



Sarcocochilus australis

# Maribyrnong Orchid Society

## SEPTEMBER 2014 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 – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014

The next meeting of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society will be held at the Maribyrnong Community Centre, Randall Street, Maribyrnong, on **Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014**.



The Early 'New Growers' Group starts at 7.15pm. This group runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the monthly meeting. The group will be led by this year by Eric Wilde and Anthony Scerri.



The Pots'n'Ferts and plant sales table operate at every meeting. See Tony for the supplies you are looking for, then talk to Alex about the sales plants.

Members may bring up to 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 labelled 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.

### Supper Duties 9<sup>th</sup> September



Tony Loprieato and Fay Penman will be on supper duty this month. All members are welcome to bring in a plate of supper to be enjoyed at the end of the evening.

Denise Colquhoun and Judy Marshall are rostered for September. We need one more person to volunteer for November.

### Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker this month will be Mr Andre Cleghorn who will be speaking on Seeding and Mericloneing of Orchids. Andre established Flora Laboratories and is a committee member of the Orchid Species Society of Victoria, among other things. Thanks to Ron Neyenhuis who spoke to us last month about Rooftop and Vertical Gardens.

### Plant of the Night - August



### Club Cultural Certificate Recommended and Best Cultivated:

Dendrobium Don Thompson benched by Geoff Ragg.  
Congratulations Geoff.

### President's Report September 2014

First, I have some not so good news, Eric Wild resigned from the committee at the last committee meeting. He will be missed and the committee would like to wish him all the best, he has worked very hard for the club. He will still be around the club and working for us we hope.

The resignation has left the position of secretary of the club vacant, so we are looking for someone to fill the position, if you are interested in this job, please talk to one of the committee members at the September meeting. We also still have not filled all the positions in the committee. If you would like to help, again, please talk to one of the committee members at the next meeting.

The Winter Show was successful and I would like to thank all who helped make it such a great show and a great success.

The Spring Show will be held on Friday 12, Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 September, at the Maribyrnong Community Centre. You could win one of the two \$30.00 vouchers from the Pots and Ferts sales area. The first voucher is given away to a person that enters a plant in the show for the first time and the other is a draw from all the people that enter plants in the show. The winners will be drawn at the October Meeting. So all you have to do is enter a flowering orchid in the Spring Show.

I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting.

Timothy Scerri  
President

### A Message from the Treasurer.

Hello everyone.

I have been hearing many of you talking about club fees going up next year and have decided to remind you why.

When I first joined the club in 2002, I paid \$12.00 single membership. At the end of 2012, ten years later, the single membership was still \$12.00. Everything else had gone up except our club fees. The cost of a postage stamp in 2002 was 45 cents and stationary was a lot cheaper than today.

Back then the club had a lot of members with big collections. What has that got to do with it, you ask? There were more plants on the show bench, more plants in the sales area, more people through the door, which means more raffle tickets sold, more sales plants sold and more refreshments being sold. The members were able to set up for the show and carry all the bark inside when it was delivered and then stay till late at night getting the show ready for the weekend.

Unfortunately no one is getting any younger. We now have to hire younger men to help with setting up and the bark etc. Most of the members with the big collections have left us and there are not as many display or sales plants now. There are less people through the door and the cost of the hire of the venue has been raised by ten percent over last year's costs. The admission cost had to go up. There are many other

things involved with running our show that cost the club money. Sashes and Rosettes, table hire, meals for the workers and Judges on Friday and feeding all the workers over the weekend, cultural notes for visitors, advertising, stationary, sales plant tickets {7 cents each} and hiring of two able bodied men to do the heavy work just to name a few.

This also applies to our club meeting nights. Once, the raffle covered the cost of the venue hire. Unfortunately, not any more. This hire cost has also gone up ten percent again this year. We have to pay for speakers, refreshments, stationary, printing and someone to set up the hall for the meetings. Bulletin postage and printing costs have gone up markedly.

The bus trips MUST pay for themselves and they do if we have enough members going. If not, then I have to cancel, as happened this year.

So now I hope you understand just a little of what it costs to run your club. We will still aim to keep the costs as low as possible. It would be nice if some of you could take a few flyers for the shows and put them up at your local library, shopping centre or anywhere else that they are easily seen.

The committee is always open to suggestions, and if you have any constructive ideas, we would welcome them.

Bye for now  
Elizabeth

### Show Coordinators Report September 2014

We had a success Winter Show and I would like to thank all those people that helped over the weekend.

