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Volume 57 Number 3

GREENHOOD

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Orchid Society Inc.



Lycaste Unknown

M. Smith

Gongora galeata

M. Smith

Stanhopea nigroviolascens

R. Dadson

Ons. Wilcat 'Leopard' I. Woodgate

Greenhood Vol. 57 No. 3 March 2017 Diary Dates

March 20th. A.G.M. Afterwards Jim to lead a debate on potting mixes.

John Sharman and Gordon Hagen to speak on Paphs

Feature :-

Floral Art :- "Free Choice, be creative"

April 3rd. Committee meeting 7.30pm. Village Centre Piper's Rd. Geilston Bay

April 17th. Regular monthly meeting at Legacy Hall Macquarie St

Feature :- Auction Night. Bring a plant or other article to donate to the auction'

Floral Art :- "Fruit or Nuts"

May 1st. Committee meeting 7.30pm. Village Centre Piper's Rd. Geilston Bay

May 7th. Ross Orchid Conference

May 19th. Regular monthly meeting at Legacy Hall Macquarie St

Feature :- Autumn Show

Floral Art :- "Autumn Design"

Disclaimer

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Permission is given to reprint articles from this newsletter subject to their source being acknowledged. Contributions to this newsletter are welcome.

The deadline for all articles is the Friday, ten days prior to the monthly meeting. **No Exceptions.**

President's March Report.

What a superb down to earth presentation from Jo Pinner. She showed us that growing orchids is not complicated. The questions and interaction from all present was much appreciated by Jo. We are very

privileged to have her as a member of our Society and being only too willing to share her orchid culture with us.

Our BBQ day could not have been better. The cooked food was tender and tasty and there was plenty of it and the desert variety was enough to satisfy everybody. This BBQ is provided to our members free of charge as an appreciation for your contributions throughout the year to the smooth running of our shows and our general operation. Jim would be only too happy to share conversation and cook more food for more members attending.

After our AGM Jim Smith will lead discussion on potting mixes and the most suitable mix for your orchid varieties. This will be interaction session so be prepared to add your contribution to assist fellow members.

John Sharman and Gordon Hagen will be speaking on how they culture Paphiopedilums. If you want advice and assistance with your Paphs - bring your plant to this meeting.

April is Auction Night. Dust off your old wine bottles, valuables, tradeables, orchids, plants etc and anything of value that you wish to contribute to this enjoyable night.

Peter Willson

President's Annual Report

Your committee has had a very busy time organising and planning our monthly meetings, shows and other activities.

Throughout the year our monthly general meetings have been well attended and many members are contributing in many ways including bringing in their flowering plants to proudly display.

We had many successful events. We began the year with the Auction Night in April and the successful bidders certainly picked up some quality bargains. Our Ross Orchid Day was a success and can continue to improve. The Annual Show at Legacy Hall is always a success and a challenge to Jim Smith our show marshall. The Spring Show in September had us all concerned leading up to the last weeks wondering what would open and would we have enough plants to put on a good display. The conclusion was we did have a good show and such a huge variety of orchids to proudly show to our members and to the general public. The Hobart Town Hall is certainly a magnificent venue for our show. Our thanks to our many club members who worked in setting up the hall, dismantling after the

show and volunteering hours during the show to help in the smooth running. On some days more helpers would have been appreciated.

In November, the Sarcophilus and Masdevallia Show was at Legacy House. Only thirteen growers participated in this show. Jo Pinner won the Champion Sarcophilus recognition and John Whitney the Champion Masdevallia. Our thanks to all growers who supported the show by benching plants and also thanks to those who contributed to this show organisation.

We finished our year with our appreciation BBQ at Tolosa Park. The food was superbly cooked by our master chef and the companionship was even better.

Our regular Sunday Orchid home visits were organised by Shirley Jackson and were very much enjoyed by those who attend. It is by these open home Sundays and our general meetings that friendships are built and orchid culture is shared. Many thanks to Shirley and to those members who hosted these pleasant Sunday afternoons in their homes, gardens and shade houses.

