

PREVIOUS MEETING:

AGM and Special General Meeting held on 4th February 2007

Apologies: Carol van Niekerk and Mac Vosloo.

Tracy extended a warm welcome to the members attending the first meeting of 2007. The reports were read by Tracy and Ray, and after discussions on various points, they were adopted. Tracy extended a special thank you to last year's committee and members for all their hard work and a very Big thank you to Johan Gauche for his hard work and dedication to GOS. The new constitution was discussed and approved. We also have five new books available in our library.

Election of New Management Committee Members for 2007

President: Tracy Moss

Vice-President: Ray Hewson

Treasurer: Cynthia Hewson

Secretary: Colleen de Villiers

Shopkeeper: Robert Moss

Librarian: Mirle Atkinson

Refreshments: Yvonne Bond

Additional Member: Mike Bond

A New Years Resolution for Members:

- 1) Set Goals for 2007
- 2) Check your Shade House
- 3) Exchange or sell healthy plants that will not flower for you.
- 4) Have a selection of Plants that will flower all year round.
- 5) Strive to grow Specimen Plants.
- 6) Introduce New Members / Visitors.

Plant Table Results: There was a lovely selection of Cattleyas on the table this month. Thank you for bringing your plants to share with us. Members' votes resulted in the following:

Hybrids:	1 st	Vanda Fuch's Delight	-	Robert & Tracy Moss
	2 nd	Cattleya Walkerana	-	Mavis Downey
	3 rd	Cookara Tropical	-	Ray & Cynthia Hewson
		Snowflake		
Species:	1 st	Cattleya harrisoniana	-	Robert & Tracy Moss
	2 nd	Diaphanante millarii	-	Robert & Tracy Moss
	3 rd	Doritis pulcherrima	-	Robert & Tracy Moss

Raffle: The plant on raffle, Lc Love Knot 'H & R' X B. Nodosa was won by Mavis Downey. Congratulations and enjoy your plant.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to Sylvia Coates and Manuela Chaput, who joined us this month. We hope you will grow beautiful orchids with us.

GONUBIE GOSSIP:

Shop News

The shop will be open on **Sunday 4th March from 14h15 – 14h40** and also on **Monday 19th March from 14h30 – 16h00**. Please note that these are the only

times that you will be assisted with purchases from the shop. Unfortunately Hydroton, Bark-Coarse & Calcium Nitrate are temporarily out of stock.

Problem Plants

If you need some help and advice on problem plants please feel free to bring them along to our monthly meetings, alternatively Tracey will be available on **Monday 19th March from 14h30 – 16h00** to assist members with any culture problems or advice needed.

CULTURE TIP: BLIND SHEATHS ON CATTLEYAS

A number of members have asked me why their Cattleyas are producing sheaths but then they don't bloom?

This could be due to:

- a) Insufficient Light
- b) Cattleyas can make a new growth with a sheath during summer & only initiate buds much later in autumn / spring.

Watch out for sheath rots. Sheaths should be removed immediately if they show any sign of turning yellow. This is done by cutting the top of the sheath off, and then carefully peeling back the sheath, to expose the young buds. Remember that once a sheath is removed, the inflorescence will need support. Never stake your flower at the last minute. Pseudobulbs should be staked as soon as they mature and buds should be tied in place before they open.

Orchid Auction:

The auction was held after the AGM and R515.00 was raised. Thank you to members for their support and also for donating plants.

NEST MEETING: 4th MARCH, 2007

Tracy will be giving a talk on the basics of **Vanda Culture**.

Plant table:

There will be a Plant Table at the next meeting so please remember to bring your flowering plants.

GOS QUIZ:

FEBRUARY'S ANSWER:

Ophrys a genus distributed in Europe & the Mediterranean. Commonly known as the Bee Orchid as the flowers mimic certain bee species & are pollinated by male bees that are further attracted to the flowers by their fragrance, which imitates female pheromones. The first correct entry drawn was Dot Norval & she won a Dendrobium Kingianum.

MARCH'S QUESTION:

A Hawkinsara is a complex hybrid. Which genera are combined with Cattleya to create this hybrid?