



monthly bulletin vol. 45 no. 4

April 09

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Secretary : Louise Gannon 02 9524 9072
Treasurer : Jan Robinson 02 9520 6920

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Meetings held at the Uniting Church Hall, cnr. Flora and Merton St., Sutherland on the Second Monday of the Month. All Visitors Welcomed. Visit our Website on www.ssos.org.au

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009

The President, Mr. Murray Aldridge declared the A.G.M. open, calling for a motion that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 2008 as presented in the 2008 April's Bulletin be accepted as accurate. Motion moved by Bob Moar.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There have been a couple of firsts for our Society in the last year.

The first "first" was something we haven't done for many years – a bus trip. This time it was to Orchids Out West with lunch at a local pub. The Society sponsored the entry fee and 24 members and guests had a great time – and spent up in a big way! As you have already heard this will be repeated this year.

We had our usual successful shows at Swanes – we are lucky to have such a sponsor. The support of our members makes these some of the best shows on the Orchid calendar.

Sharkies was a great success – in many ways. The biggest show, the happiest vendors, the biggest numbers ever seen so far. Sutherland's share of the profits and prize money was a healthy \$1700.00. Sutherland provides the majority of members on the organizing committee and volunteers. Thanks to all who helped.

Our other fundraiser and meet the public was the annual fete at Engadine. Again, a lovely day, some money for the Society and the opportunity to share our wonderful hobby.

The second "first" was our new members barbecue at Louise's place. A great time was had by all –

getting to know our new members and spreading orchid madness. This again will be repeated.

Motion by Bob Moar, that the President's Report be accepted.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented in the March 2009 Bulletin was denied due to 2 queries asked by members regarding the Auditors Financial Statement, ie. -

- Interest on fixed term deposits
- Bulletin expenses

As the Treasurer and/or Auditor were not present to answer these queries the passing of the Report has been adjourned to April's meeting in order to look into these matters.

The A.G.M. continued with David Brooks being nominated as Returning Officer by Ian Chalmers and seconded by John Moss. Mr Brooks then declared all the positions vacant. As there was no need of a ballot, declared the following positions for the ensuing year.

President - Murray Aldridge, moved by Neville Roper, seconded by Robert Bisetto.

Vice President - Bob Moar, moved by John Moss, seconded by Mick Hannah.

Secretary - Louise Gannon, moved by John Moss, seconded by Robert Coulton.

Treasurer - Jan Robinson, moved by Owen Sutton, seconded by Trevor Thorburn.

Committee - George Birss, Dennis Wood, Russell Ettrick and Robert Bisetto. Moved by Peter Mills, seconded by John Costa.

Next meeting, the election of Auditor will be finalised, and also, the accepting by the Members of the Annual Statement to be submitted to the Department of Fair Trading.

Mr. Aldridge then took back the meeting, thanking the incoming members and in particular George Birss, who has stepped down as Treasurer, for all the good work he has done.

He then closed the 2009 AGM Meeting.

Minutes from the March 09 Meeting.

The President welcomed all present and called for a motion that the minutes of the February meeting were a true and accurate record. Moved by Bob Moar.

Apologies: Algia Vasiliou and Anna Kalas

CORRESPONDENCE

Flyers for the Sydney International Orchid Fair, Castle Hill. 3rd to 5th April.

Flyers for the St. Ives Fair, 14th to 16th August.

Magazine - Orchids Australia

Magazine - Australian Orchid Review

Bulletins - from various Societies.

Thank you Jan Robinson and Louise Gannon for taking the Beginners Class tonight on the topic 'About the Club'.

The President welcomed two new members, M/s Louise Smalley and M/s Katja Muller, extending our wishes for a happy stay.

The President presented OSNSW and The Aust. Orchid Council Awards to 3 members - Neville Roper received numerous awards for his spectacular *Sarcochilus* and 1 for *Paph. malipoense* 'Ho'.

