



Sarcochilus australis

MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

APRIL 2007 BULLETIN

www.mosorchid.org

Affiliated with the Australian Orchid Council
Incorporated in Victoria Reg No 1193Z

Disclaimer: The Maribyrnong Orchid Society Committee will not take any responsibility for actions taken on advice or views expressed in: this or any future Monthly Bulletin, or by Guest Speakers. It is always advisable to get a second opinion.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE – 3rd Thursday of the month

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society will be held at the Maribyrnong Community Centre, Randall Street, Maribyrnong on Tuesday the 10th April, 2007.

The Early 'new growers' group start at 7.15pm and is conducted by the informative Steve Stebbing. This group runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the monthly meeting. We also have 'Pots and Ferts' and plants sales tables operating at every meeting. Members may bring 10 orchids to be sold on the sales table each month. The Society deducts 15% commission on the sale of all plants. Please note that all plants must be labeled correctly and state whether they are hot/cold growing and expected floral colour, if not in flower. Plants are also to be listed on a sales form, available from members on the Sales table, to be filled out by the selling member.

Guest Speaker this month

Our guest speaker this month will be Mr Neil Anderton speaking on the area known as Inverleigh Common.

We thank Mr. Clive Halls for his presentation and slide show last month, on Novelty Odontoglossums.

Supper Roster

For the April meeting we kindly have Denise Colquhoun and Judy Marshall on Supper Duties.

Thank-you to our members who came forward to help our club with supper duties. We graciously have the following members on supper duty for the months listed below:-

May	Val Curwood	Hilda Caly	September	Harold Milburn	Helen Dugan
June	Hubert Nyssen	Alex Wild	October	Olga Grigorovitch	Geoff Ragg
July	Marg Lattimore	Fran Wilde	November	Tien Nguyen	Jenny Dark
August	Alma Bevan	Marge Paul			

MARCH 2007 COMPETITION RESULTS

As per judges sheets

OPEN SECTION

Medium Cymbidium

1st Flori Flame B Duncan

Australian Native Species Dendrobium

1st Den lichenastrum B Duncan

Sarcochilus Species/Hybrid

1st Nicky x Fitzhart J Crawford

2nd Duno Nickys Twin G Downie

Paphiopedilum – Maudiae/Callosum

1st Maudiae x Red Maud J Crawford

Paphiopedilum - Novelty

1st Primulinum x Rothchildianum J Crawford

2nd Iantha Stage M Pearce

Paphiopedilum - Species

1st Dianthum O & R Carter

2nd Primulinum J Crawford

Cattleya Exhibition

1st Blc Dals Girl J & M Lattimore

Cattleya – Cluster

1st Lc Tropical Pointer J Crawford

Cattleya Novelty

1st Sc Beaurort x Coccinea J Crawford

Oncidium Hybrid

1st Sweet Sugar J & M Lattimore

2nd Sweet Sugar M Pearce

Dendrobium – Hybrid/Species (Not Aust Native)

1st Gonzalesii x Victoria Reggina A Evans

Vanda

1st Udumchai Delight J & M Lattimore

2nd Udumchai Korat J & M Lattimore

Phalaenopsis – Hybrid

1st Brother purple x Brother Love J & M Lattimore

Masdevallia Hybrid

1st Reggae N & J Walsh

2nd Latin Sun N & J Walsh

Any Other Hybrid

1st Phrag Noirmont J Crawford

2nd Zygo Artur Elle 'Essendon' A Evans

Species Any Genera

1st Rossioglossum Grande I & M Paul

2nd Catt guttata J Crawford

Best in Section

Phrag Noirmont J Crawford

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Dendrobium – Aust Native Hybrid

