Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group

FEBRUARY 2022

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

President: Mr. W. Southwell (Ph. 46818589) **Postal Address**:- 20 Colo Street,

Secretary: Mr. R. Morrison COURIDJAH**. 2171**

Treasurer: Mrs. C. Asquith (Ph. 46259874) **Next Meeting: Tuesday , 15th FEBRUARY, 2022**

Life Members: Mr. J. Riley, M. T. Cooke, W. & M. Southwell, Ross morrison, and Marj Yabsley, (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

Venue: BIRRAWA HALL
FITZPATRICK ROAD
Mt. ANNAN.

Should you wish to pay into our account for your fees
BSB 062517 A/C 00909929
Doors open 7.15pm, benching closes 7.55pm, meeting starts 8pm

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Hi to All,
Congratulations to Ross for plant of the night and popular choice, well done.

There was a very small attendance in January for the tuber sale night, but all tubers were cleared on the night. There may be more tubers at this month's meeting.

Graham will be operating the plant sale table and Margaret will be bringing the range of pots for sale to the members.

The level of covid infections are dropping, so the worst of it may be behind us and a better year is coming.

Members still have to abide by face masks and social distancing at meetings.

Good growing
Wally

Please keep in mind that fees are really overdue.. Account Details above!!

General Meeting – 18 January 2022 8.00 pm
Minutes of Meeting

The President welcomed everyone to the January meeting and highlighted the current 'Public Health Orders' remained regarding social distancing and mask wearing.

Attendance Members: Face to Face – as per sign on book but included Mike M, Wendy E, Marg and Wally S, Graeme M, Peter B, Jim C, Gordon B, Phil G, Robert M.
Apologies: Carol and Tony A, Marge Y, Ross M, Greg S, Mike H, Julia B, Ian L, Don R, Diana McD

Acceptance of Previous Minutes: Moved: Jim Cootes Seconded: Wendy Estall Carried
Business Arising: Nil
Correspondence: In: ANOS Intergroup Show Certificates (to be presented at the February Meeting.
Treasurer's Report: Held over to February in the Treasurers absence.
General Business:

- The January Bench was judged by Jim Cootes and Robert Moon
- The 2022 Points Score Award to be presented at the February meeting.

• Members are reminded to ensure membership fees are up current. Secretary to review and contact unfinancial members by March.

. Equipment and material sales will be available at the February meeting.

Tuber Sales

The President managed the tubers sales – a variety of pterostylis, diuris and corybas were available at $4 per pack. All lots were sold, and additional lots may be available in February.

2022 Meeting and Show Dates

2022 Monthly Meeting Dates	
18 January	15 February
15 March	19 April
17 May	21 June
19 July	16 August
20 September	18 October
15 November	20 December

Autumn Show – 7 May

Spring Show - 17 September

Sarcochilus Show – 22 October

Venue: ORAN PARK PODIUM

Monthly Benching Results

Benching Class	Place	Plant Name	Owner
Dendrobium species	1	*Dendrobium tetragonum*	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	*Dendrobium lichenastrum*	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Dendrobium hybrid	1	Dendrobium Ballerina	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Sarcanthinae hybrid	1	*Sarcochilus ceciliae* x Kroombit	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Plectochilus Orkology Trimaran	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Rhizobium hybrid	1	*Dockrillia linguiformis x Dockrillia lichenastrum*	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Dockrillia Australian Lemon Pepper *x Dockrillia hepatica*	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Australian species other	1	*Cestichis coelogynoides*	Ross Morrison
	2	*Cymbidium madidum*	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Terrestrial Species other	1	*Arthrochilus prolixus*	Ross Morrison
Australasian Hybrid	1	Dendrobium Impact	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Judge's Choice		*Arthrochilus prolixus*	Ross Morrison
Popular Choice		*Arthrochilus prolixus*	Ross Morrison

From SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY Website.. (I hopeI haven't published this earlier)

The Mystery of Sarcochilus hirticalcar

Sarcochilus hirticalcar, the 'Harlequin Orchid' is a tropical species which according to most sources is found in the McIlwraith Ranges of far North Queensland. It may seem that it only recently began to contribute its genes into the rapidly expanding list of hybrids with the appearance of grexes such as Sarco. Velvet and Sarco. Nicky and, more recently, their offspring. Surprisingly this impression is very wrong as Sarco. hirticalcar was used as a parent in one of the early hybrids when Noel Jupp registered Sarco, Riverdene in 1976.

The mystery to the writer is why the massive interval in the use of this most interesting species? One could be forgiven for thinking that it was only recently discovered but it was actually found in 1966 by Malcolm Brown.

As a parent it seems to provide some very desirable traits
 It extends the flowering season into summer and seems to encourage its offspring to produce several flushes of blooms throughout the year. My larger plants of Sarco. Velvet are rarely without some flowers
 Its progeny have excellent flower substance with very thick, long lasting flowers that generally resist reflexing.
 It not only contributes a variety of colours (green, yellow, red) to its offspring but allows or even enhances the colour inheritance from the other parent. A case in point would be Sarco. Nicky where Sarco. hirticalcar has been paired with Sarco. fitzgeraldii to produce a grex of predominantly red flowers
 When combined with a partner having full shaped flowers such as Sarco hartmannii the progeny mostly adopt the improved shape(as with Sarco. Riverdene) of the other parent rather than the sparse form of sarco. hirticalcar.