Paul Wheeler (absent) received awards for *Dend. Cowra* 'Neil' (an unusual orange) and *Sarco. Melba* 'Ned',

Dennis Wood received an award for *Masd. Solar Flare* 'Ice'.

Congratulations, well done.

After the success of last years bus trip to Orchids Out West, another is now planned for Friday, 1st May. A 24 seat bus has been hired with Jan Robinson's husband David, kindly offering again to drive. Our Society will once again subsidise entry into the venue. 17 seats have already been booked. Please contact Jan ASAP on 9520 6920 if you are interested. Cost \$15. Lunch at own expense at nearby hotel.

George Birss was unable to be here for the Meeting tonight as he has fallen badly whilst moving the

trestle tops and legs for storage. We hope he recovers quickly.

Our Society has purchased new plastic moulded tables, to replace the old wooden trestle tables. Members will find them much lighter and less cumbersome than the old ones.

New Raffle Tickets from tonight. Instead of selling 6 for \$1, it will be 3 for \$1. Its more economical and less folding for Madge.

Ken Hancock has been in Calvary Hospital for 3 weeks. (please see Editor's note). Also there, is Life Member Bert Cardwell. We have heard recently of the passing of Alan Moulang. Alan and his wife Enid, had been members since 1973.

Supper break

The President thanked Neville Roper for his very interesting talk tonight on *Sarcochilus* orchids. Nev. showed us some of the parents he has used in successful hybridising.

LUCKY PLANTS: N. Roper, S. Crosby / T. Costa, W. Chapman.

PLANT RAFFLE: L. Aldridge, R. Ettrick, (2) R. Bisetto, M. Hitchcock and G. Kay.

Judges Roster April

	TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3
LEAD JUDGE	E BEEHAG	I CHALMERS	N ROPER
JUDGE	G HART	D BROOKS	W CHAPMAN
JUDGE	J HART	K WILSON	I WARE
Assoc/Trainee.	J MOSS	J ROBINSON	M HITCHCOCK
WRITER	R BISETTO	S CROSBY	D COULTON

Dates to Remember.

3rd - 5th. April - Sydney International Orchid Fair, Castle Hill Show Grounds.

13th. April - SSOS General Meeting, Beginners Class 7:30 pm. *Paphiopedilums* Gary Hart. 8pm. Ian Chalmers on Chelsea Flower Show.

1st. - May - Bus Trip to Orchids Out West.

1st. - 3rd. May Orchids Out West. Hawkesbury Racecourse.

11th. May SSOS General Meeting. Auction

8th. - 13th. Sept. 18th. AOC Conference and Show WERRIBEE, Victoria

APRIL'S MEETING TOPIC will be a talk by Ian Chalmers on the Chelsea Garden Show and Orchids.

APRIL'S BEGINNERS CLASS - starting at 7.30pm TOPIC : repotting paphiopedilums. The widow of Phillip Fowler, a previous member, has kindly donated to the Society a small collection of paphs. They are in good condition, but need repotting. Its an excellent opportunity for beginners to have a 'hands on' in repotting. Senior member, Gary Hart will take the class. In a couple of months time, Gary has offered to talk again to the Beginners Class on the different types of paphs. available.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

For well over a year the Committee has been looking for storage space to store the old trestle tops and legs. Members had been asked a few times, but it seems spare space is one thing most of us don't have . We considered a paid storage business but the cost was prohibitive, considered renting a garage etc. Kevin Wilson kindly offered a corner of his garage and set about clearing the space. Now, George Birss's son has kindly allowed us to store them underneath his house. This allows us to store in the Church Hall the moulded plastic tables we purchased 6 months ago. Members helping to put them out/away each night will notice how much lighter they are. Thank you George, Jan, David and Robert Bisetto for your help in relocating the tables.

Editor's Corner

As reported earlier, we regret the passing of two of our "old hands", Alan Moulang and Ken Hancock, both of whom quietly used to go about their ways. Alan along with his wife Enid , both completed and passed the Judging Class of OSNSW many years ago, and Ken, who for many years printed the Bulletin, but in later years produced those beautiful Stanhopeas in the Baskets at our Shows. They are a great loss to us, both as members and good friends.

