



The
TASMANIAN

ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

GREENHOOD

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

15th May 2023 at Legacy Hall, 159 Macquarie St, Hobart.

Autumn Show. Gary Hill will talk on botanical names of orchids and pronunciations.

21st May 2023 Greenhouse visit. A word document from Sally, with full details of the event, is attached to this emailed Greenhood, with what to bring, where to go, and how to find their home.

Floral Art: Refer to page 6 for the Show Schedule.

19th June 2023 at Legacy Hall, 159 Macquarie St, Hobart. Guest speaker will be Vicki Cleaver who will show us how to deflask orchids and what is the next step with potting the seedlings.

Floral Art: "From the Garden"

17th July 2023 at Legacy Hall, 159 Macquarie St, Hobart. Guest speaker to be confirmed .

Floral Art: "Inspired by Winter"

21st Aug. 2023 at Legacy Hall, 159 Macquarie St, Hobart. Guest speaker is Helen Lovell from Neutrog Fertilizers.

A MESSAGE FROM JIM SMITH

I wish to say a sincere thank you to the TOS Members for the surprise gift presented to me in March in recognition of my 51 years on the committee and contribution to the management of the society.

Kind Regards,

Jim Smith.

PS. The food was very enjoyable.

PHOTO ON THE FRONT PAGE

This beautiful Phalaenopsis was benched at the April Meeting by 2nd Division Members, Kevin & Sharon Dorsett.

Owners K & S Dorsett, Photographer, B Woodward
Please refer to Page 10 to see how they grow and flower their Phalaenopsis.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

G'day all.

Wow! What a fantastic success our auction night was, and it's because of you, the members. We asked you to bring in orchids and boy, did you respond to the call. Thankyou to those who donated and those who parted with their hard-earned cash. There were some good bargains snapped up. A special thankyou to Maureen McLaughlin, who donated 3 watercolours of orchids that she had painted and other members who were unable to attend, but sent in items to sell. Thanks must go to our Auctioneer, David Cleaver, and his helpers, Sally Johnson, Elaine Mulder and Glenn Durkin. They all did a superb job. An amazing total of \$1,904 was raised. This goes towards supplying the raffle plants, lucky door prizes, the BBQ, Christmas gifts, and the list goes on.

The Easter Bunny put in a belated appearance with a small Easter egg for everyone. Thank you Easter Bunny.

On the Saturday after our meeting, a group of members got together at the Cleaver's home to bag our club bark. There was a good amount of friendly banter amongst those there. A big thankyou to Craig Burgess, Ian & Glenys Rojo, Ian Crocker, Elaine Mulder, Matthew Kemp, Christine Doyle and of course Dave & Vicki Cleaver who also provided egg and bacon rolls for the crew. They were delicious. Also, thanks to Christine for her yummy muffins. We bagged our normal sized bags, but this time we also bagged some small ones, so if you only have a couple of orchids to repot, this size will suit you.

Our next meeting is our Autumn Show where plants are benched according to genera. There is no 1st & 2nd division. Please bring in your orchids and be a part of it. At our general meetings we encourage you to bench your plants, because if you win a 1st or 2nd, you earn points which could score you a prize at the March meeting, so it is worth bringing your orchids along.

We hope to see you and your plants at the Autumn Show. Stay safe and enjoy your orchids, Noel.

Working at the post office, I'm used to dealing with a moody public. So when one irate customer stormed my desk, I responded in my calmest voice, "What's the trouble"...?

She said, "I went out this morning and when I came home I found a card saying the mailman tried to deliver a package but no one was home. I'll have you know, my husband was in all morning! He never heard a thing!"

After apologizing, I got her parcel.

"Oh good!" she gushed. "We've been waiting for this for ages!"

I asked, "What is it"...?

She replied, "My husband's new hearing aid"...