1st Hilda Poxon J & D Portelli

Miltonia

1st Gunababara J & D Portelli

Cattleya Exhibition

1st Cattleya Unknown J & D Portelli

2nd Blc Waikiki Gold 'Jungle Elf' Joe Beggs

Best in Section

Miltonia Guanabara J & D Portelli

ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

Sarcochilus Species/Hybrid

1st Sarc Velvet S Hurwood

Paphiopedilum – Maudiae/Callosum

1st Grand Visor x Black Velvet J Hastewell

Cattleya Novelty Type

1st Seagull's Heaven D McAuslan

Species Any Genera

1st Ctna Why Not 'Roundabout' D McAuslan

2nd Prom Dinah Albright x Rollissonii J Hastewell

Best in Section

Ctna Why Not 'Roundabout' D McAuslan

NOVICE

1st Paph Black Velvet 'High Gloss'

x Raisin Pie M Jurjevic

Mila Jurjevic will now be showing in the Advanced Novice Section for Competition

NON SECTIONAL

Seedling Flowering for 1st time

1st Prom Dinah Albright x Rollissonii J Crawford

2nd Paph Lynleigh Kooporwitz J Crawford

Best Cultivated

Rossioglossum Grande I & M Paul

Popular Vote

Oncidium Crowbridge x Rustic Bridge J & M Lattimore

Judges Vote

Phrag Noirmont J Crawford

HCC Received on the Night

Ascocenda Udomchai 'Delight' 78 pts

J & M Lattimore

New Members

The Club would like to welcome new members Van Qui Duong and Giang Nguyen, Sue Park and Laurel Williams to our society. Look forward to seeing you at the next club meeting.

Orchid Virus Pamphlets

Frances has ordered colour Information Sheets on Orchid Viruses. Any one wanting to learn about orchid viruses can purchase one of these pamphlets from Frances at a cost of 55c each, when they arrive.

Message from the President

My tenure as the club President is now coming to a close. It has been a very exciting and informative three years. I have met many people and made a lot of new friends. I have been lucky enough to be in the position where I have been able to see how much is required to run our Orchid Club and also what is involved in running a National Conference. It requires a lot of hard work from many dedicated people.

Speaking of the conference, it takes many willing hands to run such a big event. As the time gets nearer I hope that the conference committee will be deluged with lots of volunteers. Yes that is the key word for any successful club, volunteers. The general committee and all the sub committees in our club are all people gladly giving up their time so that you, the member, can have a strong club. As I have said at many a meeting, it takes more than the fifteen general committee members to keep our club going.

With water restrictions becoming more severe, it is getting harder for us to keep our precious orchids in good health. Yes we will probably lose some, but do not be disheartened. There are many members in the club who will try and help you as much as possible. If you do not know who they are, just approach a committee member and they should be able to direct you to a helping hand.

There have been many wonderful people who have helped me over the past three years. Not just the committee but Judges, professional growers and hobby growers.

As I said before I have made a lot of new friends who have other interests besides orchids. Margo, Joyce and George who are all somehow involved in Quilting, Joan and Bob who have taught me much about growing Dahlias, Doris and Jeff whose little poodle, Tilly, comes to me for a hair cut and many, many others. There are also many people to thank, and you know who you are. They have been there to make my time easier and I do appreciate it.

Finally I must thank you, the members, for the support that you give our club. With your continued support I am sure that our club can look forward to a bright future.

Elizabeth Walker

ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR

Maribyrnong 2007 Orchid Shows

Autumn Show: 26th & 27th May
Winter Show: 14th and 15th July
Spring Show: 8th & 9th September
Sarcochilus Festival: 10th & 11th November

All Maribyrnong Orchid shows are conducted at our club rooms, which are located at Maribyrnong Community Centre in Randall Street.

Other 2007 Orchid Club Show Dates:-

1. Victorian International Orchid Fair
18th, 19th and 20th May
St Sava Hall, Greensborough
2. Orchid Spectacular 17th – 19th August
Collectors Corner, Springvale



Our club wishes to advise that there are 2 Orchid Auctions coming up, with private owners selling their collections.