Our next Show will be the Spring Show and it will be held as usual at the Maribyrnong Community Centre on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 September. Yes, I will be requiring help over the weekend, to set up on the Friday, after 12.30pm. There will be a number of jobs over the weekend that the club will require help with as well. After 4pm on Sunday, when the show has finished, when we are all tired and most people have collected their plants and are on their way home. Yes, we have to clean up the hall, so, many hands make light work. If you could help at any time on Friday or over the weekend, it would be very much appreciated.

If members require a stand at the show, please contact me on 03 9382 6359 so I can allocate a position in the hall for you.

Any members that require sales tickets for the show, please ring Elizabeth on 03 9689 1142 or see the members at the back of the hall at the September meeting.

Please note that on the Friday of the show no plants are permitted in the hall till after 1.30pm, and that no sales plants will be permitted into the sales area, till after 3.30pm or after Ron, who is in charge of the sales area, gives you permission.

Members will still receive free entry, by showing their name badge and 2014 membership ticket, at the door when entering the show.

I look forward to see you all at the September meeting and at our Spring Show.

Anthony Scerri  
Show Coordinator

## Committee News August 19<sup>th</sup> 2014

It was with great regret that the committee accepted the resignation of Eric Wilde at the 19<sup>th</sup> August committee meeting.

Eric has held every executive position on the committee and still holds the patrons office. He has brought a lot of knowledge not only to the committee, but also to the many club members seeking his help over the last thirty three years. Yes Eric will still be around, I'm sure, ready to lend a helping hand to those who need it, and enjoying some more free time now with his orchids. From all of us Eric, a Big Thank You.

The search for a venue still goes on. The committee still has two other venues to look at, but until we can get some prices we cannot go much further for the time being.

Wilma reported on the bus trip to Wayne Turvilles. Even though we haven't filled the bus, it will still go on and we should come out even.

Not much else to report this month.

Bye for now  
Elizabeth

## Seedling Competition

The weather must have been warmer this month as 30 seedlings were returned up from last month. The seedlings are looking good, I have not heard of any that have passed away as yet. If your plant is no longer with us please let me know. Thank you to Anthony Scerri for talking about the seedlings. Congratulation to Tony Lopreiato, the winner of the monthly draw.

Keep up the good work,

Joanne Hastewell – Coordinator.



## BARK FOR SALE

If you need bark, there are a few bags available, various sizes.

\$25 per bag.

Contact  
MICK CONDON on (03) 9311 2177

## Pots'n'Ferts

Also, remember our Pots'n'Ferts table that runs at most monthly meetings and at the shows. This is a great opportunity provided by the club for members to pick up all your potting needs. The club carries pots of all shapes and sizes, fertiliser, stakes, ties, labels and many other accessories at very reasonable prices.



## NOW AVAILABLE ON WEBSTE

For any members who have access to the internet, some of our show documents will now be available from the website, to help make your entries a little easier.

Show schedule  
Show entry forms  
Show conditions of entry  
Sales consignment sheets

All the above documents will be available as PDFs from the MOS website at  
<http://www.mosorchid.org/index.php>

Only sales tickets will need to be picked up from the meeting or ring Liz.

The Show flyer, which is also available on the website, can be downloaded, printed and distributed to friends and neighbours and maybe your local shops.

## Wanted

Len Johnstone is looking for a flowering-sized plant of Cymbidium Street Tango 'Ooh Ah'. If you can help call Len 9367 7593



## 20<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference

The 20<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference and Show will be held in Mackay Queensland, between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015.

Expressions of Interest are open now.

The Mackay and District Orchid Society invite you to the 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show Incorporating the 50<sup>th</sup> Tropical Queensland Orchid Council Conference and Show Mackay 2015 "Orchids in Paradise"



## EVENT DETAILS

**LOCATION:**  
Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre (MECC), Alfred Street, Mackay, Queensland.

**PROGRAM:**  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015:  
- Judging  
- Opening / Mayoral Reception

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015:  
- "Orchids in Paradise" Conference & Show  
- International & Australian Speakers  
- International & Australian Vendors

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015:  
- Awards Dinner at the Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015:  
- Social BBQ & Orchid Auction at The Bluewater Lagoon, River Street

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015:  
- Post-Conference tour to Eungella National Park

FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> -  
WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2015



## MORE INFORMATION

Email: [info@orchidsinparadise](mailto:info@orchidsinparadise)

Phone: 0428 198 960

Address: Mackay and District Orchid Society, PO Box 776, Mackay QLD 4740

20<sup>th</sup> Australian Orchid Council  
Conference & Show - Mackay 2015

**Competition Results August**  
As per judging sheets

**OPEN SECTION**

**Medium Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym Memoria Joan Rowlands 'Debonair' B Rowlands  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cym Chelsie Elise 'Kindie' F & J Spiteri

