

# **Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group**

MAY 2019

Edited by Tony Asquith mail: aaasquith@bigpond.com. Phone 4625 9874



**President:** Mr. W. Southwell (Ph. 46818589) Postal Address: - 20 Colo Street, COURIDJAH. 2171 **Secretary:** Mr. R. Morrison

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, 18th JUNE, 2019 Mrs. C. Asquith (Ph. 46259874) Treasurer:

**Life Members:** Mr. J. Riley, M. T. Cooke, and W. & M. Southwell. (J. English)

**Conservation Officer:** ANOS Macathur Group disclaims any responsibility for any

losses which may be attributed to the use or misuse of any

materials published in this newsletter

FITZPATRICK ROAD

BSB 062517

A/C 00909929

Mt. ANNAN.

Doors open 7.15pm, benching closes 7.55pm, meeting starts 8pm

Hi to All

A big thank you to Jim for his great slide show and talk at the last meeting. A great presentation from a very knowledgeable orchid enthusiast, well done.

Congratulations to Margaret for plant of the night and popular choice.

The last of the ordered competition plants has now been distributed, and there should be lots of these on the show bench.

Margaret will have the sales table at this months meeting, so a good chance to stock up on supplies, before this year's show season really gets under way.

Wally

General Meeting - 21 May 2019

7.55pm

## **Minutes of Meeting**

The Chair – Wally welcomed everyone to the May meeting and highlighted the wonderful array of orchids benched tonight.

**Attendance:** As per the sign on book.

Don Roberts, Noel Bates, Brian Birch, Neil Robertson, Diane McDougal **Apologies:** 

**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:** 

Moved: Tony Asquith Seconded: Terry Cooke Carried

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Correspondence:** i) The Autumn Show Results were presented and distributed.

## **SHOW RESULTS**

SECTION	Ро	Plant	Grower
	S		
1. Dendrobium bigibbum Complex	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dendrobium bigibbum	Mary-Anne Warner
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dendrobium bigibbum	Tony and Carol Asquith
2. Australian Dendrobium species	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dendrobium prenticei	Ross Morrison
3. Australian Bulbophyllum	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bulbophyllum schillerianum	Ross Morrison
species			
4. Other Australian species	1 <sup>st</sup>	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
5. Australasian species		NIL ENTRIES	
6. Dendrobium hybrid - primarily	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dendrobium Burana Stripe x	Mary-Anne Warner
phalaenanthe		Chao Praya Gem	

	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dendrobium Really Blue '809'	Mary-Anne Warner
7. <i>Dendrobium</i> hybrid	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dendrobium Anne's Rainbow	Marg and Wal Southwell
•		Surprise	_
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Dendrobium</i> Eureka x	Marg and Wal Southwell
		bigibbum	
8. Other Australian Hybrid		NIL ENTRIES	
9. Australasian species	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dockrillia (Jiggi x teretifolia)	Marg and Wal Southwell
		X (fuliginosa x striolata)	
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dockrillia Waverly x racemosa	Greg Steenbeeke
10. Seedling Species or Hybrid		NIL ENTRIES	
11. Sarcanthanae Species or Hybrid		NIL ENTRIES	
12. Pterostylis species	1 <sup>st</sup>	Pterostylis ophioglossa	Terry Cooke
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pterostylis alveata	Terry Cooke
13. Terrestrial Other Australian		NIL ENTRIES	
Species			
14. Terrestrial Australasian Species		NIL ENTRIES	
15. Terrestrial Australian or		NIL ENTRIES	
Australasian Hybrid			
16. Any Exotic Orchid	1 <sup>st</sup>	Paph. Java Pink	Tony and Carol Asquith
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	BLC. California Girl 'Orchid	Tony and Carol Asquith
		Liberty'	