1. Werner Trabert's Orchids
15th April starting at 10a.m.
11 Autumndale Avenue
Reservoir Melways 19 D8
Viewing available from 9am
For further information ring
Virginia Jackman on 9499-6893
2. A Private Collection
5th May starting at 12 noon
6th May starting at 9.30am
17 McCarthy Road
Monbulk Melways 122 H10
Viewing from 10am Saturday 5th May
For more information log onto
<http://www.geocities.com/vicorchids/>
to view or download a catalogue.
Or ring John Sharam on 9478-9764

Price Rise

The club has had a letter from Bio Grow Orchid Bark Supplies, advising us that their Orchid media has increased in price. So unfortunately this price rise will ultimately be passed on to the consumer buying Orchid media at our Orchid Shows.

Social Trip

The next bus trip which is traveling to Clive Halls' orchid nursery at Mt Beenak, then on to B & T Ferns and Orchids in Silvan, has had a date change. Due to an inadvertent date clash, the bus trip will no longer be on the 29th April as previously advised, but has been changed to **6th May 2007**. The Bus trip has been completely booked at this stage, so all persons attending who have not yet paid for the trip, please do so at the next meeting.

If you missed out on this bus trip, there is another outing being arranged for the 19th August. The trip will include a visit to Wayne Turvilles and the Orchid Expo at Garden World Keysborough. Anthony will not be taking any bookings for this trip until the May meeting.

VALE

Phyllis O'Neill
6.3.1934 – 6.3.2007

One of our Life Members Mrs Phyllis O'Neill passed away on March 6th after a short stay in hospital. She leaves behind her husband Brian, daughter Susan, son Wayne and 7 grandchildren.

Phyllis joined our Society in 1984, along with her husband Brian. During their time at our club, Phyllis served on Committee, plus did a term as Secretary and another as Vice President.

Phyllis and Brian were made Life members in May 1994.

A few years ago they shifted to Greensborough and found that attending meetings in the evening was too much for them. However they were the first to step up to help in presenting our display at the Royal Melbourne Show a few years ago, where Phyllis did some lovely floral art arrangements which had become her passion.

Phyllis was a lovely and heart endearing lady who will be sadly missed.

Committee Nominations

At the committee meeting on the 20th March, there had not been enough nomination forms sent back to the Secretary. So we would like all of you to consider coming onto the Committee. If you have not sent your nomination form back to the Secretary yet, it can be mailed to 15 William Road, Little River 3211 or let one of the present committee members know when you arrive to the April meeting that you would be willing to nominate and we can then call for Nominations from the floor during the AGM. We have had 4 resignations from committee, due to health and family commitments, so we will need at least 4 members to commit themselves to come out another night to keep the club functioning as it has been. Hopefully our members will give this request your favourable consideration.

Popular Vote

Last month there were only 10 members who submitted a vote for the most Popular Orchid. This is not enough votes to keep this segment going. We need a lot more members to make a judgment and fill in the popular vote slip. The Judges pick their popular vote which is called the Judges Vote, and the Popular Vote was created for members to pick their choice of what they think in their opinion is the best orchid. We understand that some of you are in the Early Segment and in the other room. But we would appreciate it if when you come out, you pick up an entry form and participate in this. Otherwise we will do away with it.

Membership Fees

Membership fees are now due. Can all members please ensure that your membership is paid up, this however excludes those members who joined at the November show and after. Eric will be collecting renewal fees from members at the next meeting. The fees remain unchanged: Junior \$ 8.00 (under 16 yrs)

Single \$12.00

Family \$15.00

Correct money will be appreciated.

THE CULTIVATION OF SARCOCHILUS SPECIES AND HYBRIDS

by Alan Hope

These readily available orchids are easy to grow in Melbourne's climate and, once mature, flower regularly each year. A judicious choice of species and hybrids can extend the flowering period from spring to midsummer.

