Top Orchid

Autumn/Winter

2006

BOURNEMOUTH ORCHID SOCIETY
PROGRAMME

2006

Sat. Sept 23  Autumn Show  Beaufort Community Centre
Fri 27 Oct  *  David Menzies  “Orchids of South West Australia”
Fri 25 Nov  *  Thomas Brown  “Cymbidium Hybridisation at the EYOF”
Sat 10 Dec  *  Christmas Dinner
            Noon for 1 pm, Beaufort Community Centre”

2007

Fri 26 Jan  *  Stephen Taylor  “Vandas”
Sat 24 Feb  Spring Show  Beaufort Community Centre
Fri 30 Mar  *  Plant Clinic & Brains Trust
Fri 27 Apr  *  David Ridgeway  “Orchids of Ecuador”
Fri 25 May  *  AGM  followed by Plant Auction
Sun 3 June  Coach Outing  To be advised
Fri 22 June  Sara Rittershausen  “Absolute Beginnings”
Sun 22 July  *  Garden Party  Hosted by Nina Gregson; 2.30 p.m.
            3 Ashley Park, Ashley Heath.
Fri 17 Aug  *  Phillip Cribb  “Orchids of Southern China”
Sat 22 Sep  Autumn Show  Beaufort Community Centre, Southbourne

*  Members may sell plants only at these meetings

Front cover: *Dendrobium dichaeiodes*
Photograph Chong-Yee Khoo. See page 14
I must say how much I missed the Newbury Orchid Show this year. It was one of those special occasions that brought every keen orchid enthusiast together in a two day event filled with spectacular displays and thousands of orchid plants for sale. Mourning its loss, we had given up hope of any reprieve until an announcement declaring this event had found a new home in Peterborough. The Peterborough International Orchid Show will now take place over two days, Sat 16 - Sun 17 June 2007. Although much further to travel, the BOS will be putting up a display at this new event and, hopefully, it will continue the huge success had over the years at the Newbury International Orchid Show. I, for one, am looking forward to it.

At the October meeting we were delighted with a wonderful talk by David Menzies, featuring some of the strange and beautiful orchids of South Western Australia. You will see the write up for this on pages 9 & 10 by our busy chairman, Derek Copley. These articles are intended to give members, who could not get to a meeting, a taste of the talk given by the guest speaker. It does not have to be crammed with all the facts and figures but enough information to be of interest to the members. It can be a very personnel view. Over the months I have had difficulty persuading members to help and have had to take these notes myself. This situation is not ideal and so at the October meeting I appealed help, requesting volunteers put their names against a meeting they would like to take notes for. At the end of the meeting I eagerly looked at the form I had left on the information desk and found two names, I needed seven, and the two volunteers were committee members who had already offered their help previously. That meant I collected no volunteers from members at that meeting. Can I therefore take this opportunity to again ask for volunteers who would be willing to take the notes and write them up for Top Orchid. You would only be expected to do one for the whole season. If you do not wish to take the notes for the monthly meeting then how about a short article on any orchid subject? Perhaps you have a story to tell concerning your experiences with growing orchids. Maybe you have had particular success with the culture of a plant and would like to pass this on to others. I am not looking for War and Peace, just a few lines to help fill the pages of Top Orchid. You can send me copy any time, my details are printed on page 16, I look forward to your support!

At numerous meetings members come up to me and ask cultural questions and general orchids queries. Of course that is one of the purposes of our monthly meetings, it is a chance to find out all sorts of things about growing orchids, but as these discussions are on a one to one basis the rest of our members loose out on what might be valuable information. So I thought it would be a good idea to print these questions and answers for all members to see and perhaps comment further upon. So in the next issue of Top Orchid I have resurrected the orchid help page. You may not agree with the answers, perhaps you may have further comments or other questions which would be of interest, if so please, pass these on to me and I will endeavour to publish them in the next issue of Top Orchid.

How refreshing to see a new, and dare I say, Younger face receiving an award at the October meeting. Congratulations go to Duncan Mason for his plant of Bulbophyllum cocoinum. See page 5.
Having rearranged the seating in the hall, Philip set up a table and laid out various bits and pieces he would require for this demonstration. Everyone gathered round to get a closer look at his method of seed sowing.

