



The Australasian Native Orchid Society The Warringah Group Inc.

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Mick Korzenowski

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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

October 2019

Photos: Jane D'Olier



Dockrillia striolata

David Hemmings



Dendrobium Sheenamere

David Hemmings

Next Meeting: Tuesday 15th October
Members'
Sarcochilus Show

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

held at the Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville, on Tuesday 17th September 2019. The meeting was opened by Trish at 8.14 pm

Guest Speaker: None

Visitors: Helen and Robin and Kevin Crocker as Treasurer of the St Ives Show Committee

Apologies: B Potter, W Japp, B Westwood, M Corrigan, G&H Williams, G Russell, B&C Bradley

Minutes of the previous meeting as published in the Bulletin were accepted as a true record on the motion by Bryan Spurs and seconded by Ian Tanner

Matters arising:

Our storage cupboard has been transferred to the corridor outside of the meeting room, it is now in use, mainly as a library. Ted and Jim were thanked for disposing of the old structure.

Correspondence:

Bendigo Bank Term Deposit of \$8,339.25 to be reinvested

Email from ANOS Illawarra of sale of Alan Stephenson's *Dendrobium speciosum*s advised to take place this coming weekend at Kiama. Moved for acceptance Bryan Spurs, seconded by Peter Dunstan.

General Business:

- Cary Polis, chair of the St Ives Show Committee, advised members of the success of the show, ANOS put on a wonderful display which received 4th place. Sales topped previous year. He then introduced Kevin Crocker, Treasurer of the Show Committee, who thanked all who participated from sales to security and presented the Chairperson, Trish, with a cheque for \$3,000.
 - Ian and Cameron thanked for helping out with the canteen.
 - Members advised of death of Jim Lykos.
- Subscriptions are now overdue.

In Your Bushhouse: Cary Polis discussed how essential good light was for successful flowering and difficulties posed by trees, recent downpours and the possibility of soft tree fern mounts going sour with cork, hardwood, tea tree etc being suitable as won't go sour.

Judges Report: by John McAuley

Plants of the Evening:

Den. microchip –

Ela Kielich

Other Plants of Interest:

Dock. striolata –

Den. Australian Sheenamare –

Bulb. gadgarrense –

Den. carryii –

David Hemmings

David Hemmings

Lorraine & Bill Dobson

Erik Lielkajis

After Supper: Bill commented on the winner of each class as an introduction to our members Spring Show. The *Den. kingianum* plants submitted for the Joan Cooke trophy were examined and voted upon. The winner was David Hemmings followed by David Stiles, Reiner Schneideit, David Stiles, Ela Kielich and Judith Barry.

Lucky Door Prizes: Visitor Helen and Ian Tanner.

Raffle Prizes: Jim Moore (2), Ian Chalmers, Reiner Schneidereit, T Fattinson, Peter D'Olier, R Morgan, Jim Hemmings, D Smith & John McAuley

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

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm



Den. microchip
Ela Kielich

In My Bushhouse

Although we have had beautiful days around 20-24°C there was a coolness in the air this morning as Charlie my daughter's cat woke me up to be fed. OK, OK I said as he nudged me out of bed. So I fed him and then went to fertilize the orchids. I added some Auxinone® as I always do for October, November and December to stimulate root activity and particularly for newly potted plants.

In the bushhouse there is the next flush of flowers coming with *Dockrillia calamiformis*, *striolata*, *schoenina*, and *pugioniformis* all bursting out, along with a few hybrid *Dockrillia*. *Bulbophyllum wadsworthii* is in full flower. *Dendrobium adae* still coming through, and this year they have been amazing. But low and behold the strange

year continues as I have *Dendrobium fleckeri* out now! *Dendrobium kingianum* are opening up and the dark reds are looking good. Some early *Sarcochilus falcatus* are opening and look good. *Dendrobium falcorostrum* continues to fill the bushhouse with its fragrance, great in the bushhouse but not so great in the confines of a car travelling to a show 😊

The rest of my *Sarcochilus* are moving along well with racemes extended and plants looking healthy and robust, a little TLC thru the last summer has paid off but will see when the flowers start to open. I am pleased that some I have promoted into larger pots to make into specimens are producing new growth so their future looks good.