Sarcochilus hartmannii is one of the most popular species in cultivation. Its range extends from central New South Wales to Queensland, where it is usually found growing at medium altitudes in lightly shaded areas. It is therefore well adapted to shade house cultivation in Melbourne. Like many other sarcochilus species, it grows amongst leaf litter in a variety of locations, or as a lithophyte on rocks. Although it can be grown on a slab of wood or tree fern, I prefer pot culture, using a mix of pine bark and small pebbles to ensure good drainage. *Sarcochilus hartmannii* tolerates higher light levels than some species and grows and flowers well under 50% shadecloth. Plants hung high in the shade house during winter benefit from the slightly warmer and brighter conditions. The better forms of *S. hartmannii*, especially those originally collected from Blue Nob in the Nightcap Ranges, south of Murwillimbah in northern NSW, produce glistening white, shapely flowers on a semi-upright inflorescence.

Sarcochilus aequalis, known as the southern form of *S. hartmannii* before it was recently accorded separate species status, flowers in early spring and produces smaller, cream-coloured flowers on crowded, pendulous spikes. It grows well in Melbourne and eventually develops into a spectacular specimen plant.

Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii, sometimes called the 'ravine orchid', has white or cream flowers with a central red blotch or spots. It flowers in the spring and grows well in Melbourne. As its common name suggests, it is found in ravines and moist gullies, enjoying much more shade than *S. hartmannii*. Its main requirement is a cool, airy spot with 70-80% shade and plenty of water during its active growing period. Most growers choose a wide, shallow pot to accommodate its extensive root system and use a coarse mixture of bark chunks and pieces of sandstone or river pebbles as potting mix. *S. fitzgeraldii* tends to grow in a creeping fashion, its leaves flattened and curved inwards, rather than following the more upright growth habit of *S.*

hartmannii. While there are many attractive cultivars, the eye-catching flowers of *S. fitzgeraldii* '50 cents' are noteworthy for their large size and deep red centre.

Sarcochilus falcatus is another cool-growing species suited to Melbourne's climate, although some growers find it is a difficult species to grow well. Commonly known as 'the orange blossom orchid', its white sepals and petals and yellow-margined labellum make *Sarcochilus falcatus* a most attractive orchid. Its range extends from eastern Victoria to Queensland, the flowers differing in size, petal shape and lip markings at various locations, although their overall colour remains constant. *S. falcatus* grows well when mounted on a weathered slab, tree branch, tree fern or natural cork. Small terracotta pots with an open mix have also proved to be successful in starting a plant in cultivation.

Sarcochilus ceciliae grows on rocky outcrops in the mountains of northern Queensland. It has beautiful pink flowers carried on upright inflorescences, however the growth tends to be sparse and straggly, and its narrow leaves give the impression that the plant is 'on its last legs'. This is generally not the case, as it is a tenacious orchid, well adapted to surviving long dry spells. Shallow pots should be used, as *S. ceciliae* is basically surface-rooting. A potting mix of small rocks (scoria, sandstone, limestone) and larger bark chunks is suitable. It is essential that the roots not be covered by the potting mix when transplanting; simply place the plant on top of the potting mix and secure it with fishing line or wire pegs. Some *S. ceciliae* hybrids, such as *S. Lois*, also seem to grow better if potted in this way.

While there are several other sarcochilus species, most are poor growers outside their natural habitat. You will occasionally see the lovely green flowers of *Sarcochilus olivaceous* or the small pink flowers of *S. hillii* on the show bench, but many of the others, such as *S. australis*, native of the Otways and wet bushland areas of Gippsland, are difficult to cultivate. Some growers have kept these species going on their natural bush mounts and have used them in hybridising.

Sarcochilus Hybrids. Recent hybrids include *S. Rosalie*, *S. Powder Puff*, *S. Colonial Rose*, *S. Penny Ann*, *S. First Light*, *S. Otways*, *S. Pink Blossom*, *S. Selina*, *S. Lone Star*, *S. Peach Spot*, *S. Sun Spot*, *S. Jewell*, *S. Wandjina* and *S. James Woolf*