



The Australasian Native Orchid Society

The Warringah Group Inc.

ABN: 84 245 695 380

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CORRESPONDENCE: PO Box 421, Forestville NSW 2087

Monthly Meetings: 3rd Tuesday at 8:00 pm - Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville

Next Meeting
Tuesday 19th February
Visit to the Sepik River PNG
Jane & Peter D'Olier

February 2019

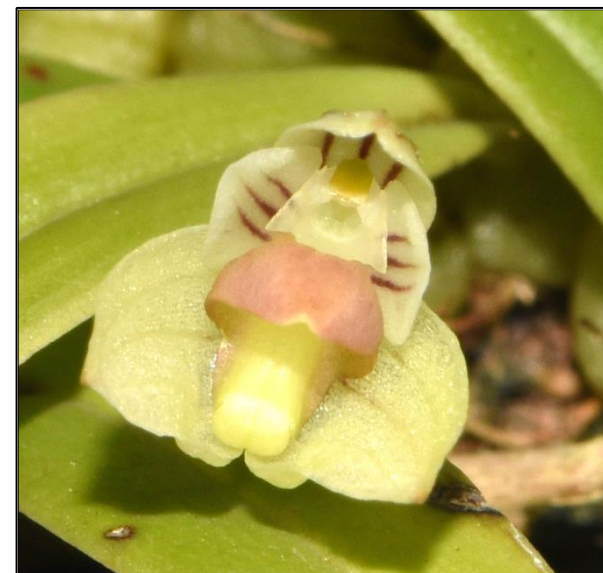
Photos by Jane D'Olier



Dendrobium gouldii – Peter & Jane D'Olier



Sarcochilus ceciliae – L & B Dobson



Bulbophyllum lageniforme - Erik Lielkajis

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Senior Citizens' Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville on Tuesday, 15th January 2019.

The meeting was opened by Bill Dobson at 8.10pm who welcomed members.

Apologies: Bill Westwood, Harleen & Garry Williams, Warleiti Jap, Jim Moore, Murray Corrigan, Cary Polis, Ralph & Joy Lumby and Lorraine Dobson.

The minutes of the previous meeting as published in the Bulletin were accepted as a true record on the motion of Bryan Spurrs seconded by Ian Tanner.

Matters arising: Nil

Correspondence: Nil.

General Business:

1. End of year prizes were presented to members who were not present at the December meeting.
2. ANOS Sydney Group has planned an orchid walk at Medlow Bath on 20th January 2019 – information emailed to members.
3. Raffle plants including *Den. adae* keikis donated by Bill Dobson were described.
4. Bill mentioned using long-term slow release native fertiliser and blood and bone when he re-pots in November. He is also trialling the growing of *Sarcochilus falcatus* in mesh pots.
5. Bill called for volunteers to coordinate supper arrangements.
6. Bill asked if anyone had picked up Trish's *Sarco. hillii* by mistake at last benching.

In Your Bushhouse:

Mick demonstrated how a *Dendrobium gracilicaule* he had taken off a mount and potted was growing well.

He described how he used Cypress pine flooring for mounts using the 'oily' dressed side.

Judges Report: John McAuley

Plant of the Evening:

Dendrobium gouldii

Peter & Jane D'Olier

Other Plants of Interest:

Sarcochilus ceciliae

B & L Dobson

Geodorum densiflorum

David E. Stiles

Bulbophyllum lageniforme

Erik Lielkajis

Dendrobium schneiderae var. *major*

Erik Lielkajis

After Supper:

Bill presented in situ photos of all the plants seen on his Far North Queensland visit earlier in 2018. Plants seen included *Den. canaliculatum*, *Den. trilamellatum*, *Doc. rigida*, *Den. bigibbum*, *Cym. canaliculatum*, *Den. jonesii*, *Den. adae*, *Den. fleckeri*, *Cadetia taylorii*, *Den. speciosum* var. *boreale* and *Sarco. serrulatus*.

Lucky Door: Jane D'Olier

Raffle Prizes: Bruce Potter (2), Judith Barry, Jane D'Olier, David Morgan (2) Ian Tanner, Bryan Spurrs.

In closing the meeting, Bill thanked everyone for their participation and wished all a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm



* *Dendrobium Samarai* – P & J D'Olier



**Den. schneiderae* var. *major* – Erik Lielkajis

In My Bushhouse

Well January is finished and the hot and humid weather continues. I go out each evening between 5 and 7:00 pm and mist all the plants. Yes, I know that I could have this done electronically, as I have a controller installed but I like being in the bushhouse amid my plants.