Philip has been growing orchids for 30 years but does not rate himself as a particularly good grower, although he does grow Laelias well. He was aware members of the Bournemouth Society grow many different species well and he thought it would be appropriate to demonstrate the sowing of species orchids.

His talk was aimed at the novice or beginner and his method was to make this process as simple and economical as possible. Therefore, equipment such as a laminar flow cabinet was out of the question, so he showed how a simple Perspex box could be constructed to allow the sowing process to be carried out under sterile conditions. This measured approximately 60 x 30 cm x 30 cm high.

Philip explained a method of storing orchid seed, a subject he is obviously passionate about, although I personally could not see why this should be so important to the armature grower.

He described the medium most suited for germinating seed and how to prepare it. He also demonstrated an easy way of sterilizing the seed prior to sowing onto the medium.

Even though his seed sowing method was relatively simple it requires careful study and practise, but if you are interested in having a go at this method of propagation then I would strongly suggest you obtain a copy of, ‘Growing Orchids from Seed’ by Philip Seaton and Margaret Ramsey, a copy of which is in the society library.

This was a fascinating session and if Phil’s talk did not convert anybody to take up seed sowing it certainly went a long way to show what is required to raise all those millions of seedlings sold throughout the orchid trade.

Recommended reading:

Growing Orchids from Seed, Philip Seaton and Margaret Ramsey
Published by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Allan Burdis
The Awards

1 The Solent Shield For the Exhibitor gaining most points
   1st     - Colin Carter     ( 11 )Points
   2nd     - Geoff Hands    ( 10 )Points
   3rd     - Christine Carter ( 8 ) Points

2 The Echo Cup for the Best plant in show
   Winner – Christine Carter
   Plant – *Doritaenopsis* Soroa Delight

3 The Dorset Cup for the Best Odontoglossum
   Winner- George Lucas
   Plant – *Colmanara* Wildcat

4 The Priory Cup for the winner of class 13
   Winner – Duncan Mason
   Plant – *Bulbophyllum cocoinum*

5 The Species Trophy for the Best species in show
   Winner – Colin Carter
   Plant – *Holcoglossum kimballianum*

6 The Dendrobium Cup for the Best Dendrobium in show
   Winner –Glen Jamieson
   Plant – *Dendrobium* Hybrid

7 The Slipper Cup for the Best Slipper in show
   Winner – Colin Carter
   Plant – *Phragmipedium* Dick Clements

8 The Bob Wright Centenary Cup for the Best Hybrid in show
   Winner – Christine Carter
   Plant – *Doritaenopsis* Soroa delight

9 The New Forest Cup for the Best Group of Three in show
   Winner – Geoff Hands
   Plants – *Dendrochilum longifolium*
            *Eurychone rothschildiana*
            *Ascocentrum ampullaceum*

10 The Ringwood Cup for the Best Cattleya in show
    Winner     John James
    Plant      *Cattleya* Hawaiian wedding song
11 The Hamtun Cup for the Best Pleurothallid in show
Winner     Alan Sapsard
Plant     *Masdevallia herradurae*

12 Cultural Awards - awarded for cultural excellence to

Christine Carter     *Doritaenopsis* Soroa delight
Ken Griffiths     *Phalaenopsis violacea*
Eric Groome     *Paphiopedilum* Hybrid
John James     *Cattleya* Hawaiian wedding song
George Lucas     *Colmanara* Wildcat

**The Classes**

Class 1 One Cymbidium Species or Hybrid, Standard or Miniature (no entries)

Class 2 One Paphiopedilum Hybrid (5 entries)

1st George Lucas     *Paphiopedilum* Dolcie
2nd John Troke     *Paphiopedilum* Its Doll
3rd Nuala Sterling     *Paphiopedilum* Schaetzchen

Class 3 One Paphiopedilum Species (3 entries)

1st Alan Sapsard     *Phragmipedium zcerwiokowianum*
2nd Ken Griffiths     *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum “alba”*
3rd Colin Carter     *Paphiopedilum niveum*

Class 4 One Odontoglossum Species or Hybrid (5 entries)

1st George Lucas     *Colmanara* Wildcat
2nd Derek Copley     *Odontoglossum povidanum*
3rd John James     *Oncidium varicosum “baldin”*