My huge personal thanks goes to not only the committee but also to the many volunteers who pitched in on a regular monthly basis. Shirley Jackson as Secretary has done a wonderful job, including promoting our Society at every possible opportunity. Jim Smith, as our Judging Registrar and Show Marshall, certainly has orchids uppermost in his heart. Our Treasurer, Jan Dicker, certainly does an excellent job managing the Society's finances. Jan does a brilliant job promoting our Orchid Society with her radio interviews. Michael Jaschenko is acknowledged for getting our Website operational. Our Editor, Mike White still continues to produce our monthly newsletter, but he would appreciate some fresh articles from senior and new member contributions. John Shipley is thanked for his transport to and from our storage container for the Society's equipment. I also thank our other committee persons - namely - Christine Bodger, Trevor Dicker, Gary Hill, Marcus Smith and Bev Woodward (our Librarian).

Our judges do a wonderful job on general meeting nights and at all our show events.

Some committee members are not seeking re-election so I thank them for their past contributions and to new members seeking committee positions I wish you well.

Peter Willson

Orchid Seedling Competition

The following seedling competitions are current:-
Australian Native Orchid

Reminder

Members are reminded that before any plants can be tabled at Monthly Meetings or Shows, they must have been owned by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months. To qualify for a Cultural Award the plant must have been owned for a minimum of two years.

..ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TASMANIAN ORCHID SOCIETY INC. WILL BE HELD AT LEGACY HALL, 159 MACQUARIE STREET, HOBART ON MONDAY THE 20th. MARCH, 2017 TO COMMENCE AT 7.30 PM

Completed Nomination Forms, Notice of Motions and other items you wish to have placed on the agenda must be forwarded to the Secretary prior to the meeting. Please use the nomination forms inside your newsletter and keep the 'business' end ticking.

Agenda for AGM

Annual General Meeting to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 21st March 2017.

Opening of meeting

Apologies

Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

Presidents Report

Presentation of Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet

Adoption of Treasurer's Report

Election of Office Bearers

Non-Committee positions to be filled

Appointment of Auditor

Annual reports and Treasurer's Statement will be published in the "GREENHOOD NEWSLETTER".

TASMANIAN ORCHID SOCIETY INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LEGACY HALL 21ST MARCH 2016

The meeting opened at 7.55 pm.

Present: 49 Members Apologies: 5

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read by the Secretary. The motion was moved that they be passed as a true and accurate record.

Moved by Beverley Woodward Seconded by Tony Kendrick

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It was moved that the President's Report which has been circulated by way of the Greenhood Magazine be accepted. Jim Smith added thanks to the Judges for all their assistance during the Monthly Meetings, thanks to Janet Dicker for all her work as Treasurer, thanks to Bev Woodward as Secretary and thanks to Michael White for the huge task of producing The Greenhood Newsletter each month.

Moved by James Smith Seconded by Alan Millward

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved that the Treasurer's Report which has previously been circulated by way of the Greenhood Magazine be accepted with the following explanations.

Copies of the adjusted figures were sent around for the members to peruse.

A motion was moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved by Janet Dicker Seconded by Anthony Kendrick

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jim Smith declared that all Positions on the Committee are now vacant The following Committee Member Nominees are:-

President James Smith and Barry Davidson

Vice President Peter Willson

Junior Vice President

Secretary Beverley Woodward and Shirley Jackson

Treasurer Janet Dicker

Committee Public Officer Shirley Jackson
Committee John Shipley, Marcus Smith, Peter Willson, Gary Hill, Trevor Dicker, Christine Bodger, Beverley Woodward, Barry Davidson and Shirley Jackson.

John Sharman took the Chair as James Smith stood aside while Financial Members voted for the positions of President and Secretary. Scrutineers, life Members Victor Dawes and Barry Wilson as well as John Sharman were appointed to oversee the counting of votes. John Sharman declared that the new President is Barry Davidson and the new Secretary and Public Officer is Shirley Jackson.

The following non-committee positions were filled.

