



Sarcochilus australis

# MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

JULY 2007 BULLETIN

[www.mosorchid.org](http://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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2007.

The Early 'new growers' group starts 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 plant 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. Julian Coker. He will be delivering a talk on Pests and diseases affecting our orchid plants.

We thank Mr. Grant Garrett for last month's slide presentation. Members asked Grant a few questions during and after the presentation. Grant is always available at any time to members, to answer any judging questions they may have. We thank Grant for his time.

## Supper Roster

For the July meeting we kindly have Margot Lattimore and Fran Wilde on Supper Duties. All members are welcome to bring a plate of goodies to be enjoyed after the Evening's Speaker has finished their presentation.

## JUNE 2007 COMPETITION RESULTS As

per judges sheets

### OPEN SECTION

#### Large Cymbidium

1<sup>st</sup> White eagle M Pearce

#### Medium Cymbidium

1<sup>st</sup> Stone face 'Orange Gem' A & S Webster

#### Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Ellen Surprise x speciosum M Muzslai

2<sup>nd</sup> Hilda Poxon M Condon

#### Paphiopedilum - Exhibition

1<sup>st</sup> Gigi x Jackie Graham J Crawford

#### Paphiopedilum – Novelty

1<sup>st</sup> Linda Bell J Crawford

#### Paphiopedilum - Species

1<sup>st</sup> Insigne 'Harefield Hall' J Crawford

2<sup>nd</sup> Insigne 'Harefield Hall' B Duncan

#### Cattleya - Exhibition

1<sup>st</sup> LC Andrew Francis 'Castle Creek'  
J Crawford

#### Cattleya – Cluster Type

1<sup>st</sup> C Chocolate Drop E & F Wilde

#### Cattleya - Novelty Type

1<sup>st</sup> Slc Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow' J & M Lattimore

2<sup>nd</sup> Slc Precious Katie J & M Lattimore

#### Oncidium – Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Twinkle 'Fragrant Fantasy' J & M Lattimore

2<sup>nd</sup> onustum x varicosum J Crawford

#### Masdevallia - Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Jewel Royal M Pearce

2<sup>nd</sup> King of kings B Duncan

#### Masdevallia - Species

1<sup>st</sup> mendozae B Duncan

#### Any Other Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Rhyncovanda Colmarie Fred J & M Lattimore

2<sup>nd</sup> Lem Bictoniense x Onc forbesii J Crawford

#### Species Any Genera

1<sup>st</sup> Catt loddigesii J Crawford

2<sup>nd</sup> Onc waluweh B Duncan

#### Best in Section

Slc Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow' J & M Lattimore

### INTERMEDIATE SECTION

#### Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Racemosum x linguiforme K Weyers

#### Species any Genera

1<sup>st</sup> Laelia anceps J & D Portelli

#### Best in Section

Laelia anceps J & D Portelli

### ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

#### Cymbidium - Medium

1<sup>st</sup> Peter Pan x Fanfare R Ryan

#### Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Colonial Surprise x Star of Gold S Hurwood

2<sup>nd</sup> Graham Hewitt R Brooks

#### Cattleya - Exhibition

1<sup>st</sup> Blc South Ghill x Lavender Ice J Zerafa

#### Cattleya - Cluster

1<sup>st</sup> Lc Maris Song J Zerafa

#### Phalaenopsis – Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Taisuco Adian H Young

#### Masdevallia Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Bella Donna x urosalpinx R Brooks

#### Species any Genera

1<sup>st</sup> Laelia anceps var chamberlanianum  
R Brooks

#### Any Other Hybrid

1<sup>st</sup> Drac Gigas x Drac Vampira R Brooks

#### Best in Section

Drac Gigas x Drac Vampira R Brooks

### NOVICE SECTION

1<sup>st</sup> Epiphronitis veitchii G Ragg

G Ragg has now been promoted to Advanced Novice Section for Competition.

### NON SECTIONAL

#### Seedling Flowering for 1<sup>st</sup> time

1<sup>st</sup> Den Jonathons Glory x Red River  
J Crawford

2<sup>nd</sup> Sartylis Janine Banks 'Red Neck'  
J & M Lattimore

#### Best Cultivated

Cattleya loddigesii J Crawford

#### Popular Vote

Not Recorded

#### Judges Vote

Slc Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow' J & M Lattimore

#### Seedling Competition

Felix Spiteri was the winner of the seedling competition at the June meeting. Barbara Duncan gave a commentary on the seedlings and gave members a few good tips on the culture of these promeneas.

#### New Members

The club wishes to welcome Zuhre Ozturk and Pam Arnold to our club. We look forward to seeing you both at our next meeting, where you will be presented with your name tag and complimentary orchid.

President Report  
July 2007

At the June meeting I forgot to draw the names of the winning person who entered plants in a show for the first time. I also forgot to draw the winning person who entered a plant in the show from all the other entries, so I will try to remember to draw it at the July meeting.

