



# Parramatta & District Orchid Society News

[www.parramattaorchidsociety.org](http://www.parramattaorchidsociety.org)

## June 2009



### **Next Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2009**

**8.00pm @ Banksia Room,  
Wentworthville  
Community Centre  
2 Lane Street Wentworthville**

**Our own Terry Davis will be speaking to  
us this month about “Fertilisers and  
what pH is all about”**

**Green Growers Group with Terry Davis  
starts at 6.45 pm**

**BEST PLANTS MAY 2009**

**Open.-Slc. Dal's Buddy 'Ken'**

**Grown by Ken Massingham**

**Novice - Cym. Linch Down 'AAA'**

**Grown by David & Kate Mitchell**

**Visit the PDOS website:**

**[www.parramattaorchidsociety.org](http://www.parramattaorchidsociety.org)**

**See all the photographs from the May  
meeting**

**[http://picasaweb.google.com/parraorchids/  
5May2009](http://picasaweb.google.com/parraorchids/5May2009)**



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# Parramatta & District Orchid Society Inc.

## June 2009 News

### Patron – Norm Shipway

**President**

David Banks  
02 9674 4720

**Secretary**

Bev Clifford  
02 9635 7790

**Committee**

Norm Shipway  
Vivian Andrews  
Andrew Locke  
Andy Gatt  
Jessie Gatt  
Gerry Smee

**Vice President**

Ken Massingham  
02 9639 2672

**Treasurer**

Keith Ryan  
02 9753 4724

**Photos**

Terry Davis

**Plant Steward**

Terry Davis

**Editors**

Bev Clifford & Jim Ponton

### May 2009 Meeting

Banksia Room, Wentworthville Community Centre, Tuesday 28/5/2009, at 8.00 pm.

No Monthly Minutes or Treasurers report available at the time of printing

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### From the President's Desk

Last month we had a look at a most impressive PowerPoint Presentation on the recent Taiwan International Orchid Show 2009. A friend of mine from Canada – Peter Croezen – kindly emailed this file to me, and we got to see REAL orchid displays and QUALITY Phalaenopsis! Thanks to John Keenan (who is a real orchid judge) who also helped with the commentary, as he has both exhibited and judged at this prestigious event. In fact, John will be back in Taiwan for the next show in 2010. There was also discussion on the cultivation of Laelia anceps, and seeing some of the various forms that are in cultivation.

### Next Meeting (Tuesday 23rd June 2009)

Our own Terry Davis will be speaking to us this month about “Fertilisers and what pH is all about”. This talk will focus on culture of cymbidiums, cattleyas and other genera. The Green Growers Group will still be held by Terry before the main meeting, with the topic being on Tillandsias.

### National Orchid Extravaganza at Dural (7th – 9th August 2009)

The Cymbidium Club of Australia (NSW) Inc. will be holding its annual show at the Dural Recreation Centre “Ellerman Park” 25a Kenthurst Road, Round Corner Dural (entrance from Pellitt Lane, Dural) from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th August 2009 (9am-

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5pm). There you will see arguably the best display of quality cymbidiums in the country. There are also other genera on display, and members of PDOS are invited to exhibit flowering orchids. There is a \$4- entry fee with plenty of free parking and a wide range of local and interstate orchid vendors selling their wares. Refreshments are being expertly provided by the Dural Round Corner Bush Fire Brigade. See you there!

### **Social Outing** – Saturday 17th or Sunday 18th October 2009

Some members expressed that Saturday 17th would suit better than Sunday 18th October 2009 for our Social Day for members (and their family/friends) to be held in the Upper Blue Mountains. We will be taking in some “special places” to see some native orchids in the wild, including Mt Banks and Mt Wilson. We would look at car pooling and have either a picnic or BBQ lunch. As long as the orchids co-operate, we will see a number of terrestrials including the blue sun orchid (*Thelymitra*), beard orchid (*Calochilus*) plus some epiphytes (tree orchids) as well. We would look at a picnic lunch – probably at Mount Wilson – there are a few tables there, but best to bring along some folding chairs as well. Closer to the time we will be coordinating meeting times and places, and I will get a map organised to pin-point the places we will be visiting. Remember you will be able to do as much or as little walking as you like – so don’t use that as an excuse for not coming! In fact, you will be surprised how many interesting orchids you will see from the car. I will need to get an indication of how many plan to attend (as some of these spots in the mountains have limited parking) – so I can plan ahead.