Show Marshall	James Smith
Librarian	Beverley Woodward
Newsletter Editor	Michael White
Web Manager	Michael Jaschenko
Publicity Officer	Janet Dicker

There being no dissenting voices all positions were declared as filled

OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

Honoraria.

Margot White moved that the Honoraria should be increased to \$500.00 taking into account that the former Honoraria had remained static for a number of years

Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor to receive \$500.00 each.

Moved by Margot White Seconded by Jenny Alford

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Auditor.

Janet Dicker moved that the same Auditor, Paul Duncombe, be retained.

Seconded by Barry Wilson

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

It was decided to give Paul Duncombe a BWS voucher for \$70.00 in thanks for his services as Auditor.

Donation to the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Motion

For several years now our Tas Orchid Society has donated \$1,000 to the RTBG for the promotion of orchids for the enjoyment of visitors to the Conservatory. A constant display of many orchid genera is rotated by Margo and her team of valued workers.

In appreciation Margo organises for our potting mix to be tossed, bagged and tied by the personnel from Risdon under the close supervision of her staff. Two years ago in excess of 800 bags were mixed. To those of us who have ageing arthritic, knee/hips/shoulders and back this is a huge saving.

Several members of TOS donate their time and effort every fortnight to assist with re-potting and tidying up plants. I started volunteering in August 2010 after talking with Chris Nicholas, and now we have a regular team of enthusiastic volunteers.

TOS has a very healthy accumulated balance and as we are one of the most respected garden clubs, our committee support the ongoing funding to OUR GARDENS, specifically for ORCHIDS.

I move that we donate \$1000 to the RTBG for the promotion of growing and purchase of orchids in their collection.

Moved by Peter Willson Seconded by James Smith

There being no dissenting voices the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Ian Woodgate and Marcus Smith were congratulated on qualifying as AOC judges. Ian Woodgate was promoted to Division One

James Smith thanked all for attending the AGM.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH & THE NEAR FUTURE MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting is our AGM, this usually doesn't take up a lot of time but is the most important meeting of the year.

After the AGM we will have Jim Smith leading a discussion on the types of potting mixes we are using. This will be of interest practically for newcomers as there are so many different potting mixes and reasons why individual growers use them. What suits one grower may not suit another so being informed is the first step.

Our plant culture talk will be on Paphiopedilums, this is being lead by two of our best Paph growers Gordon Hagan and John Sharman. Bring in your own paphs so that advice can be given, or if they are doing well you can share your culture.

THE SUNDAY GET TOGETHER

On Sunday March the 26th we have been invited to Ronda and Roy Dadson's home at Port Arthur. Rhonda benches some very interesting orchids, many of which I personally would like to know how grown.

Because of the distance to travel we are having the option of meeting at the Dunalley Hotel for lunch. I suggest being there at 11.30am so that we can order and have the meal at 12pm. Rhonda said to be prepared for a large serving. Let me know at our meeting, or phone me, if you are having lunch so I can book.

We will meet at Rhonda's at 2pm. Please bring a plate to share.

Directions: Drive to Port Arthur, when you come to the shop on the left drive about 500 meters. Turn left into Safety Cove Road continue approx. 7.2 kilometres. The house is a green colourbond house/shack on the right. Water is on the left.

I don't have a venue for April so please think about it and let me know if you have any ideas.

APRIL IS OUR AUCTION NIGHT

This is a fun evening with the benefit of going home with some interesting items. Please start to put aside orchids, general plants and other items for this event. Peter Willson will be our auctioneer. Don't forget to bring cash along to pay for your purchases. This is our second main fund raising event so please support your society.

MARCH IS OUR AGM NIGHT

Every successful organisation requires new members to join its management committee so that the future is strong. Please consider what you have to offer the society. There is a nomination form printed on the cover of the newsletter.

Tasmanian Orchid Society Logos

Gary Hill is working on having a logo placed onto a polo shirt for our members. He is still investigating various possibilities and will keep us updated at our General Meetings.