THE BUS IS ALMOST FULL!!!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, WE'VE GOT A BUS GOING TO THE "ORCHIDS OUT WEST" SHOW

At Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon

FRIDAY, MAY 1

Orchid Displays and 16 Orchid Vendors

For only \$15, you get Bus Fare and Show Entrance Fee

Meet at 8:45 a.m. behind the Sutherland Leisure Centre for 9:00 departure, we want to be at the Show by 10:30 before all the good orchids are sold! Lunch will be at your own cost at the Clarendon Tavern, which is very close to the Show venue. Or you can stay at the Show and have a sausage sambo if you prefer. Transport to the Tavern will be provided by our fully insured bus, which after lunch will take us back to the Show for a few last-minute purchases. The bus will leave the Show around 2:00 p.m., with an estimated arrival time back in Sutherland of 3:30. The bus will be towing an enclosed trailer to transport all our orchid goodies, so bring a Styrofoam box or other container to keep your plants upright.

THERE ARE ONLY 3 SEATS LEFT!!

Ring Jan Robinson on 9520-6920 or see her at the April Meeting with your \$15 to secure your spot on the bus. (Note: A map of the meeting place in Sutherland will be provided at the April meeting, make sure you pick one up from Jan if you did not go on last year's bus trip.)

Tidbits From the Treasurer

Greetings Fellow Members—

Our auditor has revised the accounts for 2008. Bulletin costs of \$764.96 and judges' supper expenses of \$370.90 have now been individually itemised for ease in comparison with the 2007 accounts.

The other query raised in last month's AGM was regarding the amount of income earned by the Society on its term deposit. \$295 was inadvertently omitted from the 2007 amount as it had been accrued but not paid by the bank; it therefore had to be included in the 2008 total. So the Society wasn't really earning 9% in 2008 after all, bummer! If you deduct \$295 of 2007 interest from the \$1,128 showing for 2008, the balance of \$833 represents an overall return on investment of 6.6% which is reasonable given that our money was actually earning over 6% for 11 months of 2008 and was even as high as 7.5% for 4 months of the year. Ctd after Judging results.....

If you have any further questions concerning the 2008 financial statements, please ring me on 9520 6920 prior to the April meeting.

MONTHLY JUDGING RESULTS

For : Mar-09

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE (If Winner is Species, 2nd will be a Hybrid & vice v)

Winner Paph (Supersuk x Singapore) x California Raisin S T Ho
 Second Dendrochilum magnum S T Ho

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Miltonia spectabilis var. moreliana 'Big Ben' J Robinson

NOVICE & JUNIOR JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Cattleya schroederiae x forbesii M Luk

CLASS # 1 AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

1st Den. bigibbum var. compactum S Crosby/T Costa
 2nd Den. bigibbum var. compactum S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Den. bigibbum var. compactum S Crosby/T Costa
 4th Den. bigibbum var. compactum S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 2 SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Paph. victoria-regina S T Ho
 2nd Paph. charlesworthii S T Ho
 3rd Paph. sukhakulii S T Ho
 4th Paph. moquettianum S T Ho

CLASS # 3 CATTLEYA OVER 110mm

1st Blc. Murray Spencer 'Armroys Dark Star' J Hart
 2nd Blc. Mt Anderson x Lc. Quandson Aida S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Bc. Bonanza 'Kauai Jon' S Crosby/T Costa
 4th Blc. Mem. Helen Brown 'Ta-Hsin' J Hart

CLASS # 4 NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Paph. (Supersuk x Singapore) x California Raisin S T Ho
 2nd Paph. primulinum var. flavum x Lc. Stwithin 'Gemini' S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Paph. Norito Hasegawa S T Ho
 4th Paph. Honey S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 5 CATTLEYA OVER 80 TO 110mm