April 2023 Meeting Results

Judge's Results 1st. Division

Cymbidium Hybrid over 90mm	1st	No Entries	
Cymbidium Hybrid 90mm & Under	1st.	No Entries	
Laelinae Species & Hybrid	1st.	No Entries	
Oncidium & Allied Sp. / Hyb.	1st.	Onc. Wildcat 'Petite Sirah'	M Smith *
	2nd.	Onc. Sunlight 'Hilo Honey'	N & C Doyle
Gomesa Species or Hybrid	1st.	Gom. <i>radicans</i>	N & C Doyle *
	2nd.	Oncsa. Bright Night x Gom. Golden Night	N & C Doyle *
Masdevallia & Dracula Sp./Hyb	1st.	Masd. Bob Hoffman 'Best Bob'	D & V Cleaver
	2nd.	Masd. Funky	N & C Doyle
Other Orchid Species	1st.	<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	M Smith
	2nd.	<i>Dendrochilum uncatum</i>	M Smith
Other Orchid Hybrids	1st.	<i>Vanda Manisha</i>	D & V Cleaver
	2nd.	<i>Brassia Chieftain</i>	M Smith *
Aust. Sarcochilus & Allied Sp./Hyb.	1st.	Sarco. Velvet	N & C Doyle
Australian Native Tuberos	1st.	<i>Ptst. atrans</i>	J & B Smith
Australian Native Other Sp. /Hyb.	1st.	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>	D & V Cleaver
Best Species Orchid		<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	M Smith
Best Hybrid Orchid		<i>Vanda Manisha</i>	D & V Cleaver
Best of the Best		<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	M Smith
Orchid of the Month		<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	M Smith

Judges Results 2nd. Division

Cymbidium Hybrid over 90mm		No Entries	
Cymbidium Hybrid 90mm & Under		No Entries	
Laelinae Species & Hybrid	1st.	<i>Rth.</i> Netrasiri Starbright	E Mulder *
	2nd.	<i>Rlc.</i> Butterfly	I Crocker *
Oncidium & Allied Sp. / Hyb.	1st.	No Entries	
Gomesa Species or Hybrid	1st.	No Entries	
Masdevallia & Dracula Sp./Hyb	1st.	Masd. Rein Stripes	M Kemp *
	2nd.	Masd. Copper Wing x <i>coccinea</i>	M Kemp
Other Orchid Species	1st.	<i>Restrepia</i> Unknown	M Kemp
	2nd.	<i>Coel. mooreana</i>	K&S Dorsett
Other Orchid Hybrid	1st	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown	K&S Dorsett
	2nd.	<i>Gptm.</i> Arlene Armour 'Conching'	I Crocker

Australian Native Tuberous	1st. <i>Oligochaetochilus pusillus</i>	G Curry *
	2nd. No entry	
Best Species Orchid	<i>Restrepia Unknown species</i>	M Kemp
Best Hybrid Orchid	<i>Phalaenopsis Unknown</i>	K & S Dorsett
Best of the Best	<i>Restrepia Unknown species</i>	M Kemp
Orchid of the Month	<i>Restrepia Unknown species</i>	M Kemp

House Plants

1st. <i>Alocasia Silver Dragon</i>	S Dorsett
2nd. African Violet	Byers & Durkin

Floral Arrangements

1st. "Bowled Over"	G Allen
2nd. "Bowled Over"	W Glidden

Popular Vote

1st. Division

1st. <i>Vanda coerulea</i>	M Smith
2nd. <i>Vanda Manisha</i>	D & V Cleaver
3rd. <i>Ons. Wildcat 'Petite Sirah'</i>	M Smith *

2nd. Division

1st. <i>Rth. Netrasiri Starbright</i>	E Mulder *
2nd. <i>Oligochaetochilus pusillus</i>	G Curry *
3rd. <i>Masd. Copper Wing x coccinea</i>	M Kemp

House Plants

1st. African Violet	V Byers & G Durkin
2nd. <i>Alocasia Silver Dragon</i>	S Dorsett
3rd. <i>Syngonium wendlandii</i>	S Dorsett

Floral Arrangements

1st. "Bowled Over"	W Glidden
2nd. "Bowled Over"	G Allen

For those Members who have a red * next to your name, please take note that the genera has been attacked by the Botanists with a change of their genera, name or the Plant crossing has been registered with the International Orchid Register by the breeder.

So that I don't have to research all over again, next time you win with your beautiful plant/s, **please** write new labels ASAP and correct your own records to ensure that you have it all ready for your future needs. Don't forget to change the labels of any plants that you may have put aside for the sales tables at the Spring Show too.

It's very important that the new owners have the correct name to start with.

Bev Woodward, Editor.

TOS ORCHID POTTING MIX

Bags of Orchid potting mix suitable for Cymbidiums, and Australian Native Dendrobiums are available at \$10.00 for Members and \$15.00 for Non-Members. Anyone needing to purchase some should contact:-

Dave Cleaver on 0408 170 400 (Richmond) OR

Noel Doyle on 0455 243 183 (Glenorchy)

To arrange a convenient time, for both of you, for collection.

