

Bulletin of the Orchid Society of Canberra, Inc.

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ABN 34 762 780 850

Petalochilus fuscatus



Volume 29, Number 4

Jul-Aug 2014

Regular monthly meetings:

Monthly meetings of the Society are held on the **first Wednesday** of each month (except January) at the **Seventh Day Adventist Church, corner Gould and Macleay St. Turner**. Meetings commence at 8:00pm with the library and sales table open from 7:30pm.

Meeting Program

July: Graeme and Craig Scott-Harden – *Catasetums*

August: Ben Wallace – ‘...a bit about Borneo’

Upcoming Events

Mingara Orchid Fair: 28-29 June, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 9am-3pm, Mingara Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi

Shoalhaven Orchid Society Winter Show: 5-6 July, Saturday 11am-3pm, Sunday 9am-3pm, Berry Showground

Eurobodalla Orchid Club Winter Show: 11-12 July, Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday 9am-2pm, CWA Hall, Queen St, Moruya

National Orchid Extravaganza: 8-10 August, Round Corner, Dural

St Ives Orchid Fair: 15-17 August, Fri/Sat 9am-4pm, Sunday 9am-3pm, St Ives Showground

Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Winter Show: 15-17 August, Twyford Hall, Merimbula

Eurobodalla Orchid Club Spring Show: 22-24 August, Fri/Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 9am-1pm, Narooma Sports and Leisure Centre, Blue Water Dr, Narooma

July Speakers

Graeme and Craig Scott-Harden are well known in Sydney and surrounding region for their ability to grow very interesting species orchids. This month, they will speak on the genus *Catasetum*, a curious genus from Central and South America. In nature, the plants often experience a pronounced dry season during which the leaves are shed. The flowers arise from the new growths and the male and female flowers are quite different, some would even say grotesque.



May Judges' Choice Species: *Masdevallia sanctae-inesae*, grown by Jane Wright

Committee Members

President:	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Vice President:	Karen Groeneveld	6299 7080
Treasurer:	Bob Forrester	6231 0203
Secretary:	Peter Coyne	6251 7660
Committee:	Mark Clements	0417 471 917
	Zoe Groeneveld	6299 7080
	Jacque Bannerman	6154 7178

Committee meetings:

1 July: Bill Ferris

August: TBA

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President's Comments

There has been a major change in the committee for 2014/15 with both Jane Wright and Robyn Noel deciding to step down. Each has played major roles on the committee for about twenty years. Their contribution to the Society has been invaluable, and we look forward to their continued input to the Society, even if from the side line. Thank you to Jacque Bannerman for joining the committee so that we have a full complement under the new constitution.

Arranging speakers for our meetings is always a difficult task. If you have any suggestions on either speakers or topics could you please speak to me or a committee member.

Show season is now in full swing. This is a good opportunity to check out the latest hybrids available from the commercial growers. While our show is not until 20-21 September, there is a lot of preparatory work to be done by the committee. Jane did an excellent job in arranging for four commercial growers to sell plants and this will hopefully attract visitors.

With the somewhat milder weather leading up to winter many orchids have responded well, so let us hope for a good display at the show. In the meantime ensure your greenhouse heater is working and keep the fan going to reduce fungal problems.



May Judges' Choice Hybrid & Orchid of the Night: *Cattleya Porcia*, grown by Rob Rough

General Meeting Minutes

7 May 2014

Members Present: 28

Apologies: 9

Visitors: none

The President, Jane Wright, welcomed all to the meeting. She presented name badges to new members, before introducing the guest speaker, Neville Roper, who is renowned for breeding *Sarcochilus* and *Dockrillia*.

Speaker: Neville Roper presented a talk on Dockrillias.

He began by describing them as very easy to cultivate, but slow-growing. He grows his on the western and southern walls of his greenhouse which faces east and north. His approach to cultivation is "set and forget".

Mark Clements advised that Dockrillias range from West Timor to Tahiti. Neville described the confusion arising from breeders hybridising Australian and New Guinea species and then obscuring whether the plants were Australian or not. The New Guinea species *D. fuliginosa* has been used a lot and any Dockrillias with any red colouration, even just speckling, probably include it. This confusion has caused many shows to not try to distinguish purely Australian plants.

Dockrillias generally have terete (narrow, cylindrical) leaves for water conservation. They can cope with dry periods but probably would not tolerate prolonged wet conditions. The best way to grow them is to tie them to a live tree which doesn't shed its bark (but probably not in Canberra). Alternatively, they can be mounted on virgin cork, treefern, paperbark branches and gutter-guard pouches. Neville even had a Dockrillia on a mount made from wine corks glued together! Tie the plant on the mount with 0.8 mm diameter (60 lb) fishing line. Thinner fishing line is likely to cut the plants and is more difficult to handle. ANOS Sydney use lace 15 mm wide. A piece of shade-cloth or stocking could also be used. If potted, the best containers are terracotta or mesh pots. Pebbles and bark are good potting media, but don't use coconut fibre as it retains too much moisture. Fertilise with 50:50 blood-and-bone and dolomite. Water with lime twice yearly. A stand is usually needed to display a plant. Neville demonstrated the design he uses, made from water pipe, electrical conduit and concrete.