Just back in from misting the plants, it's 8:10pm and 28 degrees here, a bit windy, very similar to mountains in North Queensland. The plants are responding well to this regime and the root development is amazing - growths continue to develop well.

There are some plants that I found that I have potted-on this weekend, but any that should have been broken up will have to wait until autumn as it's now too late. Happily there are few of these and anyway I may have to leave these until spring as they will flower this year.

I have potted-on a couple of terete Dockrillias, and because they are in net pots I don't have to rip them out of their pots just pot-on which means that the roots are not disturbed.

Dendrobium monophyllum is in flower now. I like this orchid as it grows in rainforest and also some of the most inhospitable country but seems to thrive. It also has this lovely habit of spot-flowering throughout the year. It does well mounted on a slab of cork or weathered hardwood. Through our travels in Queensland we have seen it both on rock and trees but where there is good air movement and sunshine.

Keep an eye on your new growths and protect them from bugs. I made the mistake of pulling the sheath of a *Den. speciosum* var. *capricornicum* down too far exposing the new soft pseudobulb and it was attacked in one night by a pair of cockroaches that had been starved for a year. Anyway, no use crying over them now.

We are using Initiator balls on plants this year to stop attack of sucking insects or ones that burrow into the pseudobulbs like codling moths that lay eggs and you end up with little larvae chewing on the flower raceme. These are expensive, but there is an alternative Richgro Bug Killa which is granular, the same ingredient as Confidor, and just sprinkle on the plant and will give effective control for up to 6 weeks.

Dendrobium beetle is about in this hot weather so keep an eye out as you

may catch them on the wing; I did that today and found a couple of others as well. I spray with Bugmaster and EcoOil but there are other alternatives, just don't let them get on top of you. Remember with this pest you only have to treat the new growths so don't waste money spraying the whole plant.

Time for maintenance around the house and bushhouse! Keep control of weeds, and remember you are growing plants to relax and enjoy, so do it.

Good growing.....Bill Dobson



Geodorum densiflorum – David E. Stiles



The Pink Nodding Orchid

The only *Geodorum* found in Australia. The stem grows erect, nods when in flower and then straightens for seed dispersal.

Threatened species in NSW – fewer than 20 populations. Plentiful north of NSW.

Plant In situ – photo from Internet

ANOS Warringah Monthly Benching Results January 2019

1. Dockrillia species

- 1st *Doc. wassellii* Ela Kielich
2nd *Doc. brevicauda* Erik Lielkajis
3rd *Den. prenticei* M & S. Howard

2. Dendrobium species

- 1st *Den. schneiderae* v. *major* Erik Lielkajis
2nd *Den. discolor* David E. Stiles
3rd Nil

3. Sarcanthinae species

- 1st *Sarco. ceciliae* L & B Dobson
2nd *Sarco. ceciliae* David Hemmings
3rd *Sarco. ceciliae* L & B Dobson

4. Bulbophyllum species

- 1st *Bulb. lageniforme* Erik Lielkajis
2nd *Bulb. lageniforme* Erik Lielkajis
3rd *Bulb. radicans* Erik Lielkajis

5. Miscellaneous species

- 1st *Phreatia micrantha* Erik Lielkajis
2nd *Cadetia taylorii* Erik Lielkajis
3rd *Liparis coelogynoides* David Hemmings

6. Dendrobium Hybrids

No entries

7. Sarcanthinae Hybrids

- 1st *Sarco. Velvet* Bryan Spurrs
2nd *Sarco. Velvet* David Hemmings
3rd *Sarco. Velvet* Bryan Spurrs

8. Miscellaneous Hybrids

No entries

9. Australasian species

- 1st *Den. gouldii* P & J D'Olier

10. Australasian Hybrids

- 1st *Den. Samarai* P & J D'Olier
2nd *Den. Pam Tajima* David Hemmings
3rd *Den. Bundy Blue* x *canaliculatum* Ela Kielich

11. Junior & Novice

No entries

12. Pterostylis species

No entries

13. Other Terrestrials

- 1st *Geodorum densiflorum* David E. Stiles
2nd *Malaxis latifolia* Erik Lielkajis



Phreatia micrantha – Erik Lielkajis



Sarcochilus Velvet – Bryan Spurrs



Dockrillia wassellii – Ela Kielich

*Notes:

Den. Samarai

[PNG Hybrid – *Den. stratiotes* x *Den. antennatum*]

Den. schneiderae var. *major*

[Great article by Gerry Walsh on internet....just Google]

Australian Orchid Nursery - Popular Vote Results – January 2019

- 1st *Dendrobium Samarai* – Peter & Jane D'Olier
2nd *Den. schneiderae* var. *major* – Erik Lielkajis
3rd *Dendrobium gouldii* – Peter & Jane D'Olier

Member Visit – David Hemmings

On a relatively cool day in our very hot January, we visited David at his home in Denistone.