The next bus trip is on Sunday 19 August 2007; however, this bus trip is full. The next bus trip will be on Sunday 28 October 2007 to Castle Creek Orchid in Shepparton. We will be taking names at the July meeting (but be quick or you may miss out).

Our next show (Winter Show) will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> July 2007. The club does require people to help over this weekend, if you could assist it would be appreciated.

At all shows, if members wear their name badge they will receive FREE entry.

I look forward to seeing you at our July meeting.

Anthony Scerri  
President

**AUSTRALASIAN NATIVE ORCHID  
SOCIETY, MELBOURNE SUBURBS GROUP**

are holding their inaugural Australian Orchid Showcase and Seminar on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at Montrose Primary School Hall (Mel. Ref. 52 D7)

You are invited to enter your Australasian Native Orchids at this Show or become a Registrant to hear the seminars through out the day.

For more information email:  
[gallangowan@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gallangowan@optusnet.com.au) or write to  
Registration Secretary, ANOS MELBOURNE  
suburbs Group, PO Box 239, Mt Evelyn, Vic  
3796.



**Flower exhibits at Monthly Meetings**

Members are advised to make sure they put their name on the reverse side of their entry tickets at monthly meetings or they won't get credited with points in the progressive total competition. Some people have been forgetting to write their names down and therefore possibly missing out on points.

**ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR**

**Maribyrnong 2007 Orchid Shows**

Winter Show: 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July  
Spring Show: 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September  
Sarcophilus Festival: 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> November

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

**Other Show Dates**

1. Victorian Orchid Club – Winter Show  
21st -22nd July - Red Cross Centre  
Repatriation Hospital, enter via  
Waterdale Rd. Heidelberg Gate 8
2. Werribee Orchid Club - Winter Show  
28th - 29th July  
Werribee Racecourse,  
Bulban Rd, Werribee

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Our Club membership fees run from 1<sup>st</sup> March of one year to 29<sup>th</sup> February the following year. This was made aware to our members in the February, March and April newsletters.

Obviously the newsletters are being mailed out but members are not taking the time to read them. Somebody suggested adding a red spot to the newsletter when membership fees are due. But if you are not reading the newsletter, adding a red spot really won't help. In fact we have tried that before and it doesn't work.

Members already receive two extra newsletters after the end of February. If you are slow in paying your fees, you will still receive March and April newsletters before your mailing address is removed. Your name and address is still on our register, but will be listed as unfinancial **until** your fees are paid.

If you are 'on the ball' and you know that you have paid your fees and have missed out getting your newsletter, we ask that you to please get in touch with the Membership Secretary as soon as you can. Let us know your receipt number and we will check our records for you.

## Sales Tickets and Plant Entry

Members are asked to please carefully read the following especially if you are one of those who exhibit and sell plants at our shows.

If you exhibit plants you are then able to sell plants. For every plant you exhibit, the Club allows you ten plants to sell, with a limit of 100 sales (this makes 10 plus exhibits) which is more than reasonable. Everyone has to abide by the same rules, and no one gets special treatment.

The aim of having a show is to make the display really spectacular for both our club members and the general public. Because we try to cover the costs of renting the hall for the weekend we allow you to sell plants, with the club taking 15% commission to help cover expenses incurred over the weekend. The tickets we provide for our sales plants cost approx 6c each, so please only take the quantity that you know you are able to use at one show. Price your plants to the nearest dollar, **don't add 50c** to the price.

Sales tickets, entry forms and schedule will be available at the meeting before each show. In the case of the Winter show this year, tickets will have been brought along to the June meeting and also the July meeting. This will allow you to fill in your tickets at home making it easier for all concerned. Fill out your sales sheet starting at the lowest number, keeping them in the right numerical order down the sheet. Members who cannot get along to the meetings are asked to phone early to make arrangements for posting them.

The **sales area closes at 4.30pm Sunday**. We ask members who have had plants in the sales area to come promptly at that time to remove any sales tickets (not before) that are on their unsold plants and check them off with members who have the sales sheets before taking your plants outside.

Show plant entries start at 1.30pm and close at 6.30pm on the Friday night of each show. We will accommodate you if you notify us earlier that you will be running late. We will then hold up proceedings until the judging starts which is between 7 and 7.30pm, but you **MUST** notify us before hand.

The show **closes on the Sunday at 5pm**. Please be there on time to pick up your display plants at that time (not before), as it is difficult trying to sweep and vacuum around plants, that owners have not picked up on time.

**Most importantly, please put the best plants you have out in the display**, not something to fill a gap so you can have sales tickets.

## Social Function

The bus trip on Sunday the 19th of August has been fully booked.