Class 5 One Dendrobium Species or Hybrid (2 entries)

1st Glen Jamieson     *Dendrobium* Hybrid
2nd John Troke     *Dendrobium* Hybrid

Class 6 One Cattleya- Laelia Species or Hybrid (3 entries)

1st John James     *Cattleya* Hawaiian wedding song
2nd Geoff Hands     *Cattleya* Elegie Nuance
3rd Alan Sapsard     *Cattleya* Hybrid

Class 7 Phalaenopsis Species or Hybrid (5 entries)

1st Christine Carter     *Doritaenopsis* Soroa delight
2nd Geoff Hands     *Doritaenopsis* Aposya
3rd Ken Griffiths  
*Phalaenopsis violacea*

Class 8 Any other Hybrid (2 entries)
1st Alan Sapsard  
*Vanda Hybrid*
2nd Geoff Hands  
*Vanda Green river*

Class 9 Any other Species (4 entries)
1st Colin Carter  
*Holcoglossum kimballianum*
2nd John Troke  
*Vanda coerulea*
3rd Alan Sapsard  
*Psychopsis kramerianum*

Class 10 Three Species Orchids (3 entries)
1st Geoff Hands  
*Ascocentrum ampullaceum*  
*Eurychone rothschildiana*  
*Dendrochilum longifolia*
2nd Alan Sapsard  
*Masdevallia herradurae*  
*Rossioglossum grande*  
*Brassavola nodosa*
3rd Colin Carter  
*Epidendrum diffusum*  
*Calanthe sylvatica*  
*Phalaenopsis violacea*

Class 11 Three Hybrid Orchids (3 entries)
1st Colin Carter  
*Paphiopedilum Armeni white*  
*Phragmipedium Eric Young*  
*Phragmipedium Dick Clements*
2nd Christine Carter  
*Phalaenopsis Malibu Bistro*  
*Doritaenopsis Queen Beer*  
*Doritaenopsis Talsuco Firebird*
3rd Geoff Hands  
*Vanda Joan Hall*  
*Miltassia Mary Hollingshead*  
*Kagara Kultan red*

Class 12 Three Mixed Species or Hybrids (3 entries)
1st Christine Carter  
*Phalaenopsis White chiffon*  
*Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi*  
*Phalaenopsis Rififi*
2nd Derek Copley  
*Coelogyne fulginosa*  
*Oncidium Sharry baby*  
*Masdevallia Hybrid*
our Autumn show was a great success, congratulations to all rosette and trophy winners. The displays once again looked excellent, with superb quality plants, which keep on getting better and better. The judges had a difficult task within the time allocated to come to their decisions. Thanks go to our president Keith and programme secretary Chong-Yee.

The advice and potting demonstration gets more popular each show, Allan and Derek never stopped all afternoon many thanks to you both.

We had 247 paying visitors and I think everyone would agree this was one of our best Autumn shows. The best in show went to our treasurer Christine Carter for a magnificent plant of Phalaenopsis Sorroa delight a specimen with 30 pure white flowers. It was very encouraging to see one of our newer younger members and first time entrant Duncan Mason winning the Priory cup with a very unusual flowering Bulbophyllum cocoinum, if we had a class for a plant of botanical interest this would have been one of the main contenders.

The Tombola, under the supervision of Pam & Beth- any, did good business, as did the raffle, under the control of Monica & George. Well done everyone

Show secretary
Colin Carter

Top Orchid

3rd John Troke  Epidendrum cochleatum
Masdevallia  Mary Stahl
Masdevallia  Hybrid

Class 13 Novices Class (3 entries)
1st Duncan Mason  Bulbophyllum cocoinum
2nd Eric Groome  Phalaenopsis Carmel stripe
3rd Doreen Williams  Phalaenopsis Hybrid

Class 14 Cut Flower Spike (2 entries)
1st Colin Carter  Paphiopedilum Transvaal
2nd Derek Copley  Phalaenopsis Hybrid

Class 15 Window –Sill Orchid (2 entries)
1st Eric Groome  Paphiopedilum Hybrid
2nd Gerry Eve  Phalaenopsis Cassandra pixie

Doritaenopsis Sora Delight
Best In Show, Best Hybrid & Cultural Award
Grower Christine Carter
See BOC report pages 11 - 15
Perth, and its surrounding districts, is the most isolated city in the world, with Singapore being nearer than the Capital, Melbourne. Darwin is 1600 miles away. Hence the orchid species have existed and developed in isolation too. No one knows how they got there in the first place. Yet there are 300 species, all terrestrial, and 46 were shown tonight. The tour on which we went with David covered the tropical North as well as the South West coastal area. Many of his excellent slides were taken when a group of 46 enthusiasts (from 30 nations, some of them quite old too) spent a week together, seeing as many as 30 species in one day, and taking 10,000 photos between them, though some plants expired as they were trampled under foot!