## **SPECIAL AWARDS**

AWARD	Plant	Grower
Grand Champion of Show	Pterostylis ophioglossa	Terry Cooke
Reserve Champion of Show	Dendrobium Burana Stripe x Chao Praya Gem	Mary-Anne Warner
Champion Biggibum or Influence	Dendrobium Burana Stripe x Chao Praya Gem	Mary-Anne Warner
<b>Champion Other Orchid</b>	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
Champion ANOS Terrestrial Orchid	Pterostylis ophioglossa	Terry Cooke
Champion ANOS Specimen Orchid	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
Champion ANOS Seedling Orchid	NIL ENTRIES	
Champion Exotic Orchid	Paph. Java Pink	Tony and Carol Asquith

**Business Arising from Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Income - \$495.00/ Expenditure - \$221.60 - Balance - \$3,774.31

moved: Carol Asquith Seconded: Gordon Bush Carried

#### **General Business**

- The President presented the Show Ribbons and Sales Monies for the Autumn Show but expressed some concern with the lack of orchids benched at the Autumn Show.
- Event permits for the September and October Shows at Oran Park have been approved and received.
- Club Fundraising has improved across various initiatives Growing Competition / Auction Night. Many of the Judges at the Autumn Show were happy to receive a coffee instead of petrol monies.
- A new member joined at the Autumn Show Lin Van Nguyen.
- The Secretary provided some compost bags to members.

2019 MANOS Shows
28 September – Spring Show
Oran Park Podium
26 October – Sarcochilus Show
Oran Park Podium

### **Guest Speaker**

Jim Cootes provided a wonderful talk on the diversity of Philippines Orchids

**Raffles** - Ralph Martin, Colin Long, Wally Southwell

### **Further General Business**

• Guest Speaker: June – Greg Steenbeeke

Meeting Closed at 9.15 pm

#### A CAUTIONARY TALE OR A POTTING MIX WARNING.

Late November last year, I was establishing raised garden beds by spreading about 20 bags of potting mix and manure. The day was hot, dry and windy.

A few days later I developed a cough. I was driving home but cannot remember arriving or what happened after.

I was taken by ambulance to hospital in a coma on 1<sup>st</sup> December and connected to an "ECMO" machine; awakening on the 19<sup>th</sup> December.

I contracted *Legionella pneumonia* complicated by multi-organ failure (heart, lungs and kidney stopped). Without seeming to be too dramatic, I was not expected to live but somehow I surprised everybody. I spent 4 months in hospitals in recovery and rehabilitation.

As many of our ANOS members are senior citizens and may have health issues or compromised immunity, I recommend wearing a face mask when re-potting their orchids or gardening to avoid the possibility of contacting a debilitating illness.

Anonymous.

(From ANOS Victoria Bulletin June 2019)

.....

## Cool Growing Australian Native Orchids in the Toowoomba Area.

The most popular cool growing Australian native orchids are Dendrobiums or Sarcochilus. Both can be grown under similar conditions however Sarcochilus require more shade than Dendrobiums.

### **Dendrobiums**

Dendrobiums are found in most areas on the east coast of Australia with many species growing in the wild on trees and rocks around Toowoomba. It is not difficult therefore to provide suitable growing conditions.

## Light

Dendrobiums prefer bright filtered shade. Shade cloth of about 70 % would be ideal in bush house conditions but under a tree in the garden would be equally suitable provided there is not too much hot afternoon sun.

#### Water

In the wild they get what nature provides which in this area is quite a deal of moisture in summer tapering off through winter. They definitely prefer a cool off after a hot afternoon and probably should be watered 3 times a week through summer and once a week in winter. Spring and autumn periods should see enough water to see the compost moist but not remain wet for too long.

### **Air Movement**

Good fresh air movement is essential at all times bearing in mind where they are found in nature.

## **Potting Mix**

As mentioned earlier they grow on trees and rocks so good drainage is essential but also in nature they may have their roots in moss or leaf litter retaining some moisture. Materials like bark, charcoal, perlite and coconut husk chips have all been used successfully as have mixtures of several or all. Provided there is good drainage with some moisture retention. Dendrobiums can easily be naturalised onto the bark of a tree in the garden and soon become established. Dendrobiums should be repotted after flowering at the start of the growing season. Repotting only needs to be carried out if the plant has outgrown the pot or the potting mix has broken down and become soggy.

