WARRINGAL ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



www.warringalorchidsociety.com.au

February 2020

PRESIDENT Brian O'Reilly 0404459670

Alf Magnano 0403006104

TREASURER

EDITOR Mohammad Bisri 0434022920

SECRETARY George Dimech 0411372537 MEMBERSHIP Lenore Shepherd 0400677486 SHOW CO-ORDINATOR

Jerry Karbownik

98173699

All correspondence to be addressed to: The Secretary, 77 Carrington Blvd. Thomastown, Vic. 3074



"Many collectors died in the process of searching for new species, and despite persistent reports that the men died from drowning, gunshot and knife wounds, snakebite, trampling by cattle, or blows in the head with blunt instruments, it is generally accepted that in each case the primary cause of death was **orchid fever.**"









The next Committee meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th. March, 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 will be on Wednesday 19th. February

The hall will be open from 7.00pm you are welcome to bench plants for judging and to socialise with other members. A sales table operates with pots and other orchid accessories available. Members are able to submit up to 6 orchid plants for sale, the society deducts a 10% commission Plants to be listed on sales form available at sales table.

Please be seated on time for meeting to commence at 8.00pm.

This month's speaker will be:



John Varigos

An orchid collector; Member of the Orchid Species Society; Member of the Australian Native Orchid Society; The Malvern conservatory.



Christmas Break-up Dinner 2019













The Warringal Orchid Society would like to thank the families of past members:

John Mundy Reg and Norma McKay

For their donation of orchid culture

HIGHEST POINT SCORE IN 2019



Novice section

Winner: K. Ridgway Second place: H. Robinson

Third Place: P. Kennedy



Advance Novice section

Winner: M. Bastecky Second place: J. Jenkins Third Place: N. Levett



Intermediate section

Winner: A. Magnano Second place: L. Smith Third Place: M. Volodina



Open section

Winner: M & B. O'Reilly Second place: G & C. Dimech Third Place: J. Crawford

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Dark coloured orchids

Green is the predominant colour encountered in the plant kingdom. The colour we see is the part of the rainbow spectrum that are reflected back to our eyes. The other colours are absorbed. One interesting thing about this is if you put only green light on plants, they would die, because it is all the colours other than green that are absorbed and give the plants energy. Black colour occurs when all of the light is absorbed and none reflected. Black colour is an extremely rare occurrence in flowers. Some coloured flowers, such as roses, pansies, tulips, dahlias and calla lilies are advertised or named as black in colour, in fact they are very dark red, purple or brown (Gardiner & Cribb, 2019).

Coelogyne pandurata

True black colour thought to be found in the black lipped orchid *Coelogyne pandurata*. This orchid was discovered by Hugh Low (Later Sir Hugh) in Borneo. John Lindley named this orchid in 1853. The orchid caused a huge sensation in Europe, fetching high prices

President Report - February 2020

Dear WOC members,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and new year. Our last meeting, the Christmas function in December was well attended and a most enjoyable occasion to complete a very successful year for the club. I would like to welcome back all members for 2020 and wish you all the best for the year.

I would like to thank the committee for the work they do. It is a breath of fresh air to see the high participation rate at committee meetings and the enthusiasm and forthrightness of the discussion. This in turn contributes greatly to be successful planning and the running of the club. This, those who organise the winter and spring shows are integral to financial survival of the club. Of course, the club is the members. I would like to invite all members to participate as best they can and encourage you all to bring orchids for benching in particular, it is about seeing what we are all doing and gaining advice and insight.

I would like to apologise I will away in Indonesia for the February meeting. Thanks to Andrew for filling in for me. Also there will be no beginners session for this month as Jason Khoo is also away. I will see you all next month.

Kind regards,

Brian O'Reilly

and bringing excitement to orchid enthusiasts. The peat swamps forests of Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra, Borneo and the Philippines are where this species grows in the wild.



Reff: https://www.wwf.or.id/?33062/Anggrek-Hitam-Coelogynepandurata

Dracula vampira

The vampire stories from Transylvania might be the first that come to mind when we come across the orchid genus *Dracula*. The actual meaning is 'Little dragon', deriving from the Latin word *draco*. American Botanist Carlyle Luer introduced this genus in 1978 as a distinct group from genus *Masdevallia*.

Dracula vampira has very dark purple-black veins. This species is found in the cool, high-altitude cloud forests of Mexico, Central America and the South American Andes highland. This species does not have pseudo bulbs in which to store water and will dry quickly if not in cool, moist conditions.



Ref: https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/499829258636229597/

Prosthechea cochleata

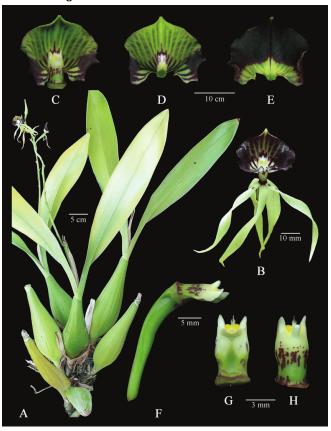
Genus *Prosthechea* is distributed from south Florida (USA), through the Carribean, to Mexico and tropical Central and South America. *Prosthechea cochleata* was the first tropical orchid to be successfully flowered at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in 1787 (Gardiner & Cribb, 2019).

This species is the national flower of Belize. The labellum of the flower is dark purple in colour, contrasting with the five long thin light-green tepals that dangle below, giving the resemblance of an octopus. It is not surprising this species has the common name, the 'Octopus Orchid'.

Reference:

Gardiner, L & Cribb, P. (2018). The Orchids: Celebrating 40 of the world's most charismatic orchids through rare prints

and classic texts. Roral Botanic Garden Kew, London, Unitded Kingdom



Ref: https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Prosthechea-cochleata-A-Habit-B-Whole-flower-front-view-C-Labellum-andcolumn_fig5_262256677

Club seedling 2020

Dendrobium Ray's Jaffa x Dendrobium Jazz 'windsor Down'.

The seedlings can be purchased for \$10 at the meeting.





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