AUTUMN SHOW SCHEDULE

Legacy Hall 15th May 2023

Grand Champion \$25, AOC Certificate, Perpetual Trophy
Reserve Champion \$15
Best Culture \$10

Class Prizes 1st. \$5 2nd and 3rd, Certificates.

- Class 1 Cymbidium hybrids > 90mm
- Class 2 Cymbidium hybrids < 90mm and under
- Class 3 Cattleya and allied genera
- Class 4 Oncidium species and hybrids
- Class 5 Gomesa species and hybrids
- Class 6 Masdevallia and allied species
- Class 7 Masdevallia and allied hybrids
- Class 8 Dracula species
- Class 9 Dracula hybrids
- Class 10 Other orchid species
- Class 11 Other orchid hybrids
- Class 12 Sarcochilus and allied species and hybrids
- Class 13 Dendrobium species and hybrids (other than Aust. Native Dendrobiums)
- Class 14 Australian Natives species and hybrids
- Class 15 Australian terrestrials
- Class 16 Best species
- Class 17 Best hybrid

Foliage, Fern & Flowering Plants

- Class 18 Foliage and ferns
- Class 19 Flowering plants

Floral Art

- Class FA1 "Autumn Theme"
- Class FA2 "Add some succulents"
- Class FA3 "Going Up"
- Class FA4 "In My Boots" (Men only)

Please remember that to be eligible for your plants to be judged, they must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor/s for not less than six (6) months.

If proven otherwise, plants will be disqualified. Such plants can still be tabled, but must be clearly marked 'EXHIBITION ONLY'



All the Members who attended the very successful Auction Night on 17th April 2023, were treated to a visit from the elusive Easter Bunny. Everyone received a chocolate egg to finish off a great evening. Many thanks to Mrs. Bunny for remembering us all.



2nd Division Exhibitor,
Elaine Mulder, benched this
very colourful

Rhyncattleanthe (Rth.)

Netrasiri Starbright

Photographer

Bev Woodward

Food for Thought

by Gaye and Graeme Chequer
continued

A little prior to this time, colonists, many from various parts of Europe, were making a new home for themselves in what was later to become the United States. Here they observed various indigenous tribes using ground tubers to make flour. This was particularly widespread among the people of the Arizona region. The early colonists were also known to have chewed on terrestrial roots, no doubt having seen the native people doing the same.

Moving south of the border, we are informed that the highly scented flowers of *Stanhopea tigrina* have been used as an ingredient in Mexican tortillas, no doubt giving that "extra something" that good chefs subtly manage!

Travelling across the Pacific we next visit the Ialibu region of Papua New Guinea where the flowers of *Phaius tankervilleae* were reputed to have been heated in the smoke of wood fires and eaten with food to aid conception. Further south, colonial naturalists reported that Tasmanian aboriginal peoples consume large amounts of orchid tubers: frequently referred to as yams. Roasting these tubers was a favourite method of preparation and a real culinary treat.

Across the East China Sea we find that for centuries, Chinese herbalists used *Dendrobium nobile* to prolong life. It has since been shown that this species possess high amounts of alkaloids with the result that preparations probably had the opposite effect on users.

Haemaria discolor can still be found in Chinese Herbalist shops as they believe that the plant with its fleshy stem, when cooked with meat to form a soup, is a good remedy for lung diseases.



In India, all parts of *Cymbidium* plants, with the exception of the roots, have been used with a variety of dishes. One of these dishes contain the buds of *Cymbidium grandiflorum* mixed in with curry, maybe to

take away the supposed bitter taste of the buds.



The tubers of *Disa* are used in Malawi as a side dish after being cooked and 'treated'.

R

Records indicate that Orchids are used far more for medicinal purposes than as a food source. The above anecdotal reports should be treated with a fair degree of caution as many orchids have been shown to be toxic in sufficient quantities. The usage of orchids for medicinal purposes will be the basis for an additional article in a forthcoming issue. "Food for thought" would indeed appear to be the salient point of this brief interlude into the world of the orchid.