Obviously the saying of “leave only footprints, take only photographs” applies on this trip, and there will be many photo opportunities. At the next meeting we will finalise the date.

### **Judging**

It’s always been interesting for me to observe the “official” orchid judges over many, many years. I was speaking at another Orchid Society a couple of weeks back, but I didn’t get to start until close to 9.30pm! The reason why? The judges took well over an hour and a quarter to make their decisions. Is this really acceptable? People standing around looking at a bunch of plants (about the same number as at a normal PDOS meeting), with no-one, it seems, confident enough to make a decision. Sadly, there are few places around where judges can learn more about good orchids and see them. It’s even harder if they don’t travel out of their local area.

I suppose what peeved me was that “the judges”, after completing their task and stuffing their faces with supper and a cup of tea, went home. Maybe it was because it was me? That’s fine, but they missed out on an opportunity to learn a bit about *Coelogyne* species and hybrids with a presentation I had previously given to the (proactive) judging panel in New Zealand a couple of years ago. But in reality (because certain people are repeat offenders) it is just plain rude, and one of the reasons it’s hard to procure quality guest speakers.

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A few reasons for this have been suggested to me. Sadly, there are judges that think once they get their judges badge they know everything, and seem to be incapable of further learning. Another reason is the fear of being asked to do an impromptu plant description, where their lack of true knowledge and understanding could be exposed. For the sake of the collective orchid societies, I think some of these judges should have a good hard look at themselves. Some of my antagonists will just think I am ranting again, but is what I have described really acceptable behaviour? Something the OSNSW Judging Registrar should (but won't) address.

### **Plant Sales at Meetings**

Just a reminder that this operates most months (not when our Shows are on or the Christmas Party meeting). The Society takes 20% commission on sales of orchids, companion plants and books. Last month the Society made \$31.60 on commission.

### **Cold Weather**

Well, winter finally arrived a few days ago. We have already had frosts, below zero temperatures and there has been snow in the Blue Mountains. Make sure any tender orchids are placed in slightly warmer 'microclimates' to avoid frost damage. Orchids kept dry will suffer far less than those kept moist or recently watered. Keep a minimum/maximum thermometer in your orchidhouse (or a couple at different ends or heights) so you know exactly what's happening in your backyard.

### **Growing Competitions**

It has been suggested that we conduct another round of growing competitions. What genera would you like to try? We will discuss this at the next meeting.

### **50:50 Auctions**

We will again be holding a couple of 50:50 auctions this year in conjunction with our Winter and Spring Shows held at our hall during the normal meetings. Only limited numbers of plants will be auctioned and we plan to have a list of plants going under the hammer. Please let me know if you have plants you would like included in this initiative.

### **Committee Meetings**

With the demise and closure of Demons Sports, we lost our venue for our PDOS committee meetings. They will now be held at Northmead Bowling Club, 166 Windsor Road, Northmead at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month. I have suggested to the committee that they may wish to join the Club for \$11-/year or a 5-year membership for \$30-. Andy G. tells me that the pokies pay there!

### **PDOS Winter Show 2010**

Yes, I know it's next year, but as reported last month, the 2010 PDOS Winter Show will be held at Winston Hills Shopping Centre in June/July 2010 (set up Wednesday evening 30th June 2010 until pull-down on Sunday 3rd July 2010 – just before the school holidays). I had a very productive meeting with WHSC management and made a

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submission on behalf of the Society that was hard to refuse. This is a very exciting development that has opened the door for us to expand both our membership as well as our bank balance, whilst promoting orchids at the same time. Members will also be able to sell quality plants at this show, with the Society taking 20% commission. The sales area will be in front of the ANZ Bank, whilst the display for plants would be in front of Big W.