1st C. Minerva J & M Moss
 2nd Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Blumen Insel' S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Bc. Island Charm x C. Little Dipper 'David' S Crosby/T Costa
 4th C. Puppylove 'True Beauty' S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 7 CATTLEYA INTERGENERIC (Up to 70mm)

1st Ctna. Capri 'Lea' J Hart
 2nd Ctna. Tina S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Ctna. Brandii 'OC' S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 8 CATTLEYA UP TO 80mm

1st Lc. Maple Land S Crosby/T Costa
 2nd Lc. Trick or Treat x C. walkeriana 'Pendentive' S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Blc. Beverley Blitz J Hart

CLASS # 9 AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRID

1st Den. Annes Rainbow Surprise '131' J & M Moss
 2nd Den. Hera D Wood

CLASS # 10 SPECIES ASIAN

1st Dendrochilum magnum S T Ho
 2nd Dendrochilum clemensiae S T Ho
 3rd Trichoglottis brachiata W & J Chapman
 4th Dendrochilum latifolium var. macranthum R Moar

CLASS # 11 PHALAEOPSIS

1st Phal. Tinny Sunshine x Phal. Tinny Diamond S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 12 SEEDLING

1st Sarco. Velvet x spathulatus N Roper

CLASS # 13 ONCIDIUM

1st Onc. edwalii x assisindrum D Wood

CLASS # 14 NOVELTY PHALAEOPSIS UNDER 75mm

1st Phal. Golden Poker 'BL' X Phal. Ruby Stripe S Crosby/T Costa
 2nd Phal. Taida Pearl S Crosby/T Costa
 3rd Phal. Brother Peter Star S Crosby/T Costa
 4th Phal. Golden Joy 'Lemon Stripe' S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 15 ONCIDIUM INTERGENERIC ALLIANCE

1st Odc. Bloodlust T Thorburn

CLASS # 16 MISCELLANEOUS

1st Phrag. Praying Mantis I Chalmers
 2nd Vanda. Wirat W & J Chapman
 3rd Phrag. Eric Young I Chalmers
 4th Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 17 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS

1st Den. Fantasy S Crosby/T Costa
 2nd Den. bigibbum x Bicolour I Chalmers

CLASS # 18 VANDACEOUS NOT VANDA

1st V. Thailand Gold x Ascda. Madam Kenny 'Tomy' M Errington
 2nd Asc. Princess Mikasa 'Pink' S Crosby/T Costa

CLASS # 21B LAELINAE SPECIES

1st Catt. bicolor I Chalmers
 2nd Catt. harrisoniae T Thorburn
 3rd Laelia pumila 'Michael' S Crosby/T Costa
 4th Epidendrum diffusum M Errington

CLASS # 23 SPECIES OTHER THAN ASIAN OR PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Phrag. besseae S T Ho
 2nd Stenoglottis fimbriata D Wood
 3rd Psychopsis. papilio I Chalmers
 4th Stenoglottis fimbriata R Moar

CLASS # 24A NATIVE SARCANTHINAE HYBRID

1st Sarco. Bobby Dazzler N Roper
 2nd Sarco. Jill N Roper
 3rd Sarco. Jill S T Ho
 4th Sarco. Velvet 'November' N Roper

CLASS # 28 NOVICE - CATTLEYA

1st C. schroederiae x forbesii M Luk
 2nd C. unknown M Luk
 3rd C. intermedia var. alba x Sl. Jinn M Luk

CLASS # 29 NOVICE - MISCELLANEOUS

1st Beallara Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' M Luk
 2nd Milt. Castenae x Matto Groppo M Luk
 3rd Miltonia unknown O Sutton
 4th Milt. spectabilis x Gooddale Moir B Warren

CLASS # 31 INTERMEDIATE - PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz J Robinson

CLASS # 33 INTERMEDIATE - NATIVE SPECIES & NATIVE HYBRID

1st Sarco. Melody 'Pink Mottle' x Velvet 'Red' J Robinson
 2nd Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise 'Karen' J Robinson

CLASS # 34 INTERMEDIATE - CATTLEYA

1st Slc. Petite Pink 'Bette' M Hitchcock

CLASS # 35 INTERMEDIATE - MISCELLANEOUS

1st Dendrobium unknown J Robinson
 2nd Prom. Dinah Albright x rollinsonii J Robinson

CLASS # 36 INTERMEDIATE - SPECIES

1st Miltonia spectabilis var. moreliana 'Big Ben' J Robinson
 2nd Max. valenzuelana M Hitchcock
 3rd Max. variabilis M Hitchcock

Continuing...