There are aphids about so keep a watchful eye as they will attack and suck new growths and particularly *Dockrillia* tender leaves. They will also multiply rapidly and can get out of control. I am using Eco Neem oil (Azamax®) and Eco oil for pest control in the bushhouse and will use this on a 3 week cycle during the coming growing cycle. I will still use Confidor® balls for the *Dendrobium speciosum* as I repot particularly for those outside.

I have caught one *Dendrobium* beetle so be aware once the days warm they will come so protect your new growths. I'm still not sure about using Neem for these so I will stick with tried and true Bugmaster® (Carbaryl) (combined with Eco-Oil) but ONLY spray the new growths and keep this up until they mature and harden off, and this will have no effect on bees as we only spray the leafy parts of the plants.

As I repot and start the new growing year every plant will get a dose of slow release I use OSMOCOTE EXACT HI-K 8-9 months Controlled Release which has NPK of 11+4.8+14.9 +TE So when I water only or it rains they get a gentle supply of nutrients. Also with the once weekly Peters Hi-K Finisher will push the plants along gently and supply all their fertilizer needs for the year.

Lastly we are often told to be safe around chemicals but also remember that more accidents happen around the home. So if you need help with anything call a family member or friend to help don't tackle it yourself.

Good growing

Bill Dobson



Vale – Murray Corrigan

Fond memories of a good mate

I had just returned from hospital and was going through my emails when I saw numerous messages informing me of the death of Murray Corrigan. I sat back in my chair and the memories started to flow.

My friendship started when I joined a local fishing club and met Murray and Rick Matthews and we became firm friends for many years. On numerous occasions on our fishing trips I heard an unusual language between Rick and Murray....Dendrobies, Oncids, Cattis.... I stupidly asked what they were talking about. That was a big mistake! Both of them thought that I was a good candidate for an Orchid Conversion....I was brainwashed and converted.

Native orchids became a passion and an addiction, thanks to Murray. I discovered that I had no chance from the beginning as at that time Murray was instrumental in setting up ANOS in NSW and was the first editor of the Orchadian. He persuaded me to join ANOS Warringah, and I am glad he did. Murray was a foundation member of the Warringah Group and he introduced me to a whole new world. I became addicted to our native orchids. As the years went by his interest was more technical than mine. Murray would consult his many reference books whereas I would prefer to go bush-bashing.

Murray gave me a great honor when, at an Annual General Meeting of ANOS Warringah he nominated me for Life Membership of the Group. I was floored and speechless. He spoke about what I had done in glowing terms. What an honor. I always thanked Murray for that.

Years went by and we lost our good friend Rick. We still kept in touch. Murray suggested that we become Co-Patrons of the Group; now I am the sole Patron. Murray was a great historian; he loved books and kept detailed records. He was deeply involved in Stony Range. He is survived by his wife Joan; children Samantha and Adam and grandchildren. There are many honors and achievements that Murray earned, that others will write and speak about, but this is how I will remember Murray.

I will never forget the man responsible for my passion for native orchids.

Mick Korzenowski

***Dendrobium* beetle** **- *Stethopachys formosa* -**

With the lack of a cold winter this year, the *Dendrobium* beetle (*Stethopachys formosa*) is already active. For those who aren't familiar with *Dendrobium* beetles, they grow to about 12mm (½ inch) in length, similar to a ladybird in size. They are bright orange with four black spots on their wing covers and large black antenna. They are quite distinctive and very easily identified.

Dendrobium beetles are perhaps the orchid's most destructive pests. They are natives of Australia and are found in the northern part of Northern Territory, throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales. They can also survive further south in the protection of shade houses. They mainly feed on species and hybrids of *Dendrobium*, but will feed on many other species of orchids. The adult beetle feeds on the leaves, flowers, buds and seed pods of the orchid. They are especially efficient at destroying all the forming flower buds if not controlled.

The adult beetle will lay its eggs on new growths, buds and flowers. The eggs are very tiny, about 1.5mm long, elongated and a greenish cream in colour.

