | 41 |
| A.Magnano | 39 |
| J&H.Prosser | 26 |

| | |
|--------------|----|
| L&A.Shepherd | 19 |
| L.Smith | 18 |
| I.Pratchet | 14 |
| M.Grzan | 10 |
| A&B.Halil | 5 |

ADVANCED NOVICE

| | |
|----------|----|
| N.Levett | 55 |
| F.Penman | 24 |
| P.Chai | 11 |

NOVICE

| | |
|-------------|----|
| K.Ridgway | 24 |
| H.Robinson | 23 |
| P.Kennedy | 8 |
| M.Bastecky | 7 |
| B.Duggan | 5 |
| R.Burroughs | 4 |

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.

NATIVE TERRESTRIAL ORCHIDS – GIVE THEM A GO! By Frankie Fraser

A 'terrestrial' orchid literally means an orchid that grows in the ground. There are approximately 1200 native orchid species in Australia: more than half of these are terrestrials and most are uniquely Australian. Terrestrial orchids have tubers. In comparison to other plants, they have few roots because they live in association with fungi, called mycorrhizal fungi, which gather nutrients for the orchid. Some of these orchids are easy to grow, while some are difficult and others are impossible because of a special symbiotic relationship that they have with mycorrhizal fungi.

Growth Cycle. Almost all terrestrials are deciduous and have a growth cycle in which they spend 6-8 months growing in cool, moist conditions and 4-6 months resting as dormant underground tubers during the hot, dry summer. This is their unique way of surviving Australia's harsh dry summer conditions. New tubers are produced in winter-spring and after flowering the plant dies down, the tubers becoming dormant until the next autumnal rains. Most terrestrial orchids flower in spring but there are some earlier flowering species such as the autumn flowering *Pterostylis* (greenhood orchids).

Growing terrestrials from tubers. I grow a few terrestrial orchids and love the sight of a potful of them in flower. The cultural comments below refer to my growing practices in my conditions – methods may vary from grower to grower. Tubers can be potted in December/January -1 do mine in January when I am on holidays and have time to do it.

I use black plastic pots – squat pots are good because of their extra drainage holes. Before I put the potting mixture into the pot, I place a circle of shade-cloth in the bottom of the pot to cover the drainage holes. The cloth prevents the sandy potting mixture from leaking out and also deters larger slaters and earwigs from sneaking in!

I use the basic potting mixture recommended by ANOS which comprises two parts of coarse sand, one part of mountain soil, one part of buzzer chips (not treated pine, Western Red Cedar or chipboard), one part of leaf mould (partially rotted down leaves found under trees) and approximately one dessertspoonful of Blood and Bone per 9 litres of mix. Fill the pot about two-thirds full with the mix, and arrange the tubers with their growing 'eye' facing upwards. The tubers should be about 30 mm below the final level of the mix. Cover the tubers with more mix and firm it down. Top the mix with about 10 mm of chopped pine or Casuarina (she oak) needles. The chopped needles form a mat and prevent erosion of the mix when watering. It also keeps the leaves above the mix so that they dry off quickly, thus lessening the chance of leaf rot. The juvenile plants find their way through this mat without difficulty. Note: When re-potting tubers the following year, use equal quantities of new mix and last year's mix, so as to transfers necessary mycorrhizal fungi to the new mix.

Water the pots well and keep them shaded. Allow the pots to dry out between very light sprinklings until about the end of February (you don't want the tubers to rot). Then place the pots in their growing position in the orchid house -1 stand mine on paving bricks on the floor. *Diuris* like a brighter position than *Pterostylis*, and *Corybas* like more shade. Water them more regularly now, gently filling the pot to the rim and then allowing the water to soak in.

In autumn each tuber sends up a shoot to the surface and leaves grow quickly in late autumn. *Pterostylis* are the first to appear (March), then *Diuris* and finally *Corybas* (June). Terrestrial orchids don't cope well with fertiliser (they can be burnt and even die), although *Pterostylis* and *Diuris* are tougher and can cope with a very weak solution (I use Aquasol®) when the leaves first appear.

After flowering, the plants begin to die down in or about November. I stop watering them, remove the pots from the orchid house and put them where they won't get water (as in their natural growing conditions) –

mine go under my decking because they are conveniently out of the way. I do give the pots a little sprinkle of water occasionally every week or two. Too much water will rot the tubers – so don't overdo it!

Pests. The worst pests are slugs and snails – they love to chomp on a stem or bud just when the plants are ready for the Spring Show! Snail pellets help (Baysol® works best for me). Scatter them around the pots, but preferably not in them. Remember that snail bait is poisonous to pets! Placing the pots on rough paving bricks also helps to deter snails and slugs. Slaters, and occasionally earwigs, find their way into the bottom of the pot if I don't put a piece of shade cloth inside the pot before adding the mix. Infrequently, near flowering time, tiny green caterpillars appear and wreak havoc with the stems. Pyrethrum spray 'fixes' them, but nothing can fix the damaged stems!