Winston Hills Shopping Centre can clearly see the marketing opportunities that become apparent with PDOS involvement. We have over 12 months to plan for this, and I am sure this has the potential to become an annual event. It is essential that this receives the full support of the Committee and also the wider membership, especially regarding flowering plants for benching, security, raffle ticket sales, manning of the sales table etc. I see this as being one of the most important opportunities for the Society in well over a decade. As I said, it's still a long way off, but it is imperative that we plan ahead for this and fulfill the obvious potential.

See you all at the next meeting.

David Banks

President, PDOS

Email: [david@hillsdistrictorchids.com](mailto:david@hillsdistrictorchids.com)

### **COMIC CORNER:**

An Old Italian lived alone in New Jersey. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work doing all the digging, as the ground was so hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent,

I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days.

Love, Papa

A few days later he received a letter from his son.

Dear Pop,

Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.

Love, Vinnie

At 4 a.m. The next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologised to the old man and left. That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Pop,

Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love you, Vinnie x

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### Point Score Competition

OPEN		May 2009		
1.	Cymbidium	1.	P Clemson	Cym. Flaming Vulcan = Change Label
	Standard	2.	P Clemson	Cym. Lovely Angel 'Zeus'
	Over 90mm	3.	D Nicholson	Cym. Butter Goose 'Snapple'
2.	Cymbidium	1.	P Clemson	Cym. Ruby Parker '105'
	Intermediate	2.	O Maia	Cym. Sylvan Star x Peggy Foo
	60 – 99mm			
3.	Cymbidium	1.	N & V Shipway	Cym. Pharaohs Dream = Change Label
	Miniature	2.	N & V Shipway	Cym. Elegant Elf 'Nan'
	Under 60mm	3.	A & J Gatt	Cym. Kingwin 'Tiffany'
4.	Cattleya	1.	T Costa & S Crosby	Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation'
	Over 110mm	2.	K Massingham	Pot. Goldenell 'Sunshine'
		3.	O Maia	Blc. Ruth Purvis 'Magnificent'
5.	Cattleya	1.	N & V Shipway	Lc. Little Susie x Lc. Little Jose
	Cluster	2.	K Massingham	Pot. Shin Fong Little Love 'Canary Song'
	5 or > flowers	3.	N & V Shipway	Lc. Little Susie 'Orchidglade'
6.	Cattleya	1.	K Massingham	Slc. Dal's Buddy 'Ken'
	70 – 110mm	2.	A & J Gatt	Lc. Burgudy Gem
		3.	O Maia	C. Angelwalker 'Pamela V. Fraestans
7.	Cattleya	1.	P Clemson	Slc. Tangerine Jewel x Blc. Love Sound
	Under 70mm	2.	K Massingham	Slc. Precious Jewel x Slc. Jungle Gem
		3.	M & F Ferguson	Slc. Tiny Titan
8.	Native	1.	K Massingham	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>
	Species -			
	Epiphyte			
11.	Dendrobium	1.	A & J Gatt	Den. White Dragon
	Hybrid -	2.	K Harris	Den. Masako Taki 'Blue'
	Exotic	3.	A & J Gatt	Den. bigibbum x (Den. Blue Ice x Den. Blue Lip)
12.	Oncidium	1.	N & V Shipway	Onc. Dark Sun
	Only	2.	M & F Ferguson	Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'
		3.	N & V Shipway	Onc. Sum Lai Woh 'Geyserland'
13.	Oncidium	1.	K Massingham	Odcdm. Big Mag 'Distinctive'
	Alliance	2.	D Nicholson	Onc. Lustre x Odm. Hallio-Crispum
	Other	3.	V & J Andrews	Mtssa. Aztec 'Toni'
14.	Paphiopedilum	1.	K Massingham	<i>Paph. glaucophyllum</i>
	Species	2.	K Massingham	<i>Paph. sukakulii</i>
		3.	K Massingham	<i>Paph. gratrixianum</i>
15.	Paphiopedilum	1.	K Massingham	Paph. Saint Swithin
	Novelty	2.	T Costa & S Crosby	Paph. Manning Park
	Hybrid	3.	K Massingham	Paph. Saiun = Change Label
17.	Vandaceous	1.	M & F Ferguson	Satyliis Bravehart 'Sandy'
	Hybrid			
18.	Phalaenopsis	1.	T Costa & S Crosby	Phal. Golden Joy 'Lemon Stripes
	Hybrid	2.	P Yeung & J Keenan	Phal. Dawn Hunter x sehirane