Perth, an inland city, is clean and modern. It lies on a bend of the Swan River. On the coast is Fremantle with its boutiques and galleries. Their tour took them along that coast and inland too, using all the available daylight from dawn to dusk. King’s Park, a 1000 acre site, has excellent Botanical Gardens with 10,000 flowering species of plants. Its summer is hot (40C) and dry. Surprisingly, the South has arable farming as well as cattle, though you would rarely see a kangaroo. (though I once stayed with Aboriginal people near Perth, where the creatures we bounding all over their back garden)

Orchids too, like Caladenias, were to be found too in King’s Park. In the country as a whole there are 140 species of Caladenias, and David had seen 40 of these. They have a single leaf and a hairy stem. Australia boasts some weird flowers, like Kangaroo Paws, with furry red stems and green paw-like flowers.(not orchids)

Many of the orchids such as the group of Diuris, have local nicknames like Donkey Orchids, because the petals stick up like donkey ears. Then there are the Thelymitras, the Sun Orchids, which only open when the sun shines. Unusually, they have almost symmetrical flowers, and grow some 25cm tall. They come in lovely shades of blue and cream. Many flowers, including orchids, need to have the ground regularly scorched by fire before they will grow and bloom

Perhaps the weirdest of all are the Hammer Orchids, Drakaea, The hammer-like part of the flower, apparently loosely attached, attracts male wasps who think it is a lady wasp. He will try to mate with it, and fly off with her. But of course it is firmly attached, and the resulting tug of war flips the wasp into a position where the pollens stick to his back, and get deposited next time he tries it on with another bloom. All very sad really-he never gets his lady!
The odd pollination mechanisms are not restricted to the Hammer Orchid. In this category are the Pterostylis orchids, which are green, known as the Jug Orchid. David pointed out that the Aussies have a funny idea of what a jug looks like. And the odd and seemingly inappropriate names he mentioned just got better and better. There are Caladenias called Pink Fairy, definitely not at all fairy-like, thought they are a lovely shade of pink, it has to be said.

As a delightful diversion (like ours in Dijon last year) they enjoyed some wine tasting with Margaret River Wines. David referred to ‘much sampling’ of wine. Thankfully none of them was driving (they were in a coach). Forgive my ignorance, but I thought you were supposed to sniff it after swirling it round, make intelligent comments about a hint of this and that, then spit it all out into the receptacle provided? I did notice at Dijon that the spittoon was virtually unused!

There, they found the King in his Carriage, a hammer orchid only 10 cm high, and the Albany Pitcher Plant, complete with lid. And nearby the Flying Duck Orchid, Caleana, which looked like a Hammer Orchid, and if you look hard enough and use you imagination, you COULD say it looks like a duck!

By the end of the talk, we all felt like we had personally been on the tour with these intrepid enthusiasts.

Derek Copley

PS What would you get if you crossed a Kangaroo with a Sheep? A woolly jumper! Sorry folks, bad joke.

Unfortunately I do not have photographs to accompany this article, much to my disappointment. So I suggest you a look on the web or search out Native Orchids of Australia by David L. Jones and have a look at Caleana major, the Flying Duck Orchid on page 143, and you will see it does look like a flying duck! (Ed)
On the weekend of 30th September to 1st October the British Orchid Council held their 22nd congress at the Winter gardens Weston Super-Mare.

The congress was divided into two main display and sales areas being the Ballroom and the Prince Consort Hall.

There were 22 trade stands a mix of international and home nurseries providing a varied mix of plants and sundries for sale.

Twenty U/K Orchid Societies staged displays.