Plastic Pots

Jim Smith will have a supply of black plastic pots for sale at the March meeting, range in size from 100 – 300 mm.

Cultural Notes AREA: HOBART PERIOD: February/March Courtesy Orchids Australia

	<i>WATER REQUIREMENTS</i>	<i>FERTILISER REQUIREMENTS</i>	<i>PEST CONTROL</i>
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE DENDROBIUM	Water twice weekly.	Half strength balanced fertiliser fortnightly.	Watch for aphids, red spider mite in dry times. Use Folimat or Kelthane.
CATTLEYA Alliance	Water twice weekly.	Half strength balanced fertiliser fortnightly.	Watch for aphids, red spider mite in dry times. Use Folimat or Kelthane.
COELOGYNE	Water twice weekly.	Fortnightly with a balanced fertiliser at half strength.	Watch for aphids, red spider mite in dry times. Use Folimat or Kelthane.
CYMBIDIUM	Water twice weekly.	Fortnightly with low nitrogen fertiliser at half strength.	Watch for aphids, red spider mite in dry times. Use Folimat or Kelthane.
DENDROBIUM (Soft Cane)	Water two to three times a week.	Fortnightly with high nitrogen fertiliser at half strength.	Watch for red spider mite in good light.
MASDEVALLIA	Water two to three times a week.	Fortnightly with low nitrogen fertiliser.	Watch for aphids on new growths and flower buds.
GOMESA	Water two to three times a week.	Fortnightly with a low nitrogen fertiliser.	Watch for aphids on new growths and flowers.
PAPHIOPEDILUM	Water twice weekly.	Fortnightly with a low nitrogen fertiliser.	Watch for mealy bugs in new growths.
PLEIONE	Water two to three times a week.	Fortnightly with a low nitrogen fertiliser.	
GENERAL COMMENTS	Any genera mounted on cork, wood or tree fern will need watering with a dunking twice beneficial.		

2017 Ross Orchid Day

Every year we hold a gathering for all of the four Tasmanian Orchid Clubs at Ross. This year it's on Sunday May the 7th at The Ross Hall. We will have as our main speaker Clive Halls from Mt. Beenak Orchids,

Victoria. Clive is one of the largest growers of Masdevallia in Australia (as well as growing many other genera) and we are very fortunate to have him and his wife come to Ross. This is the first time for a long time, if ever, we have had an interstate speaker.

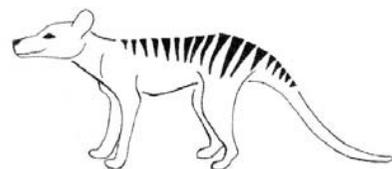
Clive will also be bringing a van packed full of orchids for sale at a reduced price. He will have Masds both hybrids and species, odonts, zygos, cym in community pots, sarcs and the list goes on. The prices are from \$3.00 to \$10.00 according to size but a lot will be flowering size. I don't think that we have ever had an opportunity like this in Tassie before. This will give new comers to orchid growing a chance to build up a good collection as well as adding to the already bulging orchid houses of the rest of us.

Catering is organised for us. For \$20 there will be a cuppa at 10am, a substantial lunch at 12.30 and another cuppa before we set off for home. We do need numbers and payment for the lunches ASAP. Please pay Jan Dicker our Treasurer at our general meeting or ring her on 62435802. **There is no other cost involved in the day.**

We would like you to bring items for our giant raffle; orchids are always popular, other plants, jams, cakes or anything else you may wish donate.

The doors are open at 9pm for sales; please not before as to allow the seller's time to set up.

Ross Orchid Day. May 7th.



Eco Tours Tasmania

Eco Tours Tasmania will run their Mini Bus from Hobart to the Ross Orchid Day on Sunday 7th May. Central pickups will be arranged to suit the passengers, with the intention of departing at 7.30am to arrive at 9.00am when the doors open for orchid sales. Anybody planning to buy quantities of orchids will need to bring boxes for their purchases.

Return departure will be after a Cuppa at the conclusion of the meeting.