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**Point Score Competition**

19.	Exotic	1.	M & F Ferguson	<i>Cymbidium erythraeum</i> 'Paradise'
	Species -	2.	D Nicholson	<i>Coeloglyne tomentosa</i>
	Asian	3.	P Yeung & J Keenan	<i>Phalaenopsis amboinensis</i>
20.	Exotic	1.	K Massingham	<i>Laelia anceps</i> 'Royal Guerrero'
	Species -	2.	N & V Shipway	<i>Barkeria lindleyana</i>
	Other	3.	D Nicholson	<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i> = <i>Encyclia cochleata</i>
21.	Exotic	1.	T Costa & S Crosby	<i>Oncidium ornithorhynchum</i>
	Miniature	2.	K Massingham	<i>Gomesa crispa</i>
	Species	3.	P Yeung & J Keenan	<i>Oncidium ornithorhynchum</i>
22.	Miscellaneous	1.	K Ryan	Masd. Stripendous
	Hybrid	2.	K Harris	Z. Dinkum Aussie x Kiwi Choice
		3.	K Massingham	Z. Inky Dink = Change Labels Z. John Banks x Z Blackii
23.	Seedling	1.	D Nicholson	Cym. Culpaulin x Daves Dream
	Hybrid			
<b>NOVICE</b>				
25.	Novice	1.	L Hueston	Cym. Katies Gold 'Sunrise'
	Cymbidium			
	Intermediate			
26.	Novice	1.	D & K Mitchell	Cym. Linch Down 'AAA'
	Cymbidium			
	Miniature			
29.	Novice	1.	R Giles	Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation'
	Cattleya	2.	R Giles	Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Elizabeth'
	Alliance	3.	R Giles	Blc. Burdekin Storm 'Midnight'
30.	Novice	1.	C Nidagae	<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i> = <i>Encyclia cochleata</i>
	Exotic			
	Species			
31.	Novice	1.	C Nidagal	Paph. unkown
	Paphiopedilum	2.	D Brown	Paph. insigne
		3.	D & K Mitchell	Paph. insigne
<b>BEST PLANTS</b>				
	Open		K Massingham	Slc. Dal's Buddy 'Ken'
	Novice		D & K Mitchell	Cym. Linch Down 'AAA'

**Change Labels Please**

Cym. Flaming Vulcan = Khan Flame x Yowie Rose  
 Cym. Pharaohs Dream = Daves Dream x Pharaohs Gold  
 Pot. Virginia Key = Pot. Free Spirit x Lc. Drumbeat  
 Blc Marg Putman = C. intermedia x Bl. Morning Glory  
 Bc. Ivy Williams = C. Gene May x Bc. Maikai  
 Slc Lues Angel Beau = Lc. Angel Heart x Sc. Beaufort  
 Den. Dals Marie = Den. Dal Maree  
 Den Dal's Treasure = Den. Dal Maree x Den. Dal's Surprise  
 Den. Dal's Satisfaction = Den. Dal's Classic x Den. Jay Kays Beauty  
 Paph. Saiun = wardii x sukhakulii  
*Prosthechea cochleata* = **Encyclia cochleata**  
 Z. Inky Dink = Z. John Banks x Z Blackii

**Remember: Green Growers starts at 6.45 pm with Main Meeting at 8.00pm**  
**Banksia Room, Wentworthville Community Centre - 2 Lane Street, Wentworthville**