The Bournemouth Orchid Society stand was approx. 10 ft x 6 ft situated in the Prince Consort Hall. This was just one week after our own Autumn show and the woodland setting was chosen as our theme for the display.

Viewed from the front left to right, a fairly large tree fern positioned in the foreground gave the effect of looking into the forest to a small wooded valley adorned with orchids, to the far right the moss covered tree was positioned hosting a good mix of smaller mounted orchids and bromeliads. A mist emulating from the moss covered base of the tree added to the rain forest effect.

With over 130 plants on the display I can only mention a few, the superb *Paph purpuratum* ‘Highcliffe Castle’ AM/RHS with five perfect flowers, the large white *Doritaenopsis Sora Delight* with over thirty flowers, the two white Cattleyas, the vibrant yellow *Spathoglottis kimballiana* and many more.

The overall display was made possible with plants loaned from our society members together with the artistic skills of Allan and back up from committee members.
Dendrobium Peng Seng,
(D. cruenatum x D. tobaense)
See page 14
All plants are correctly and clearly labelled, a feature of all our displays. These are hand written by Graham Smith.

Below a view of the left hand side of the display, which was filled with many superb plants, all nestling in a bed of moss.
**Paphiopedilum purpuratum** ‘Highcliffe Castle’ AM/.RHS See page 15

**Grand Champion Plant**

*Dendrobium capituliflorum* ‘Herrenhausen’.
Whole plant and close-up below.
BOC Awards to Bournemouth members

Allan Burdis  1st Paph. species  *Paph. purpuratum* 'Highcliffe Castle' AM/RHS
Christine Carter  2nd Phal. hybrid  *Doritaenopsis* Sorea delight
Colin Carter  2nd Sarcanthinae  *Holcoglossum kimballianum*
Chong-Yee Khoo  2nd Dend. species  *Dendrobium dichaeiodes*
Chong-Yee Khoo  2nd Dend. hybrid  *Dendrobium Peng Seng*
John Troke  2nd Cymb. species  *Cymbidium erythrostylum*

Canterbury Trophy  Allan Burdis  *Paph purpuratum* 'Highcliffe Castle' AM/RHS

RHS Awards to Bournemouth members

Michael Powell  Preliminary Commendation  *Spathoglottis kimballiana*
Allan Burdis Certificate of Cultural Commendation  *Paph. purpuratum* 'Highcliffe Castle' AM/RHS

Once again a result to be proud of, If the display's had been judged we would have been in with a good chance for a further award but under BOC rules only the plants are judged Many thanks to all who loaned plants or helped on the day.

The Grand Champion plant, the best plant in show and the 1st Dendrobium species was awarded to Tropische Orchideen from Germany with a magnificent *Dendrobium capituliflorum* 'Herrenhausen' (see page 13)

During the weekend a good programme of lectures took place. The trophies were awarded at the Gala dinner on the Saturday evening including the Canterbury trophy to our life Vice President Allan Burdis. The breakdown of the display went much better than anticipated, due to many willing hands. The journey home through torrential rain and cloudburst saw the plants and ourselves home safe.

Once again many thanks to all members who visited and helped with the weekend.

**Show Secretary**
Colin Carter

*Spathoglottis kimballiana*  
PC/RHS
Following on from the last issue of *Top Orchid*, I experienced yet another first, this time it was a *Dendrobium* species, the lovely *D. lanyaie*.

I purchased this plant from the same vendor as *Pecteilis sagarikii*, after seeing the photograph which accompanied this plant. I was lured by its incredibly vivid orange colour and thought if it turned out as good as the photo I would be well pleased.

Well it flowered this summer, and as you see from the photograph I took it did not disappoint. This species is related to *D. unicum* and, like this species, *D. lanyaie* has a lip which is uppermost, so you see the photograph is not upside down.

I cannot find much information regarding this species so I have treated it the same as *D. unicum*, which comes from Thailand and grows intermediate to cool. When in active growth it prefers lots of water and later, when the leaves start to fall, kept drier and cooler.

Compared to *D. Unicum*, pictured right, *D. Lanyaie* has longer and narrower sepals and petals. The lip is also longer and narrower with well defined veining on the inner and outer surface. As with *D. unicum* expect variation in colour, size and shape of flowers.

*Allan Burdis*
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