#### **Fertiliser**

During the growing period of spring and summer fertiliser should be applied weekly at about half recommended strength. This can be reduced to fortnightly or even monthly as growth slows. It is important to grow fat healthy bulbs this growing season as they will reward you with more flowers later in the year.

## **Pests and Diseases**

Australian Dendrobiums are fairly disease resistant provided they are given good growing conditions and fresh air. Fungal infections are rare and usually only minor. Pests include scale, aphids & spider mite which should be dealt with using the recommended insecticide. Dendrobium beetles can be a real problem in some collections and vigilance is required. The beetles can be removed by hand or sprayed with Carbaryl or other insecticides.

**Sarcochilus** While Dendrobiums are light lovers Sarcochilus enjoy shadier, cooler more humid conditions being found in nature in the cooler mountainous areas and then in gullies and ravines.

## Light

Where Dendrobiums thrive in 50 to 70% shade, Sarcochilus prefer closer to 90% shade. In bush house conditions another layer of 70% shade cloth over one area will allow the successful cultivation of these little beauties.

#### Water

Sarcochilus in nature are subjected not only to good rainfall but heavy mists and fog; therefore they prefer to

be grown moister than Dendrobiums. The plants are continually growing so benefit from regular watering. **Air Movement** 

They like constant air movement and detest stuffy conditions. They prefer cooler conditions than Dendrobiums and benefit from a cool breeze and a light misting regularly in hot weather.

## **Potting Mix**

Sarcochilus like Dendrobiums grow naturally on trees or rocky faces but they definitely like a bit more moisture. Having said that, they still need good drainage and a similar mix to Dendrobiums would be satisfactory.

#### **Fertiliser**

A soluble fertiliser low in nitrogen and higher in potassium will give more robust plants and better flowers. The plants often have a growth period in autumn and winter and this time of year should not be forgotten in fertilising. A quarter to half recommended concentration is a good place to start and should be carried out weekly to fortnightly.

**Good Growing** 

Disclaimer: These notes are supplied in good faith and Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc and its members will not be held responsible for any loss or damage. 013/JT02/18/JT (From Toowoomba's Website)

-----

## **May Benching Results**

Benching Results	Plac	Plant Name	Owner
Class	е		
Dendrobium species	1	Dendrobium lichenastrum	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Dendrobium capitisyork	Margaret and Wally Southwell
		(Northern Form tetragonum)	
Dendrobium hybrid	1	Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Den. Lustrous x speciosum	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Bulbophyllum	1	Bulbophyllum macphersonii	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Bulbophyllum schillerianum	Ross Morrison
Australian Species Other	1	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
	2	Cestichis reflexa	Terry Cooke
Terrestrial Pterostylis	1	Pterostylis collina	Terry Cooke
Species			
	2	Pterostylis alveata	Ross Morrison
Terrestrial Hybrid	1	Pterostylis furcilata	Mike Morris
	2	Pterostylis conoglossa	Mike Morris
Terrestrial Species Other	1	Acianthus saxatilis	Phil Griffiths
Australasian Species	1	Diplodium repandum	Terry Cooke
	2	Diplodium repandum	Terry Cooke
Australasian Hybrid	1	Den. Really Blue	Mary-Anne Warner
	2	Den. Soft Mirage	Mary-Anne Warner
<b>Growing Competition</b>	1		Ross Morrison
	2		Gordon Bush
Judge's Choice		Bulbophyllum macphersonii	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Popular Choice		Bulbophyllum macphersonii	Margaret and Wally Southwell

-----

Tinonee Orchid Nursery Open Days ---- A very high standard nursery—Speakers Day, Open day and Workshop Saturday `13th July --- Sunday 14th July.

Speakers are John Roberts, David Banks, Scott Barrie, Mike Harrison and Sam Cowie

QUESTIONS? orchids@tinoneeorchids.com

**GOOD GROWING**