References:

- Berliocchi L 'The orchid in Lore & Legend'
 Yeoh Bok Choon 'The Orchid Review' 6/1970
 Hawkes Alex 'Encyclopaedia of Cultivated Orchids'
 Richter W. 'The Orchid World'
 Teoh Eng Soon, M.D. 'Asian Orchids'

CHORES FOR YOU IN YOUR ORCHIDS HOUSES

Winter is not that far away, so be careful with your repotting and watering. I would highly recommend that dividing plants at this time of the year is NOT recommended, UNLESS there is a great root system and new growths showing stamina. If in doubt and you really have to do something about a plant that has dived off the bench, then maybe repot divisions into Sphagnum Moss and then in Spring, put the plants back into your preferred bark mix.

Some Pleiones have already dropped their leaves, so it's time to put them in a spot out of the rain and water sparsely. If you are growing them in a rockery where there is great drainage, then leave them where they are, but keep the wallabys, possums, bandicoots etc. away.

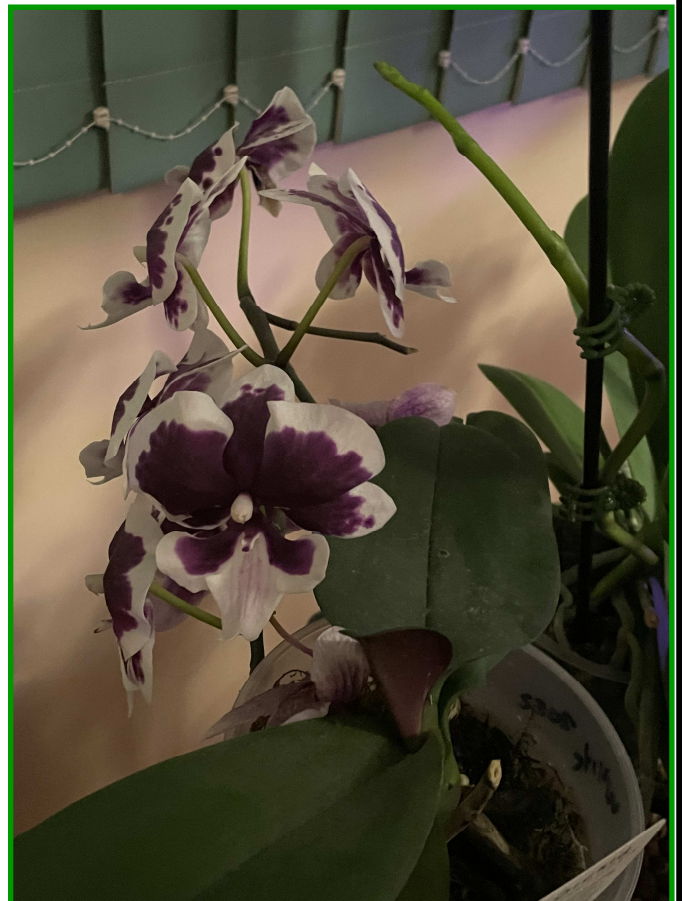
Don't forget to water your orchid plants that are mounted on cork, manfern, casuarina etc. though not when a low temperature is expected overnight. Always look for the forecasted minimum overnight temperatures and use common sense. You will do the most damage to your orchids if you water before a frosty night.

Don't forget to continue gathering up all those fallen Autumn leaves. Just about every genera are moulting their leaves to some extent, so to negate fungal problems, collect all those oddments from lying around and rotting away on top of the plants or your benches. It gives you a great incentive to "pot-on" the plants into bigger pots, if necessary, without disturbing the root system totally as you may do in Spring when the weather will be improving.

It's also time to get those stakes into the pots to support all those flower spikes that are showing signs that they will need support eventually. If you start now, it gives you the incentive to get your racemes tied to the stake to eliminate the natural tendency to do its own thing and wander around into the plants next door, or even head to the light from a full moon over night. The full moon can do dastardly damage to the appearance of your plant just before a major show. Don't say you weren't warned!

I well remember the very first Spring Show John & I exhibited at. The blooms needed to be hurried up a bit, so John had the great idea that we would bring the couple of plants indoors and sat them in front of two of flood lights set up in the Lounge. Needless to say there was a partial collapse until after the Judging had been completed. They looked great as we packed up four days later.

Bev Woodward



Owners K & S Dorsett, Photographer K Dorsett

Photos of where we grow them. Near a window facing the North-East upstairs, warm and plenty of filtered light (film on the windows). Grow them in orchid mix and live sphagnum moss. Pot sits in tray filled with clay balls. We use slow release fertiliser.

Kevin Dorsett

