

PREVIOUS MEETING: 4th November 2007

Our last meeting was quite a record breaker! Our first international guest speaker, Bill Leonard from Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. and also tremendous response from the public with a record attendance of 32 visitors.

Bill gave a most interesting presentation on Cattleya species, their use in hybridising and their culture.

Tips from Bill's talk on growing Cattleya Species:

- ❖ Cattleya warscewiczii must be repotted immediately after flowering and also requires a long rest period after flowering to ensure flowering the following year. Only resume watering normally once the new growth is 10cm tall. Cattleya warscewiczii also requires bright light. The leaves should be a yellow-green.
- ❖ Cattleya lawrenceana requires warmer night temperatures than most other cattleya species.
- ❖ Cattleya iricolor requires more water than other Cattleya species. In nature it is often found growing in the 'splash zone' of waterfalls.
- ❖ Cattleya luteola and Cattleya walkeriana are best grown mounted.
- ❖ Cattleya mendelii and Cattleya gaskelliana are vigorous, easy to grow, free flowering species which are recommended for beginners.
- ❖ Use spanish moss as an indicator plant for humidity levels. Hang it up in your shadehouse and if it thrives then your humidity levels are sufficient for successful orchid growing.

Plant Table

We had a lovely selection of indigenous orchids on the table and so a special category was created for them. Thank you to everyone for bringing their flowering plants to share with us.

Members votes resulted in the following:

S.A.			
Species	1st	Polystachya ottoniana	R & T Moss
	2nd	Mystacidium capense	Toni Krull
	3rd	Cyrtorchis arcuata	Mavis Downey
Species	1st	Maxillaria tenuifolia	Mavis Downey
	2nd	Prosthechea baculus	Freda Steel
	3rd	Prosthechea vespa	R & T Moss
Hybrids	1st	Vanda John de Biase	Dot Norval
	2 nd	Paphiopedilum Lady Isabel	Dot Norval
	3rd	Phalaenopsis Chih Shang's	R & T Moss
		Stripes x Ruerlih Stripes	

Raffle

The plant on raffle, Cattleya jenmanii was won by Mike Bond. Congratulations and good luck with your plant. There will be a plant on raffle at the end of year function and the proceeds will be donated to the Ted Schelpe Memorial Year Book Fund.

GONUBIE GOSSIP

End of Year Function – 2 December, 2007

A social braai will be held at the St. Martin-by-the-Sea Anglican Church Hall – Time 13h00 – Cost R45-00 per head – if you have not booked, please contact Tracy or Colleen by the 25th November 2007.

Remember you need to bring the following with you:

- Your own crockery, cutlery, glasses etc
 - Your own beverages
 - Your Lotto tickets
 - A small wrapped gift for yourself and each person accompanying you, which will be exchanged
 - Your flowering orchids for us to admire and chat about
- (This will be an informal plant table i.e. There will be no voting or points allocated).

GOS QUIZ:

NOVEMBER'S ANSWER:

Ludisia discolor. The first correct entry drawn and winner of a Dendrochilum uncatum was Alvin Peinke. Congratulations and good luck with your plant.

Ludisia discolor is an attractive species found in India to Southeast Asia. This terrestrial is grown for its beautiful leaves, which have a dark reddish-green background with red to golden veins on the upper surface. It is best to grow these orchids in shallow containers that have a large surface area, as this species quickly establishes into a large specimen.



We wish all our members a blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and Happy Orchid Growing in 2008.