**Small Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym Warringah Winter B Rowlands  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cym Strathdon 'Cooksbridge Fantasy' B Rowlands

**Australian Native Hybrid Dendrobium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Den Bellinger River A Scerri  
2<sup>nd</sup> Den Avril's Gold 'Louanne' J & Y McIntyre

**Australian Native Terrestrial**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pterostylus *curta* A Scerri  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pterostylus Dusty Duke A Scerri

**Sarcochilus Species/Hybrid**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sarc falcatus A Wild

**Paphiopedilum Species**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Paph *wardii* A Wild  
2<sup>nd</sup> Paph *insigne* A Scerri

**Masdevallia Hybrid**

- 1st Masd King of Kings x Tiger Kiss M Pearce

**Masdevallia Species**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Masd *tovarensis* B Duncan

**Species Any Genera**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pleurothalis Unknown J Haniver  
2<sup>nd</sup> Z *triste* B Duncan

**Best in Section**

- Masd King of Kings x Tiger Kiss M Pearce

**INTERMEDIATE SECTION**

**Medium Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym Gentle Touch 'Bon Bon' G Ragg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cym Unknown G Ragg

**Small Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym Excalibur K Stringer

**Australian Native Terrestrial**

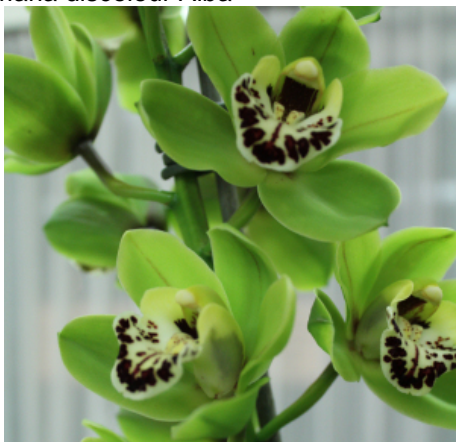
- 1<sup>st</sup> Pts *nutans x curta* K Stringer  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pts *curta x pedunculata* K Stringer

**Dendrobium Hybrid/Species (Not Aust Native)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Den Don Thompson G Ragg

**Species Any Genera**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Laelia *anceps ssp. dawsonii* M Mally  
2<sup>nd</sup> Haemaria discolour Alba G Ragg



**Best in Section**

- Cym Gentle Touch 'Bon Bon' G Ragg

**ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION**

**Medium Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym One Tree Hill T T Loan Do

**Large Cymbidium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cym Pepper Blaze 'Midnight' P & M Gatt

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cym Sarah Jean

Anh T Tieu

**Australian Native Hybrid Dendrobium**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Den Colonial Surprise x H Nyssen

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Den Star of Gold H Nyssen

**Australian Native Terrestrial**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pterostylus *curta* T Scerri

**Oncidium Hybrid**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Onc Dancing Lady T T Loan Do

**Phalaenopsis Hybrid**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Phal Dream Queen T T Loan Do

**Any Other Hybrid**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Zygo Artur Elle 'Essendon' x Kiwi Choice T Lopreiato

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Coel Linda Buckley J Hastewell



**Best in Section**

- Cym Pepper Blaze 'Midnight' P & M Gatt

**NON SECTIONAL**

**Judges Vote**

- Masd King of Kings  
x Tiger Kiss  
M Pearce

**Best Cultivated**

- Den Don Thompson

- G Ragg

**Club Cultural**

**Certificate**

**Recommended**

- Den Don Thompson

- G Ragg



**Coming Shows**

Maribyrnong Orchid Society Spring Show

Sat 13th & Sun 14th September

Maribyrnong Community Centre

Randall Street

Maribyrnong Mel. Ref. 28 A8

Werribee Orchid Club Spring Show

Sat 20th & Sun 21st September

Italian Sports Club Werribee

601 Heaths Road

Werribee Mel. Ref. 205 F3

Victorian Orchid Club Spring Show

Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital

Sat 20th & Sun 21st September

300 Waterdale Road

Heidelberg Mel. Ref. 31 F4

Geelong Orchid & Indoor Plant Club

Sat 4th & Sun 5th October

Christ Church Hall

Cnr Moorabool & McKillop Streets

Geelong Mel. Ref. 401 G7

Werribee Orchid Club Wyndham Harbour Show

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> & Sun 19<sup>th</sup> October

Quay Boulevard, Werribee South Mel 209 J 10

Free Entry 10am start

In July, 1995, my late wife Joan purchased two cymbidium seedlings from Ezi-Gro in Perth. The cross was Khairpour 'Dark Delight' X Cabernet 'Noel Wilson', which had been made by Andy Easton. One first flowered with 4 spikes in August, 1997, and the description I recorded was "a very dark red brown small intermediate, with narrow labellum and petals". Because of the dark colour, Joan suggested that we cross this seedling with Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron'.