Dockrillias are prone to attract scale and can also be attacked by Dendrobium beetles.

D. shoenina has only single flowers and poor straggly habit. In contrast *D. linguiforme* is compact with racemes of flowers. Nita Wheeler mentioned that her Dockrillias grow under 90% shade-cloth and they flower every year.

Minutes of the March and April meetings: moved by Nita Wheeler and seconded by Ben Walcott – approved.



My Judges' Choice Specimen: *Epigeneium nakaharae*, grown by Mark Clements

Secretary's Report: (Not all read out at the meeting)

Bulletins:	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Newsletter - May
	Horticultural Society of Canberra Bulletin - May to July
	Wangaratta & District Orchid Society Newsletter - April
	Albury–Wodonga & District Newsletter - May
	Eurobodalla Orchid Club Newsletter - May
	ANOS Victoria Group Bulletin - May
	OSNSW Orchid News - April
	Other Mail:
Orchids Australia	
The Australian Orchid Review - April/May	
Bank statement	
Publicity leaflets for Mingara Orchid Fair and Show 28–29 June	
Email from the Orchid Tray Company with article on foliar feeding	
National Library request for permission to include the Society's web site in their archive	
Offer of glasshouse for sale	
Elermore Orchids 2014 catalogue	
Notification of judges assigned for the spring show	
Publicity for 20th AOC Conference and Show, Mackay, 18–23 September 2015	

Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance currently \$21,076.48 plus the stock of books.

Secretary's and Treasurer's reports: moved by Paul Tyerman and seconded by Bob Bush - approved

From the President:

Jane reminded members of the AGM next month. She discussed the new constitution which will be voted on, highlighting significant changes. She also discussed another special resolution which will determine that the Horticultural Society shall receive the Orchid Society's assets in the event of the Society closing down. These special resolutions and discussion of the changes to the Constitution were set out in the most recent bulletin.

Jane also advised that any nominations for the committee were required at least ten days before the AGM, but if insufficient nominations were received, nominations can be received at the meeting.

Next Meeting:

Craig Allen and Mark Clements will talk about their trip to Nepal and the orchids encountered.

Raffle Prizes: Jane Wright, Karen Groeneveld, Paul Tyerman, Ron Doyle, Jenny Rodriguez, Bob Forrester, Mark Clements, Wendy Robinson, Nita Wheeler, Robyn Noel, Bill Ferris

Lucky door prize: Jim Wheeler

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4 June 2014

Meeting opened by President Jane Wright at 8:00 pm

Members Present: 38

Apologies: 10

Visitors: 2

Jane welcomed all to the meeting. Minutes of 2013 AGM (printed in last Bulletin): moved by Nita Wheeler, seconded by Karen Groeneveld – approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Robyn Noel presented the auditor's report which endorsed the annual accounts. She then presented statements of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities. Income was \$24,030, and expenditure was \$16,041, providing a surplus of \$7988.85. Total assets at 30 April 2013 were \$30,031.51 including the stock of new books. Moved by Laurie Woods and seconded by Paul Tyerman – approved.

Special Resolutions:

Two special resolutions were raised at the meeting.

1. To adopt the new constitution as circulated before the meeting: moved by Jane Wright, seconded by Robyn Noel – approved.
2. To nominate the Horticultural Society of Canberra as the association that will receive the Society's surplus property in the event of the dissolution or winding up of the Orchid Society of Canberra: moved by Jane Wright, seconded by Karen Groeneveld – approved.

President's Report:

Jane explained that under the constitution the president is required to retire after serving for three years. Accordingly she was standing down. Jane thanked everyone who had helped during the last three years. Robyn Noel also stood down after serving on the committee for twenty years.

Jim Wheeler thanked Jane and the committee for their service during the last year.

Election of office bearers and committee:

Robyn Noel acted as returning officer. The Committee presented the following proposal for the 2013–2014 year:

President: Bill Ferris

Vice President: Karen Groeneveld

Treasurer: Bob Forrester

Secretary: Peter Coyne

Members: Mark Clements and Zoe Groeneveld

Another member was needed and nominations from the floor were invited. Jacquie Bannerman volunteered. There were no other nominations and the Committee for 2014–15 was declared elected.