Cost will be \$20 per person. Contact Geoff Curry on 0407636014 or ecotourstasmania@gmail.com to make a booking.

Judging & Popular Vote Results for 2016

First Division

Cymbidium Hyb. > 90mm.	1 st M&W Dawes	13 points
Cymbidium Hyb. <=90mm.	1 st S. Jackson	16 points
Laelineae Sp./Hyb.	1 st I. Woodgate	35 points
Oncidium & Allied	1 st Marcus Smith	20 points
Gomesa	1 st J&B Smith	26 points
Masdevallia Alliance	1 st J&B Smith	69 points
Other Species	1 st Marcus Smith	20 points
Other Hybrids	1 st Marcus Smith	27 points
Sarcochilus Alliance	1 st J&B Smith	35 points
Australian tuberous	1 st M&W Dawes	13 points
Australian Native	1 st J&B Smith	37 points
Popular Vote	1 st S. Jackson	33 points
	2 nd Marcus Smith	20 points
	3 rd M&W Dawes	14 points

Second Division

Cymbidium Hyb. > 90mm.	1 st A&H Millward	13 points
Cymbidium Hyb. <=90mm.	1 st A&H Millward	34 points
Laelineae Sp./Hyb	1 st J&T Dicker	41 points
Oncidium & Allied	1 st S. Johnson	24 points
Gomesa	1 st N. Doyle	8 points
Masdevallia Alliance	1 st B&L Davidson	26 points
Other Species	1 st M. Jaschenko	20 points
Other Hybrids	1 st T. Gwyn	16 points
Sarcochilus Alliance	1 st B&L Davidson	27 points
Australian tuberous	1 st B. Wilson	8 points
Australian Native	1 st N. Doyle	26 points
Popular Vote	1 st N. Doyle	21 points
	2 nd R. Dadson	10 points
	=2 nd E. Mulder	10 points

House Plants and Floral Art

Judges Vote

House Plants	1 st J. Strang	21 points
Floral Art	1 st G. Allen	46 points

Popular Vote

House Plants	1 st J. Strang	39 points
Floral Art	1 st V. Cleaver	38 points

How the points were allocated.

Five points were given for first, three points for second and one point for third. In Judges Vote where there was no third, points were only given for first and second. No points were allocated at Autumn Show.

Congratulations to Shirley Jackson who as top scorer in the popular vote overall won the Myra Ingles Trophy.

Mike White

Cultural Notes March-April

Cymbidium Culture with Ann Orkid

I am going to 'go out on a limb' and predict that next spring will produce a good flowering season. I am basing this on the amount of sunny days and the way plants have made up their new growths into bulbs that are close to full size. This is essential for the bulbs to produce flower spikes.

The early spikes will be starting to appear soon, so place a coloured name label at the pot's edge beside the spike(s). If the spike is likely to strike the pots edge then very gently place a label beneath the spike and over a week ease the spike up so that it grows out over the rim. Remember the spike is very brittle. A little later it will be necessary to start training the spike but not yet. Orientate the pot so that spikes are facing towards the light and resist constantly turning the pot.

Keep red spider mite in check and remember that with the first autumn rains snails and slugs will come out – be prepared ! It is amazing how their radar takes them directly to the soft young tender flower buds. You can relax your watch for fungi but don't allow pots to dry out with the cooler days as this will inhibit growth and it is important to maximize bulb maturity in the warm autumn days before winter does bring about a halt to growth.

Cymbidiums in the warmer latitudes like Sydney only slow their growth throughout winter which is why August is their peak flowering time.

This is also the month to repot if your cymbidium is desperately in need of attention. Plants have time for the roots to recover from the shock before growth stops. I would prefer to leave repotting if the intended plant had a visible spike. Early spikes now mean that you can repot this plant in

early spring as the spike will have finished flowering. There are some who advocate that green flowing plants prefer an autumn to a spring repot but I am not so sure.

Now is a good time to refer to your notes on whether the spike habit for a particular plant is straight or pendulous (you did keep a record?) so that the necessary training technique is employed.