So once again it is asked "Why was Sarco. hirticalcar ignored for so long by hybridists?" Was it because Noel Jupp had the only plant in cultivation until recently (unlikely)? Was it because its progressive flowering habit was deemed to be a liability (note that breeders were using Sarco. ceciliae another noted progressive flowerer during this time)? Was it because it was difficult to grow and died out in collections (seems to be widely grown today) or was it because its offspring were difficult to cultivate (could be as some are a bit 'slow' although Sarco. Riverdene 'Holly' seems to have been around for ages but then again most selfings of this clone available over the years from DUNO have been slow growers at best).

Whatever the reason for the barren period in the use of Sarco. hirticalcar as a parent and even its first hybrid, Sarco. Riverdene, it has certainly been overcome in recent years with hybridists having produced 39 progeny as at mid 2008. The most notable of these would include the following Sarcochilus hybrids; Riverdene. Topaz, Velvet, Nicky, Cherry Cheer, Elise, Bessie and Duno Nicky's Twin.

If the idea of year -round flowers of great substance in an interesting array of colours is at all appealing then Sarcochilus hirticalcar and its extended family should never be ignored for so long again.

ORCHID NOMENCLATURE From Shoalhaven Orchid Society Website.

The conventions for naming orchids are set out in the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. These are based on a hierarchical classification system. Below are the most important taxa below the family level.

Family
(name ends in ~aceae ,thus – Orchidaceae)

Sub-family (name ends in ~oideae) The large orchid family is broken down into sub-families, eg Cypripedoideae, Spiranthoideae

Tribe (name ends in ~eae) Sub-families, in turn, are broken down into tribes, eg tribe Oncidiinae.

Sub-tribe
(name ends in ~inae)

A sub-tribe contains a collection of genera and their species, eg the sub-tribe Lycastinae includes Anguloa, Bifrenaria, Lycaste, etc

Genus
(plural 'genera')
A group of closely related species, eg Paphiopedilum.

Species
(plural 'species)
A naturally occurring interbreeding group within the genus, eg P. callosum.

ORCHID CLASSIFICATION
or
why DO they keep changing the names???

The orchid family (Orchidaceae) is usually considered to be the largest family of flowering plants with around 30,000 species and perhaps 900 different genera. There are few regions in the world where orchids are not found and, in order to survive under vastly different climatic conditions, there is great diversity in the growth habit and form of orchids.

For many years taxonomic botanists have been studying this group of plants to identify the bloodlines or evolutionary relationships between the species and groups of plants. In the early days botanists depended largely on 'the plant's gross morphology - it's growth habit and size, appearance of the roots, leaves, inflorescences, flowers, fruit, etc. and microscopic features (cell structure, pollen, seed and embryos). More recently botanists have been exploring the genetic makeup of plants'[1] using sophisticated scientific processes.

This information has led to new insights into the relationships between groups and hence, changes to the names or classification of some orchids. A recent example is the change of the Brazilian laelias to the genus Cattleya based on DNA evidence that shows they have more in common with *Cattleya* than they have with the Mexican *Laelia*.

Sometimes the research shows that groups of plants previously thought to be related have enough differences to warrant a division and the creation of a new genus or species. This is the reason *Dendrobium speciosum* is now *Thelychiton speciosus*.

It was fairly common in the early days of orchid collecting to find a species with two different names. This was due to plants being collected or described by two different botanists who thought they each had a distinct plant. The south-east Asian s The south-east Asian slipper orchid, *Paphiopedilum appletonianum*, was given that epithet by Gower in 1893 but was also described in 1895 as *P. wolterianum* by the German botanist, Fritz Kraenzlin.[2]

When botanists discovered they were the same species the first name was deemed correct according to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature and the second and/or later names are considered synonyms. Many orchids have a number of synonyms and I have been caught more than once buying several of the same species only to find I already have it in my collection under a different name. For example, I have *Cym. dayanum, C. simonsianum* and *C. sutapense* but, in fact, I have three plants of *C. dayanum* as the other two names are synonyms. Similarly, I have *C. aloifolium, C. pendulum* and *C. simulans*. All *C. aloifolium*! In my enthusiasm for expanding my collections of species cymbidiums and laelias I have often fallen into this trap. I'm not sure whether orchid sellers deliberately use synonyms to trap unwary species collectors or whether it is done in ignorance. I now take my list with me but, be warned. **Caveat emptor** - let the buyer beware!

Lynne Phelan

[1] Growing Orchids in Cool Climate Australia, p 110

Orchids at Kew, p 81

Editors Note: as previously advised, I'm having trouble finding good articles..hope these are worth the read!!!!

GOOD GROWING ALL