



**Albury - Wodonga & District
Orchid Club Inc.**



Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of the Month (except January) at The Murray Valley Centre, Pearce Street Wodonga

Postal Address:

AWDOC INC.
PO Box 5215
Wodonga Plaza
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AWDOC Committee

President

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Secretary

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Committee

Gloria Campbell, Keith Kilo

Vice President

Stephen Sang 60591420

Treasurer

Leslie Sang 60591420

Novice Coordinator Anna Christesen.

All Club correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary PO Box 5215, Wodonga Plaza, 3690.

Membership Fees, 2019 – 2020

Not all of our active members have paid their 2019/20 membership fees as yet. Please check if you are in arrears. We will be contacting those which we have identified as unpaid.

The membership fees for the 2019 - 2020 financial year are now due and are \$25 for family membership and \$20 for individual membership. Country family membership (living more than 30 Km from Albury post office) is \$20. Membership can be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer direct to our bank account.

Bank details are: **Hume Bank.** BSB 640 000. A/c 375843 S10. Or 111092534 for transfers from banks other than Hume Bank.

Ensure you put your name in the reference box so our treasurer can identify who it is from.

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th February 2020 at the Murray Valley Centre, Pearce St, Wodonga.

We will show photographs of the popular vote orchids from throughout the year and you the members will decide on the best popular vote of the year.

There will be the usual flowering competition for open, intermediate and novice.

Novice/Intermediate Growers. There will be our usual novice & intermediate growers' talk between 7pm and 7-30pm. Conducted by Anna.

Sales Bench

There will be a table with various pots, pot holders, stakes, slug out, labels, trays, pot hangers, perlite and large and small bark. Please see Keith Kilo for any requirements.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

There will be a morning "cuppa" and social chat at the Wodonga Plant Farm on the last Friday of the month. The next one will be on Friday 28th February at 10am. This will be an informal social chat about anything you want to chat about.

Albury City Council Seniors Week

We have agreed to be involved with a workshop during the Albury City Council Seniors Week – Wednesday 19 February 2020, 10am to 12 noon at the Mirambeena Centre. Members of our club have to be in attendance throughout the day presenting a workshop on orchid cultural information to the general public.

We need some volunteers to assist us, so please let Leslie know if you can help. We can sell a few plants & accessories to the public. The Albury Council are doing all the publicity at no cost to us.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle.

We are again doing a sausage sizzle at Bunnings on Sunday 23rd February 2020. Helpers will be required to provide assistance and to relieve workers. If you can offer your services for a couple of hours, contact Dione.

The Sapphire Coast Orchid Club Worksop will be held on 21 & 22 March 2020 at the Merimbula RSL.

Speakers will be Marita Anderson, David Brooks and Gary Hart.

Plants will be available for sale. For more information and application form please email Graham at graham.helen71@bigpond.com or phone 02 64 963 641.

Three Rivers Orchid Show

A meeting will be held at the Corowa RSL at 10.30am on Sunday 9th February. New members are most welcome to attend as some of the existing members will be standing down at the AGM this year.

Vale Barry Callaway.

It is with sadness I advise the passing of one of our members in Barry Callaway. Mary and Barry have been members for many years and were always willing to chat to other members. They loved to travel and therefore they missed a quite few meetings whilst away on their trips to many parts of the world. We offer our condolences to Mary, her family and friends.

Monthly Flowering Competition Results for December 2019

Plant of the Month

Best Species

Popular Vote

Cymbidium canaliculatum

Exhibited by K & J Kilo



Best Novice

Oncidium spacelatum

Exhibited by R Wales



Best Fern & Foliage

African Violet

Exhibited by K Goodall



Open Miniature Cymbidium

1st Cym Canned Magic exhibited by C Godde.

2nd Cym Spark Sprite exhibited by C Godde.

3rd Cym Spark Sprite exhibited by C Godde.

Open Cymbidium Species

1st *Cym canaliculatum* exhibited by K & J Kilo.

2nd *Cym canaliculatum* 'Marbimara' exhibited by C Godde

3rd *Cym canaliculatum* 'Pale Green' exhibited by S & L Sang.

Open Cymbidium Sauve.

1st *Cymbidium suave* exhibited by K & J Kilo.

Open Any Other Genera Hybrid.

1st Phalaenopsis I - Hsin Mirage by J & J Wooding.

2nd *Dendrobium nobile* (Narauchen x ANSMOAF) exhibited by S & L Sang

3rd Sartylis Toowoomba Sparkle exhibited by C Godde..

Open Australian Native Species

1st *Sarcochilus ceciliae* exhibited by A & K Goodall.

Open Any Other Species

1st *Dendrobium loddigessii* exhibited by S & L Sang.

Novice Small Cymbidium

1st Cym Sunburst exhibited by Max Davies.

2nd Cym Cricket exhibited by J Garnier.

Novice Medium Cymbidium

1st Cym Red Eyes exhibited by J Garnier.

Novice Any Other Genera

1st (Slc.Mari's Beat x Blc Evelyln Spencer) exhibited by R Wales.