Autumn is also a great time to collect ingredients if you prefer to make your own potting mix. Dried oak leaves, casuarina needles and fern fronds come to mind for shredding and adding to your pine bark.

Laelias and Oncidiums

Those couple of savage days we had to farewell summer have undoubtedly caused some damage no matter how efficient a grower you are. If plants have lost leaves, just pick them up and dispose of it, in most cases the plants will survive.

If you have leaf burn and the leaf fibre is dry, don't be too fussed. Most growers will trim the burn off to tidy the plants but if you do, make sure you sterilise your shears between plants and only take off a minimum green leaves necessary. The other alternative is to leave it until the leaf eventually dies and drops off.

Jim often extols the benefit of physically handling the plans and checking them over, if it is only to pat yourself on the back for your superb culture.

Unfortunately, my plants have suffered badly from neglect in recent times and it is showing with the encroachment of ants and accompanying scale.

Once upon a time we used to put a little rain washed charcoal in the mix as well. The main thing to remember is that the finished mix should be free draining and adjust your feeding program to suit the mix. While on this subject of fertilizer, the application can be cut back as the plants are losing their new growth vigour as the colder days and nights approach. Large pots that are expected to show spikes can sometimes be encouraged to flower by giving the plant bright sunshine and cutting the watering to a very minimum.

Start reducing your shading to all plants and thinking about a protective spot for all those pots showing spikes. Every year I get caught by the blustery winds we always have in autumn as I come home to find pots blown over and tumbled around the yard. Of course it is always a

particularly nice mericlone and although they appear OK at the time bruising comes out later when the spike does open some months later.

Happy spike hunting BUT DON'T POKE AROUND TOO MUCH – they are very brittle.

Now is the time to sit back and enjoy your autumn blooming orchids, particularly *Laelia pumila*. I've also had reports that many *Laelia anceps* varieties are well advanced with buds showing. It's a lovely time of the year for orchid growers.

What colour shade cloth.

I have recently read an article on the use of shade cloth to help cool the greenhouse conjunction with fans and evaporative coolers.

It states in part, white or silver shade cloth should be used on the outside of the hobby greenhouse, because the light colours reflect the heat. Black or green shade cloth absorbs the heat and then radiates it down onto the plants. Another opinion on that vexed question, what colour should we use? Don't ask me, I'm just a stirrer.

Sarcochilus

An experienced and outstanding grower from the north western region of the state once told me that sarcochilus do not grow their parts uniformly throughout the year. We recognise that they tend to have established flowering times, but there is also a period when the green parts grow more and at another time of the year a stage when roots grow more. Now is the root growing season. Stems will be growing slowly too, but new roots should be appearing and lengthening quickly. The young roots will have bright green tips and a healthy shining velamin. Some roots may stay above the potting mix and different cultivars and species vary in their tendency to do this, but if most are not entering the potting mix, then it may be time to look at the mix. There should be active root growth in the mix too. If your roots are not happy in the potting medium, then try a more open brew with the fines removed with a 6mm (quarter inch) sieve. If you use *Fermania*, be careful not to over water.

Of course you need to fertilise to get the best results. Olympic athletes don't run on bread and water alone. They need proper nutrition. Fertilising seems to be a bit like a belief system. A lot of people believe in their feeding regime, but they have no idea what is in the stuff and know even less about what the orchid needs. Fortunately science has come to the rescue and balanced fertilisers are available. Any of the proprietary brands of

complete fertilisers are okay, but they tend to be low in iron and may contain no magnesium or calcium. You can remedy the iron by applying iron chelates in warm weather. Plants cannot take up iron below 16 degrees Celsius. A couple of small applications of dolomite each year will make up for the lack of calcium and magnesium. This will also help your potting mix as that tends to increase in acidity with age. You could invest in some hydroponic fertiliser, which is really complete, but expensive. Jo Pinner mentioned last month that we all effectively grow hydroponically, because there is very little nutrition in the dead and highly leached materials in potting mix and orchids get all their goodies from applied fertiliser. Hydroponics is defined as supplying all the fertiliser requirements in the applied water and growing in an inert medium. This is effectively what we do.