However we are pleased to advise that another bus trip has been arranged for our club members. It will be on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October. The bus will be traveling to the following destinations:-

1. Castle Creek Orchid Nursery
2. Ardmona Fruits
3. A local winery

The cost of this trip will be \$25. The Bus will leave our Maribyrnong Club at 8am and will be returning at 5pm. Please note the reason for the earlier departure is due to the fact we are traveling to Shepparton, which is a further distance than other bus trips. Members wishing to attend can put their name down for the trip at the next meeting.

Members attending Bus trips are reminded to wear their name tags. In fact it will be helpful if you could wear them on all bus trips in future.

## Floral Art Demonstration

Our Floral Art Judge will be doing Floral Art Arranging displays on the Saturday morning at the Winter Orchid Show.

Those wishing to gain an insight into this creative past time will be impressed by the many tips you will pick up at these demonstrations.

## Novice Growers: What NOT To Do!

Here are a few tips from Jan Robinson, member of the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society. This valuable information will be appreciated by all orchid growers:

1. Do not take the cymbidiums you just bought out of their pots and plant them in the ground. You may fluke it and they may flower this year or even next, but don't be fooled: They are not happy. Cymbidiums like to have crowded roots — leave them in their pots! Or if you have already taken them out of their pots, dig them back up and repot them. They will thank you for it.
2. When you find an infestation of aphids and scale on your young orchids one day, do not freak out and immediately cover the plants with pyrethrum and then leave them in the sun. This "cure" is much worse than the problem and you will end up with severely burned, if not dead, plants. Wait for a cool, preferably overcast, day and spray **lightly** with Eco Oil. You may have to repeat this treatment in six weeks' time, but that is certainly preferable to killing eight or nine orchids in one moment of frenzy!
3. Do not wait ten years from when you bought your first orchid to join a local orchid club. There is no need to have to learn everything the hard way by trial and error! The club is full of members more than happy to give you hints and help you out with your new hobby. There will probably even be a "New Growers" group already established that has special meetings to assist novice growers.
4. Do not kill your plants with kindness by over watering. Too little water is far better than too much. Too much water causes root rot, which is very difficult to get rid of.
5. Do not throw out the nametags every time you buy a new orchid. You may think you don't care about the parentage of your new plant or that the name is too long to be of any interest to you. Or when you repot your plant you may carelessly throw out the tag with the old potting mix. **Don't do it!!** Once you follow Tip #3 above, you will probably find yourself interested in competing in the club's monthly competition or even in bigger orchid shows. You will have a better chance of winning a prize in the competition if you know what your plant is and are able to put the correct name on the entry form rather than "unknown". Plus you will be able to converse with members of the club without feeling stupid once you know the proper names of your plants!
6. Unless you are rich, do not buy expensive plants when you are just starting out in your orchid hobby as you will probably end up killing them until you learn what conditions in your yard suit what type of orchids. It is very tempting to go into an orchid nursery and buy a gorgeous-looking plant that is in full bloom and think you can keep it growing that well. Don't kid yourself! That orchid was grown by a professional and in optimum conditions in the

nursery's heated or cooled greenhouse, you have more chance of winning the lottery than getting that plant to bloom again in your back yard. Take Tip #3 above and ask someone at your local orchid club for suggestions on orchids best suited for novice growers.

7. If you get really lucky and your cymbidium starts to put out flower spikes that head horizontally along the top of the potting mix towards the edge of the pot instead of growing upwards, **leave the spikes alone!!** Do not try to tie them to wooden stakes so that they grow vertically. These are called "pendulous" spikes for a reason — they like to hang down below the rim of the pot. If you think you can change their mind, they will either break off in your hand or twist around into weird shapes if you even manage to get them attached to a wooden stake in the first place. Of course, not all your cymbidiums will have pendulous spikes. Be patient — wait and see what the spike wants to do before "helping" it.
8. Don't be alarmed when you find yourself becoming obsessed with acquiring more and more orchids. This is a common disease and cannot be cured. Resign yourself to the fact that you will be infected the rest of your life with orchid mania and just get on with it.
9. On a really hot day, don't spend all day on the couch in front of a fan complaining about the temperature. If you do, the next day you will go outside to see how your orchids fared in the heat — and you will soon be searching for a sharp knife with which to slit your wrists. Many of your orchids that could have been protected by either moving them into the shade or into your garage or covering them with a bit of shade cloth will be incredibly sunburned and may take years to recuperate, if ever. You will never forgive yourself if this happens, so get off your backside and make sure it doesn't!!

Full Article may be viewed at the following web address:

<http://www.ssos.org.au/NoviceGrowers.htm>

### *How to Tell the Sex of a Fly*



A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband pacing around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?", she asked.

"Hunting Flies," he responded.

"Oh. Have you killed any?" she asked.

"Yes, 3 males and 2 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."