2nd Dendrobium Pink Butterfly exhibited by R Wales.

3rd Dendrobium (Yukidorama x Beautiful egg) exhibited by M Sang.

Novice Any Other Species

1st *Oncidium spacelatum* exhibited by R Wales.

2nd *Laelia purpuratum* exhibited by R Wales.

Fern & Foliage

1st African Violet exhibited by K Goodall.

2nd Bromelaid exhibited by S & L Sang.

3rd Succulent exhibited by M Davies.

What I flowered around Christmas 2019

By Alan Pleitner.

Most of November and all of December and January is that period when there are no shows or club meetings so what orchids have I and my visitors enjoyed during this time? I am writing this near the end of January when the temperature is up and the smoke haze is a real problem.

The challenge at this time of the year has been to keep the moisture up to them with the very hot summer we are starting to have. On the 43-45 degree days I have been spraying or dipping them up to four or five times a day. The Sarcophilus have been very good, with four of my *S. hillii* still flowering beautifully. They may not be very big but gee they really are beautiful, and they just keep on coming one after the other down the raceme. I have couple of *S. ceciliae* seedlings which John Stubbs bred and gave me. One of these flowered for the first time last year and now the other one is following suit. The flower is a beautiful pale pink so John will be very pleased when I tell him.

Of course, the Cymbidiums have all done very nicely except the *C. madidums* which suffered badly in the prolonged heat early in 2018 but I had eight *C. suave* flowered beautifully (one had fourteen racemes each with about 40 flowers) with the last one finishing just before the New Year. I had several plants of *C. canaliculatum* flowering (over 40) until just before Christmas and I have a couple of hybrids coming to the end of their time. The trick with these now is to keep up the right amount of water to keep them going and not too much to cook the roots.

I had a good showing from the Bulbophyllums which I have on hardwood mounts. The little piece of *B bowkettii* which I was given four or so years ago is now starting to make reasonable growth and flowered nicely while *B. sladeanum* didn't have as many flowers as last year the plant is still increasing in size and the flowers were borne on pedicels (spikes) mostly around 4 centimetres in length which is very good for my environment. *B. elisae* has been flowering for about four weeks now which is quite a bit later than the ones which had finished back in November. Just the same the two racemes bearing ten green flowers each with their dark reddish purple labellum are quite striking. This very recognisable orchid has the colloquially very appropriate descriptive name of pineapple orchid.



Bulbophyllum elisae



Bulbophyllum sladeanum



Bulbophyllum bowkettii

I have a number of plants of *Plectorrhiza tridentata* (tangle root orchid) in my collection and a number of them had been flowering since September and two late performers are flowering now and their perfume is very noticeable when the breeze stops. I also have two *Vanda falcata* and one of these produced four beautiful flowers. This lovely Japanese/east Asian native is most unusual with the spur on the rear of its perfumed white flowers.

I was given a tiny piece of *Mobilabium hamatum* about three years ago with the challenge to see if I could grow it. Well I have it mounted on a piece of hardwood and it had two little yellowish flowers so I was quite pleased with it seeing as how it is endemic to the rainforests of north Queensland.



Mobilabium hamatum



Vanda falcata





Plectorrhiza tridentata

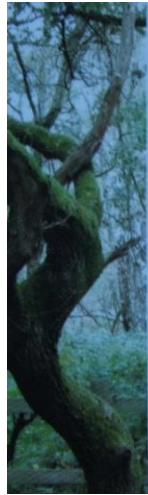
Finally, the Dendrobiums provided me with some variation. *D. linguiforme* surprised me with two bunches of flowers in the beginning of December and these lasted about three weeks. All the other of that species which I have had finished flowering early in November. *Dendrobium trilamellatum* flowered right through to just before Christmas. The pleasant perfume of the flowers remained until I removed the last of them. *D. cucumerinum* (the cucumber orchid) produced its usual beautifully perfumed bunches of flowers but these only lasted a few days when a heat blast got them. *D. hercoglossum* again produced a good number of pink flowers with the striking white labellum. Last year I transferred my *D. prenticeii* from a tree fern slab to a piece of hardwood fence paling and while it is taking a while to attach itself it appears to be quite happy as it has produced two creamy yellow flowers each with the very noticeable orange labellum and has started to produce a couple of new growths.

A number of the orchids which I have flowered at this time would be available at shows in the region and in Melbourne. The Warringal Orchid Society Show has a very big sales area which generally has a wide variety of genera. It's also easy to get to from the Hume Freeway to the Metropolitan Ring Road and to North Greensborough. Their spring show has a very large range of orchids on display and for sale and is well worth while going to see.

You can see even though there were no shows or club meetings I still had a good number of orchids to delight me and my visitors over the holidays. I will look at telling you a bit more about them in the future newsletters if the editor will allow me. In the meantime, keep your eyes open as you might see some of the orchids I have mentioned on the bench at shows or club meetings, because if I can get them to flower in our climate, you know you can too. Some of their flowers may only be tiny but gee, they make a great display.

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