Ruby Eyes pollen was placed on several flowers in August 1997, leading to a seed pod which was sent to the laboratory for germination. Flasks were obtained in August 1999 and March of the following year - 25 plants were deflasked in 1999 and a further 28 from the second flask. The seedling parent was later registered by J.F. Weiss as "Black Knight" in 2002.

All of the new seedlings were slow growers. The first 3 of the new cross flowered in August or September 2003 - i.e. four years after deflasking. I described all 3 as "deep red velvety mini's", but were either a poor shape or had a poor labellum. The spikes were mostly arching, with flower counts from 5 to 9.

A further 7 flowered in August and September 2004, with similar results, and 4 more in 2005. Three more flowered in 2006. As the only good feature of all 17 seedlings was the colour, with either poor shape or narrow labellum or both, they all ended up on the sales bench at shows. No further plants of this new cross flowered in 2007, and we had given up hope of producing a good new hybrid.



As many of you know, Joan was killed in a road accident on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008, and I was faced with the prospect of urgently and substantially reducing the number of orchids in the collection. Joan had been looking after all the orchids until then - she did not trust me to repot any of them. A week after Joan's death, I was looking at a row of plants, and saw a dark red flower behind two large plants. I found a small plant in a 6 inch squat pot, with 4 spikes and very nice flowers. It was number 18 of the cross we had made in 1997 and deflasked in 1999; 11 years after the pollination and 9 years out of flask. Patience is essential in breeding Cymbidiums.

The description I recorded at the time was "Very dark red flowers 45 - 50 mm across, nice wide labellum, petals & labellum with white margin, flower count only fair". Photographs taken at the time, two of which are reproduced here, show that it had arching spikes.

As it happened, Grant Garrett visited me later that day, and predicted that the new plant would do well and probably be awarded in the future. I registered the cross, and, as it now had a special place in my heart and in the orchid collection, I divided it for safety after this first flowering. None of the pieces flowered in 2009, but I have had flowers each year since then. The plants are now growing more strongly, but the flower count remained poor until 2014.



Number 19 also flowered in September 2008 from a 10 inch squat pot, with one spike holding 10 flowers - similar in colour, but its form was not as good. I exhibited number 19 at the 2009 AOC Conference, where it attracted interest and favourable comments. In October 2008, another of the cross flowered; number 20 with only 2 very small poor spikes.

At this stage, only a few of the original unflowered plants remained alive. Only 1 more has flowered since, in 2010. It had been badly neglected and was full of weeds. Number 21 produced 10 or 12 horizontal spikes with flowers of good colour but narrow petals and sepals. I divided this plant to save it and remove the weeds, but none of the pieces has yet flowered. Apparently, I must now neglect them to encourage flowering!

Grant's prediction was proved right at the 2014 Warringal winter show. Thus was born the pride of my orchid collection - "Memoria Joan Rowlands 'Debonair' HCC/AOC, AD/AOC"; the 2 awards being a fitting tribute to a very special person, who unfortunately did not live to see the result of her many years of work.

Thus, the old adage, "All things come to those who wait" has once again proved true. So don't throw out the slower growing seedlings, as they might turn out to be the best of the lot.

### Photographs

Photographs printed in this Bulletin were taken by Terry Dark and/or Jenny Dark unless otherwise acknowledged.

### Bulletin by Email

Should you decide to have your Bulletin emailed, please see Julianne Diwell, the society Membership Secretary, at one of the meetings, or send her a message at [mosmembership@bigpond.com](mailto:mosmembership@bigpond.com). Email saves the club money on postage costs, and we help save the trees if we don't use so much paper printing unnecessary copies. If you receive your copy by email, please think before you print.

### Website

Go to [www.mosorchid.org](http://www.mosorchid.org) for more information about the society, shows, etc.

### Bulletin Contributions

If you would like to contribute, help is available to write or proof read articles. If you have suggestions and contributions for the bulletin content please contact [jenny.dark@darteks.com.au](mailto:jenny.dark@darteks.com.au) or phone 9748 7345.

**Please note that the BULLETIN contribution deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month**