These larvae will grow to 8 to 10mm (1/3 inch) in length during which time they will eat out the flesh in the orchid canes.

The larvae pupate in a mass of white, waxy material, similar to toothpaste before the adult emerges. This mass is usually at the base of the canes amongst the surface roots but can be in the base of leaves or even on the leaves themselves. The mass is usually 10 to 20mm (1/2 to 3/4 inch) in size.

The life cycle of this beetle is only a couple of months, so it can be very destructive. The *Dendrobium* beetle is active during the warmer months, but you will find the occasional beetle in winter, especially in winters like this one where it has been unusually warm.

The best method to control this pest is to ensure your orchid house is sealed preventing this beetle from getting into your shade house. Depending on the design of your

orchid house, this is not always possible and it definitely does not help those orchids growing outside. Although this beetle is quite easy to control with most insect sprays, e.g. Carbaryl, the larvae is very difficult to control as they are usually inside a cane and thus not reachable by non-systemic sprays. Most poisons that are not totally toxic to yourself, your orchids and the environment will not control this pest particularly well. Fortunately, this beetle is fairly easy to see and quite easy to catch and squash (if you are not too squeamish).

The *Dendrobium* beetle can fly, although adult beetles seldom seem to fly. If threatened, they merely curl up and drop to the ground where they are virtually impossible to locate unless you happen to have a concrete floor. Thus, to catch this beetle, the simplest method is to place a large mouth jar under the beetle and give the beetle a gentle tap. The beetle will curl up and drop off the leaf into the jar. Be warned however, that even though the adult beetles seldom seem to fly, the younger beetles with pale coloring seem much happier to fly and will regularly fly off on your approach. To ensure you catch the young pale beetles, you must be fast and tap them quickly before they get the urge to fly.

Once you have your beetle safely in the jar, you can then squash the beetle, or the squeamish can keep a small amount of water in the bottom of the jar. (As well as not seemingly being able to fly, these beetles don't seem to be able to swim.) Again, the mature dark adult beetles will not attempt to fly from the bottle, but the younger pale beetles will often attempt to fly from the bottle if it does not contain water, so squash quickly if you are using the squash technique.

If you use the drowning method to kill these pests, it has been pointed out to me that the addition of a little cooking oil to the water in the jar (or using all cooking oil) will result in the beetles drowning almost immediately instead of drowning slowly. After trying this method, it is indeed a much quicker method, so I would recommend it over straight water.

In summary, always keep a glass jar in your orchid house. Always keep a lid on the jar, as it prevents mosquitoes breeding in the jar. Always keep an eye out for these destructive pests and use the glass jar when you find

them. It will save you a lot of chewed flowers and leaves.

Graham Corbin



Papillabium beckleri

Erik Lielkajis

Schedule

Members' Sarcochilus Show

October 2019

The classes for Sarcanthinae benching in the Members' Sarc. Show 2019 will be as follows:

There will be two main prizes:

Overall Sarcochilus point-scorer of the evening

- Based on the Judges' assessment.
- Results to be carried over and the most successful exhibitor to be announced at the Christmas Party.

Best Sarcochilus of the evening

- To be assessed by members as a group.
- The grower of the winning Sarcochilus to be awarded the Iris Pendle Memorial Trophy.

The classes will be:

Species:

1. *Sarcochilus hartmannii*
2. *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii*
3. Other Sarcanthinae species #1
- 3A. Other Sarcanthinae species #2 (e.g. *Plectorrhiza* etc.)
4. Sarcanthinae seedling first flowering

Hybrids:

5. Primary *Sarcochilus* hybrid with *S. hartmannii* and/or *S. fitzgeraldii* parentage
6. Sarcanthinae hybrids predominantly WHITE
7. Sarcanthinae hybrids predominantly PINK/RED
8. Sarcanthinae hybrids predominantly OTHER COLOURS/YELLOWS/BROWNS
9. Sarcanthinae hybrids – first flowering
10. SPECIMEN size SPECIES or HYBRID
11. Novelty Sarcanthinae (e.g. Richard Jost, Kilgra, etc.)