Meeting closed at 8:15 PM



June Judges' Choice Specimen: *Paphiopedilum villosum*, grown by Ben Wallace

General Meeting Minutes

4 June 2014

Members Present: 38

Apologies: 10

Visitors: 2

President Bill Ferris began the meeting by thanking Jane Wright and Robyn Noel, both of whom are taking a break from the committee. He noted Jane has served three periods as president and recently performed major roles in the development of the new edition of the Society's book, drafting the new constitution, and arrangements for our Spring Show. Robyn has also done an admirable job as part of the committee for the last twenty years. Bill welcomed Jacquie Bannerman to the committee. He pointed out that his new role of president means someone else will be needed to staff the sales table.

Speakers: Craig Allen and Mark Clements presented a wonderful talk on their recent walking trip in Nepal.

Craig began the talk, and explained he has travelled often to Nepal over the last 20 years. This time he went with his family, Mark Clements and Anne Mackenzie.

Nepal has an astounding range of altitude; from 200 metres above sea level to about 8500 metres, all within a distance of about 150 km. Their trek took them from Lukla to Namche Bazaar, involving 640 metres net gain in altitude. Excitement began with the landing at Lukla Airport which had been rated the world's most dangerous airport in a television program. Aircraft must land on the first attempt (there is no second chance) on a strip just 460 metres long with a 12% gradient.

Early in their trek they were astonished to see huge boulders, the height of a double-decker bus, resting in valleys. The ferocity of the storms which moved these rocks cannot be imagined. The route passed through beautiful forests, in which Rhododendrons, Daphne, Magnolias, Primulas and conifers were notable. After entering Sagarmatha National Park they reached Namche Bazaar, where they stayed for four nights to undertake day walks.

After the trek, they went to Kathmandu where Craig found a temple with beautifully carved timber dating from the 9th or 10th century.

Mark took over the talk to give us the botanical side of the trip. He told us it was hard work to find orchids. Yeah, sure! In the grounds of the hotel in Kathmandu were *Pholidota* sp., *Coelogyne* sp. and *Callista densiflorum*. *Coelogyne*s grew in trees beside

the path near Lukla. Also growing on tree branches beside the path were *Oberonia caulescens* and *Liparis perpusilla*. He showed *Pleione humilis* and epiphytic *Sunipia bicolor*, *Coelogyne*, *Dendrobium*, *Ipsea malabarica?* and *Bulbophyllum hirtum?* Other orchids included *Cypripedium* (not in flower), *Dactylorhiza viridis*, *Goodyera repens* and *Satyrium nepalense*.

In the Garden of Dreams, an old palace garden in Kathmandu, were *Dendrobium gibsonii* and *Phaius bicolor*. Other notable plants were *Gentiana capitata* and *Iris* sp. They also saw a diversity of birds including Nepal’s national bird, the spectacular Monal Pheasant.

Secretary’s Report: (Not all read out at the meeting)

Bulletins:	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Newsletter - May
	Campbelltown & Districts Orchid Society Newsletter - April
	Bankstown Orchid Society Bulletin - April/May
	Wangaratta & District Orchid Society Newsletter - May
	Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Newsletter - May
	Eurobodalla Orchid Club Newsletter - June
	Milton-Ulladulla Orchid Society Newsletter - May
	ANOS Victoria Group Bulletin - June
	OSNSW Orchid News - May
Magazines:	Orchid Digest
Other mail:	Several cheques and bank documents
	Publicity for orchid competition at Royal Adelaide Show 5–14 September [15 Aug entry closure]
	Publicity for Melbourne Orchid Spectacular (22–24 August) and list of Victorian club shows
	Approach by the Federal Member for McPherson (Qld), Karen Andrews, to purchase ‘exotic and impressive’ flowering orchids
	Hoax email offer of bulletin article
	Publicity for Orchids in Paradise, Mackay, 18–23 September 2015
	1% for Orchid Conservation Update 28 (includes link to ID aid for Australian terrestrial orchids)
	Flyer for St Ives Orchid Fair 15–17 August
	Information on 2014 Kempsey Speciosum Spectacular
	Advance notice of CAP Expo 28 March 2015

Moved by Jane Wright, seconded Karen Groeneveld – approved.

Treasurer’s Report: As delivered at the AGM earlier. Moved by Zoe Groeneveld, seconded by Ben Wallis – approved.

President’s Report:

Bill presented certificates to Craig Allen and Ken Turner, Highly Commended certificates from the AOC and OSNSW to David Judge, and awards of cultural merit from the AOC and OSNSW to Paul Tyerman. David Judge also earned the Laurie Woods prize for the champion orchid exhibited at the autumn Horticultural Show.

Bill mentioned the National Library’s archiving of the Society’s website and a number of shows coming up. Our show will be on 20–21 September this year, at the Wesley Centre, and we will use printed card labels instead of stickers. Bill gave advance notice that the December meeting will be on 10 December because the hall is otherwise needed on 3 December.