Some Recommendations. Beginners should choose species that are hardy and multiply well. I find colony-forming *Pterostylis* the easiest to grow, particularly *Pterostylis curta*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. nutans*, *P. concinna* and *P. baptistii*, which has large impressive flowers. Hybrids show vigour, and I grow *Pterostylis* Cutie 'Harold's Pride' which makes a nice show.

Terrestrial orchids are available as dormant tubers (Dec-Feb), bare rooted plants (May-August), flasks (all year) and as pots of plants (winter-spring). For starters you could try the following:

Sales at spring orchid shows and sales tables at club meetings. Pots of plants are available.

Australian Orchid Nursery (Wayne Turville). A few *Pterostylis* species are available. 58 Mornington-Tyabb Rd., Tyabb, Victoria. 3913. Phone: (03) 5977 3122

Nesbitts Orchids (Les Nesbitt). Tubers, bare-root plants and flasks are available. PO Box 72, Walkerville, SA 5081. Phone: (08) 8261. Les Nesbitt is a renowned grower and hybridiser of native terrestrials as well as a senior judge in South Australia. He puts out a catalogue twice a year, so get on his mailing list if you are interested in terrestrial orchids. He has quite a range, particularly of *Pterostylis* species and hybrids.

Join the Australasian Native Orchid Society (ANOS).

Do NOT remove terrestrial orchids from the wild.

With Thanks to the AUTHOR and to OSCOV

THE GENUS *Stanhopea* by Paul Carver

Around sixty *Stanhopea* species have been described. Their identification has been a contentious subject and based mainly on differences in the shape of the lip. However, through the expertise of Rudolf Jenny, their ease of identification has improved enormously in recent years. In many instances, the differences between species have been obvious but in others the differences are quite subtle. Only through the use of recent techniques, such as perfume analysis, have some species have been clearly identified.

Stanhopea species are found in four different regions, namely, North Central America (Guatemala and Mexico), South Central America (Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama), the Andes and NE South America (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Venezuela) and SE South America (Brazil). Those found in North Central America prefer light shade, dry conditions and a fairly low minimum temperature (8-12°C). Commonly grown species include *Stanhopea oculata*, *S. inodora* and *S. tigrina*, including its variety *nigroviolacea* (often known as *S. nigroviolacea*), and *S. wardii*.

Those species found in South Central America experience wet conditions all year, and prefer to be potted in sphagnum moss. Most of the ten species in this group require hot (min. temp. 20°C), shady conditions. *Stanhopea costaricensis*, *S. ecornuta* and *S. warscewicziana* are those species most commonly seen in cultivation. The largest group, found predominantly in the Andes and NE South America, prefers damp conditions and likes to be kept moist all year. Most species prefer a minimum temperature of 15°C. The smallest group, from Brazil, comprising *S. guttulata*, *S. insignis* and *S. lietzi*, prefers to be kept dry, provided with a minimum temperature of 15°C and given good light.

Despite the above general recommendations, a minimum temperature of 12°C seems to be suitable for all of those species needing warmth that I grow. Generally, all *stanhopea* species require high humidity all year, low to moderate levels of light, fertiliser as per the general collection. My experience has been that two potting mixes are suitable for *stanhopeas*, namely, a 'wet' mix comprising equal parts of sphagnum moss and 10 mm perlite or a 'damp to dry' mix of three parts of seedling bark and one part of 50 mm perlite. The first mix is required for plants that need high moisture, while the second mix is suitable for plants requiring less moisture. Despite claims to the contrary, shallow baskets are not required for many species. A large basket full of *S. wardii* recently produced at least eight spikes from the deeper sections of the basket. In some species, spikes will emerge over the edge of the basket one year and the next season emerge through the paper bark liner several centimetres lower.

Baskets are time-consuming to prepare, and I have found black plastic slot pots (125 mm and 200 mm) to be useful alternatives. They are much easier to manage when re-potting and I have found that *stanhopea* flower spikes have no difficulty in finding their way through the slots. When re-potting, I recommend that the plant be stabilised with a length of plastic-coated wire passed over the top of the pseudo-bulbs and secured to the sides of the container at least 25 mm below its top.

For bush-house growers and those in Melbourne with shady trees to hang their plants under, there are a number of suitable species, for example, *S. graveolens*, *S. hernandezii*, *S. inodora*, *S. pozoi*, *S. tigrina*, *S. tigrina* var. *nigroviolacea*, *S. wardii*, *S. wardii* var. *aurea*, *S. oculata* and *S. oculata* var. *ornatissima*.

With THANKS to the AUTHOR and to OSCOV

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END OF YEAR BREAK UP DINNER.

Held in the second week of December 12/12/2018, members \$25 and non-members \$28, payment by the November meeting BYO drinks. This is a great night and enjoyed by all who attends. A good chance to catch up and boast to your fellow members about your orchids and plans for next year.

CLUB BBQ.

Again being held at George and Chris's home, 77 Carrington Blvd Thomastown 3074, on the 25th of NOVEMBER at 11am, BYO drinks and please bring a plate to complement the meal.

This is another event not to be missed especially by new members as they can look over George and Chris's collection and their growing conditions.

A great day that lasts well into the afternoon.

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