David has been growing orchids 'seriously' for about 7 years, but says orchids have always been part of his life as his father, Jim, also an ANOS Warringah member, has grown orchids for many years.

David says he often attended our Spring Shows over the years, but encouraged by his father, he joined ANOS Warringah around 5 years ago. He thoroughly enjoys the camaraderie and friendship of the group where he can share his interest with fellow growers.

"Being part of the ANOS Warringah group is a very important part of my life and I always look forward to our meetings. I feel very privileged to be part of such a wonderful and inspiring society."

David has a big sunny backyard with his radio playing ABC Jazz under the flowering Crepe Myrtle. He has two main bush-houses and several other covered areas where he grows some of his larger orchids. There is also a separate 'quarantine' area where plants which may have a leaf spot or any other worrying feature are housed while under observation.

David is very organised and methodical – his orchids are spaced well and all areas are in pristine condition. In the larger bushhouse the orchids range from recently deflasked seedlings to advanced orchids, some of which David has already earmarked to show in our display at St Ives; his larger terete-leafed orchids hang down the centre of the bushhouse and there are also a number of mounted plants on the mesh walls. All plants appear to be thriving with abundant new growths and healthy roots.

The shade houses are covered with 50% shade cloth, and during the hotter weeks of the year, David uses an extra shade cover to

provide additional protection. He has polycarbonate covers for the the coldest winter months.

David says he has experienced temperatures ranging from 1 degree up to a 47 degree day last January. On very hot days, he doesn't spray his plants, but rather floods the floor to provide a cooling effect and increased humidity.

As well as his colourful floriferous Dendrobium hybrids, David also grows native species orchids to the same high standard. His *Dockrillia teretifolia* was awarded Champion Native Species Orchid at the 2018 St Ives Orchid Fair. He also has a number of mounted orchids many of which are situated in the smaller and cooler bushhouse with his Sarcophilus and other species orchids.

How he does it!

- During this current very hot weather, David is watering most days. He hand-waters his orchids and mainly waters in the evenings.
- Because of the high humidity we are experiencing, he plans to treat his orchids with either Bravo or Mancozeb in the next month or so to prevent possible fungal infections. He usually does this quarterly.
- David fertilises his orchids once a week with Peters Finisher.
- He sprinkles slow release granules on the mix when repotting/potting-up.
- Media – 5:2:1 David uses Orchidata bark at a ratio of 5 parts bark; 2 parts charcoal; 1 part scoria. He doesn't sift or soak the bark.
- David purchases his bark from Garden City Plastics which home delivers for a charge of around \$7 per bag.
- He has no fans in his bush houses, but says he has good air movement as they are on the side of a hill and receive a regular breeze.
- David inspects his bush houses at night to check for grasshoppers, caterpillars and other pests. Outside, he despatches the odd Dendrobium beetle promptly.



Inside David's Bushhouse



Dockrillia teretifolia



Dendrobium tetragonum



Doc. linguiforme var nugentii



Bulbophyllum exiguum



David's Workshop

David's garage does not house his car, but instead it is a beautifully organised and orderly orchid workshop which would bring great 'joy' to the heart of Marie Kondo.

His orchid media is in neatly labelled bins, there is a spotless bench with all the necessary paraphernalia (pots, ties, labels, stakes etc.) within easy reach, and there are a couple of armchairs for rest and relaxation when all the hard work is done.

David has gone from strength to strength in his achievements – he won Grand Champion with his *Dendrobium* Brimbank Gold at our Spring Show 2018; Champion Native Species Orchid at St Ives Orchid Fair 2018; he was awarded Grand Champion Hybrid and Champion *Dendrobium* at the Orchids in the Foothills Conference in 2018 and he has won numerous other awards and trophies...too many to list here!

We are fortunate to have David and his Dad Jim in our Group. As well as great growers, they are enthusiastic and generous members and their contribution is much valued.

Thanks to David for sharing his 'orchid world' and cultural advice.



Trish Peterson