Your sarcochilus will grow year round even if only very slowly in winter. At this stage there should be no problems. Snails will start to become more active next month or May. Sucking insects such as scale, mealy bugs, mites, thrips and aphids are slowing down, but if there is an issue, Confidor will get them. Fungal problems are rare as are viruses. The main reason why viruses are rare is because sarcs are mainly bought as seedlings or mericlones and viruses tend to be associated with orchids grown from divisions of cultivars that have been around for a while. This is why they are such a problem in cymbidiums where many plants are frequently grown from backbulbs and divisions.

Happy growing and keep looking for interesting sarcochilus that flower at other times of the year than late spring.

Barry Davidson

Native Dendrobiums

Although autumn, as defined by the Government, has officially commenced, days reaching 30°C can still occur, on the other hand a high of 15°C can also occur.

The days are shortening and night temperatures are dropping, an indication that autumn is upon us. All that new growth we saw through spring and summer has to fully develop and harden off. Therefore take care with watering from now on. Carry out watering early in the morning to allow plants to dry and drain by evening.

Mounted plants will still continue to require water. Be prepared to water paths and under benches when sudden high temperatures occur.

Continue to clean and tidy plants ready for benching at Shows and meeting

Aphids are still about and will attack any soft new growth Don't let them ruin a plant Either wash or brush them off. Only use pesticides as a last resort. A little care and attention now will pay off in due course.

Jim Smith

Pleiones

The annual cycle for this genus is moving towards dormancy, which will become more evident about the end of April when the leaves begin to turn yellow.

Although we have had an exceptional growing season, some of the cultivars are showing signs of cultural limitations, such as our few days of high temperatures and in my case massed watering when they really needed it earlier that day. Never water in the heat of the day. Water early and roast at night. The leaves are browning at the tips and are looking a bit jaded on some clones.

However, the majority are doing very well with nicely formed bulbs of good size already. Culture now and until the leaves turn yellow is water as required and weekly applications of a fertiliser that is low in total nitrogen but higher in phosphorous and potassium.

Phostogen Soluble NPK 10:4.4:22 plus trace elements is good. Campbell's Yellow should be better as the NPK is higher 11:13:16 and also has the trace elements The purpose of this change in fertiliser is to ripen the bulbs for next season's flowering.

The only autumn flowering species are Pleione praecox and its close relative Pleione maculata If you are lucky enough to have any of these or their crosses Pleione Barcena, you may have some nice blooms for the Autumn Show. It is nice to have flowers so early and extends the season from late autumn to late spring with a bit of a gap in between .

It is a good practise to pick up each pan occasionally and make a thorough inspection for evidence of aphids slugs and snails. Treat each accordingly.

Also you may find, as I did, an occasional growth in a pan had suffered from fungal attack. Carefully remove what you can without doing too much damage to the remaining roots and apply a suitable fungicide drench as a preventative measure for the rest of the pan.

Vic Dawes Chigwell

Did You Know ? with Ann Orkid

...that the first recorded hybrid produced in Australia was *Cymbidium lowianum* x *C. eburneum* by a Mr Godwin, gardener to John Hay Esq. of Crows Nest , Sydney

January Meeting Results Judges' Vote 1st Division

Cym Hybrid > 90mm	1 st No entry	
Cym Hybrid < 90mm	1 st . No Entry	
Cattleya & Allied	1 st C. walkeriana x Chocolate Drop 'Kodama'	M&W Dawes
	2 nd C. Elegans 'Blue Lip' x Interglossa	M&W Dawes
Oncidium Etc.	1 st Ons. Wildcat 'Leopard'	I. Woodgate
	2 nd Ons. Wildcat 'Petit Sirah'	M. Smith
Gomesa	1 st Gomesa longipes	S. Jackson
	2 nd . Gomesa longipes	J&B Smith
Masdevallia & Allied	1 st M. Rein Dancer 'Deep Red'	J&B Smith
	2 nd Porrovalia Monica	J&B Smith
Other Species	1 st Gongora galeata	M. Smith
	2 nd . Epi. Golden Valley 'Hildos'	I. Woodgate
Other Hybrids	1 st Den. Jade Classic	I. Woodgate
	2 nd Lycaste Unknown	M. Smith
Sarcochilus	1 st No Entry	
Australian Tuberous	1 st No Entry	
Australian Native	1 st No Entry	