June Judges’ Choice Hybrid: *Coelogyne* Andréé Millar, grown by Don Chesher

Short Talk:

David Judge gave a short talk on multi-floral Paphiopedilums which tend to flower during December and January, so they aren’t seen at meetings. He showed photos of *Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* var. *topperi* which flowered for the first time with six flowers after an 8-year wait. It can produce up to 14 flowers at a time and its leaves can be up to a metre long. David also showed photos of a hybrid and its “parents” — it was 50% *P. rothschildianum*, 25% *P. sanderianum* and 25% *P. wilhelminae*. He then told us about a new *Paphiopedilum* species which was described a week earlier. It is a dwarf species from northern Laos, with leaves just 3 cm long and, uniquely among the Paphs, has two pollinia on each side.

Q & A:

- This looks likely to be a bad year for *Thelychiton speciosum*.
- *Phalaenopsis* should be developing spikes now. The suggestion was made to not cut old stems right back, as buds on the stem can produce new inflorescences in the next season —this was debated by some members who said that flowers produced off an old stem can be inferior to those produced on a new stem, and the plant can become ungainly with new spikes jutting off the original spike.
- Mark Fraser mentioned two of his *Phalaenopsis* plants which had died in about three days after becoming yellow in the centre. Possible causes were discussed.

Next Meeting:

The Scott-Hardens will talk on Catasetums.

Raffle Prizes: Don Chesher, Ben Wallace, Craig Allen, Yvonne Day, Paul Tyerman, Dennis Anderson, Laurie Woods and Ron Doyle

Lucky door prize: Sandra Corbett



June Judges' Choice Species & Orchid of the Night: *Urochilus sanguineus*, grown by Nita Wheeler

Sales Table (Members Only)

Pots		
Fertilizer	Bill Ferris	6297 5635
Wire products		
Shirts	Robyn Noel	6258 5734
25 th Anniversary glasses	Ben Walcott	6161 2742
Bark	David Judge	
Orchid Mate	Laurie Woods	0412632046 (or 6258 6187 after 8.00pm)

Popular Vote May 2014

Category	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae hybrid	<i>Cattleya Porcia</i>	Rob Rough
Laeliinae species	<i>Encyclia fragrans</i>	Ben Walcott
<i>Paphiopedilum</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum Harrisianum</i>	Jane Wright
Oncidiinae	<i>Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'</i>	Rob Rough
<i>Masdevallia</i> hybrid	<i>Masdevallia Hot Shot</i>	Jane Wright
Pleurothallidinae species	<i>Masdevallia sanctae-inesae</i>	Jane Wright
<i>Dendrochilum</i>	<i>Dendrochilum magnum</i>	Don Chesher
Vandeae	<i>Haraella odorata</i>	Jane Wright
Dendrobiinae species	<i>Epigenium nakaharae</i>	Mark Clements
Dendrobiinae hybrid	<i>Dendrobium Snowflake</i>	Paul Tyerman
Terrestrial - exotic	<i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>	Bill Ferris
Terrestrial - Australian	<i>Eriochilus pulchella</i>	Mark Clements
	<i>Corysanthes hispida</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Any other orchid 1	<i>Zygopetalum maculatum</i>	Mark Clements
Any other orchid 2	<i>Eria coronaria</i>	Mark Clements
Orchid of the Night	<i>Cattleya Porcia</i>	Rob Rough
Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Cattleya Porcia</i>	Rob Rough
Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Masdevallia sanctae-inesae</i>	Jane Wright
Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Epigenium nakaharae</i>	Mark Clements

Popular Vote June 2014

Category	Plant	Owner
Laeliinae	<i>Laelia anceps</i>	Mark Clements
<i>Paphiopedilum</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum villosum</i>	Ben Wallace
Coelogyninae	<i>Dendrochilum saccolabium</i>	Don Chesher
<i>Cymbidium</i>	<i>Cymbidium iridioides</i>	David Judge
Vandeae	<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett
Oncidiinae	<i>Miltassia Aztec 'Toni'</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Australian terrestrial	<i>Urochilus sanguineus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Any other species	<i>Maxillaria sanguinolenta</i>	Karen Groeneveld
Any other hybrid	<i>Bulbophyllum Rungsan Viraphandhu</i>	Mark Fraser & Sandra Corbett
Orchid of the Night	<i>Urochilus sanguineus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Coelogyne Andréé Millar</i>	Don Chesher
Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Urochilus sanguineus</i>	Nita Wheeler
Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Paphiopedilum villosum</i>	Ben Wallace

Contributions to the Bulletin

You can get material to the editor by the following means:

In person: At meetings, or if I am not there to either Robyn Noel or Bill Ferris.

By mail: 112 Tharwa Road, Karabar NSW, 2620. **not** the Orchid Society PO Box

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