In case any of you are wondering what qualifications I have to be the new Treasurer, I am a number cruncher by trade and worked for 15 years in Aus' as a corporate accountant before retiring in 2006. The only spreadsheets I have done over the last few years are data on my orchid collection, so I am looking forward to getting back to some dollars and cents!

Cheers,

Jan Robinson

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]

January 2008 through December 2008

	This Year	Last Year	\$ Difference	% Difference
Income				
Auction Commission & Donations	\$347.40	\$267.00	\$80.40	30.10%
Donations & Sponsorship	\$781.00	\$360.00	\$421.00	116.90%
Interest From Investment	\$1,128.45	\$346.60	\$781.85	225.60%
Members Subscriptions	\$734.00	\$717.00	\$17.00	2.40%
Prize Money From Other Shows	\$1,785.42	\$2,479.25	(\$693.83)	-28.00%
Raffles From Meetings & Shows	\$1,313.95	\$1,931.15	(\$617.20)	-32.00%
Sales Table & Commissions	\$5,864.70	\$3,098.00	\$2,766.70	89.30%
Total Income	\$11,954.92	\$9,199.00	\$2,755.92	30.00%
Expenses				
Advert., Printing & Stationery	\$742.38	\$363.35	\$379.03	104.32%
Bank Charges	\$121.80	\$125.55	(\$3.75)	-2.99%
Bulletin Expenses	\$764.96	\$669.22	\$95.74	14.31%
Depreciaton	\$88.70	\$56.57	\$32.13	56.80%
Insurance	\$313.89	\$260.86	\$53.03	20.33%
Library Expenses	\$0.00	\$129.95	(\$129.95)	-100.00%
Licences	\$0.00	\$43.00	(\$43.00)	-100.00%
Prizes	\$246.78	\$617.98	(\$371.20)	-60.07%
Rent & Hall Expenses	\$954.00	\$1,022.00	(\$68.00)	-6.65%
Raffles Expenses	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	100.00%
Sales Bench Purchases	\$3,340.33	\$774.56	\$2,565.77	331.26%
Show & Display Expenses	\$939.25	\$925.25	\$14.00	1.51%
Speaker Expenses	\$250.00	\$60.00	\$190.00	316.67%
Subscription Fees	\$205.00	\$180.00	\$25.00	13.89%
Sundries	\$205.82	\$0.00	\$205.82	N/A
Supper/Judges Morning Teas	\$370.90	\$354.80	\$16.10	4.54%
Website Expenses	\$310.00	\$598.00	(\$288.00)	-48.16%
Total Expenses	\$9,253.81	\$6,381.09	\$2,872.72	45.00%
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$2,701.11	\$2,817.91	(\$116.80)	-4.10%

Above is the amended Profit \$ Loss Statement, there is no change in the previous Balance Sheet.

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WHY WON'T MY ORCHID FLOWER? by Brian Milligan

This is a common question asked by new growers, particularly with regard to their cymbidiums. In most cases the answer is to move the orchid to a spot where it receives more light. It's well known that cymbidiums flower poorly, or not at all, if grown in heavy shade, even though they may grow quite well in that situation. Another reason why cymbidiums fail to flower is that the climate is unsuitable. Many cymbidium species and their hybrids need a succession of night temperatures below 12-13°C during December or January to induce flowering. Cymbidiums often flower poorly in Brisbane and other sub-tropical locations for this reason.

Fortunately, nature usually provides the necessary cool summer nights in more southerly locations.