Orchid of the month

Gongora galeata M. Smith

Judges Vote 2nd Division

Cym Hybrid > 90mm	1 st No entry	
Cym Hybrid < 90mm	1 st No Entry	
Cattleya & Allied	1 st C. Intercepts	J&T Dicker
	2 nd . No Entry	
Oncidium Etc.	1 st Bnfd. Gilded Tower 'Thai Gold'	M. Jaschenko
	2 nd . Oncidium incurvum	B. Wilson
Gomesa	1 st Gomesa flexuosum	B. Wilson
Masdevallia & Allied	1 st Masd. Mystica	B. Davidson

	2 nd Masd. picea 'Lnr' x Self	N. Doyle
Other Species	1 st Stanhopea nigroviolascens	R. Dadson
	2 nd Max. cucullata	B. Wilson
Other Hybrids	1 st Phalaenopsis Unknown	M. Jaschenko
	2 nd Phalaenopsis Unknown	E. Mulder
Sarcophilus	1 st Sarco. Velvet x Cool Dude	N. Doyle
	2 nd Sarco. ceciliae var. Alba	B. Davidson
Australian Tuberous	1 st No Entry	
Australian Native	1 st Den. Border Surprise	N. Doyle
	2 nd No Entry	

Orchid of the month

Stanhopea nigroviolacea R. Dadson

House Plants	1 st Succulent	H. Bogut
	2 nd Bromeliad	J. Dicker
Floral Arrangement	1 st 'Fire and Flowers'	V. Cleaver
	2 nd 'Fire and Flowers'	W. Glidden

Popular Vote First Division

1 st Brassia Chieftain	M. Smith
2 nd Gongora galeata	M. Smith
3 rd Lycaste Unknown	M. Smith

Second Division

1 st Brassia Rex	E. Mulder
2 nd Stanhopea nigroviolacea	R. Dadson
3 rd Phalaenopsis Unknown	M. Jaschenko

House Plants

1 st Bromeliad	J. Dicker
2 nd Cactus	M. Dawes
3 rd Succulent	H. Bogut

Floral Arrangement

1 st 'Fire and Flowers'	W. Glidden
2 nd 'Fire and Flowers'	V. Cleaver
3 rd No Entry	

Tasmanian Orchid Society Office Bearers 2016/17

President	Mr. P Willson
Secretary	Shirley Jackson Phone 62734300 E-mail secretary@tos.org.au
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Committee Messrs Jim Smith, Bev. Woodward, Gary Hill,, John Shipley, Christine Bodger, Trevor Dicker and Marcus Smith

The Tasmanian Orchid Society was first formed in 1947 under the name of The Hobart Orchid Club when a handful of enthusiasts got together to discuss the growing of Orchids. Their first show was held in conjunction with the Hobart Horticultural Society in 1948 and about six years later as more folk became interested the name was changed to The Tasmanian Orchid Society. The number of members varies between 110 and 150.

The Society is not a money making organization but with rising costs and rentals of late, it has been necessary to have a surplus on hand to meet these needs but that has not prevented the giving of donations to charitable organizations.

This Society is a member of the Australian Orchid Council.

The Society meets regularly on the third Monday of every month (December excepted) at Legacy Hall, 159 Macquarie Street, Hobart, commencing at 7.30pm.

Membership is \$25.00 per annum for families, \$20.00 for individuals. Subscriptions are due in January each year but new members who joined at the Spring Show or later in the year are covered for the following calendar year.

Greenhood can be accessed on the internet at <http://www.tos.org.au/> where there are photos of many of the orchids tabled at meetings.

Visitors are always welcome.