No orchid will flower well until it has reached maturity, an event that may never occur under unfavourable cultural conditions. One cannot hope to grow tropical orchids to maturity in a Melbourne shade house, let alone persuade them to flower. Conversely, one cannot hope to grow masdevallias well in Brisbane because these cool-growing orchids from the Andes Mountains suffer too much stress during the heat of summer. We all like to grow unusual orchids but one must be realistic and choose those genera best suited to our environment, unless we're willing to provide their quarters with adequate heating or cooling.

Many species will not grow to maturity, and flower satisfactorily, unless provided with the "season of rest" to which they have adapted in nature. During this period of cool, dry weather, growth essentially ceases. If watered and fertilised during winter, their roots often rot and the new pseudo-bulbs fail to mature. As a consequence, the orchid will flower poorly, or not at all, and may even die. Examples of orchids that need a cool, dry winter "rest" are varicosum-type and crispum-type oncidium species and their hybrids, *Cuitlauzina pendula*, *Rossioglossum grande* and several *laelia* species, particularly *Laelia speciosa*.

Some orchids take much longer to reach maturity than others. *Disa uniflora* and its hybrids will usually flower within two years of being deflasked, whereas *Dendrobium speciosum* seedlings sometimes take ten years or more! Cymbidiums may take five or six years, although this period may be halved if they are provided with winter warmth for the first two years.

If you've already considered all the above factors, and still can't persuade your orchid to flower, take heart from the knowledge that the author of this article has heaps of them!

NEPENTHES: PROTECTIVE COMPANION PLANTS for ORCHIDS

by David P. Banks

For those who dislike the use of insecticides, *Nepenthes* pitcher plants are ideal companion plants in an orchid collection, as they enjoy the same conditions and catch a lot of bugs and other "nasties" in the process. We have witnessed these vine-like plants consume things from ants, flies and mosquitoes to beetles, cockroaches and grasshoppers, right up to mice! They are also impressive plants that always attract attention from "non-orchid-people" type visitors!

There are close to 100 species of these bizarre carnivorous plants whose natural distribution is centred on Southeast Asia. About 80% of the species are found at higher elevations in mountainous regions that experience warm days and cool nights; these are known loosely as "highland" species. The remaining 20% of species inhabit the steamy lowlands and are strictly suited to tropical climates or a glasshouse environment that does not fall below 15°C. We grow several hundred mature "highland" pitcher plants of a range of forms, species and hybrids in our shade-houses, both at Northmead and Seven Hills, in the suburbs of northwestern Sydney, New South Wales. They experience brief temperature extremes of —2°C in winter, up to 48°C in summer. The normal variation is from 3°C to 42°C. Remember that in winter, whilst we can have frosty mornings, the day temperature often rises to 15-20°C, coupled with mostly cloudless days.

Plants are grown in pots on the benches (not sitting in water) or in hanging pots or baskets with a water saucer underneath. They grow well in sphagnum moss but I use a more durable mix consisting of 60% spent medium-sized pine bark (saved after my father re-pots his slipper orchids), 20% peat moss, 10% chopped sphagnum moss and 10% large-grade perlite. *Nepenthes* certainly appreciate the "composted" pine bark instead of "fresh" bark. I use standard sized pots, and if anything, I "over-pot" my pitcher plants. Large pots results in large pitchers! They are watered and fertilised same as the orchid collection. *Nepenthes* do not like to dry out fully, and enjoy a humid environment.

Recommended species for temperate climates include *N. ventricosa* (the best one for beginners), *N. alata*, *N. maxima* and *N. sanguinea*. Hybrids utilising the above plants are also suitable and impart hybrid vigour.

Hardy tropical species include *N. rafflesiana*, *N. ampullaria*, *N. mirabilis*, *N. thorellii* and *N. gracilis*.

Nepenthes truncata has large pitchers and enjoys intermediate conditions.

Keep in mind that collecting just a few of these plants may be the start of (another) addictive hobby!